



CNCA COMMENTS

A.A. Confidential—September 2021

www.cnca06.org



California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

The questions and discussion in the last Area Committee Meeting shows me once again that I can trust the process as it unfolds. Trusting also that a higher power as it reveals itself though our experience will lead us to the solutions that best fit our needs. Alcoholics Anonymous' structure allow us to participate in this exciting process.

Now we are looking forward to our Inventory Assembly that will be hosted by District 04 on November 06. This is our last call for suggested inventory questions and the due date for submissions is September 25th. At our Summer Assembly we presented one item of new business - a suggestion for changes in the *Living Sober* book. We also voted on the motion regarding a request to the trustees literature committee for a one-page summary of the six Warranties. This was a reconsideration of a vote at the Post Conference Assembly. For more details and related information, go to cnca06.org in our Comments and Comentarios.

At the September's Area Committee Meeting, we will continue the discussion of a number of motions:

- Funding the cost of \$4,640 for the translation of the CNCA Discussion and Reports section of the *Area Motions Book*.
- Distribution of the CNCA newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically or by mail.
- Purchase two (2) Adobe Acrobat Pro Software yearly subscriptions for use by the Area Web committee.

As a reminder for everyone, the Area Interpretation and Translation committee provides simultaneous interpretation English / Spanish, Spanish /English in all our open Standing Committees and Subcommittee meetings including the sharing sessions, making participation more accessible. By the way I & T continues to seek a member to be part of the committee. I miss you all and I'll see you soon.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Miguel H.
CNCA Chair Panel 71

My first year as a GSR, the concept of a group or service committee inventory was completely new to me. I enlisted the help of my subdistrict DCM to help with my home group inventory and we went through a rigorous five-week process of discussing all the questions in *The AA Group* pamphlet. But that was after I had attended my district inventory and the Area inventory assembly.

I was a fascinated, if clueless, observer at that inventory assembly. The questions baffled me, but hearing the answers helped me start to piece together how our area functions. Sort of, LOL. But it didn't matter that I didn't get it—what I did understand was that members cared about what we were doing here, what seemed to be working, and what needed improvement. I was also inspired by our guest, a nonalcoholic trustee, who shared why he was motivated to be of service to A.A. And the host district served the best carrot cake I have ever tasted. I don't even like carrot cake that much, but I'm still talking about it 12 years later.

The following panel, my main takeaway about Area inventory was our then alternate delegate suggesting a few months later that DCMs could be exploring any action items in our monthly sharing session. That's how I learned what now seems obvious: a key part of group inventory is some sort of follow-up. The process itself is amazing, but if we don't take any action on what we have learned, we haven't finished it. While the officers certainly look through the notes for action items, we are all responsible as members of the Area.

And then, two years later, I was submitting all sorts of questions for the inventory. I didn't have answers, but I saw things that needed discussion. And two years after that, regardless of which questions we ended up with, I was the DCMC overcoming my fear of the microphone, trying to gently but pointedly bring attention to areas where I thought we needed to improve. I went from knowing nothing, to thinking I knew everything! But seriously, I had some concerns, I voiced them, and I felt better for it. So, I encourage you all to speak up if you have something to say.

In 2017, when I was Area chair, our inventory assembly was hosted by my local district less than a month after I lost my home in the devastating Tubbs wildfire. The main memory I have of that year was suiting up, showing up, and being embraced by the love and support of the fellowship. For one day, I could simply focus on chairing our assembly and what was working in my own life—recovery, unity and service. In 2019, our inventory assembly was rescheduled due to another wildfire, and ended up being the last assembly we held in person before the pandemic took us virtual. And now, here we are again!

We take our inventory as an Area in the first year of the panel so we have that second year to improve and grow. What should we be focusing on with our questions? What are we doing well? What could we do better? I look forward to hearing from you.

In service and gratitude,
Jennifer B.
Panel 71 Delegate

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—AUGUST 28, 2021

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held virtually on August 28, 2021. Miguel H. opened the meeting at 12:30pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Teresa J. (District 01). Lupe O. (District 19) read Tradition 8 and Suzi W. (District 14) read Concept 8. There were seven past Delegates present: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28), Barbara M. (Panel 41), David N. (Panel 59), Raymundo L. (Panel 65), Joann L. (Panel 67), and Teddy BW (Panel 69). We introduced two new DCMs. The July minutes and financial report were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments and Comentarios*.

Attendance: 120 **Birthdays:** 314/14

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JENNIFER B: I am still waiting to hear when the Final Conference Report books will be shipping out to us. As soon as I do, I will make a plan for distribution with the other officers and DCMs. Meanwhile, I hope you are enjoying the PDF version I sent out. Maggie the cat is not featured, but maybe you will recognize some other highlights from my report on the Conference, including a photo of Tom A. from Area 07 in his "Don't Panic" socks! I also sent out a report from our Pacific Regional Trustee, Kathi F., giving highlights of the work done since the Conference and discussions at the Summer Board Weekend. Since then, the various departments at GSO have worked on their individual budgets, and by sharing those budgets with each other, they have identified an additional \$87,000 in savings. So, the re-forecasted projected operating expenses for 2021 should be even lower. Careful readers may also have noticed an error in the name of the revised and retitled CPC pamphlet in the Board report. As previously announced, it is now called "Faith Leaders Ask About A.A." Not "Faith Healers."

Several sub-committees have been formed to tackle various big projects like the 5th edition of the English Big Book and the plain and simple language Big Book. But, in keeping with what has been working well in recent years, working groups have been set up for other projects. So, rather than just having a committee of people at board level, working groups can incorporate the participation of AA members from the primary target audiences of our literature. For example, with the Spanish 4th edition of the Big Book, they are being mindful of the challenges of creating a book that encompasses the diversity of the Spanish-speaking population in the U.S. and Canada. An appointed committee member who is a native Spanish speaker will head up the working group for this project, which will include a diverse group of AA members from a variety of ethnic, geographic, dialect and age perspectives. They will solicit input on needed improvements for stories, work on outreach to foster significant amounts of solicited material, and work with publishing to ensure a review of the basic text translation.

A working group was also established for the update of the pamphlet "AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic". A director on AAWS who is black will head up this group, which will include AA members from the target audi-

ences who can bring a variety of ethnic, geographic, linguistic and age perspectives. They will solicit broad input on the current pamphlet and need for improvements, develop a method of outreach to foster significant amounts of submitted material, and work toward the development of a respectful and inclusive title.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – ERIC L: Disruptions in the printing and trucking industries due to COVID-19 have resulted in delays in fulfilling orders of items of literature from AA World Services, and there may be intermittent disruptions for the remainder of this year.

CHAIR – MIGUEL H: I want to express my gratitude to the Tech committee, and to District 70, who collaborated and co-hosted our Summer Assembly. I also want to thank all our presenters and all of you who participated in the discussions. As we noticed after voting on several items last month, we refilled our agenda again. We went from two items left in the agenda last month to eight in less than two weeks! That will keep us busy, and I'll keep the two minutes time limit for each share. Our upcoming Inventory Assembly is November 6, and it will be held virtually. One of the important things is that the questions for this inventory come from members in our Area. Please ask your groups, sub-districts, and Districts for suggested questions to share and be part of this spiritual growing process that involves us all and the future generations of trusted servants to Alcoholics Anonymous. The deadline to submit these questions is September 25. You can submit your suggestions through your DCMC or directly to any of the Area Officers. As Area Officers continue to visit some of the Districts in person, we are also considering resuming in-person Area Committee Meetings in January 2022, although we do not know what that would look like. I started participating General Service because it looked important. Now I know it is important and crucial to be a physical part of this never-ending process, and I'm sure future alcoholics will get the benefit of it.

TREASURER – CHITRA S: As of today, we have \$57,760.67 in our Checking account and \$11,038.49 in our Savings account, which is our prudent reserve. In July we received \$8,669.22 in contributions (budgeted: \$11,550.25) and expenses were \$2,862.76 (budgeted: \$7,231.52). Please thank your groups! This month I visited my first District meeting in person in over a year, and I was amazed at how comfortable I felt in the room. I was so grateful to see everyone instead of being scared of not knowing anyone. I can feel the shift. A couple weeks ago I got to write a check for \$25K and one for \$12K on behalf of the Area, and no one even checked on me; this program takes us from our very bottom and lifts us up with trust and love through service to grow us into responsible, caring human beings. I am learning through action that it is way better to give than to receive, and that excess funds should be spent purposefully or distributed to our other entities in need. Thank you for teaching me valuable principles.

REGISTRAR – CLAUDIA N: With the Summer Assembly, District anniversaries and being able to do District visits, it was really a fun month! I sent out registration numbers for the Summer Assembly. At one time we had 242 members in the

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—AUGUST 28, 2021 Cont'd.

assembly and had approximately 219 registrations. That is a pretty good percentage! I have heard back with concerns that some members weren't counted because they weren't able to register. I will keep working on alternatives for members to register if unable to access the link so that all who want to be registered will be. I am still hearing of GSRs and others not receiving their packets from GSO in a timely manner. If you do not receive your packet within two weeks, please let me or your District Registrar know so we can contact them. Remember, if your group changes location, that is a change that needs to be submitted to your District Registrar and a Group Change Form filled out. I was contacted by Area Registrars from Oregon and South Florida who put together a monthly sharing session for Area Registrars and our first meeting is September 5. This is a great opportunity for us all to help one another in our respective Areas as we navigate registration in these changing times. I want to thank the CNCA Technology committee for all they have been doing to get our new database up and running.

RECORDING SECRETARY – AMY M: Although I have not been a guest yet at any in-person Districts, I had the wonderful opportunity to attend my home District meeting this month to see and hear our Delegate's report on the Conference, and it filled me with joy and gratitude. It was small but it was so great to see friends and there were a few people there new to General Service. All of us in service together, doing what we do, and all the moving parts that make AA work, I think really does make service seem attractive.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – DREW B: Big thank you to District 70 for the incredible work done at the Summer Assembly. Our next assembly will be our Inventory Assembly on November 6 and will be virtual. You can submit prospective inventory questions to me or any Area Officer. There is still a lot of uncertainty about what 2022 assemblies will look like; whether they are virtual, hybrid, or in-person. Like my comrades, I was moved by my first in-person District visit.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – RICHARD W: I was very excited to have the opportunity to visit two Districts in person. The General Service Office is working through printing delays. You can find more information on how this is being addressed on the 'What's New' tab on the website at www.aa.org. We have exciting deals on literature going on through Sept 30. First, is the "Dynamic Duo"; buy the hardcover Big Book and receive \$1 off *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* in any format. Next, is "AA in Your Pocket"; receive \$1 off each pocket edition of the Big Book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, *Daily Reflections*, and *As Bill Sees it*. Available September 1, there is a new Grapevine book titled *Prayer and Meditation: AA members share the many ways that they connect spiritually*. The Grapevine's special section this month is Young & Sober and there is also a story from Bob K. who is a past Delegate from Benicia. Stories for "What's On Your Mind?" are due by October 15. La Viña's spotlight this month is the Annual Prison Issue and stories for the Newcomer Issue are due September 30.

District Reports

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – TERESA J: We continue to hold our monthly District meeting via Zoom. Our District will continue the discussion about transitioning to hybrid or an in-person meeting in a few months. Our DCM holds a sub-district meeting for all GSRs via Zoom. They share presentations with each other, ask questions and study the Concepts and Traditions. Our GSRs and officers continue to take part in their home group business meetings regarding reopening to share information and gather experience.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – JACK B: We welcomed a new GSR. Some groups are not doing Zoom anymore and only meeting in-person, and some have remained only on Zoom. Last weekend the Coastal Rally took place, and our local H&I is back to bringing meetings to the jails.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – MATT E: As our recovery meetings continue to transition back to meeting in person, our groups continue to be very generous in their contributions to District 03 General Service. As such, we found ourselves once again with an excess of funds and were able to approve a contribution of \$1,000 to the General Service Office in New York. I'm also pleased to share that CRUZYPAA has had their elections, and they are fired up. I've heard announcements from one of their officers at every meeting I've been to, building excitement and awareness, and I look forward to telling you more about the events that they come up with!

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – PRIS J: We are in the process of forming an ad hoc budget committee for 2022. We are discussing our role of hosting the November Inventory Assembly and if we will have a Friday evening portion. We are beginning to think about our District inventory. Two of our DCMs have formed service meetings on Sundays that provide unique opportunities to hear people speak from near and far away places (Area Officers, Delegates, Class A and Class B Trustees, etc.) in addition to participating in a weekly Service Manual/Concept study.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – VERONICA C: The monthly "Sub-district Spotlight" was with sub-district 008 which allowed us to hear and get to know several GSRs a little better. Finances continue to be stable. As we move closer to going back to live activities, we will review our finances to see how close we are to the projected budget and possibly look to revise the spending for the second half of the year if needed. We are in the process of forming a finance committee to perform the upcoming review. Although no firm decision has been reached, the District continues to discuss returning to live meetings, as our meeting room may become available in September. Meetings in the District have fully opened, and the attendance continues to grow.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) SARAH B: This month, we reviewed and provided feedback via Google Forms for possible questions for our District inventory in November. Intergroup continues to serve our fellowship well, electing a new Editor for our monthly newsletter and planning for holiday season alkathons to occur in person. I'm happy to announce that we had our first presentation of New Business for Panel 71; that our District provide funds to PI/CPC for literature expansion and

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replenishment. This presents a great opportunity for our District to discuss a possible use for the excess funds we have accumulated out of decreased expenses, and I look forward to hearing group consciences in the coming months.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – JACKIE B: At our August District meeting, we elected a District Grapevine Representative as well as identified six members for our ad hoc Finance committee. Our District also passed a housekeeping motion to purchase three gift subscriptions for the Grapevine and three for La Viña for the Carry the Message Project. We continued our discussion on adopting Stripe as an online payment processor for our District website. We just announced the date and schedule of events for our virtual Unity Day on October 9, 10:00am-3:30pm. Along with the new volunteer orientations for Intergroup committees, H&I, BTG and GGYPA, we are holding a speaker panel on "Recovery, Unity & Service in a Time of Change" as well as a "Safety in A.A." workshop. Both the speaker panel and safety workshop will have simultaneous English-Spanish interpretation. The Executive Director of the San Francisco Marin Central Office, Maury P., announced that after nearly twenty years of service, she is rotating out of her special worker role and moving into a new position of service. The Board of Directors is currently accepting applications for the Executive Director position.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – ASHLEY J: We recently voted in favor of a motion to establish an Accessibilities committee and the organizers of that motion are gathering members of District 07 who want to be a part of creating its structure and implementing its purpose and mission. East Bay YPAA's website includes a meeting list and there is at least one in-person meeting a week, as well as social events. Bridging the Gap is increasing frequency of meetings at certain facilities.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – FRANK C: Our ad hoc committee formed to explore going back to in-person meetings (in-person and/or hybrid) has been busy as of late. Communication with the church where we met pre-pandemic is ongoing. Our ad hoc Chair, Cassie, and I virtually attended District 08's business meeting earlier this month which was their first hybrid meeting, and we learned a lot. As a District we took a big step forward at our last meeting, passing a motion to begin paying rent to the church so we access the meeting room and start working out what we might need to do if we want to go hybrid. Thank you to the Area for allowing us to host the Summer Assembly. It was a great opportunity to be of service as a District. It was nothing like serving together at an in-person event, but those who participated for the most part suggested it was a positive experience.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – LESLIE W: Our August meeting was our test run as a hybrid; there were about fifteen of us in person at our meeting room for the first time since March of 2020. We are delighted to report that except for a few DCMC errors all the equipment worked as designed and was flawless. The District approved all the recommendations from our Website ad hoc and we are on the search for members to join our new Technology committee. We look forward to seeing the new District website soon with the electronic contributions portal up and running. We created a new ad hoc

to begin the herculean process of updating our motions book and to make recommendations for ongoing updates. The Special Events Chairs for the District and Intergroup are diligently working on our joint Unity Day event, currently scheduled for November.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – ERIN B: Two of our three DCM positions are still open as well as BTG, PI/CPC, and Archives. We are still discussing reconsolidation of our sub-districts. I have reached out to Solano North. How would General Service and voting be impacted? GSRs report their groups are doing well and were encouraged to take group consciences for upcoming motions at the Fall Assembly. Our Delegate's Report will take place on Zoom in lieu of our regular District meeting on September 13 at 7:00pm, with a brief business meeting to be held at 6:30pm. Our local Alamo Club needs support.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – BILL H: Our Delegate's Report was on July 31. Thanks to our Delegate and guest panelists and all attendees. Participation wasn't as high as we hoped, but those who were there had a great experience. District 90's first hybrid District meeting will be on September 1.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – MOLLY M: Our Public Information/Communication with the Professional Community Committee held its first annual Pancake Breakfast on August 29. We continue planning for a Covid-safe in-person Unity Day on October 16, noon to 4:00pm at Unity in Marin Church in Novato. Our Archive Chair is collecting stories about "When did your group return to in person?" Our Accessibilities committee received a DVD version of the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* in American Sign Language. Please spread the word if any of your fellows can use it. The committee still seeks donations of wiped equipment to allow members to attend Zoom meetings. Marin General Service continues to host a Twelve Concepts study on the first Tuesday of the month. The District continues to discuss a return to in-person District business meetings, now looking to be a date in the far-off future.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – ELIZABETH B: The group is continuing to look at our District's website and is supporting our ad hoc Web committee in making changes as needed to improve accessibility in cooperation with Intergroup. Our Bridging the Gap Chair is participating at our local Recovery and Resource fair on September 14. We are grateful that AA resources are being accessed by the Napa community. We voted to hold a District inventory during our November business meeting. The regular meeting with the inventory will be November 13 at 1:30pm, following our sub-district meeting.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – JAMES B: We are beginning the process of gathering questions for our inventory for both the District and officer meeting. I would like to thank District 18 for the invitation to participate in their anniversary. I know I enjoyed attending the event and seeing so many people that I haven't seen in person for some time. At our last District meeting the motion to provide English and Spanish interpretation at our District meeting passed unanimously. The District will begin providing this at our next meeting. To our Spanish-speaking friends, please feel free to be guests at our meeting. Sonoma County Unity Day is set for October 9, 10:00am-4:00pm. This event had been planned to be in-person, howev-

CNCA BUDGET VS ACTUAL - JANUARY—JULY 2021

California Northern Coastal Area

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

January - July, 2021

	ACTUAL	TOTAL	
		BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Revenue			
002 Group Contributions	43,406.77	49,250.00	88.14 %
003 District Contributions	2,712.67	8,400.00	32.29 %
004 Assembly Contributions	874.25	2,000.00	43.71 %
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	1,045.29	1,050.00	99.55 %
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	3,260.00	700.00	465.71 %
010 Interest Income	5.18	1.75	296.00 %
Total Revenue	\$51,304.16	\$61,401.75	83.55 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$51,304.16	\$61,401.75	83.55 %
Expenditures			
020 EXPENSE			
021 Delegate Expense	560.12	3,668.28	15.27 %
050 Officer Expense	877.69	11,288.45	7.78 %
130 Committee Expenses	7,008.90	15,078.45	46.48 %
300 General Expenses	14,399.38	33,213.32	43.35 %
Total 020 EXPENSE	22,846.09	63,248.50	36.12 %
Total Expenditures	\$22,846.09	\$63,248.50	36.12 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$28,458.07	\$ -1,846.75	-1,540.98 %
NET REVENUE	\$28,458.07	\$ -1,846.75	-1,540.98 %

CNCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION—JULY 31 2021

California Northern Coastal Area

Statement of Financial Position

As of July 31, 2021

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	90,707.98
Prudent Reserve - Savings	11,038.49
Total Bank Accounts	\$101,746.47
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	1,682.35
Total Other Current Assets	\$1,682.35
Total Current Assets	\$103,428.82
TOTAL ASSETS	\$103,428.82
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	63,830.75
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	11,140.00
Net Revenue	28,458.07
Total Equity	\$103,428.82
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$103,428.82

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—AUGUST 28, 2021 Cont'd.

er due to current outside issues, the event has been changed back to a Zoom event. At the moment District 12 continues to meet on Zoom only.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – PAUL G: Our upcoming Unity Day on September 18 was planned as an in-person event and District 13 held our first in-person meeting since March of last year. However, our high hopes in June that things were returning to live contact were dampened with a healthy respect for current conditions and a revote to return back to virtual District meetings. Our live Unity Day format is also now in question. But one way or another, we will have our Delegate Day and carry the message from the General Service Conference to our local groups and members. We are collecting final touches and content for our upcoming new website, and we have grown from one GSR in January to six currently. We are upgrading our Hotline Service to automatic sign on with new volunteers and there is a steady inflow of new energy coming into our Intergroup and District committees each month.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – WARREN R: We had our second hybrid District meeting last month in Willits. We kept our reports and business minimal because we had our report from our Delegate and an ice cream social. We are still talking about Unity Day which looks like it will be in early October in Fort Bragg.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – JERRY C: We welcomed a new DCM. Some of our meetings around the District that had opened are closing back down. Last month we heard our Delegate Report. The Sobriety by the Sea roundup in September looks like it could be reconsidering if it will be an in-person event.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – EMMA M: We would like to give thanks to all that planned and attended our anniversary celebration, and the planning that is going into the Hispanic Forum. We have motivated GSRs, and we have been distributing pamphlets with descriptions of the different service entities and how to get involved.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – JOSE L: We met at Grupo Buena Voluntad to participate in the Summer Assembly, and after the assembly a few GSRs asked me if we can schedule a date to have a workshop to talk about the assembly business. We will do so on September 12 at Grupo Espiritu de Vida, 10:00am-12:00pm, with Zoom option available. On August 26 I signed the new agreement to be able to use our meeting place at Mercy Street starting on September 1. Grupo Menlo Park asked the District committee to help with a Twelve Traditions workshop beginning August 27 and continuing until we go through all of them. We also participated at the anniversary of District 18 and are working in support of the Hispanic Forum committee.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – JOSE C: We had great GSR participation at the Summer Assembly. We were happy to have our visiting Area Officer attend our in-person District meeting. We had a wonderful time with our District anniversary celebration and are grateful for the participation from Districts 10 and 12.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – GUADALUPE O: A local Intergroup office had an information booth at the Strawberry Festival event in Watsonville in late July. I attended the

25th Anniversary of La Viña in Phoenix, AZ and it was great. We welcomed one new GSR and continue to visit groups in the District.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – JAVIER L: We are planning our 10th anniversary of the District for November 13. We are also working on our interdistrictal meeting where District 20 will be the host and it will take place on November 21.

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

ACCESSIBILITIES – REN (KAREN) H: We are pleased that after three months of discussion and addressing questions and answers, District 07 has voted to create a District Accessibilities Committee. At our meeting this morning we had a presentation that will also be presented as New Business today related to maximizing participation at assemblies, the monthly ACM, standing and sub-committee meetings, and sharing sessions. This is of interest to our committee members because it relates to removing barriers that AA members can face who want to be involved in service. Our committee meets every 4th Saturday at 10:00am. All are welcome.

ARCHIVES – PAUL W: On August 14, the Archives team had their first workday and business meeting at the Archives repository in well over a year. During the workday we provided tours and information for the new team members. The workday was an in-person meeting, whereas the business meeting was hybrid. We are also attending a 6-hour regional archives seminar on September 11 on Archival Conservation. Since that is the second Saturday of the month, we are moving our workday to September 18. On that day we plan on cleaning up the file storage room where the shelves collapsed just before the pandemic. Due to the COVID-19 surge in Texas, the National AA Workshop in San Antonio, TX has been canceled. It will resume next year in Little Rock, Arkansas.

BRIDGING THE GAP – GEORGE X: Our committee is currently in the planning stages for our upcoming BTG Forum which we hope to hold in-person, pending Sonoma County Health Order mandates. The event will take place on November 13, 2021, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Santa Rosa. A housekeeping motion will be made later in this business meeting to request the budgeted funds. Since the last ACM, our Districts have made twelve presentations at treatment and/or correctional facilities. We received thirty-five contact requests, including two contact requests forwarded to CNIA and one piece of mail from San Diego received at our P.O. Box.

FINANCE – JOANN L: We reviewed the Statement of Financial Position, Budget versus Actuals, and July Expenses. We also looked at the financial impact of the motions on the CNCA Area Committee Meeting agenda for today. Most of the Budget worksheets have been turned in. If your committee has not turned one in, please get it to us as soon as possible. We discussed a plan to start work on the 2022 budget in September. We are continuing the discussion to have a finance workshop about how to talk to your AA groups about self-support.

PI/CPC – ERIC L: The PI/CPC committee is preparing for the 'AA in Action' event on September 22; we have launched a page that professionals can use to register for the event and

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obtain information about what AA is (and what it is not). We also sent our first email to nearly 80,000 professionals (working in health care, education, the court and legal system, human resources, unions, social services, and faith leaders) inviting them to this event.

TECHNOLOGY – LUISA S: The Tech committee has an open position available. If you are interested in joining this new and exciting committee, please reach out to Miguel or another Area Officer to be considered. This is a wonderful opportunity to help shape this new committee and find out how we can help usher CNCA into this new age of technology! The Tech committee will be delegating our ten Microsoft licenses soon to the following committees/Officers: Tech, Web, Archives, Accessibilities, I&T, Delegate, Chair, Registrar, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. Our AirTable project for the Registrar is close to completion. Gavin and I will be meeting with Claudia soon and frequently to help roll out this new software and make adjustments as needed.

WEBSITE – MEGAN M: The committee is a well-oiled machine now, I feel like we work well together, and I certainly appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and participation. This month I have some statistics for you, courtesy of one of our tech members, Patrick. The number of views to the website since April of 2020, when we started using a new data analysis plug-in, is 45,749. We average 2,700 views a month. The "best" day this year was April 3 with 695 views in a day. No doubt that correlates to the Pre-Conference Assembly. In the month of August, our firewalls blocked 12,485 spams, and 2,615 malicious attacks.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MAGDALENO O: We have a vacant position on the committee, and we have a lot to do. We are busy translating many documents. Soon we will be doing an inventory of our interpretation equipment to see what needs replacing.

PRAASA 2024 – TEDDY BW: 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. The headline this month is that we have a competition to design the event logo. If you would like to volunteer for PRAASA 2024 please send me an email.

CNCA COMMENTS / COMENTARIOS– DENNIS H: The *Comments and Comentarios* were a few days late this month due to summer vacations schedules. As a reminder, your DCMC or committee Chair should be passing these on to you each month. If you are not receiving them, they are always available on the CNCA website shortly after the 15th of each month.

DCM SHARING SESSION – CHASE C: This morning's DCM Sharing Session presentation was given by Vivian K. of District 07. The topic was 'The Return - Supporting groups returning to in-person meetings and connecting meetings with the General Service Office', encouraging groups to register into the directory and with their local Intergroup/Central Offices. The presenter shared that in large metropolitan Districts, we might need better strategies to stay connected with our groups and meetings. Particularly in District 04 and District 07, currently each have several hundred active meetings. Some umbrella groups or large fellowships have a huge number of meetings (they are not Alano clubs). They usually have only one General Service Representative to serve 40 to 80 meetings. Without good communi-

cations between the GSR and members, will we gradually lose our institutional knowledge of AA General Service within those large groups, and have more and more difficulties recruiting future GSRs? We also discussed the difference between a meeting and a group and how to link up to AA as a whole.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – RICHARD W: Today's Sharing Session began with a brief discussion of literature, followed by the introduction of Coree H., a non-trustee director on the AA Grapevine Board and a former Area Officer.

Coree is presently a part of the podcast project and was able to offer quite a bit about their status and thinking process, followed by Q & A with all questions answered. Coree is neither the Grapevine treasurer or a member of the Grapevine budget or finance committees but was glad to discuss some of the odd self-support ideas that surfaced.

We meet on the morning of the ACM at 9:00am and all are 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 that some facilities we serve are welcoming in-person meetings. Our next General Committee Meeting will be October 10, 2021, at 11:00am on Zoom. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Zoom information is available on our website www.handinorcal.org. H&I can always use new volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please check out our website or attend your local H&I committee monthly meeting.

YPAA – AMY M: The Nor Cal Bid for ICYPAA would like to thank you all again for the letter of support. I am sad to announce that ICYPAA has been postponed. We are all very disappointed but grateful they are looking out for our health and that of all the attendees. It is likely it will be rescheduled for August 2022. We are looking forward to continuing being of service and participating in our Area in the year ahead.

LA VIÑA ANNIVERSARY – CRISPIN P: Elections were held last week with six Districts bidding. The 26th La Viña Anniversary will be hosted by Area 06 District 19 and held on October 17, 2022.

HISPANIC FORUM – LUIS R: We met in mid-August and looked at our treasury. After making posters and disbursing around our Area and to other Areas, we have a remainder of \$2,075. We are in contact with the Newark Pavilion discussing possible meeting restrictions, and soon will have a decision if the event can happen in person in October.

AREA BUSINESS:

Housekeeping Motion:

- 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

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES— AUGUST 28, 2021 Cont'd.

Presentation: Bridging the Gap Forum is an annual event now marking sixteen years since its inception and founded upon the unity of the Districts which comprise CNCA06 and their efforts in conducting AA 12th-Step work. This event affords an opportunity for BTG committees within our Area to bid for and host a one-day consortium in their District. Typical attendees are those who serve on BTG committees, those looking for a service commitment or are interested in learning more about BTG, a General Service sub-committee of AA. This showcase event is ideal for fledgling BTG committees who are attempting to build awareness in their county and garner interest in adding committee members. It also lends itself well to long-established committees that have a strong BTG presence with considerable participation from their local fellowship and are actively presenting in treatment facilities and/or county jails. This Fall event typically follows the National Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend. The intent of our BTG Forum is similar, but with a NorCal localized flavor, offering presentations on current topics, discussions of Bridging the Gap, panels consisting of treatment and/or correctional professionals, Hospitals & Institutions, and PI/CPC committee members, as well as other trusted servants. On August 5, the Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend coordinator emailed this year's registrants of its cancellation for 2021 in Rock Island, IL, citing rising health and safety concerns. In the months to come, we will continue to monitor county health mandates and guidelines with the hope that the BTG Forum can be held in-person in Sonoma County on Saturday, November 13, 2021.

Questions: **Q.** I heard in your report earlier that a church in Santa Rosa was reserved. So, should this say Santa Rosa or Sonoma County? Or both? **A.** Yes, it currently is reserved for Santa Rosa in Sonoma County, thank you. **Q.** Are people from CNCA travelling to IL for this? **A.** No, the National event in IL was cancelled, and that registrant from our Area is currently working on getting reimbursed. **Q.** What is the \$1,200 for if the event was cancelled? **A.** The National Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend in Rock Island, IL was cancelled. This motion is to fund our local CNCA 06 BTG Forum. The funds are used for the facility rental, food, etc. **Q.** Why is this a housekeeping motion and not a regular motion? **A.** Because it is already a line item on our annual budget, and by precedent, only a housekeeping motion is required. **Q.** Would it be virtual if it is not allowed to be in person? **A.** We have not discussed that yet, but I believed it could possibly be cancelled.

No objections. <<<Housekeeping Motion Passed>>>

Presentation of New Business:

- That all CNCA meetings (including assemblies, the monthly area committee meeting, standing committee meetings, sub-committee meetings, and sharing sessions) be held in person with a virtual element to maximize participation. - *Presented by District 40*

Presentation: The focus of this motion is to carry the message by offering hybrid Area meetings to all members of AA, and it was passed unanimously by members of District 40. We are guided by the Responsibility Statement and the focus of this motion is to provide resources that make AA accessible to

all. For those that may not know, 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 (our program literature, meetings, the Twelve Steps, and service opportunities). At any meeting you attend, there are likely members dealing with access barriers without them being evident or vocalized. Those just trying to get into the rooms and be of service may not make it in or stay because of barriers and those of us already in our chairs are likely not even thinking of these challenges.

Questions: **Q.** The way I read this, it sounds like it is saying in-person Area meetings need to happen right now. Can you add some wording that shows consideration of the public health situation we are in right now? **A.** It refers to the accessibility of our meeting, whether or not we are in a pandemic. I would be open to rewording it; it is not meant to take away any options we currently have. **Q.** Would you accept a friendly amendment to add the words, "...when Area meetings resumes to meeting in person"? **A.** Yes. **Q.** Is this for just the ACM or the committees too? When we meet back in Petaluma, some committees may have decided on other options. **A.** It includes committees, in respect to the structure of all the times committees meet, sharing the Zoom account, etc. This motion does not eliminate the ability for a committee to choose, just that the virtual element is present. **Q.** With it worded this way, it means that a person has to physically be there. **A.** This does not remove the ability for a committee to choose to be virtual. **Q.** Have you considered what the financial cost of this would be? **A.** We did not analyze the numbers, but we feel that for CNCA to provide accessibility to all three legacies is our primary purpose. **Q.** Would you consider a friendly amendment to say, "...pending availability of equipment, interpreters and volunteers.?" **A.** My concern with that is we are getting further away from the intent of the motion voted on at our District. **Q.** How long did you discuss this at your District? **A.** For two months. It was presented to the District, and it was taken back to the groups for opportunity to discuss. Then when it was voted on at the next District meeting and passed unanimously. **Q.** If we returned to the in-person Area meetings with a hybrid element, would all the sub-committees have the original rooms and times? **A.** There may be some logistical challenges and we'll have to remain flexible but there is no intent to make decisions like that for the Area. **Q.** It sounds like the virtual component is key to this motion, but the wording throws it off. Can you consider updating the wording? **A.** I accepted the first friendly amendment, but this is the wording the District wanted to present. **Q.** As a point of clarification, the Area did not vote to be virtual right now; we jumped in because of the pandemic. So, technically we are still doing it "in-person" as we were before. Does your motion mean that when we are not meeting according to health mandates pending a global pandemic and we are able to meet in-person that we would vote to add in a permanent virtual component? **A.** Yes, thank you. **Q.** Is there a required position that needs to attend in person? If it is up to us to meet at a physical location, is there a minimum threshold of attendees to uphold the cost to rent the place? **A.** As a trend we have seen that on Zoom attendance in general is up, but the

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—AUGUST 28, 2021 Cont'd.

number of voting members attending is down. We hope that having both options could maximize the situation for all. **Q.** Why can't we first create an ad hoc committee to seek a solution to this? Can we make a motion for that? **A.** It is not the intention to decide for the Area how to go about this. I am not opposed to baby steps if that is what the Area wants, but the virtual component is the intention of our group to meet accessibility needs. **Q.** Did I hear from the Chair that the presenter does not have the authority to withdraw her motion? **A.** It is District 40's motion, not hers, but she is the acting DCMC and can withdraw if she wants.

Motion withdrawn to revise wording.

Motion to remain Presentation of New Business at the Area Committee Meeting in September.

Presentation of New Business:

- That CNCA reimburse the archivist, or the alternate archivist if the archivist is not available, following current CNCA expense reimbursement guidelines to and from the Archives repository for workdays and special CNCA events or requests. - *Presented by the Archives Committee*

Motion withdrawn, as this was passed in 2003. (Motions Book 0311-1)

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.*

Discussion: Group consciences- The majority of our group was in favor and felt we should do whatever possible to provide equitable service opportunities. The minority opinion expressed concern about the cost and wondered who actually reads it and if there was a need for it. **Personal opinions-** I am in favor of this. I think it speaks to the accessibility and values of our Area and puts our funds to good use. // I am in favor. I am a DCMC of a Spanish-speaking District and we do need it. Sometimes we have to translate documents on our own if it is not done and it can be difficult. We have the money, and it would be a great help to the Spanish speakers in our Area. // I am strongly in favor of this. The *Motions Book* is an important document and needs to be in both languages. // I am in favor of this. The motions that make up the *Motions Book* are in Spanish already, but the Discussions & Reports section provides a lot of history of our Area that Spanish speakers don't currently have access to. Also, we have sub-districts and committees that may be unique to our Area that are outside the scope of the Service Manual. Once this big chunk of the book is translated, we can easily keep it up as new documents are added in. // It will be a difficult task, as we only have a few translators, and they translate everything as we go. But it is needed. It doesn't matter how many times it will be accessed; the information needs to be available as it is needed. When we want something in English we can get it, but that is not the case for all our information in Spanish. // When the Agenda Topics Summaries and the full

background became available in Spanish, it helped our community a lot. It gives us an opportunity to participate fully and provided us better ways to present information to our Districts and groups to get others interested. We need this. // I am in favor. A couple of months ago people asked for some information and we were able to look it up and find it. It needs to be accessible in both languages. // I think this is a useful way to use our funds and I support this. // I am in favor. It brings more access and clarity to our values as an Area. Would this include the index? And going forward would we pay translation of future documents at regular cost? // When we began to provide the background to the Agenda Topics in Spanish, I observed not only an increase in the number of Spanish-speaking GSRs, but also the breadth and depth in the way they shared at the microphone spoke volumes. // This would catapult us into the future. The *Motions Book* is an archive of our Area's action items and reflects the time and energy we have spent in getting things done. I am looking forward to this and happy we can participate more with our Spanish-speaking friends in AA. // This is important for us. It is an important document and of vital importance that we have access to the full document. It is key to the growing participation of our Spanish-speaking members.

Motion to become Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting in September.

What's On Your Mind?

I am disappointed by how the presentation of New Business went. It isn't time for the discussion and that is what it turned into. A presentation of New Business is supposed to simply describe the "what". The "why" and "how" is for later, when we are actually discussing it. The more friendly amendments we add to a proposed motion, the harder it is to make sense of it later. // I wonder if there is a problem with the order that we do our business on our agenda, with New Business being discussed before Old Business. There were GSRs at the Summer Assembly hoping to give their group conscience on the Old Business and we never even got to it. // I am pleased to share that in this month's issue of the Grapevine there is a story from a past Delegate, Bob K. // When we talk about the demographics of our Area and providing documents in other languages for the sake of equity and accessibility, I'd like to point out that in the Bay Area there is a large population of people that speak Chinese and Filipino. // I'd like to invite you all to the Lopsided Triangle on Sunday nights at 8:00pm. We have exciting service panels, and this week will have a panel of various faith leaders. Unfortunately, there is not Spanish interpretation for this, but if more people continue to come and contribute to the 7th Tradition maybe we can provide it in the future.

The meeting was closed at 3:15pm with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy M.

CNCA Recording Secretary- Panel 71

DCM SHARING SESSION AUGUST 28, 2021

District Committee Member Sharing Session – August 28, 2021

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

Translation by Manuel G.

43 DCMs, GSRs and visitors attended. Drew B facilitated.

Presentation: Vivian K. of District 07 Alameda North

Topic Presentation – The Return - Supporting Groups in the Return and Connecting GSO Registration, Intergroups.

The Presenter shared about what strategies are necessary for large metropolitan areas. The following was shared: There are some umbrella groups that host 40-80 meetings and wonders with concern about how to have good communication with those meetings. **A question for consideration is that without good communication, will we lose our General Service knowledge?** The use of The A.A. Service Manual stimulates interest amongst members and their recovery in taking advantage of the opportunities to share informative material to meetings and Groups. **What is the difference between a meeting and a Group?** It has been acknowledged that many new meetings are formed quickly without much planning, and that there is an obligation to share how the Fellowship functions in keeping A.A. together. No Group is alone. Inviting trusted servants familiar with the Second and Third Legacy establishes trust and friendship. **How could we encourage support to the Groups?** It is suggested to post events on Districts' and Intergroups' websites, encourage District Committee Members and General Service Representatives to attend Intergroup meetings and District Meetings. Note that some are open meetings, and some are closed meetings.

Some suggestions: Request that central offices periodically update newly formed meetings so they can be supported.

Is your group linked to AA as a whole?

Registering with your local Intergroup assures a two-way communication with Intergroup and the Groups. Attending business meetings just to get to know them lets them know there is support. Being in such an unprecedented time, some members may feel out of sorts or even lacking organization. A healthy Group is to be able to work things out for the welfare of the whole group. As trusted servants, consider the opportunities to share what General Service has done not only for A.A. as a whole but also what it has done for your personal recovery. Being a good example and doing the service in Carrying the Message with enthusiasm and not hoping for any results. With some of the right service tools, Groups usually find solutions. In sharing personal tools, one can be awarded with many friends in A.A.

Striving to have a healthy Group life is good business. Engaging throughout the pandemic what meetings/Groups looks like in your Areas.

The Sharing Session was engaging with members sharing their experience and dissertation amongst their Groups' discussion around the topic of supporting Groups while they are transitioning to returning to in person settings and informing them how to register with both the General Service Office and their local Intergroup Office. For a full transcript of the DCM Sharing Session, attend the next DCM Sharing Session on September 25, 2021, 11:00 AM (PDT) to be included in the email list.

Next Month's Topic: Group Inventory at the Group Level – Presented by Kathleen G. District 04

*Respectfully Submitted,
Chase C.*

CNC AREA COMMITTEE & ASSEMBLY MOTIONS—SEPTEMBER 2021

Area Committee Motions:

Old 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.*

New Business:

- 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*

SUMMER ASSEMBLY — AUGUST 7, 2021

The Summer Assembly business meeting of CNCA was held virtually on August 7 2021 Miguel H. opened the meeting at 10:00am, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Natalie C. (District 10). Annie C. (District 08) read the Twelve Traditions in English, and Jose C. (District 18) read the Twelve Traditions in Spanish. There were nine past Delegates present: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28), Barbara M. (Panel 41), Gustavo T. (Panel 57, Area 05), David N. (Panel 59, and past Trustee), Padee M. (Panel 63), Raymundo L. (Panel 65), Joann L. (Panel 67), and Teddy B.-W. (Panel 69). Past Area Officers present were Margrete V., Judy W., Michael Q., Magdaleno O., Dennis H., and Coree H. Coree currently serves as a non-trustee director for the Grapevine board. The minutes from the 2021 Post-Conference Assembly were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments* and *Comentarios*.

Attendance: 242

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JENNIFER B: I'm looking forward to the assembly workshops today—these are wonderful opportunities for Area members to interact in a different way from our other assemblies. You never know what sorts of ideas for change and growth in Alcoholics Anonymous will come out of them. The suggestions for the workshops today came from you. You know what else might come from you? The theme for the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver! The deadline to submit suggestions for consideration is October 15. Both of the motions for new pamphlets that we passed at our last two assemblies have been submitted to the Conference coordinator as proposed agenda items for the 2022 Conference and are under review by the trustees' Literature committee. As a reminder, the deadline to submit proposed agenda items is now September 15.

The General Service Board met at the end of July for the first time since the 71st General Service Conference, as their work continues year-round to implement all the advisory actions, as well as take a look at the additional committee considerations. I will be receiving a full report from our Pacific Regional Trustee, Kathi F., soon and will share what I learn with you. But I do have a few updates in answer to some frequently asked questions... Finances are good, thanks to strong contributions and literature sales for the first five months of 2021. Currently, the surplus income for this year is about double what was anticipated in the budget, but some expenses are likely to go up. The hope is that we can start replenishing our reserve fund with the surplus. Please thank your groups for their contributions and keep talking about self-support!

As yet, we do not have any calls for stories for the new editions of the Big Book in English or Spanish, or any of the pamphlets, but I will keep you posted. The new Service Man-

ual is due out in November. Completely revised, with an eye toward the newcomer in General Service, it features color, side tabs, and frequently asked questions with space for notes at the end of each chapter. The revisions to the "12 and 12" book that were approved by the Conference have been made. However, there is a considerable amount of inventory on hand of the now "old" version, across the many formats and languages that we produce here in the U.S. and Canada. So, it will take a while to fully roll out the new version as the inventory of each "old" edition runs out. Nevertheless, the first appearance of the "new" version will be the English softcover edition (item B-15), which I'm told will be available in August.

I have given some version of my Conference report sixteen times now since the Post-Conference Assembly, and I still have more to look forward to. Sometime within the next several weeks, I expect we will have the Final Conference Report books available – both digital and hard copy. So exciting! Please feel free to call, text or email me any time if you want more information about anything.

And finally, at our Fall assembly on November 6, we will be doing inventory, but we will also have one election: to select our Area candidate for the next Pacific Regional Trustee. It's hard to believe it has already been four years, but Kathi's term will be up at the 2022 Conference. If you know you plan to make yourself available, it would be helpful if you could let me know in advance and send me the completed form. Both our inventory and the election process will be facilitated by John W., a past Delegate from Southeast NY Area 49 who is currently serving as a non-trustee director for AAWS. We always like to invite someone from outside the Area as a neutral facilitator, and even in this time of virtual meetings, I don't think too many of you know him yet.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – ERIC L: My primary responsibility is to fill in for the Delegate whenever needed. I've had the opportunity to do that a handful of times this year, and it has been an honor to serve alongside all of you.

CHAIR – MIGUEL H: Welcome everyone to the Fun Assembly of CNCA 06 and thank you District 70 for making it possible. The Summer Assembly was my very first CNCA Assembly ever attended, and last year's was the first one I missed in fifteen years. Now might be a good time to brainstorm ideas for questions for our Area Inventory Assembly on November 6; suggested questions are due by the September 25. As we continue to hear of AA meetings and groups reopening in person, last month some of the Area Officers had the opportunity to visit some of the Districts in person for a very first time with a rewarding experience. Area Officers are considering resuming in-person Area Committee Meetings in January 2022, although we do not know what it would look like, or if that would be available for committees and sharing sessions. It is incredible after these rough several months- your work with the Area helps to keep AA as a whole moving. Making

SUMMER ASSEMBLY — AUGUST 7, 2021 Cont'd.

AA accessible, and service to others expands my beliefs and experiences just by hearing and seeing changes happening. I've learned that General Service does not always have to make perfect sense but putting my heart on a higher level than my head can also give great results.

TREASURER – CHITRA S: As of today, we have \$92,417.85 in our checking account and a prudent reserve of \$11,038.49 that stays in our savings account. Our contributions for January-July 2021 total \$49,645.06 and we budgeted \$61,401.75. Our expenses were also down, with a total of \$22,775.65 spent and \$63,248.50 budgeted, leaving us with an excess revenue \$26,869.41. At our Area Committee Meeting two weeks ago, we passed a motion to disburse \$25K of those funds to the General Service Office in New York. This is keeping in line with the spiritual principles laid out in the long form of Tradition Seven, which warns us of the danger of treasuries which accumulate funds for no stated purpose. Thank you for keeping our Area both financially healthy and spiritually fit.

REGISTRAR – CLAUDIA N: Since we last met, I have had an opportunity to participate in a quarterly sharing session that was set up by GSO for all Area Registrars. There were sixty attendees with six GSO staff, one Tech person and interpretation for one French-speaking member from Quebec! We have had some updates to Fellowship Connection, GSO's database, to help us better serve the fellowship as well as talked about a new release that may include the ability to do bulk uploads. Much gratitude for our Area Tech committee as they help build a new database to help our Area registration process going forward! Please inform your District Registrar if you have not gotten your new packet within two weeks of being registered to your service position. Due to the immense number of back orders, GSO's policy now is to send new packets electronically for anything over thirty days past due. Please connect with your District Registrar regarding these requests.

RECORDING SECRETARY – AMY M: As a side project to taking the Area minutes, myself and six volunteers have formed a team to update the index of the CNCA Motions Book, which has not been done in ten years. We are perusing past motions for any new language that has developed in the last decade to build new index categories, for example, new verbiage pertaining to accessibilities and technology. The Motions Book is a treasure trove of CNCA history, containing fifty years of motions! We wish it to be as user-friendly and utilitarian as possible for anyone who wishes to access it.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – DREW B: Welcome to the exciting, fun, and dynamic Summer Assembly! Thank you to District 70 for hosting today. This is a team of volunteers and not a professional Zoom team, so be sure to give them your thanks. This is our 7th virtual assembly. Our Fall Assembly, which is our Area inventory, will be hosted by District 04 and will take place virtually on November 6.

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 25th 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 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!

Area Standing Committees and Sub-Committees

ACCESSIBILITIES – KAREN H: No report.

ARCHIVES – PAUL W: The Archives committee is moving its business meeting/workdays back to the repository in Concord beginning August 14. We feel we are a small enough team that we can keep socially distanced while in the workspace. Also, the locks at the facility have been changed for added security.

BRIDGING THE GAP – GEORGE X: The BTG Forum is an annual event now marking sixteen years since its inception and founded upon the unity of the Districts that comprise CNCA 06 and their efforts in conducting AA Twelfth-Step work. Our hope that the Bridging the Gap Forum can be held in-person, if permitted by county health COVID-19 mandates, in Sonoma County on Saturday, November 13, 2021. Our Fall event typically follows the National Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend which was scheduled for September 10-12 in Rock Island, IL but we were just informed on August 5 of its cancellation due to rising health and safety concerns.

FINANCE – JOANN L: The Area Finance committee continues to assist the CNCA Treasurer and monitor expenditures. We are starting the Budget process for 2022. Our expenses continue to be lower than usual, and we have an increasing amount of excess funds for which there is no stated AA purpose in our checking account. At our last ACM, the motion was passed to send \$25,000 to the General Service Board. We have updated the Financial Guidelines to include the motion to increase hotel expenditures from \$100 to \$150 per night which was passed at the May ACM. We have concluded our search for a qualified bookkeeper to assist the Treasurer, according to the motion passed in March at the ACM.

PI/CPC – ERIC L: On September 22, the PI/CPC committee will be hosting two virtual events targeting 50,000 professionals working in healthcare, law enforcement, the court system, corrections, education, and human resources, as well as faith leaders, in Northern California. Planning for this event is underway, and emails to professionals are being finalized to ensure we inform the public and the professional community about AA.

SUMMER ASSEMBLY — AUGUST 7, 2021 Cont'd.

TECHNOLOGY – NICK S: It is an exciting time to be a part of the Tech committee. Since our last assembly we have been involved in working with the Web committee to improve email and potentially move the responsibility of email management to the Tech committee. We are working toward getting our Area to use cloud storage and delegating Microsoft licenses and software to certain committee Chairs and Area Officers. Also since our last assembly, we added a new position of Software Administrator and elected Gavin O. This position will be the main contact for Area Officers needing assistance with software needed to perform their commitments, and especially the Area Registrar once we roll out AirTable, which is software that will improve our Area data management. And an update to the AirTable project: Gavin and I will be working to complete the final touches and hopefully will begin working with Claudia before the next assembly to train her on how to use the software and work out any final bugs.

WEBSITE – MEGAN M: In the pursuit of greater privacy and security for our 7th Tradition website contributors, we have moved to an improved implementation of the same software, Square. Unfortunately, this implementation is less customizable, and the word 'Donate' appears in a few places instead of the preferred word 'Contribute'. Also, after the acceptance of your contribution the software displays an opportunity to share about your contribution on Facebook and/or Twitter. Of course, we do not want to look like we are endorsing that behavior as it breaks several Traditions. We are wrestling with Square for a better solution and looking at other gateways like Stripe. In the meantime, please do NOT share your contribution on Twitter or Facebook. Thanks! One wonderful feature of our new contribution implementation is the opportunity to subscribe. This means that when contributing you may sign up to have your selected amount of 7th Tradition money to automatically be sent monthly to CNCA. Check it out!

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MAGDALENO O: As always, thank you to our professional interpreters and to our volunteer interpreters for proving Spanish-English interpretation during our business meeting and all workshops today. We made some adjustments to the schedule of the regular committee meetings for the second quarter of Panel 71. We also checked the interpretation equipment and found some deteriorated pieces. We will be discussing this further in our committee meeting to formulate a housekeeping motion to purchase new equipment.

PRAASA 2024 – TEDDY B-W: What is PRAASA? It's the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. Each of the fifteen Areas of the Pacific Region hosts PRAASA on a rotational schedule and it is our turn in 2024. We have selected the San Francisco Marriott Marquis as our venue and we are deep into contract negotiation. We expect to conclude negotiations next week and secure the venue, by signing the contract. The Attraction and Outreach committee has had its first meeting, noted that Outreach can only be effective if there is inclusion and equi-

ty. We look forward to working with all PRAASA 2024 sub-committees and particularly the Access sub-committee in pursuance of that goal. The Attraction and Outreach sub-committee has launched a prize competition to design the logo for PRAASA 2024.

Area Business

PRESENTATION OF 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

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 and felt that it is a violation of Tradition 10.

QUESTIONS: Q. Do you have a substitute for preferred language? **A.** We request to have it deleted or revised, so if it's rephrased that would be up to the Literature committee. **Q.** I don't understand how this violates Tradition 10. Can you get specific in your reasoning for this? **A.** It trivializes an issue that is very serious for people who suffer from an eating disorder. **Q.** Would you consider amending it to express that it is also a violation of Tradition 1 in respect to our common welfare? **A.** Mention of any Tradition is not in the wording of the motion, so there is nothing to amend there. **Q.** In reading the whole chapter, especially in the paragraph above this sentence, there is much more language that is disturbing around this subject. Why did you focus just on this sentence? **A.** These motions need to be specific and concisely worded. For the sake of discussion, this particular sentence was most problematic to the maker of the motion. **Q.** In what way does it violate Tradition 10? **A.** Food addiction is a very real thing, and it appears from this writing that AA has an opinion about how to approach an outside issue. **Q.** Tradition 10 is about how AA faces the public to make a statement about an outside issue, I don't see the connection here. Can you explain? **A.** It is a book published by AA and it appears to take a stance on how we would treat or regard other addictions. **Q.** How many people are complaining about this? **A.** The maker of the motion is from District 90, and it was brought to the District meeting. The GSRs then brought it to their groups which had opportunity to discuss it. When we voted there were sixteen members at the District meeting, and it passed unanimously. **Q.** Why are you wishing to revise only this paragraph when the whole chapter is offensive? **A.** The maker of the motion felt this sentence was most offensive. AA

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change is slow, and we wanted to be mindful that we are not asking for a whole new book. **Q.** I am just curious who wrote this chapter? Was it an AA member-at-large? **A.** I don't know who the author is.

Motion to become New Business at the Fall Assembly on November 6.

OLD BUSINESS:

- That AAWS publish a one-page summary of the six Warranties. — *Presented by District 08*

Discussion: [Group consciences]- Our group is not in favor, because the Warranties are already written in the Concepts. // Our group feels it is a waste of time. // Our group did not really come to a conclusive vote, but the conversation revealed that many were surprised they had never seen them before. It could be useful to put at the beginning of the Big Book. **[Personal opinions]-** The Warranties are the reason I joined General Service; I consider them to be the 'other promises.' A bookmark would be so wonderful and would present them in a way that is widely available. // I think publishing them would be a waste of time and money but could be more effective on the website; quick and easy to find. // The Warranties predate the Traditions because they appear in the original Charter. They are so foundational and explain the principles that later became the Traditions. // It would be great to have something in hand to reference them. Let's take this opportunity to be funny and entertaining with it. // This does not seem needed to spend the money since they can be found in the Service Manual. // I have not read the Warranties before and now I will. I have grown from this discussion. // When someone walks into a room and sees them on the wall or on a printout on the table it could pique their interest to learn more about the Concepts. // I had never read Concept XII until this discussion began and I was amazed. It really shows that we are not a cult and how AA really operates. // Hearing how many people don't know about them, that enough should warrant the publishing of them. It is golden information. // It's not just a question of money, it's a question of how we get information to other people. We need to go beyond our own regular meeting and have these discussions. // I have been active in General Service a long time and I guess I haven't been paying attention. We don't find things we don't know about on the internet; we find these things accidentally. We should put it in the front of the book; put it where everyone can see it as soon as they see AA. // I could not get a group conscience because they don't know about them. I learned about them when I got into service. A page summary can inform people before they get into service. // It is great to talk about the Warranties. I learned they existed after being in service for a long time. // I am kind of conflicted about it. My introduction to General Service has been all on Zoom so far, and I haven't had much opportunity to get group consciences or seek other opinions. I don't even have a Service Manual, so where would I find this information? Maybe the last page of the Big Book is good, because that is the book I have access to. Is it too much too fast? // The Twelve Concepts Illustrated is a condensed pamphlet of this information and the

Warranties are listed in there. // I'm not in favor or against it, but part of my development and growth is the process of taking the responsibility to read and learn as much as possible. // The Concepts are in the Big Book, and the six Warranties are Concept XII. The Service Manual is available on aa.org and it says specifically in the GSR duties that they "... learn everything they can about the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts..." We should wait until the new revised Service Manual comes out. If the intent is to make people aware of the Warranties, there are many other ways. // We should get them out wherever we can. Where we might see them first is in General Service and maybe by the time taken with a service sponsor. But they can be applied to our recovery, in groups' and intergroups' business meetings. Sometimes we are a little stingy with what we keep in General Service. Why not make a bookmark or put them in the front of the Big Book? // I'd like to point out that there are illustrated pamphlets for the Concepts and Traditions. Tradition 10 in the Twelve Traditions Illustrated helped me so much. I am queer and AA literature hurts us every day. // I love the Twelve Concepts Illustrated. For me personally, pain preceded every service commitment I have taken. I gained a Service Manual, then a service sponsor, and began to share at group level. // I don't feel a strong need for this. I am concerned about getting too saturated with information. I went to aa.org and they are there so I don't see a need for an additional publication. // I don't understand a need for this. The illustrated pamphlet is fine, the Big Book has it. The Warranties can get talked about. // This discussion is useful. However, the onus to carry information to the fellowship is on us. The first Forward in the beginning of the Big Book starts with, "We are more than one hundred men and women who have recovered..." I wouldn't agree with putting anything else before this important sentence about alcoholism. // My favorite pamphlet is the Twelve Concepts Illustrated. It's all laid out there. I do like this discussion though. It's a good exercise. // The illustrated pamphlet is a great for groups to grab it and have it present. This is our guide. It's already simplified. // I was a GSR at an assembly in WA twenty-five years ago and it resulted in the illustrated pamphlet we see today. It's true the Warranties are a well-kept secret and aside from now and our discussion at the last assembly I just don't hear about them much, so I am loving this discussion. Taking this back to our home groups is critically important. // I Googled the six Warranties just now and I am not familiar with them. It's amazing because it is very apropos to a current situation in my home group, and I believe highlighting them would make them more accessible, like maybe the way we do the yellow safety card. // A long time ago I was a GSR in San Francisco and we had a District treasurer run off with \$5,000. I called GSO to find out what could be done about it or how to deal with him, and I had my first lesson with the six Warranties, as it was explained to me that there can never be any personally punitive action taken against a member. // It is good information to share widely, but we need to do it by communication. We don't want to print something that will become useless. // I am fearful that publishing this will create a precedent of not putting ourselves in a position to be of service. If they have it too easily, I don't have to work as hard to share information and carry the message. // It is my responsibility to take it to my home group and talk about it or invite them to

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a Concept study. // I found that CNCA has an article published in the *Comments* in 2016 (DCM Sharing Session, August 2016).

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 (76) / No (53) / Abstain (12)

Motion did not acquire 2/3 of the vote. Minority opinion and motion to reconsider occurred last assembly.
<<<Motion Failed>>>

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

What's On Your Mind?

Thank you for all that was said today, I appreciate these conversations. // This was fun. Also, did I miss the discussion about the graphic novel, or we didn't talk about it? **A.** No, we didn't get to it on the agenda. // Great workshops; they were very honest and real. I think our sub-district is having a post-assembly gathering. I am hooked on General Service! // I wanted to share a little of my experience in travelling to Phoenix, AZ for La Viña 25th Anniversary event. It was a 17 ½ hour bus ride to get there! It was an intense experience, which was four days all together getting there and back. I met many people with solid, internal recovery and it was an unforgettable experience. I also learned a lot and acquired this book about one of AA's pioneer women, Marty Mann, and I am so thrilled about it. // I am the Seminars Chair for District 12, and our next seminar is called Life On Life's Terms, and it is on Zoom on August 18. Visit sonoma-countyyaa.org for more information and future events. // Thank you so much for the opportunity to be the presenter on a workshop topic. I was shocked and amazed when I was asked. The information I learned during the research I did made me realize that AA can go on forever regardless of our societal problems. We really are there for the newcomer. // District 16 Spanish Central is celebrating its 35th Anniversary and combined with our Delegate Report tomorrow! // Thanks to you all for keeping me company today. I applaud the courage it takes to bring up suggestions to language changes. And the pandemic is not over by a long shot. I am awed by the flexibility and adaptability we use to exist. That's what we do; we survive adversity. // Thank you all who put this together, to the attendees, and for allowing District 70 to host this assembly. // Thank you for today. I learned a lot and I appreciate the discussion about the Warranties and the outstanding workshops. It feels good that so many ideas are centered around accessibility and inclusion. // Thank you to the facilitators, scribes, and the attendees in the workshops. I wish we could have two more sessions. I am an African American so was drawn to the workshop about accessibility and inclusion. For me it is not considered a luxury to have a service sponsor; it is needed. In the BIPOC service committee it is a requirement to have a service sponsor. We must continue supporting and educating each other in putting our Traditions to

practice and be assured also that our Traditions aren't getting misused. We can do this by going to more service events and Concepts studies. I am inspired to elevate my level of service. // I would like to thank God for allowing us to be together in another assembly and thank all the first-time attendees today. These assemblies are where it all starts; these conversations enable us to continue helping the newcomer. // Thank you to all the volunteers from District 70 who hosted today, and to the presenters. District 18 will be celebrating its 28th anniversary on August 22. It will be a hybrid event in Santa Rosa. // We have a Third Legacy workshop on Wednesdays from 6pm-7pm, and we are starting with Chapter 1 of the Service Manual. Visit tri-valleyaa.org for more information and Zoom login. // Thank you for the time, thought, and energy that went into today's event. I love how we listen to each other with love and tolerance. // Thanks to all, the workshops really were great. We are talking about accessibility, diversity, and inclusion and these are active discussions in our Area Accessibility committee now. I'd like to invite you to the monthly Accessibility committee meeting on the 4th Saturday at 10am on Zoom. Let's work on making these ideas happen! It is what we do, there is no reason why not. // Today the attendance on the assembly topped at 242, with 218 registered attendees. // Thank you all for the assembly. I appreciate seeing that the presenters worked so hard. I really feel the sharing of information and even though it's through the screen it is an opportunity to lose our egos when listening to each other. // Two years ago, I was an alternate GSR and had an opportunity to go to a Summer Assembly. Back then I was so self-involved all I could think about was who I was going to drive with and worry about if we would have something to talk about. I love how I have been transformed by the nature of this service.

Submitted with Love and Gratitude,

Amy M.

CNCA Recording Secretary- Panel 71

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL
AREA 06 OF ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS

FALL ASSEMBLY:

“THE AREA INVENTORY”

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2021

Meeting ID: 838 7391 7882

Passcode: Ask your DCM or DCMC

8:00 am	Doors Open
8:30 am	Virtual Orientation
8:45 am	Assembly Orientation
9:00 am	Election: Nominee for Pacific Regional Trustee
9:30 am	Business Meeting
12:00 pm	AA World Services Report (John W.)
12:30 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	Inventory Questions
5:00 pm	What's on Your Mind?

SPANISH-ENGLISH INTERPRETATION IS PROVIDED IN THE ZOOM APP

2021 –2022 CNCA CALENDAR—PANELS 71

2021

September 25—Area Committee Mtg

October 23—Area Committee Mtg.

**November 6—Inventory Assembly,
District 04**

27—Area Committee Mtg.

**December 18—Area Committee Mtg.
(Note: 3rd Sat)**

2022

January 22—Area Committee Mtg.

February 26—Area Committee Mtg.

**March 4,5 & 6—PRAASA Portland,
Oregon
26—Area Committee Mtg.**

**April 2&3 — Pre-Conference
Assembly
23—Area Committee Mtg.**

May

**14— Post Conference
Assembly
28—Area Committee Mtg.**

June

25—Area Committee Mtg.

July

23—Area Committee Mtg.

August

**13—Summer Assembly
27—Area Committee Mtg**

September

**16—18 Pacific Regional Fo-
rum, Salt Lake City, Utah
24—Area Committee Mtg**

October

22—Area Committee Mtg

November

**05—Election Assembly
26—Area Committee Mtg**

December

**17—Area Committee Mtg
(Note: 3rd Sat)**

PANEL 71 ASSEMBLIES

**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

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 pass-
word for any meeting, please use [the](#)
[web form](#).*

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NorCal H&I Committee
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San Francisco, CA 94119-2490 [handi-
nocal.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 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 the 2nd Saturday of every month at 12:30 pm. 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 on the Thursday prior to the Area Committee meeting every month. Zoom meeting ID is 988-7891-7593. [Contact George X.](#) for password. BTG mailing address is PO Box 750623, Petaluma, CA 94975-0623.

DCM sharing sessions are held before the Area Committee meeting on the 4th Saturday of every month at 11 am. Zoom ID 632-553-607 [Contact Drew B.](#) for password.

The **DCMC** session meets on the 4th Saturday of every month at 10 am and 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 3rd 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.