



CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential—October 2021

www.cnca06.org

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

At the last Area Committee Meeting, we reviewed and approved the Area Expense Reimbursement Guidelines, and we passed an item of Old Business to fund the translation of the CNCA Discussion and Reports section of the *Area Motions Book* at a cost of \$4,640. We also re-voted to move, as a Presentation of New Business in our next Fall Assembly, the item: "That CNCA distribute the Area newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically unless requested by mail".

At the next virtual assembly on November 06, hosted by District 04 - Santa Clara North, we will also continue discussing Area Assembly Motions, and possibly even vote on one. In the afternoon the Area will also hold its inventory.

The inventory process is a profound and spiritual exercise, during which we assess what we, as an Area, are doing well. As we have been mentioning, we will also have the opportunity to share what we can do to improve our service to the Fellowship. We encourage everyone to attend the inventory discussion; from these discussions, the Area can learn how to best help new GSRs, ensure that our DCMs and DCMCs are well-informed, and provide guidance to officers and committees on how to best serve the Area. The questions for the inventory are below.

This month, in addition to my usual activities, was peculiarly full of experiences with a lot of human contact. I found AA members of this new generation of sober people looking forward to, generally for the first time, choosing their new home group. This is made possible by keeping my heart connected to each group conscience expressed by the GSRs, DCMs and each colleague of mine. As an active part of the Area since day one, these people, with three weeks to one year of sobriety, continues to be the source of energy which makes my daily decision of being here today, a pleasant choice.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.
Miguel H
CNCA Chair Panel 71

Inventory Questions for Fall Assembly on November 6

1. What is your vision for how we can better fulfill our purpose as an Area?
2. How well is information flowing between groups, districts, and the Area?
3. Are the Area Committee Meeting, the standing and sub-committees, and the sharing sessions effectively serving the full Area?
4. Are we mindful of the spiritual principles underlying the right of decision and the right of participation when we conduct Area business?
5. How do the size and demographics of CNCA help or hinder our effectiveness in serving the groups?
6. Are people who do service for CNCA adequately supported?

What fun it has been to come to your districts these past five months — either in person or virtually — to share what I saw, heard and felt at the 71st General Service Conference! This year was historic in many ways, and I am forever grateful for your participation in A.A. in a time of change. Thanks also for inviting people who don't typically attend your district meetings to hear the report. There was a lot to share of interest to the entire Fellowship and I appreciated all the opportunities to do so.

I'm also incredibly grateful for the enthusiastic network of helpers who assisted with the distribution of the printed copies of the Final Conference Report (and bookmarks) throughout the Area. Being able to see some people in person that I haven't seen in 18 months has been such a joy. I sure do look forward to when we can all assemble together again.

I remember how excited I used to get when the books would finally arrive each year. And frankly, this year was no exception— even though I attended this year's Conference. The pictures are easier to see in the color digital PDF we received in advance, and that one you can screen share, or search words, or copy and paste sections. But there is still something very satisfying to me about holding that paper copy.

Some of my favorite things to point out:

- Literature Distributed starting on page 109. Look at all those Big Books! See how our newer pamphlets are selling. And cassette tapes for the handful of people who still want them! We carry the message in so many ways.
- Contributions by area (pp.122-23), which is also where you can find that estimated cost per member of \$7.34.
- Area Highlights in an odd-numbered year includes us on page 77!
- What would we do if we were ten times bolder? See page 73 for the workshop notes.
- If you somehow missed what happened with Agenda Topics until now, see pages 58-72.
- Board member bios and lists of Conference committees are in the back of the book.
- The first thing I always do is flip through and look at all the pictures. And this year I can recognize more of my fellow members. Maybe you'll recognize some parts of the story from the pictures you see. Let's be awesome!

And there is no shortage of information or inspiration to share with your groups in all the presentations and reports. Take your time. Share tidbits for the rest of the year. Help make the connection between what happens in New York and how it helps the drunk on the corner, still stumbling in the darkness once short block from all of our meeting rooms.

In love with service,
Jennifer B.
Panel 71 Delegate

Looking for Something?

| | |
|---|--|
| Chair's Preview—p.1 | Area and Assembly Motions—p. 14 |
| Delegate's Corner—p.2 | Inventory Assembly Flyer—p 15 |
| Area Committee Minutes, 9/25/2021—pp. 3—5, 8-12 | CNCA P71 Calendar & Assembly Info.—p. 16 |
| Area Financial Reports, 8/2021—pp. 6—7 | Area Officers & Meeting Info.—p. 17 |
| DCM Sharing Session, 9/25/2021—p. 13 | |

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 25 2021

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held virtually on September 25, 2021. Miguel H. opened the meeting at 12:30pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Marta B. (District 16). Paul W. (District 08) read Tradition 9 and Kathleen G. (District 04) read Concept 9. There were seven past Delegates present: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28), Barbara M. (Panel 41), Jim M. (Panel 45), David N. (Panel 59 and past trustee), Ken M. (Panel 61), and Joann L. (Panel 67). The August minutes and financial report were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments and Comentarios*.

Attendance: 117 **Birthdays:** 272/13

Officer Reports

DELEGATE – JENNIFER B: The most recent update on the shipment of the Final Conference Report books is that seventeen boxes are on their way to me as we speak! I have bookmarks to go along with the reports to distribute to the DCMCs and I'll be in touch soon to arrange pick up or delivery. Meanwhile, please feel free to share the digital PDF of the Final Conference Report with any member of AA. Last week, I sent out the most recent copy of *Highlights from AAWS*, with updates on finances, publishing, and technology. You can find that under the 'What's New' tab at aa.org. I also sent out links to the safety service material available from GSO. Service material differs from Conference-approved literature in that it has not come about through Conference Advisory Action. It is produced when there is a need for readily available information on a specific subject. Service material reflects AA group experience as well as specific and timely information that is subject to change. The new "Safety and AA Flyer" kind of looks like a pamphlet and would certainly fit in a literature rack. How convenient! It has helpful information, including some suggested language for groups who may wish to add something to their meeting formats about safety. But what I really want to draw your attention to are the updates in item SMF-209 – *Safety and AA: Our Common Welfare*. It used to be three pages, but now it is seven. Information has been expanded under the section on 'Emergencies' to include some pandemic experience, such as following local health guidelines to keep our members safe and also not bring negative attention to AA in the media. A new section has been added on "Safety and AA in the Digital Age." And there is extensive sharing in a new section on Diversity and Inclusion. It makes it clear for example, that racism in AA is a safety issue, not an outside issue. And much more. You may recall we had workshops on the Tenth Tradition and Diversity and Inclusion at our Summer Assembly in 2020. I sent some information about discussions we had there, as well as in our PI/CPC committee last year, to the staff member on the PI desk when I was Alternate Delegate. And our Chair sends our monthly newsletters to GSO. I mention that so you know our Area sharing was part of the broader conversation throughout the fellowship that helped inform this revised Service Material. That's one of the ways those summer workshops and our discussions in the Area in general can make a difference in how we carry the message. So please be sure to let members know this material is available. The yellow card on Safety was

also updated. And finally, in addition to all the fun I had this month visiting Districts in person or on Zoom, I also had a last-minute invitation to participate as a presenter in the National AA Technology Workshop. It was wonderful to see so many members of our Area in attendance, or serving as tech hosts, or presenting, or being elected to the steering committee for next year. If you missed the workshop, recordings of the sessions will be available at some point on their website, naatw.org.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – ERIC L: The Conference Agenda Committee is requesting theme suggestions and workshop and presentation topics for the 2023 General Service Conference. The newest edition of *Box 459* is now available at aa.org. Highlights in the newest *Box 459* include information about an Armed Services Standing Committee formed in Area 08, an interview with our new GSO General Manager, and an interview with the Harvard researcher who studied AA's effectiveness.

CHAIR – MIGUEL H: Today we may have the smallest agenda in the last ten months. Even though we have no urgency or rush on making decisions in AA, we'll keep the two-minute time limit for each share. I have a friendly reminder for our upcoming Inventory Assembly on November 6. It will be held virtually, and suggested inventory questions are due today at 3:30pm. The Interpretation and Translation committee is seeking one more member to be part of the gang. This was my first-ever committee I became part of. I participated for two whole Panels, and it was a very rewarding experience. It doesn't require anyone to be bilingual. For more details or questions, please contact Magdaleno O. or any of the Area Officers. I keep on trusting the process of everything that happens in CNCA. The experience and precedent that we leave behind becomes part of the history through our love and work, and not just for our own Area. Almost every month since the pandemic started, we have had visitors from all over who are also trying to keep the arteries of AA flowing. This month I had the opportunity to participate in a roundtable held in Ecuador with the topic, "The Importance of the Districts in the Alcoholics Anonymous Structure" and I realized that we are not there yet; alcoholics are still dying looking for help. They, too, deserve a second chance to live a new life as the Big Book mentions in the Promises.

TREASURER – CHITRA S: As of today, we have \$57,391.81 in our Checking account and \$11,038.59 in our Savings account, which is our prudent reserve. In August we received \$7,576.64 in contributions (budgeted: \$9,350.25) and expenses were \$39,817.42 (budgeted: \$12,501.46). Our higher than usual expenses included a \$25,000 disbursement to the General Service Board, and a \$12,500 payment for PI/CPC expenses as laid out in a previous motion. Thank you for the healthy discussion which led to spending and distributing our excess funds that have accumulated this year. As we are looking to resume in-person Area functions in January, our expenses will increase accordingly, and we are grateful for group and District contributions to meet our needs. Thank you for keeping us self-supporting.

REGISTRAR – CLAUDIA N: As we move forward in this virtual world it seems there are more questions regarding online

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 Cont'd.

meetings, where they fit in, and how they are represented. If you are confused, don't worry, most of us are! GSO formed a committee to talk about this very subject and ideas are popping up from other areas regarding Virtual Areas, Virtual Districts and Virtual Regions. One of the things I love most about AA is our ability to rise to the challenges that present themselves as we have been doing for many years. 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 your District Registrar or I know so we can contact GSO. Remember that if your group changes location, that is a "group change" and needs to be submitted to your District Registrar on a Group Change Form. I was able to attend the first monthly Area Registrar meeting organized by S. Florida and Oregon, and it was very productive! We found that sharing information, successes and concerns together help us bring forward to GSO possible solutions to the challenges of registration. I have really enjoyed the visits I have been able to make to Districts, whether in person or on Zoom. One thing is clear; however you show up, you show up with a passion for Alcoholics Anonymous and I am so very grateful for your service.

RECORDING SECRETARY – AMY M: It has been a quiet month for me as Recording Secretary. The minutes from the Summer Assembly have just been published in the September issue of the *Comments* and *Comentarios* and sent to the DCMCs by our Area Chair, Miguel. They are also published onto the website and can be accessed by visiting cnca06.org. There you can also find every issue of the newsletter in English and Spanish archived all the way back to 2012. This is a handy tool for looking up past discussions on things we talk about here at the Area. If you are not receiving the newsletter from your DCMC, please be sure to let them know that you are eager to read it every month and would like to receive it in your inbox.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – DREW B: The leaves are changing, and the shadows are getting long, so that means we are approaching our Fall Assembly. And it is an odd-numbered year so we will be taking our inventory when we gather on Zoom on November 6. District 04 will be the host of the Inventory Assembly and it will be our 8th consecutive virtual assembly. We are not sure yet how we will approach our 2022 assemblies.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – RICHARD W: There is a new Grapevine book which was released on September 1 called *Prayer and Meditation: AA members share the many ways that they connect spiritually*. It has started shipping and the eBook release date has been pushed back to September 29. I have heard a rumor that Grapevine podcasts will begin in early October, although I have not heard anything official. The AA Grapevine's special section this month is Cooperation with the Professional Community. Stories for "What's On Your Mind" are due by October 15. Other story topics that are due by November 15 are, "We celebrate the Twelve Concepts", "Getting into General Service", and "The joys of doing General Service". La Viña's spotlight this month is the Annual Prison Issue. Thank you to the two members from San Jose for contributing your stories in this issue. La Viña stories on the Three Legacies are due by October 17.

District Reports

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – JESSICA A: 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 visiting Area Officer gave a great presentation on his experiences and best practices in participating in group inventories. We are preparing for a District 01 inventory at our November meeting. Our DCM continues to hold a sub-district meeting for all GSRs via Zoom. They share presentations with each other, ask questions, and study the Concepts and Traditions.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – JACK B: No report.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – MATT E: As Santa Cruz continues to open up, our committees are getting into action as well. Our H&I committee has resumed their monthly meeting in person, and we heard a presentation this month from the Chair of our H&I committee on a new program for serving as a sponsor in a truly confidential way to alcoholics on the inside of prisons. For more information, contact me and I will put you in touch with the program coordinator. Our Bridging the Gap committee, which had previously gone dormant, has a new Chair and we are excited to watch Alan build a committee and begin this work. Our PI/CPC committee is building steam as well. Thanks so much to our visiting Area Officer for a wonderful presentation on group inventories, helping our members understand what will happen at our own District inventory in November.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – LORI R: We are in the process of forming an ad hoc budget committee for 2022. We are preparing for the Inventory Assembly that we are hosting and beginning to think about our own District inventory. Two of our DCMs have formed virtual 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.) and tomorrow we are excited to welcome Josh E. who currently serves as a General Service trustee and Chair of the AA Grapevine Board. In advance of the Inventory Assembly on November 6, we will also host a pre-assembly event on November 5 from 6:00pm-9:00pm. Come and see diverse panels that will present about how the inventory process helps groups and individuals carry the message in AA, hear singing from an acapella recovery duo, have an Ask-It-Basket, and enjoy fellowship!

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – BILL H: This month we continued to watch the process evolve. We moved one motion to Old Business and one step closer to a vote. Passionate positions for and against were the call of the meeting. This month's "Sub-District Spotlight" featured sub-district 009 which allowed us to hear from five GSRs who introduced their home groups to the District. Finances continue to be stable. This month included the formation of a budget committee to start the work of laying out our 2022 budget. Our meeting location has opened up for in-person meetings, although we have been asked to wait until January before we start back to live status. We also must obtain insurance before we can return. Our Area Officer's report covered the important subject of registration and why we need to do it. It was eye-opening without a doubt. More meet-

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES —SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 Cont'd.

ings in the District have fully opened and hybrid meetings are becoming the norm as the attendance continues to grow.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) SARAH B: This month, our District had its first discussion on a PI/CPC motion to provide funds to replenish and expand literature for that committee. We also formed a budget ad hoc committee to prepare a proposed budget for 2022. They'll have their work cut out for them trying to project expenses with no clear path from the District on when and if we will return to meeting in person. Despite our previous meeting location communicating that they would be able to allow us to begin meeting in person again, GSRs, DCMs, and officers in our District are not yet ready to return in person. Nevertheless, I have faith in our budget committee's ability to be financially prudent, especially after a wonderful share from our visiting Area Officer on her experience serving on financial oversight committees and the spiritual principle of corporate poverty. Thank you. We have solidified our questions for the District inventory to be held in November. We received two blue cards in the past month from BTG, and our Central Office will be hosting virtual trusted servants' workshops in the coming months.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – JACKIE B: At our September District meeting, we had a wonderful presentation from our visiting Area Officer about how to read and share the 71st Conference Final Report. We also used Zoom breakout rooms to collect a District group conscience on the Area's graphic novel motion and I look forward to sharing that at the Fall Assembly business meeting. District 06 passed a motion to adopt Stripe for Word Press as a payment processor for our District website, sfgeneralservice.org. Next month, we will vote to approve a slate of Inventory questions for our District inventory in November. To prepare for this vote, we are using Google Forms to distribute a list of possible inventory questions. The Google Form allows our GSRs, DCMS and officers to vote on what questions they find the most relevant this Panel and hopefully also garner some enthusiasm for holding an inventory. So far, we've gotten over eighteen responses to our Google Forms survey! Finally, District 06 is hosting a virtual San Francisco Unity Day on Saturday, October 9 and we are enjoying cooperating with the SF Marin Intergroup, H&I and GGYCAA on the event. Along with volunteer orientations, we are holding a speaker panel on "Recovery, Unity & Service in a Time of Change", and a "Safety and A.A." Workshop led by former Class B trustee Madeleine P. and current AAWS non-trustee director Vera F. The speaker panel and the safety workshop will have Spanish-English interpretation. In Intergroup news, SF Marin Central Office continues to accept resumes and cover letters for the position of Executive Director. Visit aasfmarin.org for details.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – ASHLEY J: At our last meeting, a member presented a motion to create a Web committee with the purpose of developing a website. The motion was seconded and will be discussed as New Business next month. The newly established Accessibilities committee had their first meeting this month and is working to attract members and ask the question, "Who is missing from the meeting?" Our visiting Area Officer presented on the topic of "Why do we conduct an inventory?" We continue to hold elections for several vacant officer and service committee liaison positions. Bridging

the Gap is working with H&I on combining both on a few meetings.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – FRANK C: Although the going has been slow, we are still moving forward with looking into going back to live and/or hybrid District meetings. Our Bridging the Gap committee has been active, seeking new opportunities to provide presentations to facilities as they begin to open up and let us back in. We still have several service positions available including PI/CPC, H & I Liaison, two sub-districts, and Archives.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – LESLIE W: Our September meeting began with a GSR withdrawing a motion regarding removing gender specific language in the Service Manual. Hearing that a new Service Manual will be available in November, the GSR and the group decided to wait and see what the revisions will look like. If necessary, the motion will return. We had a very informative presentation by our visiting Area Officer on the topic "District Inventory: What it is, why it's important and how to participate." From there we went right into a sharing session to formulate questions. By the time the meeting was over, we had come up with twelve topics/questions and the GSRs wanted to present the list to their groups for additional input. We expect to choose the final questions at our October meeting and depending on the number of questions, begin in November and finish in December. We will be poised to begin the second half of Panel 71 with eyes towards the future and beyond. We welcomed our new Web committee Chair, Russ T. He is busy on our website and hopes to have a soft open soon. It's been a long road: Panels 65, 67, and 69, but very worthwhile. We wouldn't be right here right now if not for them. Our BTG committee is presenting at three locations and adding new committee members due to interest in the work. Archives is looking for groups to submit Group Histories either for the first time and/or update their existing information to include changes the meeting navigated during the pandemic. Sub-district 001 will be hosting an in-person workshop, "What is General Service?" at the El Sobrante Fellowship on Saturday, November 13 from 2:00pm-3:00pm.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – DONNA F: We had our Delegate Report last month and it was met with great enthusiasm by our GSRs. We do still have several positions that need to be filled, and hope that the prospect of meeting in person again will encourage people to get into service at the District. We are still discussing possible workshop ideas and decided to hold off until February of 2022 so we can try to plan for an in-person event.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – BILL H: We held our first hybrid District meeting on September 1, and it went pretty well. We are taking a look at the District treasury and discussing the prudent reserve which has not been increased in many years.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – MOLLY M: We continue planning for a Covid-safe in-person Unity Day on October 16, 12:00pm-4:00pm at Unity in Marin Church in Novato. We will hold our District inventory during our regularly scheduled meeting on November 15. 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

CNCA BUDGET VS ACTUAL - JANUARY—AUGUST 2021

California Northern Coastal Area

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

January - August, 2021

| | TOTAL | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | ACTUAL | BUDGET | % OF BUDGET |
| Revenue | | | |
| 002 Group Contributions | 50,170.71 | 55,750.00 | 89.99 % |
| 003 District Contributions | 3,137.67 | 9,600.00 | 32.68 % |
| 004 Assembly Contributions | 1,024.00 | 3,300.00 | 31.03 % |
| 005 Tradition 7, Area Comm. | 1,123.79 | 1,300.00 | 86.45 % |
| 008 Personal/Misc Contributions | 3,418.68 | 800.00 | 427.34 % |
| 010 Interest Income | 5.95 | 2.00 | 297.50 % |
| Total Revenue | \$58,880.80 | \$70,752.00 | 83.22 % |
| GROSS PROFIT | \$58,880.80 | \$70,752.00 | 83.22 % |
| Expenditures | | | |
| 020 EXPENSE | | | |
| 021 Delegate Expense | 568.86 | 4,257.23 | 13.36 % |
| 050 Officer Expense | 1,460.01 | 13,907.66 | 10.50 % |
| 130 Committee Expenses | 20,264.23 | 17,950.42 | 112.89 % |
| 300 General Expenses | 40,370.41 | 39,634.65 | 101.86 % |
| Total 020 EXPENSE | 62,663.51 | 75,749.96 | 82.72 % |
| Total Expenditures | \$62,663.51 | \$75,749.96 | 82.72 % |
| NET OPERATING REVENUE | \$ -3,782.71 | \$ -4,997.96 | 75.69 % |
| NET REVENUE | \$ -3,782.71 | \$ -4,997.96 | 75.69 % |

CNCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION—AUGUST 31, 2021

California Northern Coastal Area Statement of Financial Position

As of August 31, 2021

| | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Bank Accounts | |
| Operating Funds - Checking | 60,185.12 |
| Prudent Reserve - Savings | 11,036.59 |
| Total Bank Accounts | <u>\$ 71,223.71</u> |
| Total Current Assets | <u>\$ 71,223.71</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>\$ 71,223.71</u> |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Total Liabilities | |
| Equity | |
| Operating Funds ~ Adjusted | 63,830.75 |
| Prudent Reserve ~ Savings | 11,140.00 |
| Net Revenue | -3,747.04 |
| Total Equity | <u>\$ 71,223.71</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | <u>\$ 71,223.71</u> |

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 Cont'd.

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.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – ELIZABETH B: We will continue to meet virtually and will look at in-person options in the new year. Many of our GSRs had questions about running steering committee meetings and the process of making motions. We asked our visiting Area Officer to share his experience with the life cycle of a motion. His presentation gave us useful information with practical examples of the process. This month is National Recovery Month and our Bridging the Gap Chair with volunteers presented information about what AA is and isn't and how to get in touch with AA in the Napa Valley. Many of the connections that were made are with organizations that we will continue to provide pamphlets and information. On November 13 our District business meeting will hold an inventory to discuss how we can better serve our District.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – JAMES B: I want to thank our visiting Area Officer for their great presentation on "The value of a group inventory – How to get your group involved and increase participation." It was a timely topic as District 12 begins the process of gathering questions for our inventory for both the District and officer meeting. I would also like to thank District 18 for the invitation for our District to participate in their anniversary. I know I enjoyed attending the event and seeing so many people that I haven't seen in person in some time. At our last meeting the motion to provide English and Spanish interpretation at our District meeting passed unanimously. We 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 2021 is October 9, 10:00am-4:00pm. This event had been planned to be in-person, however, due to current outside issues (cough Covid), the event has been changed back to a Zoom event. You could always join both San Francisco and Sonoma County by joining one on your phone and one on another device. Currently, District 12 continues to meet on Zoom only.

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

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – WARREN R: We elected a new DCM and our first-ever Archives chair. Also, we decided to postpone our Unity Day event until sometime in spring. We are planning our District inventory for November 21 at our regular District meeting.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – JERRY C: We will be having our District inventory at our October meeting, and our DCMs are passing the info and the questions to the GSRs. This will get us warmed up for the Area Inventory Assembly.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – FERMIN R: We are working with groups that have been closed during the pandemic and they are looking to the district for support. We have a new PI chair and we had participation at a local health fair. We are looking forward to the Hispanic Forum on October 24 and have been participating with the host District.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – JOSE L: On September 5, District 17 had its study meeting in person at the Mercy Street location for first time in eighteen months. The Santa Clara Intergroup celebrated its 33rd anniversary on September 18. We visited four groups that do not have a GSR and visited a

group in Pleasanton that is just re-opening after a long wait due to the pandemic. We were invited to participate at the 21st Hispanic Forum in Area 93 District 03 on October 10. Approximately twelve of us are confirmed to attend, including seven GSRs. We have been supporting the 2nd Hispanic Forum for which we are the host District on October 24. Last month we had a meeting to talk about the assembly business regarding the motion about a graphic novel to depict the first 164 pages of the Big Book, and the motion for the Living Sober book and proposed changes to page 23. We discussed how the GSR will bring this to their groups and collect the group consciences to participate at the November assembly. We had our September District meeting in our physical location after eighteen months; we are struggling a little bit to get our insurance and new lease set. We selected five questions to have our District inventory on October 15.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – JOSE C: Thanks to the Area Officer for the information on the importance of the District inventory. The committee of the 2nd Hispanic Forum also visited us and gave us information about the forum. It is being discussed if District 18 will host the next year's forum. On November 3, a workshop will be held from 7:00pm-9:00pm with the participation from PI/CPC, BTG and Archives committees.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – GUADALUPE O: On October 17 we will have a planning meeting with the regional La Viña committee to discuss and revise the agenda for the 26th La Viña Anniversary that will be hosted by District 19. The event will take place at the meeting room of Nuevo Senderos located at 1718 Fremont Blvd. #7 in Salinas from 5:00am-5:00pm with meals and refreshments. Our other Spanish-speaking Districts 16, 17, 18, 20, and sub-district 004 from District 40 will also support the event. Last month our Delegate visited us with her Conference report, along with an interpreter and radios for Spanish speakers. We will continue visiting groups who don't have a GSR.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – JAVIER L: Our meeting continues to be hybrid and it helps people be connected in whatever way they are able to attend. We continue visiting with groups that need support or have no GSR. On November 13 we will celebrate our District's anniversary and we look forward to the interdistrictal meeting among the linguistic Districts on November 21.

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

ACCESSIBILITIES – CLAUDIA G: Our committee is guided by the Responsibility Statement. We are dedicated to providing information and resources that help make AA accessible to all who reach out for help. Access barriers can be physical, mental, geographical, cultural, or any other factor (such as: ethnicity, spirituality, safety or barriers to unity and inclusivity) that can hinder an alcoholic from receiving the AA message or participating in the AA program (our literature, meetings, the Twelve Steps, and service opportunities). Districts 06 and 07 had their first District Accessibilities committee meetings recently! At our meeting this morning, we had a presentation on "Accessibilities Considerations & Solutions Once In-Person Assemblies Re-

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 Cont'd.

sume.” Our committee meets every 4th Saturday at 10:00am. All are welcome.

ARCHIVES – PAUL W: The Archives team met at the Archives repository on September 18 for the second month in a row. From 12:30pm-1:30pm we had our business meeting, then 1:30pm-4:00pm we had a hands-on workday. In the business meeting we took a vote to determine the fate of the Archives business meeting once our Area Committee Meeting returns to an in-person event in Petaluma. The unanimous opinion was that the Archives business meeting will resume meeting in-person in Petaluma on the same day. We elected Chase C. to the vacant role of Digital Systems Administrator (DSA). We will now look for someone to work as the Assistant to the Digital Systems Administrator (ADSA). The Archives team voted to send Carol H. to the 2021 National AA Archives Workshop (NAAAW) in San Antonio but it was canceled. So, the team agreed to send Carol to the 2022 NAAAW in Little Rock, Arkansas. We began discussing the annual Archives event to be held on December 11, 2021. Since many of us have a few years of experience with these, we need an agenda, speakers, refreshments, printed information, and technique demonstrations so that we can give members of the fellowship a good idea of the role played by the Area Archives committee. Finally, we have been invited to a discussion with District 18 Spanish North on November 3 to discuss the functions of the Archives committee. We will provide more details as this request evolves.

BRIDGING THE GAP – GEORGE X: I'm pleased to announce that one of the two vacant BTG District Chair positions has been filled and we welcome Alan C. as the new District 03 Santa Cruz County BTG Chair. District 09 Solano South is the only remaining vacant seat. A planning committee has been formed and we've met twice thus far as we continue to organize for our upcoming BTG Forum on Saturday, November 13 in District 12 Sonoma County at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Santa Rosa. The event will be in person, following CDC Guidelines which we continue to monitor and Sonoma County health mandates permitting. A flyer will be posted in the Chat and a Spanish version is soon to come. Since the last ACM, our Districts have made twenty-one presentations at treatment and/or correctional facilities. We received fifty-two contact requests, including two contact requests forwarded to CNIA, one to Anchorage, Alaska. We received four pieces of mail at our P.O. Box from state prisons at CTF Soledad, Corcoran, Pleasant Valley Coalinga, and North Kern Delano.

FINANCE – JOANN L: I have a question for you; it is an important question to know. How much does it cost to hold your home group meeting for a month? In other words, what is the budget for your home group? Why is this important to know? The Area depends upon the contributions of the AA groups in order to provide services to the AA groups. Therefore, it behooves us, as Area Committee members (and this means all of us) to help the groups be as financially healthy as they can be. This all starts with asking questions like, “How much does it cost?” My hope is, as we continue in this Panel, for all of us to be aware of the money so we can be financially prudent as we spend the groups' money to provide services to the AA group. The Area Finance committee reviewed the Statement of Financial Position, Budget versus Actuals, and August Expenses. We

also looked at the financial impact of the motions on the CNCA Area Committee meeting agenda for today. We had our first 2022 Budget planning meeting. We are continuing the discussion to have a finance workshop about how to talk to your groups about self-support. If you have any financial topic that you would like to see in a workshop regarding the 7th Tradition, please let me know. I will be presenting the updated Expense Reimbursement guidelines today. A copy of these will be put in the chat in English and in Spanish. The only changes are in the cost of mileage and the increase in lodging.

PI/CPC – ERIC L: The 'AA in Action' event on September 22 generated enthusiasm both within the fellowship and with professionals, with attendance exceeding 100 people. Video recordings of talks are now being made so they can be shared with CPC committees.

TECHNOLOGY – NICK S: The Tech committee still has an open position available. If you or someone you know are interested in joining this new and exciting committee, please reach out to me, Miguel, or any other Area Officer to be considered. We are getting our Area Registrar set up to use AirTable to manage our Area database more efficiently, including ways that District Registrars can share their AirTable, overall eliminating areas of double (and sometimes triple) data entry. We are looking into using Microsoft 365 Premium to get CNCA both more efficient in sharing/storing information and learning ways to improve our emailing services by working with our Web committee. We are also exploring Microsoft Teams to allow committees and officers to communicate and meet more efficiently. We are considering the use of Glide to create apps that will make the virtual, and eventually in-person, assemblies' information more accessible and easier to navigate. Our only limit is our imagination and the ideas that are brought to us! We are always looking for new and exciting ways to make the Area more efficient with the use of technology.

WEBSITE – MEGAN M: I have some website stats for cnca06.org for the month of September. We had 2,468 visits, with the most popular page being 'Summer Assembly 2021' with 310 visits, and the other most popular page was the 'AA Recovery Meetings', which had 232 visitors (perhaps telling us that many are looking at the Area website searching for meetings). The 'Contact Us' page had 179 visits. Our 7th Tradition Contribution page had 144 visits and continues to collect individual and group contributions. We continue to work with the Tech committee handing over to them the administration of cnca06.org email.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – MAGDALENO O: Our committee consists of seven members, and we currently have a vacant position. We had a very dynamic meeting, as two past Interpretation & Translation Chairs joined us and shared their experience with the Area's I & T team. Our professional interpreters are scheduled, and we are now ready for the Inventory Assembly. Finally, please send us your documents at least a week in advance so that we can have sufficient time to get them translated.

PRAASA 2024 – KEN M: 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. The closing

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 Cont'd.

date for entries is December 31 and the winner receives a free PRAASA 2024 registration! In other news, we now have a signed contract with the venue: the San Francisco Marriott Marquis and have paid the deposit. If you would like to volunteer for PRAASA 2024 please get in touch with Teddy.

CNCA COMMENTS / COMENTARIOS— DENNIS H: The *Comments* and *Comentarios* were completed on September 18. In addition to the regular content, the September edition included the minutes to the Summer Assembly held on August 7. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

DCM SHARING SESSION — CHASE C: Kathleen G. of District 04 shared a pertinent presentation on the topic of group inventories. They began with reading a portion of the sub-section, "Group Inventories" in *The A.A. Group* pamphlet, and they referenced a 1945 Grapevine letter written by Bill Wilson (also printed in *Language of The Heart*). In that letter, Bill shared on the differences between Promoters and Go-Slowers; that AAs are born promoters and their need to save everybody as fast as they can, versus the Go-Slowers that "think, think, think," who offer considerations, and may even discourage haphazard decision making. The presenter asked a question of consideration, "What has saved us from the Washingtonians?" The elaborative discussion permeated throughout the session with shared experiences on how the inventory process helps the individual and group to learn more about themselves and has promising results in achieving principled qualities that enables the alcoholic to live life to the fullest.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA — RICHARD W: Today's Literature/Grapevine/La Viña Sharing Session started with updates on the Service Materials available from the General Service Office. Following that, the attendees brainstormed themes of discussion and came up with three topics. First, "What do we do with extra Grapevines?" This second topic was "What should I do if someone else reports what I am reporting?" Finally, we discussed ideas on how to engage others. For a future sharing session, we will be finding more info on the cover creation and selection process. The Literature/Grapevine/La Viña Sharing Session is at 9:00am on the morning of the ACM. Thanks to the fact that this is a sharing session, everyone is invited!

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 in facilities that allow in-person meetings. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is opening to volunteers in stages. 75% of the inmates are vaccinated. Volunteers must be fully vaccinated or test twice a week. There is an article in our newsletter written by an inmate from San Quentin about his experience with the Inmate Visiting Sponsorship Service. The newsletter is available on our website handinocal.org. Our next General Committee Meeting will be October 10 at 11:00am on Zoom. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Zoom information is

available on our website. If you are interested in volunteering with H&I, please check out our website, or attend your local H&I committee monthly meeting.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S WORKSHOP — SHEILA M-M: The 6th Hispanic Women's Workshop will be December 4 on Zoom

and it is hosted by Area 03 Arizona. The artwork for the logo and the theme was selected and came from a member of CNCA.

HISPANIC FORUM — LUIS R: We are set for the event to take place on October 24 at the Newark Pavilion. We met with the manager of the venue last month and were faced with two decisions regarding use of the Pavilion during the pandemic. The first was to change the date to December 5, and the second option was to keep our original date with restrictions. We chose to keep the date, so the restrictions are that masks are required, we must have two security guards, we start at 9:00am instead of an hour earlier, and the capacity is 170 people.

AREA BUSINESS:

Presentation of Guidelines:

- Expense Reimbursement Guidelines.- *Presented by Finance committee*

Presentation: There are two changes from the existing guidelines to point out here: The mileage reimbursement rate is \$0.42/mile changing from \$0.43, and the hotel reimbursement increase to \$150 per the motion that was passed in May.

Questions: **Q.** Did we have a motion for the mileage reimbursement? **A.** No, that is a change that comes from the IRS and the committee is allowed to keep that up to date in the guidelines without bringing to the Area for approval.

No objections. <<<Expense Reimbursement guidelines approved>>>

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.*

Discussion: **Q.** Going forward, how can we avoid having a big pile-up like this and needing to fund another big chunk of translations in the future? **A.** This is such a big chunk because we haven't done this before, but now we do have a system in place that our translators get paid \$20/page. As a report or document is created it is translated as we go, so both languages are submitted to the Motions Book at the same time. **Group consciences-** None. **Personal opinions-** I am in favor of this. Of course, for the general desire for accessibility, but also, we have had in the past and currently have Area Officers that are bilingual. This will provide equitable access to our history and help people looking for info save time if English is not their first language. // I strongly support this. // I am in favor. I can read and speak English but not all my comrades can. This is a great reference to our history and a great help to people in service. We need it. // This is necessary. The Hispanic population of trusted servants is growing, not just in the groups but in Districts and Areas. There are more Delegates that are bilingual. This will help those that don't speak English. // We currently have the funds; the timing is good. Next year we may have more expenses, so I am glad to see this being decided now. // I fully support this but have

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 Cont'd.

some minor concerns. Is this professional quality? I hope I am not being paranoid that we are taking a poison pill. If we pay for all accessibility issues, then it leaves some room for argument about what is a task for a trusted servant. // **Q.** Who does the translating? **A.** The I & T committee decides and hires the translator(s).

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: (56), No: (0), Abstained: (4)

There was no minority opinion. <<<Motion Passed>>>

New Business:

- 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 US mail. - *Presented by District 06*

I would like to make a Point of Order. I believe there is a precedent for this. When we voted as a body to keep this motion here at the ACM, it was a simple majority vote and it passed by such a slim margin, only by four votes. I personally did vote to keep it at ACM rather than forward it to the assembly, but upon reflection I feel my own vote was miscast. I was wondering if the Chair would allow us to revisit the discussion on the location of where to send this motion, and perhaps consider a revote. // I also have a second Point of Order, as the presenter of this motion. Would the Chair allow for me to reword this motion so that the final sentence is dropped?

The Chair approved both Points of Order and restated the motion, "That CNCA distribute the Area newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically unless requested by mail." Discussion resumed about whether this motion would remain Area Committee Meeting business or Assembly business.

Discussion: I second this Point of Order. When I consider the impact of this motion, if it stayed here at ACM, we are keeping the GSRs from the opportunity to have a voice about this. The newsletter is literally how we communicate to the GSRs, so we don't want to cut them off from this decision. // Since I was the one who initially expressed disappointment about how the last vote went, I would like to see it go to the assembly. Why wouldn't we want to ask those of whom it would most affect? // We have discussed this at an assembly in the past, and changes in how we distribute information was always brought to an assembly. The target audience isn't always those who sit here today, and it's arrogant of us to try to decide what we think is best. // I 200% endorse sending this to the assembly. Thank you to the Area Officer that used their rank and brought this to the attention in a way that people will listen. // This should go to the assembly. I did have the advantage of having a discussion with our GSRs because the motion originated in our District. This has a great effect on GSRs in District 06 and our Spanish-speaking counterpart District 16. It will bring a lot of awareness about the newsletter if we discuss it at the assembly. // I am in favor of helping the

GSRs have more awareness about the newsletter and also about the way Area business is done. They should be able to weigh in on it. // GSRs are difficult to get; we need them. // This reminds me of a way we carry the message to the suffering alcoholic. Will it help someone more or help someone less? It's a good idea to send to assembly. // This should get talked about at the assembly. We stopped sending them by mail because of the pandemic. // I didn't know about the Comments before the pandemic. Now that they are on the website, I am reading them. // As the presenter of this motion I hear a lot of misconceptions about its intent that I hope to take an opportunity to address at another time. But as far as this discussion is concerned, I was surprised when we decided to have it stay here at ACM. // With some misgivings I feel I voted for this to stay at ACM in the interest in time and I feel that was an error on my part. When I made and sent out the survey after the Pre-Conference Assembly, I was amazed at how many responses there were about the readership of the newsletter. Many weren't aware of them, didn't read them, know how they were sent, or where to find them. // I am in favor of this Point of Order and to revote. It says in our Service Manual that we should consult our GSRs; they should have a say.

Revote to keep at ACM or forward to Assembly by simple majority: ACM: (6), Assembly: (51)

Forward to Assembly business. Motion to become Presentation of New Business at the Inventory Assembly on November 6.

New Business:

- That the Area purchase two (2) Adobe Acrobat Pro Software yearly subscriptions for use by the Area Web committee. Costs not to exceed \$312 a year as budgeted. - *Presented by the Web committee*

Q. Would this purchase be a Business or Personal account? **A.** Business, so it will transfer easily from each Panel. **Q.** Since some members of the Web committee are already using their own software, is it possible to wait until it's needed to buy it? **A.** We don't really want to buy something if we don't need it, but we would like to have this in place so when the time comes, we can avoid this process. Since I presented this initially, it was discovered that this passed already in 2007 (*Motions Book 0707-2*). I guess what is different now is that is a yearly subscription that they offer. **Group consciences-** If the Web committee asked for it, we feel it is something that is needed. It's been budgeted. **Personal opinions-** I am involved with three meetings that are hybrid and some people are needing to use personal equipment. It can put a lot of pressure on members. // Where is the self-support with members using their own equipment? // For certain things I think we pitch in our own stuff for the sake of expediency, but I agree that we shouldn't expect too much from our trusted servants. // I don't have a problem with this motion, but I am wondering if it needs to be here at all since it was already passed in 2007. It was a housekeeping motion, and someone objected to it, so here we are. And we will discuss it again next month as Old Business. But we didn't need to do all of this, it would be fine if this motion just went away.

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 Cont'd.

Motion to become Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting on October 23.

Discussion Topic:

• Discuss ideas on how to convey information regarding Area Assembly motions to the GSRs.

Discussion: In order to prepare GSRs for an assembly I like to provide background of previous discussion and find it difficult to comb through the past newsletters on the website. It would be helpful if a motion could have a date of when it was presented or a notation of where to find past discussion. // We used to do the Pro/Con arguments and publish them in the *Comments*. We stopped doing them because it was unclear if they were meant to be opinion pieces or if they really addressed the history of the discussion. Were they helpful or not? I am glad we are talking about this. // We have a study meeting every Sunday and it is a great place to share experience and information. The GSRs asked for a platform to discuss Area motions so we could go deeper into them than we were able to take time at the District meeting. // Can it get posted in the Chat how to get the Motions Book? // If we want GSRs to become more familiar with Area motions, we need to make them feel more welcomed at the ACM. Maybe adding the GSR to the name of the DCM Sharing Session, so they know how beneficial it is for them to attend it. // It would be great to create a live document on the website that provides background information to all motions. I created background for my District for a current motion and presented it to them, and it does not involve any pro/con arguments. // Again, we are presuming to know what the GSRs need. Bring it to the assembly. By having this discussion it's like we are saying, "We know what's best." // Instead of a Pro/Con scenario that tries to persuade, we could try presenting a verbatim discussion that simply informs. // This has always been a road-block in General Service. GSRs have difficulty understanding the difference between business at the District, Area, and assemblies, and understanding the difference between those kinds of motions and the Agenda Topics. This is not a solution, but an observation. // It is the DCMs' job to inform GSRs. It is vital that this information is taught. Current motions are on the website month by month. And there is a search feature now. I would be happy to supply an obvious link. // If I am a GSR I am waiting around for an assembly, and a DCM attends the ACM every month. What if it were reversed and there were eight assemblies and four Area Committee Meetings each year? // Make GSRs more welcome by having a GSR Sharing Session at ACM. // When I was a GSR I would go to the ACM and feel lost, wondering where I should go. I tried lots of different committee meetings though, but I did not feel there was a specific place for GSRs. // An interesting thing happens while the GSR is finding their way. They come up with other business, get asked to create workshops, get interested on their own and learn how to get group consciences. // We come to District ignorant. Sometimes it is a requirement of the group, sometimes out of a love for service, sometimes lack of sponsorship. Our DCMC pushes us to learn, and it nourishes the group.

veterans. We are recording some amazing stories and putting them on CD, and they will become part of the Area archives. Get in touch with me if you are interested in participating, or you know somebody who would be. // At the beginning of the meeting I said that the Final Report books were en route to my house, and they arrived while we were here today! They are in my garage now! Get in touch with me and we will work out a distribution plan. I work in San Rafael, and I can put some in my trunk. // Great meeting, and as always, thank you to Manuel for interpreting. I am so grateful. // I want to thank our amazing community here. We truly are self-correcting, and we got to see it in action today. // I'd like to invite you all to the Lopsided Triangle on Sunday nights at 8:00pm. Tomorrow is the final of a series on safety in AA. // I am a GSR, and I do feel very invited to participate. My DCM ensured that. I am celebrating my sobriety birthday and I guess I needed these thirty-seven years to become a humble servant. Back in the day we used to have what we called Commitment Meetings, and we would travel around as a group and visit other service meetings and reach out to other Districts, and invite them to ours.

The meeting was closed at 3:28pm with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy M.

CNCA Recording Secretary- Panel 71

What's On Your Mind?

I am involved with a special audio project for military people and

DCM SHARING SESSION—SEPTEMBER 25 2021

DCM Sharing Sessions Minutes September 25, 2021

11:00 AM – Sharing Session held virtually; opened with the Serenity Prayer by Chairperson, Drew B.,

What happens at a DCM Sharing Session by Drew B.: At the DCM Sharing Session, a District Committee Member suggest a topic and then there is a discussion on the topic with those in attendance.

Presentation By: Kathleen G. of District 04 Sunnyvale South:

Topic Presentation – *What is a group inventory?*

The 10-minute presentation began with two readings about **The Group Inventory** from page 29, of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.” And the letter from The language of The Heart “*Thee book is born*” pages 11 and 12, acknowledging the difference between “promoters” and “go-slowers.”

Members Shared:

- How to locate the Traditions Checklist on www.aagrapevine.org, and how once can grow personally from being a part of a Group inventory
- How their behavior has changed over a period and how maximum communication is needed to have a useful and informed conscience which is what an inventory is all about
- Ways of how to get people excited about attending and attractive incentives
- Drew B. shared that your HG is what happens during and after the meeting
- They get a lot of covid related circumstances in meetings that seems to be a deterrence in doing an inventory; asking the question of what could be done and brainstorming on creative ways to lure members for the Group inventory
- Ways to announce at the Home Group to encourage attendance: “Your important voice will be an enlightening experience. A Group inventory is where you can speak, and your opinions are shared.”
- Individually inviting each person instead of a general announcement; finding out what really matters; asking everybody to checklist what they like best from the list is one way of doing it; some may not be able to attend the inventory and when talk-

ing to them individually participation happens to get the most people involved

- The threat of big change happening in A.A. For example: “If you have an opinion on the Lord’s prayer, you may want to attend.”
- Consider the question: who is not here? Understanding cultural differences may not be easy for some to participate, but the realization that the responsibility lies on the Group could be strategic in how to better carry the message
- Their experience of having the Group inventory at an outside location separate from the actual meeting space; notice a greater attendance and newcomers. Newcomers’ opinion matters seeing them become more comfortable and feeling wanted and loved; a newcomer has depth in changing the direction of the inventory and may provide sound considerations to the Group
- Choosing a question every meeting and continuously asking what the Group is doing right, wrong, and how can outreach be improved, asking the questions all the time
- The process can be relaxing and an opportunity to hear other’s opinions and seeing them come into

For a more in depth take of what happens at the DCM Sharing Sessions, please attend next month, and join the email list.

Topic for next month:

“What is an AA Group: The nuts & bolts of an A.A. Group,” Presented by Fran H. DCM District 08 Contra Costa County

Respectfully Submitted, Chase C.,

DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary

CNC AREA COMMITTEE & ASSEMBLY MOTIONS—OCTOBER 2021

Area Committee Motions:

Old Business:

- 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:

Presentation of New Business:

- That CNCA distribute the area newsletters (Comments / Comentarios) electronically unless requested by mail. – *Presented by District 06, San Francisco*

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*

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL
AREA 06 OF ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS

FALL ASSEMBLY:

“THE AREA INVENTORY”

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2021

[Meeting ID: 838 7391 7882](#)

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 Area Inventory

1. What is your vision for how we can better fulfill our purpose as an Area?
2. How well is information flowing between groups, districts, and the Area?
3. Are the Area Committee Meeting, the standing and sub-committees, and the sharing sessions effectively serving the full Area?
4. Are we mindful of the spiritual principles underlying the right of decision and the right of participation when we conduct Area business?
5. How do the size and demographics of CNCA help or hinder our effectiveness in serving the groups?
6. Are people who do service for CNCA adequately supported?

5:00 pm What's on Your Mind?

SPANISH-ENGLISH INTERPRETATION IS PROVIDED IN THE ZOOM APP

2021 CNCA CALENDAR—PANELS 71

2021

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.](#)

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](#).

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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 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.