

California Northern Coastal Area 06

2023 Pre-Conference Assembly

“AA’s Three Legacies – Our Common Solution”

Saturday/Sunday April 1-2, 2023
Veterans Memorial Hall, Richmond, CA

Saturday April 1, 2023

8:00 Registration

9:00 Orientation

9:15 Assembly Business Meeting
(Agenda on p. 3)

12:00 Lunch

**1:00 Remarks from Delegate and
Sharing on the Conference
Theme**

1:15 Group Consciences

Agenda

Corrections

Finance

Literature

Treatment & Accessibilities

Public Information

International Conventions/
Regional Forums

5:00 What’s On Your Mind?

5:30 Closing

(Please clean up all of your
belongings.**)**

Sunday April 2, 2023

8:30 Registration

9:00 Group Consciences

Policy/Admissions

Report and Charter

Grapevine/La Vina

Cooperation w/ Professional
Community

Archives

Trustees

12:30 What’s On Your Mind?

1:00 Closing

**(If extra time is needed to hear
group consciences, we will break
for lunch at 12:30pm and return at
2pm to continue hearing group
consciences)**

(Please clean up all of your
belongings.**)**

(All times are approximate)



Assembly Voting Members of California Northern Coastal Area (CNCA)

- Current General Service Representatives (GSRs), or their alternates if the person with whom they serve is not present;
- District Committee Members (DCMs), or their alternates if the person with whom they serve is not present;
- District Committee Member Chairs (DCMCs), or their alternates if the person with whom they serve is not present; and
- Area Officers.

IN-PERSON MICROPHONE TIPS



- Please line up at either microphone and wait to be recognized by the chair before speaking.
- Please speak directly into the microphone, and feel free to adjust the height as needed.
- Please try to speak slowly and clearly as a courtesy to the interpreters.
- If you are not at the microphone, please try to limit side conversations which may make it hard for others to hear.
- During the business meeting, we ask that sharing be limited to two minutes. For group consciences on Agenda Topics, we will be timing at 90 seconds. The green, yellow and red lights are there to help you remember.
- In order to preserve a safe environment for all viewpoints to be heard, please do not respond positively or negatively to what anyone shares. The exception is a round of “warm applause” to let people know they have gotten the red light.

Please—no video recording or cameras at any event of CNCA

California Northern Coastal Area 06

Assembly Business Meeting Agenda

April 1, 2023

Moment of Silence and Serenity Prayer

AA Preamble

Twelve Traditions in English and Spanish

Approval of the 2022 Summer Assembly Business Meeting Minutes

(published in the September 2022 issue of the CNCA Comments and Comentarios; copies are also available on the cnca06.org website)

Officer Reports:

Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chair, Treasurer, Registrar, Recording Secretary, Assembly Coordinator, Literature/Grapevine/La Viña Chair

Standing and Sub-Committee Reports:

Accessibilities, Archives, Bridging the Gap, Finance, Interpretation and Translation, PI/CPC, Technology, Web, PRAASA 2024, ICYPAA

PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS

- That the Conference Literature committee consider producing literature combining Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with the Twelve Concepts for World Service.
- Presented by District 14 at the Area Committee Meeting 10/22/22

OLD BUSINESS

- A request to the trustees' Literature committee that the 2021 advisory action related to the phrase "lustful enough to rape" on page 66 in the chapter 'Step Six' of Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions be rescinded and the language be returned to the original.
- Presented by District 20 at the Area Committee Meeting 10/23/21

NEW BUSINESS

- That the phrase "cómo nosotros los concebimos" (as we conceive it) on Step Three of the Third Edition of the Big Book in Spanish be corrected in future editions to; "como nosotros lo entendimos" (as we understood him), the correct translation from the English version of the Big Book.
- Presented by District 20 at the Area Committee Meeting 11/27/21

Close with the Responsibility Declaration

Voting Members of California Northern Coastal Area:

- Current General Service Representatives (GSRs) or their alternates if the person with whom they serve is not present;
- District Committee Members (DCMs) or their alternates if the person with whom they serve is not present;

District Committee Member Chairs (DCMCs) or their alternates if the person with whom they serve is not present;

- Area Officers

History of Current Area Assembly Motions

PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS

Motion: That the Conference Literature committee consider producing literature combining Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

History:

– Presented by District 14 Mendocino at the Area Committee Meeting 10/22/22

Presentation: The idea was rattling around my mind for a long time, and then it was realized this was an agenda topic previously in 2015. We would like to revisit this idea. Many people are not familiar with the Service Manual, and it will help people by having the Concepts more in view. Our district discussed it and took it to the groups. One group was not in favor, but the district conscience with GSRs present was to move it along and bring it to the Area.

Questions:

Q. Would this include Bill's essays?

A. Yes, just like in the 12 & 12 where the essay follows the Step or Tradition.

Q. How would you intend for this to look?

A. That would be for the Literature committee to decide. We kept the wording general, but the idea is to extract the Concepts and essays from the Service Manual.

Q. Does this intend to eliminate the Service Manual?

A. No, definitely not.

Q. To clarify, you are asking to produce a 12 & 12 & 12?

A. Yes, exactly.

Q. I just want to make a point about the wording- the work would be produced by the Trustees' Literature Committee "if" this were to be approved by the Conference. So, I wonder if you would accept a friendly amendment and replace the word Trustees with Conference.

A. Yes, thank you. The motion will now read, "That the Conference Literature committee consider producing literature combining "12 Steps and 12 Traditions" with the "12 Concepts for World Service".

Vote by simple majority to keep at ACM or forward to Assembly.

Motion to become Presentation of New Business at the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 1, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion: A request to the trustees' Literature committee that the 2021 advisory action related to the phrase "lustful enough to rape" on page 66 in the chapter 'Step Six' of Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions be rescinded and the language be returned to the original.

History:

- Presented by District 20 at the Area Committee Meeting 10/23/21

Presentation: District 20 is presenting this motion because many share the same idea that lust has made people rape or be raped. The text as it was written makes the concept real to the reader of the possible result of letting our character defects take over. To reflect on the reality of this is a reminder to be careful of the extremes our character defects can get to. None of the groups in District 20 voted for the text on page 66 to be changed, and we are presenting this motion to have it changed back.

Questions:

Q. What are the reasons?

A. Members of our community are able to identify with lust and where it can lead.

Q. Have you considered that the collective conscience has already spoken on this earlier this year?

A. The group that brought this forward would like its voice heard and District 20 supports it. We think it should be talked about and analyzed further.

Q. Do you understand the original intent for the change in the first place was to address the erroneous conception that rape is a result of lust but rather of power and violence?

A. There are different points of view on this.

Forward to Assembly business.

Presentation of New Business at the Inventory Assembly on November 6.

Presentation: District 20 is presenting this motion because many share the same idea that lust has made people rape or be raped. The text as it was written makes the concept real to the reader of the possible result of letting our character defects take over. To reflect on the reality of this is a reminder to be careful of the extremes our character defects can get to. None of the groups in District 20 voted for the text on page 66 to be changed, and we are presenting this motion to have it changed back.

Questions:

Q. Is your intent to change this so soon after the fellowship voted to have it this way because of your romanticism of the original text, regardless of whether it would be good or bad for AA as a whole?

A. Yes, none of the groups in District 20 were in agreement with changing it. A lot of us identify more with the original text. It reminds us to put aside our character defects and raises consciousness about the importance of keeping them in check.

Q. Do the makers of the motion understand the intent behind the original change? A. Yes, we understand it. We discussed this for four months and we simply identify more with the original text.

New Business at the Pre-Conference Assembly held on April 2-3, 2022.

Discussion: [Group consciences]- Our group was surprised the changes went into effect so immediately. We think it should be immediately returned. // We feel very strongly that it should not have been changed. // We think the change is needed. Rape has nothing to do with lust; it is about power. It can't go back because the statement is untrue, and we have that knowledge now. // We think the change in wording changes the essence of the meaning. // It hasn't affected us so we are not in favor of changing it back. // We all know how difficult it is to get a group to agree on anything, and we are unanimously opposed to any changes. [Personal opinions]- There is confusion around this one because of a coinciding agenda topic related to changes in the 12 & 12. This motion was introduced at our area before it was known it would become an agenda topic requested by another area. I like to think of these as updates rather than changes to the literature. // I am not in favor of making changes to the book; it will lose the essence of the meaning. // We heard about the proposal last year and it was discussed and decided by the fellowship. I disagree with the rescind motion. // The wording is actually different between the English and the Spanish translations, and in the Spanish version the phrase makes a lot more sense. // I don't agree with the change. The concept was understood easier before; whether it is about lust or overpowering, it is a good reminder of the extremes our character defects can go if not kept in check. // Changing it is getting away from our primary purpose; we are putting too much focus on what looks and sounds nice. The thoughts of a few are not thinking for AA as a whole. // The message does not get changed by altering that sentence. Lust is still listed as an extreme of a character defect. The word rape was removed because lust does not lead to rape. // I don't think it needs to

be rescinded. The sentence is not essential to the message. // The focus when being in the rooms and reading our literature is on our recovery and our willingness to go to any lengths for our recovery. That does not mean we need to be expected to put up with triggering and offensive language. // Many of us come in with much baggage and consequences of our lustful actions fueled by alcohol. I think we should leave it how it was. // I am not in favor of the change; it takes away from the message. // Rape is supposed to be harsh language and is not supposed to happen. The original wording should be kept so we are reminded. // Sometime the details at the microphone can have a traumatic effect on people. The language in the book is harmful and consequently makes the discussion pro and con to the change difficult to hear. // The original text was written to illustrate extremes, but I still don't mind the milder expression of the 7 Deadly Sins. // I was not affected by the change and find it acceptable. // Let's call things for what they are. When we get sober, we are waking up from an unconscious state. I think the words shown are harsh. And we change and are here today to show we are different. // I did my drinking in English, and my recovery in Spanish. We need to keep making changes or we are going to lose alcoholics even before they get here, or when they are brand new. // The disease of lust could create a crime and the original wording is a good reminder of the extremes our character defects can go. // Our primary purpose is to carry the message of recovery. If there is any barrier to our program and we are hearing from the people who feel and experience that barrier, why block it? // The decision to change it was made in 2021; we don't exist in a vacuum. Society has changed, we need to change with it. // Put yourself in the shoes of the people who are affected by the language which is factually not true and analyze it from that perspective. // My drinking led me to some bad places and some bad people, and I was raped often. It is not about a character defect of lust; rape is about power and violence. The change needed to occur, and I am not in favor of rescinding it. // I had to do my inventory and see that I had a lot of problems and sexual issues, then begin to work on my recovery. It is dangerous to disregard that part of me that is constantly struggling to improve and be a better person. It is dangerous to soften the terms. // I want to see it go back to the original. The idea of the 7 Deadly Sins is a move towards religion and can be perceived as religious. // The change strips it from its context. It describes the worst manifestation of our character defects gone unchecked, leading to rape. // For hundreds of years alcoholism was seen as a moral issue or weakness, and Alcoholics Anonymous showed the world it is not about morality. Bill has admitted he was wrong about numerous things. Rape is not about lust. // I am a DCM of a subdistrict, and we have a motion in the works regarding the way we use our language when discussing controversial topics with harsh language. "Our stories disclose in a general way..." // When we are working on Step 6 and approaching that chapter, we are reminded that we can be free of the most destructive defects. We have an alcoholic mind and if we don't work to remove the character defects in their extreme then we can return to the alcoholic mind that can incite a violation. The wording is a reminder to prevent that. & Deadly Sins sounds religious. // I agree with my companion that it should change back to the original. It is a reminder that I can change. // I do not agree with last year's change. I do not understand about the 7 Deadly Sins. The original content is better understood in Spanish, I think. // It is said that alcoholism is an emotional disease, and there are people in jail for committing this crime while under the influence of alcohol. // Leave it as it is. Don't change the literature, I am the one who needs to change. // I am in favor of the change, which is different than my group's opinion. It may be that it's poorly translated so it doesn't sound as offensive when read in Spanish as it does in English. // We need it to be told like it is in terms of the severity of our unchecked character defects. I like the original text better. // The way it was is correct. If Bill was alive, he would come over and slap us in the cheek for changing his book.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion: That the phrase “cómo nosotros los concebimos” (as we conceive it) on Step Three of the Third Edition of the Big Book in Spanish be corrected in future editions to; “como nosotros lo entendimos” (as we understood him), the correct translation from the English version of the Big Book.

History:

- Presented by District 20 at the Area Committee Meeting 11/27/21

Presentation •: The members of the District 20 committee are in agreement to forward the request to the trustees' Literature committee to change the wording as it is in the third edition now. We believe it comes as a translation error.

Questions:

Q. Do you have a solution for a new word?

A. Yes, to use the Spanish word that from English literally translates to “understood”.

Q. I am curious if there was a minority opinion expressed and what was it?

A. Yes, there was. Some said they already understood what is meant the way it is written and there was no need to change it. The majority felt strongly that it would help the newcomer grasp the concept better.

Q. Do you know if there are any changes regarding genderneutral language will be addressed in the fourth edition?

A. Well, I am not sure. We aren't trying to change any part of the book but feel this is an error in the translation. We are aware that the development of a 4th edition was approved and hope to get this request heard before it goes to print so there is not an additional cost to reprint.

Q. Would it make sense to write to the GSO Literature desk instead of this being a motion, since you believe it is a translation error?

A. We did and we were put in touch with the person who heads the working group facilitating the 4th edition project. We were encouraged to do it as a motion, because it can be perceived as a philosophical point (conceive vs. understand) and not just a translation error. But they are aware of it.

Q. Did you consider that it could be interpreted as a philosophical request, and it change the meaning of the phrase?

A. Yes, there are several ways to interpret different words in Latin American languages. So, we voted to bring this to the Area.

Q. Do you think it could be perceived another way by other members?

A. Yes, and our hope is it brings more clarity for the future members. Vote by simple majority to keep at Area Committee Meeting or forward to Assembly business. Vote: ACM (17) Assembly (37) Motion to become Presentation of New Business at the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 2-3, 2022.

- Presentation of New Business at the 2022 Pre Conference Assembly

• Presentation: The members of the District 20 committee are in agreement to forward the request to the trustees' Literature committee to change the wording as it is in the current Third Edition. We believe it comes as a translation error. The word ‘consebir’ literally means to conceive, to become pregnant.

Finding an alternative word such as ‘entendimos’ is a more accurate translation of ‘we understand’.

Questions: Q. Have you checked what the verb concebir means and are sure it is incorrect, or seen an example of another way to translate it?

A. Yes, the dictionary defines it as “to create a baby.”

Q. Conceive also mean to understand. Did you consider this is a matter of perception and not necessarily an error?

A. Yes, we did, and feel it can be confusing to the newcomer.

Q. Did you consider there are several meanings to consebir?

A. We had a long discussion at our district, and we agree that many of us don’t understand that consebir and entendir are synonymous. We considered what would be easiest to understand for someone approaching AA for the first time.

Continue at Pre-Conference Assembly April 1-2, 2023 as New Business

Anonymity Statement

There may be some here who are not familiar with our tradition of anonymity at the public level.

“Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the lever of press, radio (TV) and films” Thus we respectfully ask that no A.A. speaker-or, indeed, any A.A. member- be identified by full name in published or broadcast reports of our meetings.

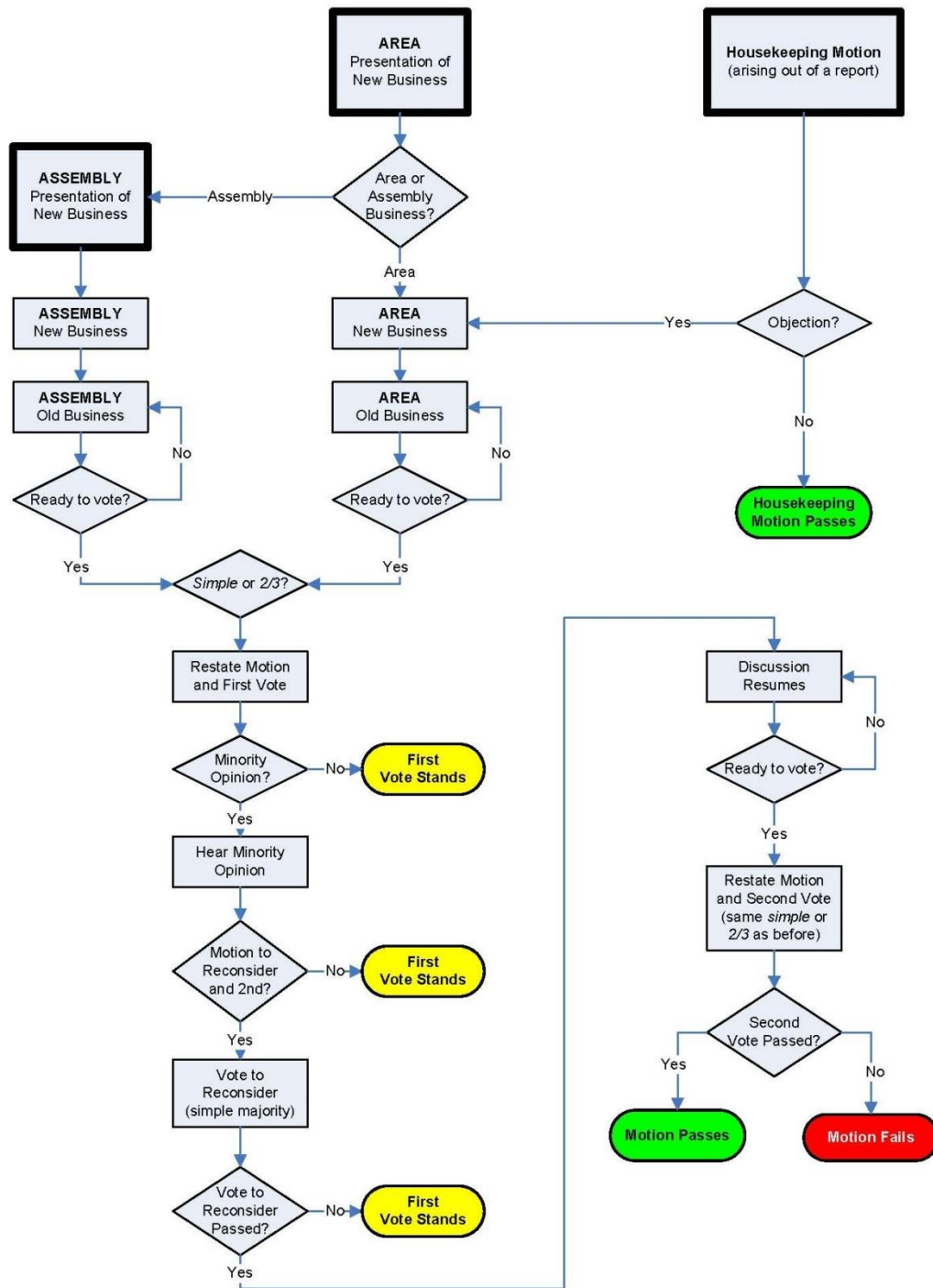
The assurance of anonymity is essential in our efforts to help other problem drinker who may wish to share our program with us, and our tradition of anonymity reminds us that A.A. principles come before personalities.

The long form of A.A. Eleventh Tradition says “Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not to be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed.” In keeping with this principle, please do not post recognizable photos of identifiable A.A. members on Web sites accessible to the public, including unrestricted pages on social networking sites.

As per our motions book:

Please remember that video-taping and cameras are prohibited.

Conducting Area/Assembly Business in CNCA Area 06



**73rd General Service Agenda Items to be Heard at the
Pre Conference Assembly**

Agenda

Corrections

A. Consider a request to include content in existing A.A. literature on sponsorship of persons in custody by outside members of the Fellowship.

B. Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

C. Discuss service piece, “Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare” (SMF-209) and its revisions.

Finance

A. Consider request that materials produced and maintained by A.A. World Services, AA Grapevine, La Viña, and the General Service Office (GSO), clarify that the General Service Board (“GSB”) is the A.A. entity which receives all voluntary A.A. contributions and that GSO is the A.A. entity which performs the processing of all A.A. contributions.

D. Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$5,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.

F. Discuss new proposed agenda items (PAI’s) regarding the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

Literature

O. Discuss cost effective media options that welcome young people to A.A. as an alternative to revising the ‘Too Young?’ pamphlet

P. Review update on the proposal for Big Book or *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* study guides.

Treatment and Accessibilities

A. Review progress report on update to the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic—Never too Late.”

E. Consider request to do an Accessibilities Inventory of Alcoholics Anonymous throughout its services and structure.

F. Discuss carrying the message to alcoholics with intellectual or information processing challenges, communication challenges and diverse neurological abilities.

G.Review progress report on Bridging the Gap Workbook and other service materials.

H.Review progress report on update to the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap.”

I.Review progress report on GSO’s Guidelines for Remote Communities.

Public Information

C.Review progress report on the development of a GSO Podcast.

D.Review report on “YouTube Performance.”

H.Review report on “AAGV/La Viña Website, Marketing and Podcast.”

I.Review report for “Online Business Profiles.”

L.Discuss feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms.

M3.Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials:

Review progress report on revision to the flyer “A Message to Teenagers”

N.Review progress report on the request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media.

R.Consider request to implement an Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Instagram account.

International Conventions/Regional Forums

B.Discuss inviting up to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers to participate in the 2025 International Convention at A.A.’s expense.

C.Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.

Policy/Admissions

D.Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload process.

E.Review report of the GSB Ad-Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups in the U.S./Canada Service Structure

Report and Charter

A2.*The A.A. Service Manual, 2023-2025 Edition:*

Consider the request to rescind the 2018 Advisory Action concerning a footnote in the resolution concerning “register” and “Groups.”

A4.*The A.A. Service Manual, 2023-2025 Edition:*

Review progress report from A.A.W.S. Publishing on a new section to be added at the end of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* titled “Amendments.”

A5.*The A.A. Service Manual, 2023-2025 Edition:*

Review feasibility report of an ASL translation of *The A.A. Service Manual Combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

C.Consider posting an anonymity-protected Conference *Final Report* on aa.org.

Grapevine/La Viña

D.Consider a request to provide all area alternate delegates the same Conference materials as sitting delegates.

Cooperation with the Professional Community

C.Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlets for mental health professionals.

D.Consider retiring the pamphlet “A Member’s-Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

Archives

Trustees

Discussion regarding the resignation of the Chair of the General Service Board