

CNCA COMMENTS

A.A. Confidential—June 2021

www.cnca06.org



California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

I have been participating in an AA virtual meeting for over a year now. This meeting, which I consider my home group, reported at our last business meeting that 18 out of 30 members currently attending are newcomers and maybe half have of them were sent by a judge. I participate in General Service because I am responsible for carrying the message of AA and making sure my meeting is accessible to the still suffering alcoholic. When hearing the loving discussion of our members, along with the concerns raised by our districts, sub and standing committees every month at CNCA, it makes me feel that the new members attending my meeting will have the same opportunity I had when I first walked into the doors of AA.

We continue to have an opening at the Interpretation and Translation committee; anyone who is interested should submit their name to any Area Officer.

Another opportunity to participate is at the upcoming Summer Assembly, to be held Virtually on August 7th. We are currently seeking out workshop topics for the Assembly. These topics can open up discussions about important areas of relevance during these times of change, areas like virtual anonymity, accessibility, finances, history, humility, humor, attraction, public relations, social media, and organizational structure. Any suggested topics are due by June 26.

Concerning the Area Committee Meeting, we remain quite busy. This past month, we heard a presentation of two housekeeping motions:

That CNCA provide up to two hours of Spanish/English interpretation for two interpreters at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discov-ered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$240.

That CNCA provide up to two hours of American Sign Language/English interpretation for two interpreters at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$480.

We also heard a Presentation of New Business:

That CNCA contract with an email list broker to contact a minimum of 50,000 professionals (in healthcare, corrections, law enforcement, the court system, educators, HR managers, local government, and members of the clergy) regarding information about AA and encourage attendance at two CPC events on September 22, 2021, at a cost of \$12,500.

All three of these motions were presented by the CNCA PI/CPC Committee.

This month I will start to send out the Area Committee Meeting minutes to the DCMCs and Area Committee chairs as the soon as they have been translated. This will allow the DCMCs and Committee chairs to share them with their members as early as possible. Hopefully, this will allow all members more time to familiarize themselves with the Area business before the next ACM.

Thank you all for teaching me how to be useful, for working for those alcoholics who still stumble in the darkness one short block from our rooms, for making CNCA and AA accessible in these times of change. I hope that all alcoholics will, in the ages ahead, find in A.A. that same rebirth that brought each of us back to life.

Thank you for allowing me to be of Service. Miguel H. CNCA Chair Panel 71

June 2021

One thing I haven't told you about the General Service Conference is that this year there was a new thing called the "Delegate Sharing Session," where 12 randomly selected delegates (from a pool of those who made themselves available), could share for five minutes on either "an innovative Area service implemented," or "a significant Area challenge that was overcome."

I put my name in the pool and was not selected, so I didn't get to speak to our experience. But I wanted to be sure you know how much I appreciate the work we do, together, here in CNCA. I had all sorts of ideas rolling around in my mind, mostly about how we have been expanding our interpretation and translation services for years, supporting the annual Hispanic Women's Workshop (which has led to greater participation by this remote community locally), and how well we have been able to keep doing our business virtually in the pandemic.

The pandemic highlighted our digital divide, but also helped us overcome it. The interest in learning about technology has never been so strong, for many of us, but especially in our five linguistic districts. Members worked with each other one on one to get people on Zoom, and we see a lot of hybrid situations. Spanish and English districts are co-hosting events even more than before.

Did you know that Panel 71 is the first time we have had members from our Spanish linguistic districts make themselves available for <u>all</u> of our Area standing committees? I'm almost certain that this is the first time the Interpretation and Translation committee has ever needed to use its own services. Most importantly, all four (including Finance, Website, and Technology) now have representation and are better able to serve the Area as a result. And this happened in a pandemic year!

Last summer, when we were continuing the discussion of the two-year-old assembly motion to create our new Technology committee, it was Spanish-speaking women who were suddenly among the most outspoken for the need. Feeling the conscience of the area shift in response was truly a spiritual experience.

And when I logged into our Pre-Conference Assembly this April and saw our bilingual Tech committee and host district working together seamlessly, I was struck by how all these things had come together: interpretation, translation, supporting our Spanish-speaking women, electing and appointing diverse members into service, and bridging our tech divide.

This probably would have been more eloquent in a full five-minute share, but hopefully you too can appreciate how far we have come over the years. I know we will continue our efforts to overcome all sorts of barriers and keep growing in awesomeness and effectiveness as an Area... one alcoholic talking to another, and participating in all of AA.

In service and gratitude, Jennifer B., Panel 71 Delegate

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES — May 22, 2021

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held virtually on May 22, 2021. Miguel H. opened the meeting at 12:30pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble in Spanish was read by Ana V. (District 20). Ginger O. (District 15) read Tradition 5 and Carol H. (District 08) read Concept 5. There were seven past Delegates present: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28), Barbara M. (Panel 41), Jim M. (Panel 45), David N. (Panel 59, and past Trustee), Joann L. (Panel 67), and Teddy BW (Panel 69). We introduced two new GSRs and one new DCM. The April 2021 minutes and financial report were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments* and *Comentarios*.

Attendance: 113 Birthdays: 177 years

Officer Reports

DELEGATE - JENNIFER B: Thank you so much for your participation in our year-round Conference process. I encourage you to read through all the results of the Conference in the document I shared. Please feel free to share those 'Picnic Table' slides with anyone in AA who wants to know more about the importance of our 7th Tradition and the services it supports. As you know, we just passed two motions for new pamphlets at our recent assemblies. So, I have been in contact with our Conference Coordinator about using the new form for submitting agenda items. And I will be sending in our proposals to be considered for the 2022 Conference. Very exciting! My goal is to get them in well in advance of the July board weekend, which is also well ahead of the new September 15 deadline. If anyone would like an audio recording of the report I gave at the Post-Conference Assembly, you can contact our Assembly Coordinator, Drew. I look forward to continuing to visit your Districts and share parts of the report with you again.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – *ERIC L*: The AA Grapevine is searching for a new publisher; the deadline to submit a resume in June 16. The AAWS YouTube channel now features The Big Book and The Twelve and Twelve in American Sign Language.

CHAIR – MIGUEL H: I want to thank Jennifer for all her work putting together her Delegate Report, the presenters, and everyone who attended the Post-Conference Assembly to make it a great experience. We will be busy today with a full agenda! You might notice that we have six items of business to discuss today. I will continue enforcing time limits of two minutes for all reports, and two minutes for all sharing at the microphone. We will start receiving workshop topics for the Summer Assembly, so talk to your groups and ask them what they feel the Area should be talking about at these workshops. Submissions are due by at 3:30pm at the next ACM on June 26.

TREASURER – CHITRA S: As of today we have \$81,017.76 in our Checking account and \$11,038.22 in our Savings account, which is our prudent reserve. Total contributions for April were \$6370.68 / budgeted \$9,700.25. Total expenses for April were \$268.92 / budgeted \$18,923.29. Year to date, we are bringing in 75% of expected contributions. As our Assemblies continue online for the remainder of the year, we will see

a larger gap growing between expected expenditures and what we actually spend, so we will continue to accumulate funds in our checking account unless we start to spend the money in ways not previously budgeted, or if we disburse funds. Now seems to be a good time to begin discussions of what to do with our excess money.

REGISTRAR – CLAUDIA N: Many thanks to District 14 and all the ones behind the scenes for a great assembly! Thank you to all who registered through our virtual link. I sent out the results of the registrations to all DCMCs. I am happy to report that our 1st Registrar Workshop was a success. It was a good opportunity for registrars from many of our Districts to come together and share best practices and ideas of how to better serve their Districts. I am looking forward to another meeting with other Area Registrars and GSO to continue discussions on how we can all better serve our Areas. I sent out a summary of the survey that was done after the Pre-Conference Assembly and want to thank everyone who participated. I really enjoyed everyone's feedback about how our Area communicates about business and motions at all levels and where we can improve. It was full of constructive thoughts and ideas on how to serve our Area.

RECORDING SECRETARY – AMY M: Right now in the May Comments you will find the minutes from the Pre-Conference Assembly. You can look for the minutes from the Post-Conference Assembly in the June issue of the newsletter. Big thank you to our translators who take these huge documents and provide them in Spanish for us. I have assembled a small team to begin work on updating the index of the Motions Book

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – *DREW B*: Thank you to District 14 for hosting the Post-Conference Assembly! Our Summer Assembly will take place virtually on August 7 and will be hosted by District 70. Our Fall Assembly, which is our Inventory Assembly, will be hosted by District 04 and will take place virtually on November 6.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – *RICHARD W*: AAWS announced a test pilot program: Reduced shipping charges May 17-October 18, 2021. Grapevine is looking to fill its Publisher position and to celebrate Founder's Day is offering free online access May 26-June10, 2021. La Viña is celebrating 25 years this summer, and the commemorative 25th Anniversary issue of the magazine will be the July/August issue. I am speaking on a panel at the Founder's Day event hosted by the Akron Intergroup. It will be facilitated by Raymundo L. and moderated by Ana V. from Area 06. Editor of La Viña, Karina C. will also be a presenter, and I will present on the Carry the Message project. Registration for this event is free.

District Reports

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – JESSICA A: We had seven members attend the Post-Conference Assembly and the experience created a lot of excitement and conversation with our GSRs and District Officers. We have welcomed a new GSR since our last meeting. Our GSRs continue to study the Concepts and the GSR role during our GSR sub-district meeting hosted monthly by our DCM. We continue to announce

General Service opportunities at our local meetings that don't currently have a GSR and will announce the upcoming Delegate's Report leading up to our next District meeting.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – JACK B: We are still struggling to get GSRs and will try to work with Intergroup with their contact list. I did attend the SF/Marin Intergroup Town Hall to get more information and guidance.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – TIM C: It's been a fairly quiet month in Santa Cruz. Due to excess funds in our District treasury, we have suggested that groups make contributions directly to GSO in New York in lieu of their contributions to District 03, on a temporary basis through December 2021. Participation from new GSRs remains high, and we had a roundtable discussion on how to maintain group's engagement with General Service post-Agenda Topics season. We very much look forward to welcoming Jennifer next month in order to hear her Conference Report.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – *LORI R*: We have been productive in District 04. We adopted new guidelines that were wonderfully compiled last Panel. We decided as a District to purchase *Grapevine* subscriptions in support of the Carry the Message project. We conducted a District conscience on the Area motion to create a graphic novel of the Big Book and I was happy to be able to report the results at the Post-Conference Assembly. Also, a GSR from the Amethyst Group brought a new motion to the District and we will begin discussion next month.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – BILL H: Starting next month, we will be rolling out our 'Sub-District Spotlight.' Each month we will focus the Districts view towards one subdistrict. Lead by the DCM, each GSR from that sub-district will have a few minutes to introduce their group and tell the District a bit about what's going on in their group, like meeting times as well as any upcoming events. Finances are stable in our District. We remain in a positive position financially to resume our face-to-face District meeting when we are allowed to, but the location is not planning to open until the fall so we will continue on Zoom for a while longer. However, more and more face-to-face and hybrid meetings are starting to appear in the District.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) SARAH B: Due to limited motions, our monthly district meetings continue to have extra time for our new GSRs to have their questions answered. One of our members also shared a wonderful presentation with resources and considerations for re-opening in person meetings, and we heard the experience of members whose groups navigated that transition. The BTG committee had four requests for contacts and will be doing a presentation for social workers and counselors at a local nonprofit. Commitment descriptions of open PI/CPC positions will be published in our Central Office newsletter, *High Sobriety*. Central Office has resumed normal business hours and is putting together a printed live meeting schedule. Finally, a planning committee has been formed for our Unity Day on July 10.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – JACKIE B: May was all business for us. Two motions were presented as New Business pertaining to electronic contributions for our website, and the possibility of electronic distribution of the *Comments* and *Comentarios* that, if passed, we will bring to the Area. We

unanimously passed a motion that District 16 (Spanish Central) be granted a page on our website sfgeneralservice.org to include information in Spanish about their District meeting and Officer contacts. We also elected a new Alternate DCMC, Tony A. The SF Marin Intergroup hosted a Town Hall last night on "Considerations for Re-Opening In-Person Meetings" with almost 250 people in attendance. An agent of the San Francisco Department of Public Health gave an informative presentation, followed by a panel of AA clubhouse managers with direct experience in holding in-person and hybrid meetings over this last year. Please visit aasfmarin.org/resuming for all the resources the SF Marin Central Office has compiled on this topic.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – **ASHLEY J:** At our April meeting, we polled members and discovered that of those who submitted group consciences, half of them attended the Pre-Conference Assembly, and the other half was split evenly between submitting via email or the website form. Also, of those who attended the assembly, half of them attended for their first time. We welcomed three new GSRs, elected a new YPAA liaison, and received a presentation of a motion to establish an Accessibilities Committee.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – FRANK C: Our May meeting will be our annual Delegate's Night and we look forward to hearing our Delegate's experience of the General Service Conference. We have begun looking into our options as

to how we may reopen, whether it will be hybrid, and when. It is unlikely we will be ready to go back to in-person District meetings before July. A number of groups in the District have slowly begun holding in-person meetings but most are still at limited capacity. Information regarding which groups are meeting live can be found at our Intergroup websites TriValleyAA.org and EastBayAA.org.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) - LESLIE W: The Officers discussed the last 3 District inventories and identified topics that might be a presentation or a discussion. We found about 20 different items and broke them down between presentations and discussions and launched a poll for the District to tell us what's most important to them. So, for our July meeting, we will be having a presentation "Report back to our Groups." The survey also generated about 8-10 topics for discussions as well. We are moving forward with the Ad Hoc committees on both reopening our District meeting and the website. BTG is hosting a live meeting once a month in Concord, using digital BTG white contact cards and posters to Martinez Detention Center and Bi Bett in English and Spanish. The committee teamed up with H&I and the literature being taken into Martinez Detention Center has the BTG white card included. It is now official—District 08 has live website pages for both BTG CoCo County and CPC CoCo County.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – ERIN B: We still have several open positions: DCMs for two sub-districts, BTG and Archives needs a replacement. The District's website manager is working hard to get the website updated now that things are opening up again. We have a new location for the Alano Club, and it is hosting a few meetings per week. The Vallejo Fellowship has opened up for in-person meetings and needs support to keep it going. We are talking about hosting a workshop in the Fall, whether it be Zoom, in-person or hybrid is still yet to be deter-

mined. Possible topics include Alcohol and Depression, and a Joe and Charlie Workshop.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) - BILL H: I want to thank all the folks who helped make the Post-Conference Assembly a success. What a great presentation by our Delegate! The District 90 Delegate's Report will be on July 31, 1pm-4pm on Zoom. It was great hearing other Districts' feedback on the District 90 motion for the graphic novel edition of the first 164 pages of the Big Book. We are still looking for a PI/CPC chair. **DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) - JACQULINE P:** Many meetings in Marin are returning to in-person and a large handful of meetings are exploring creating a hybrid model. I have heard a lot of gratitude expressed to our longstanding Novato hybrid meeting and the Intercounty Fellowship's Tech committee and the resources both provide about the details of hybrid meeting formats. Our BTG and PI/CPC committees are both energized by the opportunity to provide in-person presentations to the jail and high schools. Our Accessibilities committee continues to solicit and receive donated equipment and is creating a survey in order to discern accessibility needs within Marin County. Please visit our websites for event and service info. aasf-

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – *ELIZABETH B*: Some positions still yet to be filled are Registrar, Chair for BTG, Literature/GV/LV, and our Finance committee. We continue discussion to revise the wording for our 7th Tradition statement for our Beginner's Meeting. We will be purchasing *Grapevine* and *La Viña* subscriptions as prizes for our Unity Day on June 19.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – *JAMES B*: District 12 is doing great, and I want to thank our visiting Officer for their presentation and for facilitating the election of an open position. We had a very full agenda with two Housekeeping Motions that were passed and introduction of an exciting item of New Business: a motion to provide English and Spanish interpretation at our District. We heard from some GSRs on how they are doing hybrid meetings. District 12 Access committee will be hosting a workshop "Keeping our emotional sobriety in the midst of disaster" on June 5, 1pm-3pm. There will be a panel of speakers, breakout rooms and sharing. I will be sending out the flyer to all the DCMCs. We are hosting are annual Delegate BBQ June 7. Zoom opens at 5:30pm and the report will be 6pm-7:30pm with a half hour social time after.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) - PAUL G: No report.

marin.org and aamarin.org.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – WARREN R: We had a great experience hosting the Post-Conference Assembly. We decided to slowly go back to in-person District meetings starting in June in Fort Bragg as hybrid. As we return to normal, we have a few events lined up in our District. MENDYPAA, our young people's group, is hosting a beach bonfire speaker meeting at Caspar Beach tonight at 5. This will be co-hosted by SOCYPAA and NAPYPAA. MENDYPAA elections are tomorrow via Zoom. Mendocino Coast Intergroup is bringing Father Tom again for his yearly visit on June 5. This will be a virtual event as well. All of our events are listed on our brand-new website mendocinocoastaa.com.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – JERRY C: We are adapting and pondering the post-Covid meeting juggle. Meeting halls, Zoom and hybrid is the discussion occupying the

majority of groups. Unity Day in July appears to be a Zoom event, but change can happen. Del Norte is planning to do the Panther Flat campout in August but there are still no committed flyers. 'Sobriety by the Sea' gathering is in September, but there are no flyers yet. It is a blooming of our District after a long year and change is awesome.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FERMIN R: We are looking forward to our Delegate Report at our District next month. We continue to carry the message and be of service by visiting groups and motivating them to have GSRs. We are planning with other Spanish Districts the Founder's Day event on June 10. We are also talking about how to be involved with the La Viña Anniversary and the Hispanic Forum.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – *JOSE L*: During the first two weeks of the month District Officers and GSRs were visiting all active groups to provide information about the Delegate Report scheduled for May 30, the Hispanic Forum, and La Viña Anniversary, which resulted in a new GSR from Palo Alto. Together all five linguistic Districts will have Unity Day on June 10 to celebrate the 86th Anniversary of AA. Twenty-one out of twenty-three groups in sub-district 001 Santa Clara are open, eight of them have a GSR. At sub-district 002, five out of eight groups are open and all five have a GSR. We are working in support of the Hispanic Forum committee, and we will be planning our District anniversary.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – *JOSE C:* We had good participation at the Post-Conference Assembly. We are enthusiastic and motivated, and starting to make plans for the celebration of the 28th Anniversary of District 18. We have our monthly service structure workshop. We look forward to the Founder's Day speaker event on June 10.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH) – GUADALUPE O: On the 2nd Tuesday an Area Officer visited our virtual District meeting, and we also meet in person on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The virtual meeting included a presentation from Bridging the Gap committee that sparked the interest from two groups that would like to talk more with the Spanish Coordinator from BTG. We hope for the same DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – JAVIER L: We have been meeting three times a month. We still need to fill the liaison position for the Hispanic Forum . We passed a motion to form a Technology committee and are still having discussions about an Accessibilities committee.

Area Standing & Sub-Committees, Sharing Sessions, and Liaison Reports

Accessibilities – KAREN H: We presented our committee's conscience at the Pre-Conference Assembly in support of updating the pamphlet "AA for the Native North American". District 07 has introduced a motion to form a District Accessibilities Committee. The motion was well received and will be further discussed at their next District meeting on May 26. At our Area Accessibilities committee meeting today we discussed accessibilities issues that may come up as meetings move to return to in-person settings or to transition to hybrid meetings.

CNCA BUDGET VS ACTUAL - JANUARY 1 TO APRIL 30 2021

California Northern Coastal Area

Budget vs. Actuals: 2021 Budget - FY21 P&L January - April, 2021

	TOTAL		
ÿ	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Revenue			
002 Group Contributions	22,471.47	29,450.00	76.30 %
003 District Contributions	450.00	4,800.00	9.38 %
004 Assembly Contributions	518.00	1,000.00	51.80 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	711.75	350.00	203.36 %
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	2,814.75	400.00	703.69 %
010 Interest Income	2.76	1.00	276.00 %
Total Revenue	\$26,968.73	\$36,001.00	74.91 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$26,968.73	\$36,001.00	74.91 %
Expenditures			
020 EXPENSE			
021 Delegate Expense	503.63	2,226.45	22.62 %
050 Officer Expense	365.09	3,850.49	9.48 %
130 Committee Expenses	3,952.91	6,767.52	58.41 %
300 General Expenses	7,699.56	18,674.33	41.23 %
Total 020 EXPENSE	12,521.19	31,518.79	39.73 %
Total Expenditures	\$12,521.19	\$31,518.79	39.73 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$14,447.54	\$4,482.21	322.33 %
NET REVENUE	\$14,447.54	\$4,482.21	322.33 %

CNCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION—APRIL 30, 2021

California Northern Coastal Area Statement of Financial Position

As of April 30, 2021

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	78,362.62
Prudent Reserve - Savings	11,038.22
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 89,400.84
Other Current Assets	
Assembly Deposits	0.00
Undeposited Funds	17.45
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 17.45
Total Current Assets	\$ 89,418.29
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 89,418.29
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	63,830.75
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	11,140.00
Net Revenue	14,447.54
Total Equity	\$ 89,418.29
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 89,418.29

ARCHIVES – PAUL W: Several members have expressed a strong desire for specific research of their District, which can only be done if we are physically present at the CNCA Archives in Walnut Creek. As a result, your Area Archives committee is forming an Ad Hoc committee "Move Back" to monitor state and county communications, as well as work with our landlord on developing our safety protocols so we can have a safe transition back into the Walnut Creek Repository. We welcomed the new BTG Archivist at our last meeting. We voted to shift our June Archives committee meeting to the first Saturday of the month, June 5 at 12:30 pm, so that our members can enjoy and participate in Founders Day weekend on June 12, when we usually meet. Please let us know if you would like the Archives committee to participate with your Districts or Groups during Founders Day weekend.

BRIDGING THE GAP - GEORGE X: We made fifteen presentations in April at treatment and/or correctional facilities throughout CNCA. We are still delivering a hybrid mix of in-person and Zoom teleconferencing presentations. We gratefully received eighty contact requests, twelve of which left our Area and were routed to CNIA 07, and one letter was received from Mule Creek State Prison. We heard a report from our District 06 BTG Chair who attended the virtual BTG Workshop Weekend 'Special Event' on May 15. We were informed about their website btgww.org that provides a contact request submittal form available to anyone throughout the US and Canada. In addition, there's a wealth of information and resources stored in their digital library. There's no need to reinvent the wheel if we can draw upon the experience, strength and hope of those with prior BTG service work who have developed procedures and forms available for us to alter and use in our local communities. FINANCE - JOANN L: We reviewed the Statement of Financial Position, Budget versus Actuals, and March expenses. We also looked at the financial impact of the motions on the CNCA Area Committee Meeting agenda today. This is an exciting time in Alcoholic Anonymous as the pandemic restrictions are subsiding, many groups are having discussions about returning to in person meetings. This means there will be discussions about money. I want to explain 'stop gaps'. A stop gap is an area of the budget that can be temporarily suspended until a budget gets back on track. In CNCA, we have had a very effective stop gap and it has helped us a lot in the past. We can suspend Area Officer travel for a month which can produce substantial savings. Why am I talking about this? Last year has given us another very important stop gap that we didn't have before. We can now do our assemblies online very successfully. This does open the door to thoughtful consideration of our spending. As we emerge from these times and start to go back to in person meetings, our expenditures will go up. The Finance committee is prepared to monitor these expenses care-

PI/CPC – **ERIC** L: Two events (in July and September) to provide information to professionals who work with problem drinkers are currently being planned. Next month, we will be discussing search engine optimization.

TECHNOLOGY - NICK S: We discussed with the web chair a request from our Delegate, Jennifer, to put a secure location on our website to store background material for Agenda Topics.

We are hoping to utilize our recently attained cloud storage and security through Microsoft rather than risking the sensitive data to what the website currently has to offer for security. The Tech committee continues to meet two additional nights a month to work on AirTable and is considering pulling in additional experts to help smooth out some of the technical challenges we are struggling with.

WEBSITE – MEGAN M: We welcomed a new member, Jose P., who has stepped right up and begun editing the web pages. The Web committee continues to learn, and each member contributes what they can. I've asked the committee to be responsible for posting new submissions from the Officers or other important information within twenty-four hours of receiving. The Tech committee and the Web committee are collaborating on improving the function of the cnca06.org email addresses, hopefully becoming the doorway for cloud storage for Officers and Chairs, providing a way to pass on the huge amount of data that each position produces over the length of each Panel. We welcome your comments. Please use the 'Contact Us' form on the website addressed to Web Chair.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MAGDALENO O: We had a very busy month, yet we are still looking at how we can better serve our Area. We have a vacant position on our committee. If anyone is interested, please contact an Area Officer or someone from the I&T committee.

PRAASA 2024 - TEDDY B-W: 2024 might sound like a long way off, but there are things that need to happen now to ensure a successful event three years away. Our first task is to select the venue for the event. Finding a venue that meets our needs at a price that fits is no small challenge, but last night the PRAASA 2024 received a report from the Facilities committee and approved its recommendation that the venue for PRAASA 2024 be the Marriott Marquis Hotel in San Francisco. This will be on the ACM agenda next month to be fast-tracked. The deal we have negotiated with the hotel is exceptional and we want to be able to commit as soon as possible and lock in the agreement. There is a presentation that we will precirculate to ACM members so that you will have plenty of time prior to the ACM next month to review it, ask questions, and be prepared for the fast-track process. If you would like to volunteer for PRAASA 2024 please send me an email.

CNCA COMMENTS / COMENTARIOS— DENNIS H: We continue with improvements to the process, especially as it relates to the Comentarios. In the last month District 16 (Spanish Central) has begun reviewing the Comentarios prior to publication. The increased review has delayed the publications of both documents by a few days, but I believe the increase in quality justifies the slightly delayed posting to our website. Also, please note that the May newsletters include the Pre-Conference Assembly minutes.

DCM SHARING SESSION – **CHASE C:** The session began with a 10-minute presentation on the topic "Reviewing and looking at the history and why the General Service calendar is the way it is. Why is the General Service Conference in April? How did we get here?" We saw a PowerPoint presentation specifically on the question, "Why is the General Service Conference in April?" Their research was comprised of both AA Conference-approved literature and Non-AA resources. Next month's topic

for discussion will be "Keeping the monthly Area Meetings virtual: the assets, liabilities, and cost."

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – RICHARD W: Today we discussed our reactions to the outcomes of the 71st General Service Conference, encouraging participants to provide suggestions for increasing enthusiasm and enhancing communication, such as showing YouTube videos, reaching out to groups with no GV/LV reps and hosting trainings, preparing presentations to show in Districts, collaborating with local Intergroups, learn how groups are using the Carry the Message project, and

Hal Liaison – KAREN B: The Northern California Hospitals & Institutions Committee serves Alcoholics who are incarcerated or in institutions where they cannot attend regular AA Meetings. Currently we are offering virtual meetings, literature, especially the Grapevine. We are looking forward to being busy as the state reopens. The Inside Visiting Sponsorship Service continues to function with COVID restrictions. At San Quentin we have sixty inmate/volunteer matches, and three new volunteers cleared for the program. Currently the communication between the inmates and volunteers is by letter, phone call, video and in some cases in person visits. We are looking to expand the IVSS program to other facilities. We may have more information to share at our next General Committee meeting on June 13. The Zoom information is available on our website HandlNorcal.org. We welcome everyone to attend.

YPAA - TEDDI: I am here from the NorCal Bid for ICYPAA. We are a group of young people from Areas 06 and 07 who are working to get the International Conference for Young People in AA to be hosted in San Francisco in 2022. ICYPAA 2021 is officially happening! We are looking forward to flying out to New Orleans to present our bid at the end of August. We are having an event in June that is focused on the Grapevine and La Viña. We will have a variety of speakers including a presentation on La Viña in Spanish, a member who both wrote for and read Grapevine during her ten vears in prison, a talk on the audio project for Grapevine, and past GSO General Manager, Greg T. will be doing a presentation and writing workshop on writing your story for Grapevine. We also have a presenter and participation from CNIA 07, as well as a speaker many of you may know who is now serving on the Grapevine board. The entire event will have simultaneous English and Spanish interpretation and takes place on June 27.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S WORKSHOP – ANA V: We are in need of two new liaisons from CNCA 06 for this event on December 04 in Arizona. We are still looking for a logo and a theme, as well as speakers.

Housekeeping Motion:

- That CNCA provide up to two hours of Spanish/English interpretation for at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$240.
 - presented by the PI/CPC committee

Presentation: Interpretation is reimbursed at \$60/hour; we would use two interpreters. This virtual (Zoom) event will be

tailored for professionals and the non-alcoholic public. We have two speakers and a presenter secured, including non-alcoholic Class A Trustee Nancy McCarthy. The event starts at 9am and presentations last until 10:30am, with thirty minutes of questions at the end. Outreach targeting professionals is being done via email, social media campaigns, and direct contact from local (and national) PI/CPC committees. The event will also be livestreamed on YouTube.

Questions: Q. Would you accept a friendly amendment to clarify that it is for two interpreters? It appears with this wording that the event is either four hours or they are getting paid \$120/hr. A. Yes. Motion will now read, "That CNCA provide up to two hours of Spanish/English interpretation for two interpreters at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$240." Q. What is Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered? A. It is an event hosted by the national PI/CPC working group in collaboration with CNCA. It has a target audience of non-alcoholic professionals who may be in contact with problem drinkers. It will introduce the AA program with two Class A nonalcoholic trustees as the speakers so it can also be livestreamed on YouTube. Q. Is CNCA footing the cost? A. Yes, we hope so. It came up in discussion in the work group, and I said I would ask by presenting this motion. Q. What is this national work group? A. It is a collection of PI/CPC Chairs from around the country. Q. Why are we footing the bill? A. CNCA has a significant excess of funds, and the committees were suggested to come up with ideas on ways to use it. Q. Could we get some detail on why this was discussed and why this is important? A. This is an opportunity for sharing among professionals with our Class A trustees about what AA is and what it isn't. Often professionals who come into contact with problem drinkers have many misconceptions about AA and this event is an opportunity to clear them up. Q. Why is it only two hours, and can anyone come? A. Yes, it is open to AA members too, but the target audience is non-alcoholic professionals so they can better inform their clients that may need AA. It's two-hour time is a hope to match the busy schedules of a professional willing to attend this event. Q. Is the request for Spanish/ English interpretation in response to a particular need? Q. Yes, it is the assumption that it is always useful to have available. Also, there are Spanish-speaking PI/CPC committees. Q. Are there other costs associated with this event? A. I don't have that information. Q. Is this an inaugural event, and intended to occur annually? A. This is the first time it has happened virtually, but I don't know more. Q. Which YouTube channel will it be on, and who will own the media rights? A. I don't know. Q. Where did this originate? A. A member from the East Bay PI/ CPC committee who is very involved with the national working group. Q. What is the anticipated attendance? A. I don't know, because there are PI/CPC chairs from all over the country inviting their network of professionals. Q. Does CNCA have a history of contributing to the cost of an event not hosted by CNCA? A. Yes, the Hispanic Women's Workshop is an example. Q. Can we get the details of how and when to attend? A. Yes, but remember AA members are not the target audience. Q. What is the need? A. According to our membership survey, 57% of people in AA said they were referred by their mental or medical

practitioner. Meeting these professionals where they are is the essence of PI/CPC work. **Q.** Would this situation be equivalent to when CNCA contributes to the booth rental at health fairs or medical/psychiatric conventions that take place in another Area? **A.** Yes. And currently our PI/CPC budget allotted for such expenses is completely unused.

One objection. Due to the time-sensitivity of the motion, the Chair moved item to Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting in June.

Housekeeping Motion:

- That CNCA provide up to two hours of American Sign Language/English interpretation at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$400.
 - presented by the PI/CPC committee

Questions: **Q.** Will you accept the same friendly amendment as before about the clarity of two interpreters? **A.** Yes, and I am sorry I made a mistake on the amount. I didn't apply the weekend rate for the ASL interpreters, which is \$120/hr. The motion will now read, "That CNCA provide up to two hours of American Sign Language/English interpretation for two interpreters at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$480." **Q.** Have you considered using Rev.com? It is a speech-to-text app that can create subtitles and an ASL option. **A.** We chose to go with live interpreters.

One objection. Due to the time-sensitivity of the motion, the Chair moved item to Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting in June.

Presentation of New Business:

- That CNCA contract with an email list broker to contact a minimum of 50,000 professionals (in healthcare, corrections, law enforcement, the court system, educators, HR managers, local government, and members of the clergy) regarding information about AA and encourage attendance at two CPC events on September 22, 2021, at a cost of \$12.500.
 - presented by the CNCA PI/CPC committee.

Presentation: This event is in the early planning stages, though we have secured the participation of Class A Trustees Nancy McCarthy and Sister Judith Karam, as well as participation from the university researchers that published the Stanford/Harvard study documenting AA's success. We would hold two events, one in the morning (for professionals who want to attend the event during working hours) and one in the evening

(for professionals who would prefer to attend after hours). The event will be held on a Zoom account allowing for up to 1000 participants; it will be live-streamed on YouTube. This event will directly target professionals in Northern California. Research suggests that approximately one to three percent of people who receive these emails would attend the event, though another 40 to 50 percent would glance through the event. We would customize emails to educate professionals more about AA, including providing them resources like some of our pamphlets, links to the Meeting Guide app, and contact information for local PI/CPC committees

Questions: Q. The company would use their contact list in a series of eight times, then expire? To do the process again we would need to pay that price again? A. Correct. But when recipients reply we can build our own database of contacts. Q. What is the name of the company? A. U.S. Data Corps. Their lists are clean, and they have insured accuracy. Q. Do you intend to contact the Stanford/Harvard people about participating in this? A. Yes, we are coordinating schedules with them. Q. Is the Area covering all of the expense? A. Santa Clara PI/CPC is covering other costs associated with the event, such as the interpretation and the Zoom account with a 1000+ capacity. Q. This would be the cost no matter what the turnout is? A. Yes. 1-3% is still a good reach for this type of event. Also it will be recorded and can be reused on PI/CPC websites. The speakers and presenters have all agreed to be recorded in advance, so small clips can be edited and sent in the emails. Different clips can be used for each email blast. Even if the recipient is too busy to come that day, they can still get information about who we are by the use of these emails and using our Class A trustees. Q. Did you receive any other bids or is this the only one? A. We got five different quotes. One was up to \$25,000. This company was about the middle range, but I have worked with them before in my regular profession, and they are excellent. Q. How is the contract endorsed? Is there a formal signage, or is it done online, and does it need to be done by CNCA? A. Yes, a member of CNCA needs to sign a contract electronically, and payment is handled electronically. Q. Can the contact list be reused? A. The contact list belongs to U.S. Data Corps, but attendees can sign up for our own contact list we create as a result of this. Q. What kind of success metrics can you provide? Do you have a system to follow up? A. Yes, actually I am quite OCD about creating databases and doing follow-up letters and phone calls, etc. Q. Are we calling this an AA event and attaching the CNCA name to a professional marketing company? A. It is an AA event. It is called 'AA in Action' and we'd like to hire these services. Q. Do we see the list of contacts? How do we actually know where the emails are going to? A. We would be contracting with a professional company that specializes in this line of work. We are hiring high-quality marketing services because that is what they deliver.

Due to the time-sensitivity of the motion, the Chair moved item to Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting in June.

Old Business:

 That CNCA increase the reimbursement amount for qualified hotel stays from \$100 to \$150 per night.
 presented by the Panel 69 Finance committee

Discussion: [Personal opinions]- Yes, I am in favor. II I am in favor, especially because the Finance committee presented it, and they would know if actual costs don't match what is on the line item. // I am in favor but want to encourage us to share hotel rooms when possible. // Q. Is \$150 enough? Some places in the country where conventions are held well exceed this amount. A. This is generally for Area Officer travel within CNCA. // I posted the reimbursement guidelines in the chat. // A result from a study by the Finance committee on this reimbursement found that the increase to \$150 would cover almost all cases. II I'd like to mention that it isn't necessarily just Area Officers that qualify for reimbursement. It's rare, but the example of when someone traveled to another Area with CNCA equipment. II The net cost increase for this would amount to under \$1,000 per year. // If I drive more than 2 ½ hours for the Area, I will likely get a hotel room. A not so nice place in Clearlake currently is \$110/night, so I might try to stay in a nicer one at \$170/night. I'd still pay some out of pocket, but it would help. // According to Trip Advisor, currently the average cost of a hotel room in Northern California is \$124/ night.

The Chair asked the committee if they were ready to vote and members were ready to vote. Substantial unanimity (2/3) was required for this motion to pass.

Vote by 2/3 substantial unanimity: Yes: (52), No: (4), Abstain: (2)
No minority opinion was heard. << Motion Passed>>

New Business:

- That due to funds in our checking account currently exceeding established 7th Tradition needs of Area 06, CNCA is to disburse \$25,000 to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.
 - presented by the Panel 69 Finance committee

Discussion: [Group consciences]- We had GSRs in our District suggest we should keep it at home. There are AA entities hurting. With twenty-three Districts, if each one got a handout, it would be \$1,086.96 each. [Personal opinions]-With all of the current motions on the table today, if they all passed we are still left with over \$43,000 of excess funds. If We need to keep the money in use, and not be holding back. We don't have as many expenses, and it's not doing anything, let's put it to work. I'm in favor. If Q. Why is the amount not higher? A. The motion was presented by the previous Finance committee last Panel in October 2020. Based on what was available and not knowing what to expect, this number

seemed appropriate. // Q. Could we get information on what are the specific needs of GSO and earmark funds to that? A. It is the practice that the General Service Board receives all contributions, and they are applied to its General Services. // I'm normally in favor of the practice of disbursing funds and try not to be conservative out of fear. But I'd like to be sure we are first supporting our committees and using it for things like we just discussed for PI/CPC and things that will help us for years to come, like upgrading our equipment and supporting technology needs. I'm not in favor until the committees all have a chance to weigh in. // Right now there is a lot of fear of the unknown and not knowing what to expect next, but I was taught in AA to not make decisions out of fear. We can't sit on all this money. If it was my character defects deciding I'd say, "Sure, let's keep the money." But we need to operate on AA principles.

Motion moved to Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting in June.

What's On Your Mind?

This will be the last opportunity to announce the Celebration of Life for Jeff A. It is on May 30 at 11am. It is open to everyone and people are asked to RSVP in advance if they plan to speak on his behalf. *II* One discussion topic that we have often is about how prudent are we with our 7th Tradition funds? What are our expenses driving our motions?

Respectfully submitted, Amy M. CNCA Recording Secretary- Panel 71

POST CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY — May 15, 2021

The Post-Conference Assembly Business meeting of CNCA was held virtually on May 15 2021 Miguel H. opened the meeting at 9:12am, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Vivian K. (District 07). John S. (District 03) read the 12 Traditions in English, and Jose C. (District 18) read the 12 Traditions in Spanish. There were seven past Delegates present: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28 Maine), Barbara M. (Panel 41), Jim M. (Panel 45), David N. (Panel 59, and now currently a past Trustee), Raymundo L. (Panel 65), and Teddy B.-W. (Panel 69). Past Area Officers present were Dennis H., Judy W., Laura W., Magdaleno O., Martha B., and Michael Q. The minutes from the 2021 Pre-Conference Assembly were accepted as published in the CNCA Comments and Comentarios.

Attendance: 237

Officer Reports

DELEGATE - JENNIFER B: I am so excited to share my full report on the General Service Conference later this afternoon! We are close to having a new General Manager at the General Service Office, but that person has not been officially named vet. And we are now seeking candidates for the position of Publisher of the AA Grapevine, Inc. Our beloved former Publisher, Albin Zezula, who was on medical leave since September has now officially retired. This is a paid NYC job. Applicants need to be AA members, preferably with 10 or more years of continuous sobriety with the following qualifications: 10 years in a senior leadership/management position; experience in print and/or digital publishing and distribution, digital content strateay and marketing management; working knowledge of social media; experience with vendors, professional and contracted services; corporate board experience; strong communication and presentation skills; financial acumen; and an undergraduate degree or higher. The deadline to apply is June 16. Finally, we are also looking for Class A, non-alcoholic trustees. Class A trustees are volunteers chosen from a variety of professional backgrounds, including accounting, clergy, corrections, education, finance, health care, law, medicine, military, psychology, social work, and science. In seeking applications for all vacancies at A.A.W.S, AA Grapevine, and the General Service Board, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large applicant file of qualified persons reflecting the inclusiveness and diversity of AA itself. So please be on the lookout for the best leaders we can name! Check the latest issue of Box 4-5-9 for more

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – ERIC L: The most recent issue of *Box* 4-5-9 is available online and includes a summary of the virtual 26th World Service Meeting.

CHAIR – MIGUEL H: Today we have a special treat of hearing three presentations on the Conference theme: 'Recovery, Unity, and Service and in a Changing World.' The Area website cnca06.org is a vital tool in ensuring that accurate and up-todate information is available. Right now, you can access the Comments and Comentarios from last month, a list of all the virtual rooms for every standing committee, sub-committee, and sharing session, and updated calendars for all Area events. In preparation for the Summer Assembly, we will start requesting workshop topics. Feel free to email me your suggestions. These workshops have, in the past, opened up dis-

cussions about important topics of relevance to AA in the 21st century.

TREASURER – **CHITRA S**: In our Checking account we have \$79,182.87, and our Savings account, which is our prudent reserve has \$11,038.22. We have a motion at the Area Committee meeting to disburse \$25,000 to the General Service Office. This year we have received \$30,410 in contributions (we budgeted \$43,801). We have spent \$14,868.42 (we budgeted \$48,097.74 for expenses). Our contribution envelopes do not designate a space for your group Treasurers to write their email address. Please do include an email address so that I can send an instant receipt for checks received. This saves two envelopes, a printed receipt, and a stamp.

REGISTRAR – CLAUDIA N: Please register on the virtual link in chat. It's easy and helps us to get an idea of who's able to participate on this virtual platform, who missing and how to plan for our future assemblies. Our first Registrar Workshop was a success! It was a good opportunity for Registrars from many of our Districts to come together and share best practices and ideas of how to better serve their members. I have also sent out a summary in English and Spanish of the survey that was done after the Pre-Conference Assembly and want to thank everyone who participated. I really enjoyed everyone's feedback about how our Area communicates about business and motions at all levels, and where we can improve.

RECORDING SECRETARY – **AMY M**: I'm looking forward to hearing more group consciences during our Assembly business this morning, and excited to hear the upcoming presentations and our Delegate Report. This summer I am forming a team to update more of the Area Motions Book; the index has not been updated since 2011. Please reach out to me if you'd like to participate in this process.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – DREW B: Thank you to District 14 for hosting today! Give them a shout out. Our Summer Assembly will take place virtually on August 7 and will be hosted by District 70. Our Fall Assembly, which is our Inventory Assembly, will be hosted by District 04 and will take place virtually on November 6.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – RICHARD W: In response to a high volume of comments that shipping costs are too high, GSO is conducting a five-month test pilot on reduced shipping charges from May 17-October 18, 2021. Check the 'What's New?' tab at aa.org for more info. There are two new Grapevine books that are now available in print and eBook. They are Free on the Inside: Stories of AA Recovery in Prison, and the Spanish-language book Mujeres en AA. Grapevine and La Viña will celebrate Founders Day with free online access from May 26 - June 10! The first issue of La Viña came off the press in June 1996 and copies were distributed to subscribers in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Europe, and this year we celebrate its 25th Anniversary.

Area Standing Committees and Sub-Committees

Accessibilities – *Karen H*: We are guided by the Responsibility Statement and are dedicated to providing information and resources that help make AA accessible to all who reach out for help. Access barriers can be physical, mental, geographical, cultural, or any other factors (such as: ethnicity, spirituality,

safety, inclusivity) that hinder an alcoholic from receiving the AA message or participating in the AA program. We presented a group conscience at the Pre-Conference Assembly in support of updating the pamphlet "AA for the Native North American." District 07 introduced a motion to form a District Accessibilities Committee. When we meet next, we will be discussing accessibilities issues that may come up as meetings move to return to in-person settings or to transition to hybrid meetings.

ARCHIVES — PAUL W: We are interested in receiving and assembling the following types of material for the CNCA Archives: Group Histories, Oral Histories, administrative files and records, AA correspondence, literary works and artifacts having historical importance to Alcoholics Anonymous. In 1982, the first and only 'History of CNCA 06' was produced. It is largely made up of Group and Oral Histories from that time period. Group Histories are prepared by the members of the groups. We encourage our members to see if there is already a group history for their regularly attended meetings. If not, we encourage people to work within the group to research and produce a group history. Oral History refers to the process of recording and preserving oral testimony of an individual's own experiences. By joining our efforts to collect group and oral testimonies, you are helping to preserve AA history for present and future generations.

BRIDGING THE GAP – GEORGE X: Much out-of-the-box thinking was needed and alternative methods of conducting our Twelfth-Step service work during the pandemic has been discussed. District Chairs have been preparing for the arrival of future newcomers to AA in their local communities. Treatment facilities are now starting to reopen and it's time to get BTG boots back on the ground. We have filled the committee position of Spanish Coordinator, a role instrumental in helping build and support BTG committees in our linguistic Districts. The purchase of AA literature and videos in Spanish through AAWS has enabled us to assemble District kits for distribution.

FINANCE – MATT D: The Area Finance committee continues to assist the CNCA Treasurer, monitor expenditures, and review current motions for their financial impact on the Area finances. This month we will meet with our assigned committees before the Area Committee Meeting in May and begin the discussion of preparing the 2022 budget. Please check the website for the latest reporting of our finances for this year. The upcoming motion at the Area Committee Meeting to disburse funds to the General Service Office will be an opportunity for all of us to look at and discuss the current financial state of GSO and how it relates to the draw on the prudent reserve in 2020, dropping the reserve to 7.6 months of operating expenses from the typical average of 10-12 months.

PI/CPC – **ERIC** L: Two events (in July and September) to provide information to professionals who work with problem drinkers are currently being planned. The committee also continues to discuss challenges and successes in reaching out to minority communities.

TECHNOLOGY – NICK S: The Tech committee has made many strides recently toward the completion of using AirTable for our Area Registrar, instead of the current outdated Microsoft Access, and we are meeting twice a month to achieve this goal.

We believe once complete this will make the job of Registrar more pleasant for years to come. Given the overlap of the responsibilities of the Web committee, myself and the Web Chair have been attending each other's monthly committee meeting.

WEBSITE – MEGAN M: We purchased improved back-up services for the website, which is now in place. Our current projects include creating a password-protected area on our CNCA website, entering all committees' monthly meetings in the Event Calendar, and creating a 'subscription' 7th Tradition. A possibility we are exploring is porting cnca06.org email addresses to Google, providing each Officer and committee Chair with a cloud storage space that belongs to the cnca06.org address. This could allow for permanent addresses, such as officer@cnca06.org, instead of officer.p71@cnca06.org. This also provides the ability for each Officer and committee Chair to use the cloud space to instantly pass on accumulated documents, emails, etc. to the next Panel's corresponding position.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MAGDALENO O: We'd like to thank our professional interpreters, Mateo and Molly, for helping us share the language of the heart in English and Spanish today, and we also wish to welcome their professional colleagues who are generously observing with us today in preparation for their work at assemblies to come. Thank you also to Michelle and Carol who will provide the ASL interpretation of our Delegate's Report this afternoon, and, for the first time, also assist with the Q & A session after.

With participation increasing in our online Area committees and meetings this panel, and with the convenience from Zoom meetings, we are aiming to add to our list of professional-quality interpreters (AA members) who can serve the Area through paid interpretation or translation assignments, so you may be seeing some new faces providing this service in the coming months. Now is a great time to step up if you or someone you know would like to learn how to help provide this service. Please talk to me or someone on the I&T committee or contact an Area Officer.

PRAASA 2024 – TEDDY B-W: 2024 might sound like a long way off, but there are things that need to happen now to ensure a successful event three years away. Our first task is to select the venue for the event. Finding a venue that meets our needs at a price that fits is no small challenge, but we whittled down the choices to three and we have a frontrunner, which we will be presenting to the PRAASA 2024 Steering Committee later this month. Stay tuned! If you would like to volunteer for PRAASA 2024 please send me an email.

Area Business

OLD BUSINESS:

That AAWS publish a one-page summary of the six Warranties. – presented by District 08

Discussion: [Group consciences]- Our group said yes to this, but after explaining what the Warranties are there wasn't much interest. // Our group is not in favor. // We are unanimously in favor if it comes as a piece of Service Material from GSO. // We

are in favor; many people did not know about the Warranties or the Concepts. II Although there was more interest once they were shown, the group voted no. The information can be found elsewhere. // Our group is in unanimous support of this. // The majority of the group is not into it, but the one person who favors it is very passionate about it. If The group feels that the Warranties are already printed, and it separates the Concept from the others. // They were not well-known about before the discussion. The group is not all in but does not object. // Unanimously in favor. If We are in favor, but not clear on the purpose. If it is helpful to someone in service, then we are not opposed. [Personal opinions]- A one-piece summary would be helpful. The Warranties are concrete and simple, and grounded in spiritual principle. // This could be more effective on the website; quick and easy to find. Then they could be printed if wished. $I\!I$ They are printed elsewhere. But I really appreciate the value of this conversation. I/ I don't know about the Warranties. It would be helpful for those who are uninformed. II I'm not really in favor or against, but Concept XII is the summary of the Warranties. II I wasn't familiar with them and there was only a mention of them in the Service Manual, so I looked online and found them on Reddit. II I was deeply affected by the Warranties, and it brings a lot of spiritual principles to the forefront. I'd love to see the vinvl window shades with them like we see the Steps and Traditions. // I'm not so sure about printing a summary, but on the website is a good idea. // We had a DCM create a discussion topic and asked, like we do with the Traditions, "How do the Concepts and Warranties apply to our lives, not just in AA?" // I think they should be published. The pamphlet on the Concepts has a summary on the back, and larger than in the Service Manual. We don't know where to find them. I/ I'm not familiar with them, that's the beauty of this job. It's a little hard to digest. I Googled it and a lot of stuff came up, although not Conference Approved. I think something in laymen's terms would be a good think to put out there. // If it weren't for my service sponsor and working the Concepts, I wouldn't have known they are right there in Concept XII. They are such a treasure, let's get them out, either on the website or published. II I am in favor. They blew me away and showed me more of what service is all about. They are exciting and not just administrative. They should be out there. If The Concepts are kind of dry, but the Warranties are hidden and so good. A onepage bulleted list would help clarify their meaning to people new to them. // They are there in the Concepts. We need to encourage people to get into the book instead of taking stuff out. Il I'm in favor because it will get people talking about them. II They were not known about in a Concept study; they are hard to find. // About twenty-five years ago there was this same discussion in WA, and we ended up with the Twelve Concepts Illustrated. II When I was new I didn't understand anything about how broad the service structure is, how groups function, the money. I would want to know why this would be opposed. If The newly revised Service Manual does have the Warranties show up all throughout and plus there is the Concept XII essay. I can't show any drafts, but it should be available this Fall. II To help people be aware of them we can bring them up in personal shares at our home group.

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: Yes (89) / No (28) / Abstain (21)

Minority Opinion: I opposed this because of hearing about the Service Manual revision. If It's already been published in a pamphlet and a book. If More isn't always better. Things get written out when making a summary. Why extract? If A single sheet of paper floating around does not seem useful. If It would be smart to wait and see the new Service Manual. If How will it help people to have something nobody will look at, and what need does it address? The better solution is to have this discussion, and we will learn how to find them.

There was a motion to reconsider, and it was seconded. Vote by simple majority: Motion to reconsider passed.

Motion to remain Old Business at the Summer Assembly.

OLD BUSINESS:

 That CNCA requests that a pamphlet entitled "Experience, Strength and Hope: AA for the Spanish-speaking LGBTQ Alcoholic" be produced. – presented by District 40

Discussion: [Group consciences]- We are in favor of any pamphlet that is written by the group of people whose need is represented. // There are no people in our group that represent that community and we feel that there must be a need for it to be proposed and we support it. If The majority of our group is in favor, with a minority opinion that it is not necessary. II Our group had many feelings on both sides. If The majority of the group agrees this is a marginalized community, and the minority opinion says the 'woke generation' has gone too far. // We are in support of this and hope it will be written by people from that experience and culture. If We are in unanimous favor. It speaks to our primary purpose to reach all suffering alcoholics and help people relate. If We unanimously support this and wonder why wouldn't it be supported? // We are in favor, and the minority opinion suggested making existing literature more accessible to this community. We are in favor, but based on the title, who is the target audience? What about Latinx LGBTQ who don't speak Spanish? // Our group feels this is a no brainer, as long as it's written by that community. If We are unanimously in favor because we want to reach all alcoholics. If Our group is always in favor of literature that speaks to our primary purpose. [Personal opinions]- This is an overlooked demographic. II I think this is a good proposal. It will help me learn sometimes what not say and to be more respectful in my own speech. // This demographic of people needs something that speaks to them not only in their language, but their culture. II If this were produced it would become Conference-Approved, and the beauty of our Conferenced-Approved literature is that it is all translated in English, Spanish, and French. The existing LGBTQ pamphlet was translated into Spanish language but doesn't meet the cultural need of this community. This would represent their cultural experience, start out in Spanish, and still be translated into English and French. II There is more prejudice being LGBT and Latinx. This would need to be written by

and for that community. II I am in favor of this. It would be a worthy investigation to look at the existing stories in the current pamphlet and find their source language. Also, somewhere there needs to be a clarification that gender identity and sexual orientation is not the same thing. If It will be interesting to see a pamphlet that reflects more than just the Anglo-Saxon experience. Here in the U.S. people are more encouraged to believe in their own ideas and open expression when it comes to culture and religion. Latin countries have a different belief system and our own prejudices to overcome. This will be an expression of our own experience. II Homophobia is alive and well and in AA we can combat this. I am not Latinx, but I am a lesbian. I was at a PRAASA years back where the presenter made homophobic comments and it hurt. // In the beginning I did not agree with this. But after more discussion I see who it will help. I'm in a Spanish group in the center of San Francisco. Now I am more open-minded, and people are getting into it and seeing how serious it is. It will help, not hurt. // Representation provides individual access to stories for those who relate to them. The term intersectionality is used to describe an overlap of two or more marginalized groups, as Latinx LGBT are. The name should be changed for the target audience. II I am a Spanish-speaking gay male, and I am free to express that now, but it was difficult. Thankfully I have an LGBT group where I feel a sense of belonging. But another group sometimes still throws out mocking comments and has a rejecting attitude. AA is a beautiful community. I read the current LGBT pamphlet, and although in Spanish, I did not feel a connection. II I support this. It's important to hear stories from LGBT who are Hispanic. It's not just about the Anglo-Saxon experience. II It's important. We know that AA helps family relationships be more successful, and AA is a big family where all should be included. And so others can see we are more inclusive. // This teaches us to be more open-hearted and to understand all perspectives and ways of living. // I remember being at a larger regional meeting and learning from Latinx women how few Spanish-speaking women's meetings there used to be. That has changed some and gave insight to the need for a Hispanic Women's pamphlet. It helps everyone else too, not just Hispanic LGBT.

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: Yes (118) / No (8) / Abstain (13)

Minority Opinion: The idea seems fine, but the mention of a better title that is not chosen by English speakers is why I voted against it.

There was a motion to reconsider, and it was seconded. Vote by simple majority: Motion to reconsider failed.

<<<Motion PASSED>>>

NEW BUSINESS:

 That the Trustees Literature Committee develop a graphic novel, or a series of graphic novels, that depict the first 164 pages of the Big Book.

- presented by District 90

Discussion: [Group consciences]- Our group was divided. Those in favor think it will help those with limited literacy skills, and not just for young people. Those not in favor asked if young people were consulted. They could be offended. If Our group think it's a good idea if chapters 8, 9, and 10 could be left out. II We are in unanimous favor. Helps with literacy issues and provides another accessible option. If We favor this motion. It's not a replacement but another option. It can remove barriers and help reach people where they are at. II Someone in the group is a student with a master's degree and had difficulty concentrating. They have ADHD but not low literacy skills and this would be beneficial. If it is not a prudent use of our funds at this time. If We are in favor. It reaches those with lower reading skills, ADHD, and some people are visual learners. If Our group felt it could either be great, or real cheesy. We also had concerns about the cost. If We are in unanimous support. If Anything that helps reach to all alcoholics is a salvation to sufferers. It's time for changes in how we carry the message. [Personal opinions]- This could remove some barriers some have to the AA message. The graphics would be the sticking point to how successful it could be. II Our group had more questions than a vote, such as where do the funds come from, how is it distributed, and who does it? // I'm intrigued. "Novel" seems misleading though, because it implies fiction. II In my own experience, I have a PhD and I made it through without ever reading a text. I struggled through; I am not a visual learner, but an auditory learner and I used a lot of comic books. The Big Book is difficult to read, I think a graphic novel is mandatory. II It makes sense at a glance but seems there could be a lot of hidden secondary issues. I hear two competing ideas; is it that we want a visual representation or is it the outdated language? // I love innovative ideas to perpetuate our message. Although they were fictional, there were 16 million graphic novels sold last year. My concerns are the cost, the scope, and the time spent. II During the GSR sharing session on this topic, I really noticed how it felt. People got excited about this. A member who is 88 is thrilled with the idea. I/ I am in favor of the verbatim depiction of the first 164 pages. // I like the medium and it could be entertaining, however it's a huge commitment and investment. If not done well it can have some spiritual consequences. Could the Grapevine do a section of graphic novel as a trial? // I didn't like the idea at first because I can read well. But I've got a new friend who can't read, and I am wondering how to help him understand the message? This could help a lot. If I've seen in meetings that people with no problem with literacy level can still struggle to read out loud. We need an easier way to read it. // I've seen how effective putting words to visuals is by my experience in producing plays. It helps people identify.

Motion moved to Old Business at the Summer Assembly.

The meeting was closed at 12:00pm with the Responsibility Declaration

What's On Your Mind?

Thank you District 14! And thank you to all who registered; we had 285 total. II I'd like to invite you all to a once monthly meeting called "What a Concept." Zoom info is in the Chat. II I wanted to suggest something on the Area website like an open page where online groups can sign up. // In some hybrid meetings where the camera is turned on to the room the people at there don't necessarily know who they are being broadcast to, unlike the other way around where if you're at home and don't want to be on video you can turn your camera off. I'm not in favor of that and think it needs discussion. // In the revision of the AA Preamble, one suggestion I never saw was the emphasis on the word "is". This is the only "is" statement anywhere in AA and it be a shame if its importance is not retained. II Congratulations to all trusted servants here. I am not from this Area, and I will have great thing to report from this meeting. II Our Zoom meeting has 120 people every day. We are having a steering committee meeting soon to discuss hvbrid meetings and I am part of the tech committee. If the camera is on the group, there can be a designated section for people who don't want to be on camera. We are continuing to explore best practices and get feedback. II In hybrid meetings when there is an issue of limited capacity, people who are willing to get up for a newcomer can have their phones and just go outside and still join the meeting. // I'd like to give some context to the Seven Deadly Sins. That concept is the entire framework for Chapter Six in the Twelve & Twelve, so it's not just the paragraph about anger, lust and gluttony that is getting revised that makes reference to them. We can really see the influence of Bill W.'s friendship with Catholic priest, Ed Dowling. I'm not saying it's great, I'm Jewish. But it just is. II Congrats to Jennifer, your report was awesome. For groups looking for info on re-opening and hybrid meetings, SF-Marin Fellowship is having a workshop on May 20, 7:00pm-8:30pm. // Our group created a list of people who will voluntarily step out of the meeting if it reaches capacity, we are calling it a "tap-out list." // I have noticed, and maybe it's more common in Hispanic homes, that when people are on Zoom at home sometimes other people in the house just show up on the camera. Like sometimes the whole family is there. It's not in alignment with anonymity and can feel weird and uncomfortable sometimes. II This Conference opened the door, and now some things that were problematic in are literature are less of a barrier. But whether I participate virtually or in person, my responsibility to be kind and welcoming remains the same, and sometimes the barriers exist in us. It's our turn to be what our literature looks like. // I wish I had started with this assembly; the last one was painful. It's a good start but my group would like to see it go further. II I am putting the info in the Chat for the Celebration of Life for Jeff A. on May 30. I think he would have been very happy about today. If Thank you, I appreciate this assembly. It teaches me to be diligent and appreciate others. II Thank you Jennifer. I took the General Service plunge, and I am so moved. We are being awesome and in

the spirit of love and service. Change is slow but it's happening. If This is my first assembly on Zoom or anything and wow! Holy cow. I had no idea what this service was all about. Football is always on my mind, but I am so impressed by Jennifer's presentation. If Thank you to the organizers and to Jennifer. All five linguistic Districts are collaborating to celebrate Founder's Day with a speaker event on June 10. It will be hybrid with Spanish/English interpretation. If If you're new, get a service sponsor!

Submitted with Love and Gratitude.

Amy M.
CNCA Recording Secretary- Panel 71

DCM SHARING SESSION MAY 22, 2021

DCM Sharing Sessions Minutes May 22, 2021 11:00 AM – Sharing Session held virtually; opened with the **their response to the** Serenity Prayer by JB, Interim Chairperson for Drew B.

The session opened with a 10-minute presentation by Meand why the General Service calendar is the way it is. Why is the General Service Conference in April? How Conference)

The Presenter shared a PowerPoint:

Comes of Age, Silkworth.net, General Service Manual, and the Book That Started It All. Why is the GSC in April so soon after the GSRs are elected?

ing A.A. to the Trustees -- The Foundation.

- The need for a General Conference.
- Realization that Dr. Bob and Bill couldn't live forever.
- The fact that the trustees were generally unknown in the Fellowship.
- · Recognition that the trustees would need future guidance from the movement itself.
- Appreciation that A.A. was "growing up" and being able to assume rightful responsibility for the Headquarters and services.
- The importance of bringing the trustees into closer contact with the movement of A.A.
- The need to be prepared to face some potentially grave crisis with action in the best interests of A.A.
- Closing the gap between our Alcoholic Foundation and the A.A. Groups.
- It was agreed that Conferences would be held on an experimental basis from 1951 through 1954.
- Our Group Conscience could safely act as a sure guide.
- The Fourth Conference was the last Trial held April 21-25, 1954.
- Why the GSC is in April? It is essentially in service all year round.

Twenty-Three members shared the following in presentation by Megan:

The first delegate of CNCA06, Nick N., was elected by Bill Wilson at the Northern California Council of A.A. gan on the topic: Reviewing and looking at the history Confer-ence; Nick N. was pioneer in establishing and starting the first Groups in San Francisco and Oakland, California; there was the question, how could we as did we get here? (*GSC is used in short for General Service DCMs help the GSRs prepare during this extensive period; encouraging your GSRs to come to the DCM Sharing Sessions and how the sessions is a forum to consideration "How auestion of Resources that assisted in gathering information were AA involvement am I willing to immerse myself in General Service?" a member posed; the value of the DCM Sharing Sessions is paramount; asking someone to be a Service Sponsor, and that's when things really took off; the The first GSC was April 1951. Before that nothing was link- schedule helps the GSR; there is no good way to start the process; the best way is to just start, it is a microcosm of communication of how we can be a better community; when you are idle you go bad, so be of service; service is what keeps me from drinking; the Service Manual is the secret; the desire to fix and tell everyone how to do it transformed to listening and investigating how I am to carry myself onto other people

> TOPIC FOR NEXT MONTH: Keeping the Area Meetings Virtual. What are the costs, assets, and liabilities?

Liz C. from San Francisco volunteered to present this topic for next month's session to kick us off into discus-sion.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully Submitted. Chase C. DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary

CNCA AREA COMMITTEE & ASSEMBLY MOTIONS—JUNE 2021

Area Committee:

Old Business:

- That CNCA provide up to two hours of Spanish/ English interpretation for two interpreters at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$240.
 - --presented by the PI/CPC committee
- That CNCA provide up to two hours of American Sign Language/English interpretation for two interpreters at the Alcoholics Anonymous Discovered event on July 24, 2021, at a cost of \$480.
 - -- presented by the PI/CPC committee
- That CNCA contract with an email list broker to contact a minimum of 50,000 professionals (in healthcare, corrections, law enforcement, the court system, educators, HR managers, local government, and members of the clergy) regarding information about AA and encourage attendance at two CPC events on September 22, 2021, at a cost of \$12,500.
 -- presented by the PI/CPC committee
- That due to funds in our checking account currently exceeding established 7th Tradition needs of Area 06, CNCA is to disburse \$25,000 to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.
 - -- presented by the Finance committee

New Business:

- That CNCA fund the translation of the CNCA Discus-sion and Reports section of the Area Motions Book, at a cost of \$4,640.
 - --presented by Miguel H.

Area Assembly Motions: Old Business at Area Assembly:

- That AAWS publish a one-page summary of the six warranties.
 - presented by District 08
- That CNCA requests that a pamphlet entitled "Experience, Strength and Hope: AA for the Spanish speaking LGBTQ Alcoholic" be produced.
 - presented by District 40

New Business at Area Assembly:

- That the Trustees' Literature committee develop a graphic novel or a series of graphic novels that depict the first 164 pages of the Big Book.
- presented by District 90

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

SUMMER ASSEMBLY 2021

"2021 – AA in a Time of Change" SATURDAY AUGUST 7, 2021

CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM JOIN LINK

MEETING I.D. 930 5440 6846 JOIN BY PHONE: 408 638 0968

 Zoom Room Opens
 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

 Zoom Orientation
 9:00 – 9:10 a.m.

 Business Meeting
 9:10 – 12:00 p.m.

 Lunch Break
 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Workshop Session I: 12:30 – 1:45 p.m. (Topics TBD)

Workshop Session II: 2:00 – 3:15 p.m. (Topics TBD)

Questions & Answers 3:30 – 4:00 p.m. What's on Your Mind? 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

SPANISH-ENGLISH INTERPRETATION IS PROVIDED DURING ENTIRE MEETING, INCLUDING ALL WORKSHOP SESSIONS

2021 CNCA CALENDAR—PANELS 71

June 26—Area Committee Mtg. November 6—Inventory Assembly

District 04

July 24—Area Committee Mtg. 27—Area Committee Mtg.

August 7—Summer Assembly December 18—Area Committee Mtg.

(Note: 3rd Sat)

28—Area Committee Mtg.

District 70

September 25—Area Committee Mtg.

October 23—Area Committee Mtg.

PANEL 71 ASSEMBLIES

2021 Summer Assembly, August 7 (Hosted by District 70)

2021 Fall Inventory Assembly,November 6 (Hosted by District 04)

2022 Pre-Conference Assembly, April 2-3

2022 Post-Conference Assembly, May 14

2022 Summer Assembly, August 13

2022 Fall Election Assembly, Nov. 5

If your District is considering making a bid for a Panel 71 Assembly, please contact the Assembly Coordinator Drew B. from our contact page.

PANEL 71 AREA OFFICERS & AREA MEETING INFORMATION

Delegate Jennifer B

Alternate Delegate Eric L

Chair Miguel H.

Treasurer Chitra S.

Registrar Claudia N. **Recording Secretary**

Amy M.

Assembly Coordinator

Drew B.

Literature/Grapevine Chair

Richard W.

Pacific Regional Trustee

Kathi F.

To contact an Area officer or Committee, or get the password for any meeting.

please use the web form.

General Service Office

P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163 212-870-3400 aa.org

CNCA

P.O. Box 884222 San Francisco, CA 94188-4222 cnca06.org

NorCal H&I Committee

P.O. Box 192490

CNCA Standing Committees & Sharing Sessions

For questions about meetings, including passwords, please contact Committee chairs (ideally in advance of the times noted below):

CNCA Area Committee meets the 4th Saturday at 12:30 pm, Zoom ID 632-553-607. Contact Miguel H. or your DCM or DCMC for the password.

Accessibilities committee meets the 4th Saturday of every month at 10 am. Zoom meeting ID is 818-2594-1066. Contact Karen H. for password.

Archives committee meets at 12:30, the 2nd Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 981-8745-2281. Contact Paul W. for password. The Archives mailing address is 185 Mayhew Way, Walnut Creek CA 94597-2065.

Bridging the Gap committee meets at 7 pm, the Thursday prior to the Area Committee meeting each month. Zoom meeting ID is 988-7891-7593. Contact George X. for password. BTG mailing address is PO Box 750623, Petaluma, CA 94975-0623.

DCMs' sharing sessions are held before the Area Committee meeting on the 4th Saturday of every month. Zoom ID 632-553-607 Contact Drew B for password.

The **DCMC** session at 10 am is open to DCMCs and Alternate DCMCs only. Zoom meeting ID is 962-2698-7068. Contact Miguel H. for password.

Interpretation & Translation committee meets at 11 am the 4th Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 897-0815-0798. Contact Magdaleno O. for password.

Literature/Grapevine/La Vina sharing session is 9 am the 4th Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 824-9101-6140. Contact Richard W. for password.

Public Information/ Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) committee meets at 9 am the 3rd Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 568-947-843. Contact Eric L. for password.

Technology committee meets at 8:00 PM on the third Thursday Contact Nick S. for more information.

Web committee meets at noon the 3rd Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 880-3494-4851. Contact Megan M. for password.