



# CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential—August 2021

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

## California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

We continue to adjust to the global emergency that keeps forcing us to innovate and adopt new and different practices to serve the still suffering alcoholic and to serve each other. I am conscious of the fact that I'm not the same person that I was before the pandemic and there's no way back there either. However, I'm grateful for my sobriety and the people that are part of that today.

I'd like to thank District 70 for all the work done to make the Summer Assembly possible. The results; great number of new attendees to an assembly, successful registration method implemented by our brilliant Area Registrar, Claudia and the highlight, our awesome presenters sharing from their heart on different topics on all the workshops.

We presented one item new business with suggestions for changes in the book, *Living Sober*. We voted on the motion regarding a request to the trustees' literature committee for a one-page summary of the six Warranties after a reconsideration at the Post Conference Assembly.

CNCA takes its inventory every two years at the Fall Assembly (this year, it will be in November 6). We are asking for your help to collect suggested inventory questions from districts, groups, and members. Submissions due by September 25.

As we continue to hear of AA meetings and groups reopening in person, Area Officers are considering resuming in-person Area Committee Meetings in January 2022, although we do not know what that will look like. We also do not know if committees and sharing sessions will return to in-person meetings.

At our next ACM, we will continue the discussion for the distribution of the CNCA newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically or by mail, and a motion funding the cost of \$4,640 for the translation of the CNCA Discussion and Reports section of the *Area Motions Book*.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Miguel H.  
CNCA Chair Panel 71

There have been times over the years when I felt strongly about some item of A.A. business, or even been the maker of a motion that did not pass, and I had to accept that a vote did not go my way. Because I had voiced my opinion, and listened to others when they shared, I was able to accept the group conscience and move on. The ability to compromise cheerfully is one I have gladly cultivated in sobriety, as I prize our A.A. unity above my personal preferences. I may not always agree with a decision, but I agree with our process and I trust that a higher power as expressed in our group conscience has acted in the best interest of the group, the district, the area, or A.A. as a whole. If we later realize we made an error, we can correct it.

Some of the Conference decisions this year have resulted in confusion and controversy and members are talking about what they can do to reverse decisions. I find it disturbing that some are making it political, as if the decisions were motivated by anything other than wanting to reach the still-suffering alcoholic. I heard all different points of view expressed at the Conference, and I assure you that we were thoughtful in our decision-making. Making the language of A.A.'s message of hope more inclusive and accessible does not mean we took anything away from what is already working. But I understand that change can be uncomfortable, especially when it involves cherished aspects of the program that saved our lives.

Despite my belief that we made good decisions, I welcome the voices of dissenting opinion, especially if they feel as if they were not heard the first time. We may see more groups electing GSRs in order to participate in the decision-making that they feel they were left out of. That would be cool. The more groups that participate through their GSR, the more the Conference can truly act for A.A. as a whole. Let's just remember that we can disagree without being disagreeable. As Bill wrote in his essay on leadership, those times when we have to decide whether to compromise or stick firmly to our convictions "are situations for keen timing and careful discrimination as to which course to take." Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about how we made our loving decisions at the Conference, or if you need any information on how to submit a proposed Conference agenda item using the form on our website.

Participation is the key to harmony,  
Jennifer B., Panel 71 Delegate

## Looking for Something?

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## AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 24, 2021

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held virtually on July 24, 2021. Miguel H. opened the meeting at 12:30pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by David R. (District 08). Judy W. (District 90) read Tradition 7 and Eric H. (District 07) read Concept 7. There were six past Delegates present: Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28), Barbara M. (Panel 41), Jim M. (Panel 43), David N. (Panel 59), Joann L. (Panel 67), and Teddy BW (Panel 69). We introduced two new GSRs and two new DCMs. The June minutes and financial report were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments* and *Comentarios*.

**Attendance:** 110      **Birthdays:** 71 years

### Officer Reports

**DELEGATE – JENNIFER B:** The [new form](#) for submitting proposed Conference Agenda Items is now available on our Area website, on the forms page. Finances are good. Currently, the surplus income for this year is about double what was anticipated in the budget, but some expenses are likely to go up. Revisions to *Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions* have been made and editions of the soft cover in English are expected to be released sometime in August, but there is a need to deplete the existing stock of the now 'old' version before the complete rollout happens. The General Service Board will be meeting at the end of this month for the first time since the Conference as their work continues year-round to implement all the advisory actions and take a look at the additional committee considerations. It will be interesting to see how this first year of the Equitable Distribution of Workload Process affects the way the Conference committees and Delegate chairs are able to interact with the Board on potential agenda items for the 2022 Conference. Meanwhile, I continue to give Delegate reports to the Districts, and I thank you for your questions! Please feel free to call, text or email me any time if you want more information about anything.

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE – ERIC L:** This month, I am celebrating *La Viña's* 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary by subscribing to the magazine. The magazine, first published in June 1996, is an important tool for Spanish-speaking members to come together and share their stories, and it also serves as a vital Twelfth Step tool for North America's growing Latino community.

**CHAIR – MIGUEL H:** We are getting ready with the last details for our Summer Assembly on August 7. I've sent out the agenda with the links for each workshop for easier access to the break-out rooms. Now might also be a good time to brainstorm ideas for questions for our Area Inventory. Suggested questions are due by September 25. As we continue to hear of AA meetings and groups reopening in-person, a few of the Area Officers had the opportunity to visit some of the Districts in-person for their first time, and others for the first time in over a year. I got to experience seeing your faces and got to feel the shaking of hands again.

**TREASURER – CHITRA S:** As of today, we have \$92,288.32 in our Checking account and \$11,038.40 in our Savings account, which is our prudent reserve. In June we received

\$6,329.54 in contributions (budgeted: \$6,050.25) and expenses were \$4,990.68 (budgeted: \$7,919.24). Please thank your groups!

**REGISTRAR – CLAUDIA N:** As we go forward with the many modifications in our meetings (a new facility, going hybrid, returning to live meetings, or staying online), I encourage you to get any of those changes to your District Registrar. I have had GSRs inform me they still have not gotten their new GSR packets. GSO has let us know that there was a glitch in the system that prevented the notification of new packets, and they are currently working on the backlog. Just a reminder around virtual groups and the recommendation that came out of the 71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference: "The U.S./Canada General Service Structure recognizes online groups and encourages their participation, listing those groups who ask to be listed within the group's preferred District and Area, with the default option being the location of the group's primary contact."

**RECORDING SECRETARY – AMY M:** I appreciate receiving your reports as they roll into my email's inbox. I can also receive them by text, or WhatsApp. If you are not already doing so, please remember to send them to our Chair, Miguel and to Manuel, who is the Spanish/English interpreter at our Area Committee Meetings.

**ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – DREW B:** I am excited about the Summer Assembly that will be hosted by District 70. The flyer is available and contains links for each of the individual break-out rooms for the workshop sessions.

**LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – RICHARD W:** I am delighted to inform you that you can now follow *AA Grapevine* and *La Viña* on Instagram (@alcoholicsanonymous\_gv @alcoholicosanonimos\_lv)! We are still celebrating *La Viña's* 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Submissions for stories to *La Viña* for the Newcomer Issue are due September 30, *Grapevine's* issue this month spotlights Seniors in AA. Through September 30, you can visit the online bookstore at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and receive \$1 off the summer special called 'AA in Your Pocket', which celebrates our literature on the go... pocket editions of the Big Book, *Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions*, *Daily Reflections*, and *As Bill Sees it*. The Literature budget at GSO was at 54% of the annual budget as of the end of the second quarter, so that is great news!

### District Reports

**DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – JESSICA A:** Our GSRs and officers continue to take part in their home group business meetings regarding reopening to share information and gather experience. We continue to meet on Zoom and will discuss transition possibilities in a few months.

**DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – JACK B:** We are still struggling to get participation in General Service but do have a couple of GSRs. Some groups are not doing Zoom anymore and only meeting in-person, and some have remained only on Zoom.

**DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – MATT E:** We are discussing when and how to transition back to an in-person District meet-

## AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 24, 2021 CONT'D

ing, and the hopes and concerns associated with that. It is unlikely we will do so this year, but we are looking into hybrid options.

**DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – LORI R:** In discussions about whether our District meetings will stay virtual, meet in person, or we do a hybrid meeting, the majority of our committee wishes to stay on Zoom. We have formed an ad hoc committee to research future needs and options. We continue discussion next month for a possible motion we wish to bring to Area regarding gender-neutral language in a specific paragraph in *Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions*.

**DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – BILL H:** This month we started to get down to business. We had two motions hit the floor and we are off and running. Our District has not yet set a date to return to live meetings, but we will continue to discuss the possibility, as our meeting room will be available starting in September. More meetings in the District have fully opened and although the attendance is low, it is evident that more members are returning to face-to-face.

**DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) SARAH B:** This month we held our annual Unity Day on Zoom with participation from various service arms from our District. Though modestly attended, those present seemed to gain a renewed sense of gratitude and enthusiasm for service. Our District is in good standing financially, and although no formal motion was made, our Treasurer floated the idea of contributing to the General Service Board. San Mateo continues the process of opening to in-person or hybrid activity. Our Intergroup is working on putting together a printed meeting schedule and fellowship events like picnics and barbecues have been resuming. Our BTG Chair reported plans to partner with PI/CPC to increase their impact, and PI/CPC is going to work with Intergroup to improve their section of the website.

**DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – JACKIE B:** At our July meeting, we elected a new co-chair for San Francisco Bridging the Gap, Vincent B. We passed two housekeeping motions, to fund our new BTG co-chair and our new District Archivist to attend their respective National Workshops. We announced the formation of an ad hoc Finance committee to assist our Treasurer in creating a budget for 2022 and review our current method of financial reporting to determine if we are effectively communicating to the GSRs and DCMs the state of our financial affairs each month. We unanimously passed a motion that will be presented to the Area today regarding electronic distribution of the CNCA newsletters, *Comments and Comentarios*.

**DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – ASHLEY J:** At our last meeting, five people volunteered to form an ad hoc committee dedicated to re-opening sometime in early 2022. We will be meeting in the fall after more information is gathered about how our current meeting location will be re-opening. Thank you to all

my fellow DCMs who shared their experience, strength, and hope on this topic.

**DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – FRANK C:** We elected a new Alternate DCM, Roy H. We are discussing options for our District meeting, whether we go in-person or stay virtual. We are looking forward to hosting you all at the virtual Summer Assembly. So far, we have had one of two trainings in advance of the event with our Assembly Coordinator.

**DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – LESLIE W:** We heard a presentation from our ad hoc committee on the District going hybrid. No final decision was made, so we took the suggestion of a 'soft open' with officers in the meeting space and all the technology equipment set up. We are continuing discussion to fulfill the motions from last Panel regarding the District website and the electronic payment option for 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition from the groups. Taking an example from our Area, we have a motion for an ad hoc committee to update/consistently compile our official record of the District, our Motions Book. We also have a motion from a GSR regarding gender language changes in the Service Manual. We heard reports from eighteen GSRs with information about meetings going back live, doing hybrid or staying in cyber space.

**DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – ERIN B:** Our District wants to stay on Zoom and probably stop paying rent at the regular meeting place in 2022. Zoom/hybrid/in-person transition continues with groups throughout the District. We are discussing activities around our Delegate's Report Day, and later considering hosting a Joe & Charlie Workshop series. We are also discussing whether to consolidate sub-districts within Solano South. We are encouraging meetings to vote on adoption of the new AA Preamble.

**DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – BILL H:** District 90 will start having hybrid meetings in September. We'll see how that goes. Thank you to our visiting Area Officer last month for their presentation and answering questions. We are still looking for a PI/CPC chair.

**DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – JACQUELINE P:** The District has created an ad hoc committee to explore our return to in-person District business meetings. Our Marin General Service Unity Day will be an in-person on October 16 at Unity in Marin Church in Novato. Our Delegate will give her report and there will be delicious food and fun. Our Archive chair is beginning to collect stories about "When did your group return to in-person?" Our Accessibilities committee is still seeking and receiving donations of equipment to allow members to attend Zoom meetings. Our Teleservice committee has begun meeting in-person and the members are excited to be of service and answer the phone when a suffering alcoholic calls.

**DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – ELIZABETH B:** We welcomed two new GSRs and a new Bridging the Gap chair. We had three items of New Business approved, including funding a local pamphlet,

## AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 24, 2021 CONT'D

"Meeting in a Pocket". We approved that our Beginner's Meeting will be in-person and will use the new version of the AA Preamble. Many of our meetings are transitioning to in-person or hybrid, and those new locations can be found on aana.org.

**DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – JAMES B:** We will be on Zoom for our next District meeting on the first Monday of August with a goal of hosting a hybrid District meeting in September. Sonoma County Unity Day plans for an in-person event as well. Our BTG committee submitted their bid today to host the Area BTG Forum this year. We began our discussion of the motion to provide English and Spanish interpretation at our District meeting.

**DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – PAUL G:** No report.

**DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – MICHAEL Q:** We had our first in-person/hybrid meeting since March 2020. We are having our Delegate's Report next month with an ice cream social in Willits. We talked about having Unity Day in October and we are planning our District inventory in November. The MENDYPAA bonfire meeting is still strong on Wednesday at Caspar Beach and an event is being planned for September.

**DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – MEGAN M:** Our August meeting is going to be in-person and we will hear our Delegate's Report. Lots of meetings have changed their locations as they resume in-person, and in District 15 it is the District website that lists the meeting schedule, not intergroup.

**DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FERMIN R:** We welcomed two new GSRs, so we get to really see how our visits to the groups are working. We have had talks about resuming in-person District meetings but will keep our Zoom account through December. On August 8 we will celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of District 16. It will be in-person and we will hear our Delegate's Report.

**DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – JOSE L:** Our District meeting continues to be hybrid. The end of July marks the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of District 17, and we will celebrate in-person as well as provide a Zoom ID for the hybrid option. During the first two weeks of the month District officers and GSRs visited all active groups and provided information about the District anniversary, the Summer Assembly, the Hispanic Forum, and the La Viña anniversary, resulting in the addition of one more GSR from Grupo Bienestar in San Jose. We are working in support of the Hispanic Forum committee.

**DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – JOSE C:** The District continues to work at visiting the groups. We will have our 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 22. Thanks to the Area Officer who visited us with very good information, and we continue to learn. Two more groups that were closed by the pandemic are already open.

**DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – GUADALUPE O:** No report.

**DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – JAVIER L:** Our District meeting continues to be hybrid. We are looking forward to the Summer Assembly. We continue to visit groups; we have completed one full round of visiting all groups in District 20. Typically, we will do two rounds per year (four per Panel).

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

**ACCESSIBILITIES – JENNIFER K:** At our meeting today, we reviewed and discussed examples of Member Surveys and meeting Accessibilities Inventories. Meetings can use these tools to assess whether they are addressing the many types of barriers that alcoholics may face when trying to attend. These tools can also include examples of specific actions they can take to remove barriers. We are considering developing such tools to make them available to meetings in the Area. Our committee meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 10am. All are welcome.

**ARCHIVES – PAUL W:** The Archives team eventually wants to acquire a group history for all CNCA AA meetings. Where current group histories exist, we will update them to reflect the temporary or permanent changes wrought by the pandemic. Andy C., our Digital Systems Administrator (DSA), resigned a few weeks ago. Fortunately for us Andy has been working with Chase C. who is our Digital Systems Administrator Assistant (DSAA). On August 14 we will move back into the Archives Repository with a combined business meeting/workday. This will be a hybrid meeting, so that the visiting Area Officer will not have to travel to Concord for the 1-hour business meeting. Carol H. was selected by the group to attend the National AA Archives Workshop in San Antonio, TX.

**BRIDGING THE GAP – GEORGE X:** The BTG Committee has been discussing the possibility of returning to an in-person BTG Forum this fall. We opened the event to formal bids from host Districts and received a winner from District 12 Sonoma County. We currently have a tentative date of Saturday, November 13. Since the last ACM, our Districts have made twenty-two presentations at treatment and correctional facilities across CNCA. We gratefully received seventy-six contact requests, five of which left our Area (four were routed to CNIA07 and one to Nevada City). Also, six pieces of mail from Soledad, San Diego, Santa Rosa, and Santa Cruz were received at our P.O. Box and five letters were sent in response to requests.

**FINANCE – JOANN L:** Today we reviewed the Statement of Financial Position and Budget vs Actuals for June Expenses, as well as the current motions at the Area Committee Meeting for their financial impact. We also created job descriptions for the bookkeeper we hired to assist the Treasurer.

# CNCA BUDGET VS ACTUAL - January to June 2021

## California Northern Coastal Area

Budget vs. Actuals: 2021 Budget - FY21 P&L

January - June, 2021

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
<b>Revenue</b>			
002 Group Contributions	35,027.39	39,250.00	89.24 %
003 District Contributions	2,712.67	7,200.00	37.68 %
004 Assembly Contributions	865.00	2,000.00	43.25 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	883.25	800.00	110.41 %
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	3,142.30	600.00	523.72 %
010 Interest Income	4.33	1.50	288.67 %
011 Square Income	0.00		
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$42,634.94</b>	<b>\$49,851.50</b>	<b>85.52 %</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$42,634.94</b>	<b>\$49,851.50</b>	<b>85.52 %</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
020 EXPENSE			
021 Delegate Expense	560.12	3,229.34	17.34 %
050 Officer Expense	877.69	8,882.18	9.88 %
130 Committee Expenses	6,112.67	12,471.47	49.01 %
300 General Expenses	12,434.11	31,433.99	39.56 %
<b>Total 020 EXPENSE</b>	<b>19,984.59</b>	<b>56,016.98</b>	<b>35.68 %</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$19,984.59</b>	<b>\$56,016.98</b>	<b>35.68 %</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$22,650.35</b>	<b>\$ -6,165.48</b>	<b>-367.37 %</b>
<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>\$22,650.35</b>	<b>\$ -6,165.48</b>	<b>-367.37 %</b>

# CNCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION—JUNE 30, 2021

## California Northern Coastal Area Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2021

	<u>Total</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
Operating Funds - Checking	86,594.60
Prudent Reserve - Savings	11,038.40
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<u>\$ 97,633.00</u>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Undeposited Funds	-11.90
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>-\$ 11.90</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>\$ 97,621.10</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 97,621.10</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	63,830.75
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	11,140.00
Net Revenue	22,650.35
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>\$ 97,621.10</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<u>\$ 97,621.10</u>

## AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 24, 2021 CONT'D

**PI/CPC – ERIC L:** At our monthly meeting, we discussed how to involve groups in PI/CPC work. Several local PI/CPC committees are doing inspiring work, including holding events and interfacing with bakery store owners, supermarket managers, and consulates.

**TECHNOLOGY – NICK S:** We elected Gavin O. to a new position of Software Administrator. He will become familiar with and understand all software being used by Area Officers and be a primary contact and aid any Officer if technical support is needed. I will be meeting directly with members of the Archives committee to discuss virtual storage needs. The Tech committee is in process of delegating the Microsoft Licenses. We have been discussing with the Web committee the potential of passing the responsibility of email management to the Tech committee, but more discussion will take place and would result in a motion before any decision is made.

**WEBSITE – MEGAN M:** Along with the Tech committee we are planning the migration of cnca06.org email addresses over to the new Microsoft accounts. This means the Tech committee will become the new administrator of the cnca06.org email! Soon, we will present a motion changing our Guidelines to reflect this. We have updated the process of collecting 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition on the website to allow for more debit card use, increased security and privacy, and contribution subscriptions. The Spanish-language 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition still uses the older version until Square gives me a Spanish version. This should happen this week. Today we are presenting a housekeeping motion to request two subscriptions for business-class PDF editing software.

**INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MAGDALENO O:** We already have the schedule for the second quarter of the Panel with newly added interpreters and translators. We are going to start testing the I&T equipment because it has been over a year since we have used it. We want to be sure it is in good condition by the time we meet in-person. And finally, we are ready for the Summer Assembly with our interpreters scheduled for the business meeting as well as each workshop session and report backs.

**PRAASA 2024 – TEDDY BW:** Now that we have selected the San Francisco Marriott Marquis as our venue we are deep into contract negotiation. We expect to conclude negotiations and secure the venue by signing the contract next week. The Attraction and Outreach committee has had its first meeting, noted that Outreach can only be effective if there is inclusion and equity, and looks forward to working with all PRAASA 2024 sub-committees, and particularly the Access subcommittee in pursuance of that goal. The Attraction and Outreach subcommittee is also planning a prize competition to design the logo for PRAASA 2024 and there will be a flyer at the Summer Assembly. If you would like to volunteer for PRAASA 2024 please send me an email.

**CNCA COMMENTS / COMENTARIOS– DENNIS H:** The *Comments* and *Comentarios* were delivered to the Area Chair and

the Web committee on July 16. This month the Interpretation and Translation committee added an additional translator which will help with our timeline, especially for those months where we include Area Assembly minutes.

**DCM SHARING SESSION – CHASE C:** Today's Sharing Session topic was "Experience, strength, and hope with hybrid meetings." The presenter shared a PowerPoint slide show with images of an ideal set up with necessary components and placement of the equipment. Forty-six members were in attendance. Next month's topic will be "The Return - Supporting Groups in the Return and Connecting GSO Registration, Inter-groups."

**LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – RICHARD W:** As a continuation of last month's Sharing Session, we discussed the possibility of starting a book club. We are working out logistics and more will be revealed. Also in the works is the 'Call to Action' contest in favor of the 'Carry the Message' subscription challenge. Next month a current non-Trustee Director and past CNCA Area Officer, Corey H. will share his initial thoughts with his new service commitment. We gather at 9am on the morning of the ACM. This is a Sharing Session, so everyone is welcome!

**H&I LIAISON – KAREN B:** The Northern California Hospitals & Institutions Committee serves alcoholics who are incarcerated or in institutions where they cannot attend regular AA Meetings. We continue to offer virtual meetings and are seeing some facilities we serve open to in-person meetings. Our next General Committee Meeting will be in October. Everyone is welcome to attend. H&I can always use new volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please check out our website [www.handinorcal.org](http://www.handinorcal.org), or attend your local H&I committee monthly meeting.

**YPAA – TEDDI G:** Thank you again for writing a letter of support for NorCal Bid for ICYPAA last month. We will find out August 28 if we are awarded the conference. SOCYPAA's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Campfire Olympics Campout at Lake Sonoma Campground took place last month, in addition to several other YPAA events in Areas 06 and 07: EBYPAA's famous Yuba River Campout, REDYPAA had a Bingo Night, and SCCYPAA had a "Fearless Factor" event. CRUZYPAA elections are upcoming. Lastly, we created a digital letter of support card that we are attempting to get all the California YPAA committees to sign. We have 2/3 of the signatures already. It is a show of unity around the California YPAA community.

### AREA BUSINESS:

#### Housekeeping Motion:

- That the Area purchase up to two (2) annual subscriptions for Adobe Acrobat Pro at a current cost of \$312/year for use by the Web committee and add a



## AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 24, 2021 CONT'D

line item for said cost to the Area budget moving forward. - *Presented by the Web committee*

*Presentation:* It is difficult to do the job of website editor without the PDF editor software. Our current web editors do have their own subscription to Adobe Acrobat Pro, but it is not ideal for our trusted servants to provide their own. Also, it should not be a requirement for anyone to supply their own software in order to be available to serve in this position.

*Questions:* **Q.** Have you talked to the Tech committee? With our Tech Soup account perhaps we can get a discount for this. **A.** Yes, this is the discounted price through Tech Soup. **Q.** Since the current editors have their own, do we need this now? **A.** We don't particularly need this now, but we should purchase this now and ensure it is a line item for the upcoming budget. **Q.** Would this be one of the licenses for CNCA 06 that stays, or does it get transferred computer to computer for who is using it. **A.** Because it is a subscription it would get stopped at the end of the service commitment and then restarted for the next person. **Q.** Why is this a housekeeping motion? Because it would be a regular expense going forward, shouldn't it be a regular motion? **A.** I was coached by the Area Officers and told this would be the avenue to follow. If need be, you can object, and it would become New Business next month.

**There were two objections. Item moved to New Business at August ACM.**

### Presentation of New Business:

- That CNCA distribute the Area newsletters (Comments/Comentarios) electronically unless requested by mail. - *Presented by District 06*

*Presentation:* This was presented at District 06, and we discussed it for two months, then it passed unanimously. I was encouraged to present the motion with the above wording, but I would like to include in this presentation the entire wording of the motion as presented to the District:

*"That CNCA distribute the Area newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically unless requested by mail. A District may also request that the default for their District remain U.S. mail.*

*For purpose of transition, a one-time canvas will be done of all current recipients to determine their preferred method of distribution. If no response is received, current recipients will continue to receive the Comments or Comentarios via U.S. Mail."*

The purpose of this motion is to make electronic delivery the default method of distributing the newsletter for when we are allowed to mail them again. Right now, we are doing so exclusively because mailing got suspended due to the pandemic, and it is not appropriate to assemble them in-person (Lick & Stick parties). The cost of printing and mailing roughly 1,300 pieces is about \$10,000 per month. It is not exclusionary, just a preference. U.S. mail is certainly still an option for those that cannot or prefer not to receive them via email. However, the one-time survey will be electronic, so no response will imply the preferred method is by postal mail.

*Questions:* **Q.** Who receives the newsletter? I have never received it. I go to cnca06.org to read it. **A.** The current Panel has not received it by using the prior mailing list because we have been in pandemic restrictions. Right now, we are emailing it to the DCMC in hope it gets distributed. Normally, the mailing list consists of Area Officers, DCMCs, DCMs, GSRs, and anyone who wishes to subscribe to it for a small cost. **Q.** I view this as it relates to the upside-down triangle and am not comfortable that a District would decide for the individual. Would you consider omitting that section? **A.** The District decision would not override an individual's decision, but just that the District Registrar would decide the default method. I am open to an amendment. **Q.** Would you accept a friendly amendment of adding the words, "...subject to individual's preference."? **A.** Yes. **Q.** Isn't there a cost associated with sending mass emails? **A.** Yes, but much less than 10K. We'll see when we get there. **Q.** Couldn't we get ideas from the Tech committee on ways for the Registrar to keep track of the individual's preferred method, so that the District is not making the decision? Can we take that part out of the motion and trust the process? **A.** District 06 voted on the wording of this motion, along with feedback from District 16. I'd like to leave it in there, but with the friendly amendment. **Q.** Either method does incur a cost, and I am wondering if the mailing list is cleansed from Panel to Panel, or are people receiving it that may not even want it anymore? **A.** The "Lick & Stick" list is something we receive from the Registrar, each month. **Q.** So we are opting-out or opting-in? **A.** Our current method (but pre-pandemic) is that we *opt-out* of U.S. mail to receive it electronically. This motion would make it the opposite, so we would *opt-out* of receiving it electronically if you want U.S. mail. **Q.** Who has the consent? Is it with the individual person, or with the service position? **A.** The person does when the District Registrar passes the Registrar's check-in sheet each month. It is in the Area Registrar's database. **Q.** Is it not effective that the DCMC receive it and send it out? We are just doing this during Covid? **A.** What we are doing now is because of Covid, but it was not decided by a motion. This motion would decide what is default once having newsletter gatherings and mailing them is an option again. **Q.** Will there be an opportunity to discuss this again if we need to roll back this decision? **A.** If

## AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 24, 2021 CONT'D

there is a problem or an emergency, we can make a motion to change it back. **Q.** Our DCMC receives them, why doesn't the District keep track based on their own needs? I don't see why this is a thing. **A.** We would use the Registrar's list with the individual's preference (there is a box to check) and not send them only to DCMCs in hopes they get distributed widely by them. The intent of the motion is also to perform the one-time canvas.

**Vote by simple majority to keep at ACM or forward to Assembly: ACM: 27 / Assembly: 23**  
**Voted to keep at ACM. Motion becomes New Business at the Area Committee Meeting in August.**

### Presentation of New Business:

- That the Trustees' Literature Committee consider deleting or changing the following wording in the book *Living Sober* in Chapter 9: Eating and Drinking Something Usually Something Sweet on page 23 of the 2019 printing: "Better to be chubby or pleasingly plump than drunk, right? Did you ever hear of anyone being arrested for 'fat driving'?" – *Presented by District 90*

*Presentation:* I don't have the background that the GSR who presented the motion had, but it was presented to the District 90 and the groups had opportunity to discuss it. The vote passed unanimously. It was agreed that the wording is offensive to people with eating disorders.

Questions: **Q.** The wording is unclear. Are there two phrases that you would like changed? **A.** It is the sentence in quotes that we want changed. **Q.** It is confusing with references in the first paragraph. Can you consider amending it? **A.** That would require a rewrite of the entire motion; I'd like to leave it as is. **Q.** What I see is the first part of your motion refers to the Chapter 9, which is the title of the chapter where the passage can be found, followed by the quote you would like changed. Is that correct? **A.** Yes. **Q.** Is there any more context to the background of the intent? **A.** It is offensive to people with eating disorders. It is felt that this is not just being

overly sensitive; the statement is inappropriate. **Q.** Would you accept a friendly amendment of adding the word "titled" after Chapter 9? So, it would read, "...in the book *Living Sober* in Chapter 9 titled: Eating and Drinking..." **A.** Yes. **Q.** What other wording would you use here? **A.** That decision would be left to the Trustees' Literature committee. **Q.** You're afraid of fat shaming? **A.** There are many people in AA that are also in recovery from an eating disorder. **Q.** Would you consider reversing the order of the wording here so that the quote in question is stated first, then the chapter to find it stated second. It would read much clearer. **A.** I would need to take it back to my District, but that would probably work.

**Vote by simple majority to keep at ACM or forward to Assembly: ACM: 9 / Assembly: 34**  
**Voted to forward to Assembly. Motion becomes Presentation of New Business at the Summer Assembly on August 7.**

### Old Business:

- That due to funds in our checking account currently exceeding established 7<sup>th</sup> 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-* Our GSRs are in favor. If we are in a position to do so then we should do it or present another plan, but we shouldn't keep the money there. // Our group was unanimously in favor. If all we do is carry the message, then use the money for this purpose. **Personal opinions-** Because of the uncertainty of times I think we should send half now and wait until later to see how our finances are doing. // In reference to the long form of Tradition 7 and the obvious dangers of holding onto large sums of money, I don't see why this is so controversial. We had the same discussion a few years ago and we sent the money along. If we feel the 25K is not enough, we can make another motion to send more. If we find we made a mistake and we need the funds later, we can discuss it and the membership will step up. We need to do this now and not hold onto it. // I did some math and we currently have over \$92,000 above our prudent reserve. If we pass this 25K and combine with all other motions on the floor that involve money, we will still have over \$52,000 of excess funds with no stated purpose.

## AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 24, 2021 CONT'D

Amy M.  
CNCA Recording Secretary- Panel 71

*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: (50), No: (0), Abstained: (3)  
No minority opinion was heard. <<<Motion Passed>>>**

### What's On Your Mind?

I am a DCM, and I received a lot of blowback about the decision to fund the PI/CPC event with \$12,500. My sub-district felt it was an unwise expense with an ineffective result, and that is promotion not attraction. // In regard to the motion about the *Comments/Comentarios*, I am disappointed about our body's decision to keep it at ACM. This should be decided by the Assembly body. // While we talk about possibilities of resuming in-person meetings and events, although it may be difficult to temper our excitement, keep in mind that there are many people that cannot attend in-person and this notion may not be exciting to all. // We are excited to be celebrating the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of District 16 Spanish Central on August 8. We will have a flyer soon! // I am getting concerned about how words and phrases in our books are getting picked apart. I personally used to get offended about everything, but I am not anymore. // At our District meeting last month when we were taking a group conscience about the graphic novel motion, it was mentioned that the Big Book is not a novel. // I don't agree with fat shaming. // We don't publish new books, but Grapevine does. It has been a long time since AAWS has published a new book, and requests for changes are coming much more rapidly than that need could ever keep up with. // I have a family member seeking residential treatment for their obesity, and because they see positive changes in my life because I sought help for my alcoholism, they felt safer getting help for their disorder. Thank you for bringing the motion forward about the wording in *Living Sober*. // I need to express my disappointment that we chose to keep the motion about the *Comments/Comentarios* at the ACM. We are keeping this decision from the GSRs who are most affected by it. // I would like to point out that the decisions we make in the U.S./Canada service structure to change our literature have an effect on AA members worldwide. Some literature changes really should be considered at the World Service Meeting.

*The meeting was closed at 3:30pm with the Responsibility Declaration.*

Respectfully submitted,

# CNC AREA COMMITTEE & ASSEMBLY MOTIONS—AUGUST 2021

## Area Committee:

### Housekeeping Motions:

- Contingent on CDC Guidelines and County Health Mandates permitting, that CNCA fund the BTG committee to hold the in-person 16th Annual BTG Forum in Sonoma, CA, on Saturday, November 13, 2021, at a cost not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$1,200. -Presented by George X, CNCA Bridging the Gap Chair

### New Business:

- That CNCA fund the translation of the CNCA Discussion and Reports section of the *Area Motions Book*, at a cost of \$4,640. – Presented by Miguel H.
- That CNCA distribute the area newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically unless requested by mail. – Presented by District 06, San Francisco
- That the Area purchase up to two (2) annual subscriptions for adobe Acrobat Pro at a current cost of \$312/year for use by the Web Committee and add a line item for said cost to the Area budget moving forward. - Presented by the web Committee

## Area Assembly Motions:

### Old Business

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

### New Business:

- That the Trustees Literature Committee consider deleting or changing the following wording in the book Living Sober "Better to be chubby or pleasingly plump than drunk, right? Did you ever hear of anyone being arrested for "fat driving"?" Which is located in Chapter 9 titled "Eating or Drinking Something-Usually, Sweet" on page 23 of the 2019 printing. -Presented by District 90

# DCM SHARING SESSION -JULY 24, 2021

## **District Committee Member Sharing Session – July 24, 2021**

### **11:08am Meeting Opened with the Serenity Prayer by Drew B.**

Translation by Manuel G.. Thank you for your service!

### **46 DCMs, GSRs and visitors attended. Drew B. facilitated.**

#### **Presentation: Chase C.**

Jacqueline P. “One Time Only” Recording Secretary fill-in for Chase C.

#### **Topic Presentation – Experience, Strength and Hope with Hybrid Meetings**

The presenter began on the topic with the sentiments that they are part of something bigger than themselves and exerted their gratitude to be of service for the still-suffering alcoholic; they presented a simplistic PowerPoint presentation with a Van Gogh backdrop with contents of defining a hybrid meeting, the setup, equipment, and hybrid accessibility (dual-linguistic interpretation and sign language). It was shared that though a hybrid meeting is nothing new, if you have watched a football game or a Congress session in chambers, you were engaged in a hybrid meeting; this engagement shows that collaboration can take place without being in one place; list of equipment was provided and considering that the items are ideal and specific to an effective Area Committee Meeting and/or quarterly Assembly; the Primary Purpose Group held Monday 8:00 PM in District 70 of Area 06 has a high-tech hybrid system for an effective A.A. meeting implementing Tradition Five with the tools that are had for the service of those around the world and those in person in Dublin, California.

Members shared during the sharing session after the presentation their experience with their Groups how the presentation was informative yet not ideal for every Group; there are audio and network difficulties that arises leaving Groups with no choice by Group Conscience to

decline the hybrid meeting option; the question “Will the meeting be hybrid indefinitely?” was posed to the presenter and their response, “It’s really completely in the air and hasn’t been discussed as of yet.” Another question was posed to the presenter, “How did the Group come to the decision to stay hybrid?” The reply, “At a business meeting the hybrid proposal came forth, and the main consideration was the number of members/participants attending the meeting from across the nation and world and making the meeting accessible to everyone; members in the sharing session also shared the division of groups when the decision is made to not become hybrid -- that Groups are splitting in two in separate locations for those that are not comfortable in attending in-person meetings; continuing on Zoom while members attend in person.

The Sharing Session was very engaging with members sharing their experience and dissertation amongst their Groups’ discussion around having a hybrid meeting format. For a full transcript of the DCM Sharing Session, attend the next DCM Sharing Session to be held on August 28, 2021 11:00 AM (PDT)

#### **Next Month’s Topic:**

The Return - Support Groups in the Return and Connecting GSO Registration, Intergroups - Austin D04 & Vivian B.

Respectfully Submitted, Chase C.

# Anyone, Anywhere

## PRAASA 2024 LOGO CHALLENGE

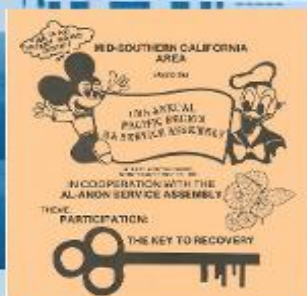


"Communicating Our Legacies  
- Vital in a Changing World"



"Anonymity . . .  
Our Spiritual Foundation"

Sixteenth Annual  
PACIFIC REGION  
AA SERVICE ASSEMBLY  
March 4, 5, 6, 1993



**Attraction  
and  
Outreach  
Committee**

**PRAASA 2024  
San Francisco  
PRESENTS OUR**

**Email submissions to  
[praasa2024ao@gmail.com](mailto:praasa2024ao@gmail.com)**

**LOGO  
CHALLENGE**



- ▶ Fellowship, show us your creativity!!
- ▶ Submit your design by December 31, 2021
- ▶ Email your questions and entries to [Praasa2024ao@gmail.com](mailto:Praasa2024ao@gmail.com)
- ▶ SPREAD THE WORD AND HAVE FUN!!
- ▶ Winner receives FREE REGISTRATION to PRAASA 2024



## 2021 CNCA CALENDAR—PANELS 71

**August 28—Area Committee Mtg.**    **November 6—Inventory Assembly, District 04**  
**September 25—Area Committee Mtg.**    **27—Area Committee Mtg.**  
**October 23—Area Committee Mtg.**    **December 18—Area Committee Mtg. (Note: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat)**

### PANEL 71 ASSEMBLIES

**2021 Pre-Conference Assembly,**  
April 3-4 (Hosted by District 8)

**2021 Post-Conference Assembly,**  
May 15 (Hosted by District 14)

**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 at

[assemblycoordinator.p71@cnca06.org](mailto:assemblycoordinator.p71@cnca06.org)

## 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  
San Francisco, CA 94119-2490 [handi-norcal.org](#)

### 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 632-553-607. [Contact the 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 password

**Web** committee meets at noon the 3rd Saturday of every month. Zoom meeting ID is 337-574-6264. [Contact Megan M.](#) for password.