



CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential—MAY 2023

www.cnca06.org

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

Chair's Preview

If we could see the miracle of a single flower, clearly our whole life would change – Buddha

The most amazing thing is happening! We went from the winter of January, new GSRs like tiny buds, and with the Spring Pre Conference Assembly, these buds are opening into blossoms, very colorful and alive. When I visit districts, the GSR participation and engagement is so energetic – we are in full bloom! I am extremely grateful for this process of going from unknowing to knowing. Watching as we walk through fear and create active leadership is a real miracle.

Our Delegate has returned from the General Service Conference in New York, and is preparing to share what he saw, felt, and heard while participating. I am excited to receive his experience with all of you at our Post Conference Assembly on May 13th in San Francisco. The flier for this Assembly is in this newsletter. We have two motions that we will be discussing at the Post Conference business meeting in the morning. Please make sure to obtain a group conscience on these from your homegroups and districts. The motions are listed in the Motions section of this newsletter.

We have been running out of radios to offer our attendees to listen to Spanish/English interpretation. Please remember to bring your own FM radio with headset so that you may participate fully in our Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies.

At our April ACM, we accepted a bid from District 01 to host this year's Inventory Assembly, so we will all be visiting beautiful Monterey on November 4th, 2023 for the Fall Assembly (please save the date and think about procuring lodging).

Our New Business at last month's ACM regarding the Area paying for a monthly sharing session for Spanish speakers has brought up healthy discussion around our Area's needs and purpose. We also had lively conversations about the motion regarding travel reimbursement for members who service our Area's hybrid needs. Please read the Motions section of this newsletter, bring the topics to your homegroups and Districts, and take a group conscience. We need to hear what your groups feel about our growth in AA.

Thank you for this shared experience of growth and learning.

Chitra S.
Chair, CNCA 06 Panel 73

Alternate Delegate's Corner: May 2023

During this month (April) a members from my home group with one month of sobriety that currently holds the coffee position expressed to us how hard was to share in the meeting, how shy and difficult was to talk to anybody. Few days later we had very small attendance 4-5 of us, one person walked our room and in to his very first AA meeting, he looked lost, confuse and desperate. Our one month coffee maker approached this gentleman and offered him a cup of coffee and a piece of sweet bread, after we read the Bill's Story the few of us shared on the discussion on that chapter, when we were about to close the meeting earlier this guy finally spoke, he share for about 5 minutes the pure message of AA mentioning the word "hope" more than once, making the perfect and necessary connections and phrases encouraging the new guy to come back, between these unperfect alcoholic hearts the meaning of having the solution available made perfect sense.

This is how sobriety becomes possible. Days turn into weeks, new members sparks with a new language, new thoughts, new tools just as early AA members dreamed and saw our their future as our present today in sobriety.

We continue to be a physical part of this magnificent program. These new members continue to be my direct link to the pioneers of AA, the AA Structure and the principals as we see it today since 1935. The Conference process, is the continuing discussions from our earliest members. Should we publish a new book? What are we called? Can women and others join AA? What about Atheists? How do we sustain ourselves financially? These questions have evolved just as our new generations. Listening and staying focus mixing gratitude with responsibility, Eric our Delegate through all of who participates on the common solution, contributes keeping AA available re-evolving the solution for all our UpToDate needs.

The Conference this year took actions to ensure that our message stays relevant. Representatives from the United States and Canada gathered together to share solutions to problems our Fellowship faces. Eric will share with us what happened, and what will happen next. I encourage you to invite your home group members, sponsees, and sponsors to hear the Delegate's Report and listen to the story of the work that was done and how your work and love for AA becomes part of the constant solution.

**Miguel H.,
Alternate Delegate, Panel 73**

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—MAY 2023

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES April 22, 2023

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held using a hybrid format on 4/22/23 with some members attending virtually and others attending at the Petaluma Community Center. Chitra S. opened the meeting at 12:30 pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Julie S. from District 06, John K. from District 90 read Tradition Four and Liz from District 10 read Concept Four. We welcomed five new GSRs, and one new DCM, and there were five visitors. There were seven past Delegates present: Teddy B. (P69), Raymundo L. (P65), Bob D. (P36 from Area 8), Jennifer B. (P71), Barbara M. (P41), Diane O. (P35) and Jim M. (P45). The March minutes and the financial report were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments and Comentarios*. **Attendance:** 47 online; 72 in person (119 total). **Birthdays:** 10/120.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – ERIC L.: No report.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – MIGUEL H.: The delegate arrived in New York for the General Service Conference feeling well-informed by our Area's sharing and electronic submission of group consciences on agenda topics. He will meet with his conference committee on Monday and Tuesday, which will then make recommendations to the entire Conference later in the week. Those recommendations will form the basis of discussion by the entire Conference. After the Conference, he will return and prepare for his report at the Post-Conference Assembly on May 13th in San Francisco.

CHAIR – CHITRA S.: At the Pre-Conference Assembly, I watched GSRs choose to put the needs of their group first. I witnessed a collective stepping out of self and caring for the greater whole of AA. I am excited to join all of you at the Post-Conference Assembly to listen to our delegate's experience of what he saw, felt, and heard as he connected our voices with the larger community of AA.

TREASURER – CLAUDIA N.: Our checking account has \$33,176, and our prudent reserve has \$13,001. March's actual contributions were \$9,917, and the budget was \$8,167. March's actual expenses were \$22,939, the budget was \$11,084. We came in over in

Assembly expenses/deposits, rental for the ACM, which increased, and the GSC Contribution of \$5,500.00. Please spread the word about our updated address, as well as online contributions at cnca06.org/contribute

REGISTRAR – DREW B.: GSO has statuses of "active," "inactive," or "unknown" for groups. Those statuses are about GSO's ability to communicate activities with groups. If your group does not have GSR or a contact person- the status of your group becomes inactive or unknown. Registration is the remedy. Over the entire two-day pre-conference assembly, 538 members registered: 352 on Saturday, and 186 on Sunday. There were 237 GSRs, 21 Alternate GSRs, and 48 DCMs. I'm hosting our first district registrar sharing session on May 5th. The group of the month is one I attended in Area 17 Hawaii: The Defective Characters, the home group of the Area 17 delegate.

RECORDING SECRETARY – SARAH B.: I'm grateful for getting to listen and take notes during the pre-conference assembly. I loved hearing members express their gratitude for being able to participate in the assembly both online and in person and their faith in our delegate to do what's best for AA at the Conference. Our assembly business meeting minutes stand at 6,514 words of love and service. Starting this month, whoever gets closest to guessing the word count without going over will win a prize. Please submit your guess in the week following the ACM with the subject line "word count competition." For reference, the last ACM minutes were 4,601 words.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – JACKIE B.: The actual expenses for the pre-conference assembly exceeded the bid estimate by only \$358; they were anticipated to be over by much more. We are tracking the actual costs of food, paper goods, coffee, and decorations for assemblies to help create more accurate bids and practice more financial prudence. There were 42 responses to the hybrid assembly survey. We will hear bids for 2024 from D14, D17, and D19 in the coming months. The Fall 2024 Election assembly does not have a potential host district yet.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MATT E.: This month is the 30th anniversary of the Grapevine book, *The Home Group*. A special new edition is available

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with new stories and a new chapter on virtual meetings. The first few chapters of the Plain Language translation of the Big Book will be available for attendees of the General Service Conference to review, including our delegate. He will not be able to take any pictures or written notes, so he will share his experience of reading the translation. There will also be screenshots of the new Grapevine and La Viña mobile apps and a progress report. Development is still on schedule for those apps to be released in September of this year.

DISTRICT REPORTS

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – ANETTE C. - We heard a presentation on Concept Four and played a Kahoot game to test our understanding of the concept. We prepared a bid to host the Fall Assembly. Our Literature/GV chair told us about aagrapevine.org and created a flier for GSRs and Grapevine Reps to present at their meetings. We passed a motion to contribute a Carry the Message gift certificate. Our intergroup is hosting a “Deserts and Dancing” event.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) – BRIAN M: D02 continues to meet remotely only and encourages greater participation from GSRs. We had an informative experience at the pre-conference assembly and await the report back from the delegate.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – DEB A. (RYAN A.): D03 is working on increasing participation in general service with an emphasis on virtual meetings. We discussed having a liaison to the Area Accessibilities Committee and creating a DCM roundtable or sharing session to increase group participation and awareness about contributions not recovering as expected after the COVID drop. Our Treasurer shared a presentation about the spiritual aspect of self-support.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – AMARA G.: Nearly two-thirds of our GSRs attended the Pre-Conference Assembly either online or in person and everyone participated in gathering and submitting group consciences. Through discussions, a need has arisen to address the topic of safety. A committee has been formed to organize safety workshops.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – KAREN C.: We began a discussion to approve the updated 2023 District Guidelines. This project began in February 2022 with two district members. The DCM from sub-district 004 Spanish overlay will be inviting district members to a

Spanish-speaking meeting for fellowship, dinner, and a speaker, with interpretation.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – BRENT M.: We are focusing on planning our Unity Day. We had over 100 people attend in 2022. Less than 20% of groups that have GSRs attend our district meeting. The GSRs have been asked for input on improving participation. The importance of service sponsorship was emphasized during the area officer presentation.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DANIEL B.: We are hosting the Post Conference Assembly Dinner on Friday, May 12. At our business meeting, we elected a DCM for Duboce Triangle, and a proposal was presented to purchase 30 closed-circuit radios like the ones that District 20 uses.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – MANISH G: We had about ten members of our district at the assembly, and several others participated online. In our officers and liaisons meeting, renamed the meeting as an agenda planning meeting and opened it to the entire district. East Bay Intergroup is having a spring picnic.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – TERESA.: D70 has been meeting in person and voted to go hybrid. We have a new Tech Host position open. We had a presentation on what to expect at the pre-conference assembly and the difference between Area business and Assembly business. A member of the Accessibility Committee from another district is coming to talk about accessibility.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – MEG B.: We heard reports about group issues and requests for info sharing on topics ranging from handling kids at closed meetings, to what to say to group members not wanting to hear announcements and hybrid meeting struggles. Our CPC officer is bringing CPC back to life. Our special events chair attended the pre-conference wrap-up session at District 20. We are discussing purchasing a WiFi hotspot. We discussed the GSB chair's resignation. The consensus is that we trust the delegates to represent us and can't wait to hear a report back.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – No report

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – STEVE B.: We had a lot of participation at the Pre-Conference Assembly. There have been a lot of emails and text messages regarding the resignations from the General Service

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Board, and I am very grateful to see so many people interested and concerned about the future of AA.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – DYLAN R.: Al Anon's District 11 Stepped Up Alanon Family Group is hosting a Night of Family Recovery Event at the San Rafael Community Center on 5/13/2023.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – SANDY S.: We continued discussing holding our district business meeting hybrid, including where to meet in person. We had good participation at the Pre-Conference Assembly. Our Unity Day is June 17th at The Crosswalk Church in Napa. PI/CPC will be at the Napa Town Hall meeting concerning Fentanyl abuse. BTG is forming its committee and presenting at local facilities. The Intergroup/District web committee added electronic literature order forms. H&I meetings are returning to Napa State Hospital and the Napa Women's Jail. Juvenile hall meetings will open soon.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – DENISE G.: D12 is trying to increase participation in service. We elected a D12 to D18 liaison position and a DCM. We had good feedback on changes to our business meeting format. We are discussing allowing subcommittee chairs the right to vote and be eligible for officer positions. We are planning our Delegate's BBQ in June in lieu of our regular business meeting and Sonoma Unity Day in October.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – EDEN N.: We are coming together as a group and settling into our service roles. We are looking forward to all the events happening in and outside our District, setting the example to the newcomer that we are not a glum lot. We are inspiring hope through service and fellowship.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – MICHAEL Q.: Our district operates with 3 rotating DCMs. The hybrid meeting in Ukiah was well-attended and for the first time had no online participation. We had a PRAASA report back from a member who received a scholarship to attend and a report back from a GSR who attended her 1st assembly (the pre-conference) and who also made a visit to GSO in New York. We will be bidding to host the 2024 Post-Conference in Willits and elected an assembly chair. Our visiting area officer spoke on service sponsorship.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – MEGAN M.: D15 had several new GSRs. Participation at the pre-

conference assembly was good. We are asking for volunteers to give a short presentation on a concept at the beginning of district meetings. We are wondering whether we should remain virtual after six months of looking for a hybrid venue. Humboldt County Intergroup, H&I, and D15 are preparing for our Unity Day on June 10th. All the meetings which closed during Covid have come back to life. Redwood Coast Roundup is coming back.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – PEDRO M.: We were happy to see GSRs participating in the pre-conference assembly. We hope to see you all at the post-conference assembly on May 13th in San Francisco.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – LUIS R.: We have a new A.A. group in Half Moon Bay, which has a GSR. We continue visiting groups to encourage participation in service. CPC will have a business card presentation and plans to send letters to the Hispanic professional community to inform them about A.A. PI continues to have workshops to be ready for the response of the CPC committee. La Viña is keeping groups informed about the magazine. BTG has a workshop and continues to make presentations in Pathways, Salvation Army, and Casa Vida. We have a coordinator for the Foro Hispano and are still looking for a new treasurer. We will have Unity Day celebrating the 37th anniversary of the district on June 25th.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – RODRIGO Z.: There was great participation to deliver group consciences. Our study board is having great results. We have more members coming in interested in knowing more about our third legacy of service.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – SARA N.: We are working to carry the message to our district's 26 groups to tell them that the district is there to serve them, and that service isn't hard, it keeps us busy and in service.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – FRANCISCO Z.: Accessibility had a safety workshop, carrying the message to unrepresented groups. We were aware that people felt uncomfortable with the small space at the pre-conference assembly, but if the district is given another opportunity to host an assembly, we will find a more suitable location.

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AREA STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES, SHARING SESSIONS, AND LIAISON REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITIES - THOM H.: The committee will provide input to the Ad Hoc Assembly committee as they update guidelines. D12 is developing a mission statement and a workshop and survey for Accessibilities. D07 is reaching out to D70 to create a common outreach community. D15 is looking for a place to hold a hybrid version for the remote communities in their district, is working with the Hispanic communities to hold Spanish-speaking meetings, and is investigating how to reach out to Native Americans in their district. The Deaf Access Project discovered that the Spanish as first language Deaf and Hard of Hearing community uses either Spanish Sign Language (SSL) or Mexican Sign Language (MSL). We discussed supporting the Hispanic Women's Workshop by providing a forum within Accessibilities.

ARCHIVES – CAROL H.: Our display at the pre-conference assembly generated interest in completing group histories. Please contact me if your district is having an event (e.g., Unity Day, founders' Day) and would like a CNCA display. We discussed our roles and responsibilities during the sharing session. The D14 Archives chair received a tiny card of meetings in North Mendocino Coast in 1989. We have moved our workday in May to the 3rd Saturday, May 20th at 193 Mayhew Way, Walnut Creek. All are welcome.

BRIDGING THE GAP – JOHN O.: In April BTG received 92 blue cards, did 13 presentations,

and made seven bridges. Districts are reporting an increase in volunteers; one district has 40 active volunteers. This year's BTG Forum is in D13 Lake County; date, and location to be determined, likely in November.

FINANCE – RUSS A.: The committee reviewed the current financial condition of the area and approved the treasurer's report. We discussed the motions being presented today at the ACM. Most of our discussion addressed concerns regarding the projected increase in costs through the rest of the panel. We accept credit card 7th tradition contributions via Square at the ACM and all future assemblies.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – JOSE L.: Our committee facilitated interpretation and assisted listening at the pre-conference assembly and ran out of FM radios lent out. A few radios may have damaged jack connections, and we will be discussing how many may need to be replaced. We have about 23 documents and six emails for translation. Remember to bring your FM radios to the post-conference assembly.

PI/CPC – MIGUEL H.: We discussed where AA information/literature tables would be appropriate, such as health fairs. Discussion occurred regarding IRS affirmation (determination) letters, which confirm an organization's non-profit status, often required for reduced rates at facilities and events. The letter is typically available through the intergroup office, and it can be from a fellowship based anywhere in California. We discussed the need to staff the upcoming booth at the

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American Psychiatric Association May 20th to 23rd at Moscone Center in SF. Next month we will discuss reformatting contact letters.

TECHNOLOGY – JACQUELINE P.: *The Committee wants to know what the Area might need for a workshop on Technology and welcomes ideas. We are trying Discord for communication. We have a laptop to “unlock” for the Archives Committee. The Hybrid Subcommittee welcomes comments on our hybrid/live meetings via a survey that our Area Chair sends to DCMCs. We have commitments available for people excited about technological growth in our Area. Please pass the message to your GSRs and Districts.*

WEBSITE – JAMES B.: *There were about 131 group consciences on agenda topics submitted on the web form, with 121 in English and 10 in Spanish. Liz filled the tech person commitment. She will help with keeping WordPress, plugins, and the host up to date. We are creating a checklist to ensure the repetitive tasks are documented and tracked making sure nothing is missed. We upgraded WordPress 6.1 to 6.2. We welcome feedback on the website on the web form.*

ASSEMBLY Ad Hoc – ELBA: *We are gathering information about the expenses, looking at assemblies from the last panel, and have talked about venue accessibility.*

AD Hoc NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION – JACQUELINE P.: *The Committee is examining how the Comments/Comentarios newsletter can move to a digital format and publish-*

ing process, assuming Area members who prefer a paper copy will receive one in the mail. We are examining efficient and simple communications and an easy way for members to “opt-in” for a paper newsletter. We are looking into email servers for distribution. We discussed the possible role of the Technology Committee in the new publishing process to pass on to future Area panels.

CNCA COMMENTS / COMENTARIOS – CHUCK B.: *Our assembly team met on for a couple of hours and everything was ready to go by the next day. Just under 500 issues were mailed out. We are working to improve the print quality of the financial reports.*

PRAASA 2024 – TEDDY B-W: *This month I attended the final wrap-up meeting of the PRAASA 2023 committee and will be sharing some of the key takeaways. The final reports of all the committees are due and I await a curated older to share with you. Budget worksheets for the PRAASA 2024 committees are being submitted. For more information email.*

DCM SHARING SESSION – MAUREEN G.: *We had a presentation about accessibilities from Thom H. of D11 guided by the 2019 Accessibilities workbook. Four accessibility designations were discussed: deaf and hard of hearing, elder, parents and other caretakers, and underserved and remote communities (including distance, language, culture, and physical barriers).*

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA SHARING SESSION – MATT E.: *We heard a presentation about the process of planning and carry-*

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ing out a writing workshop. The presenter gave tips on how to structure it, how to get people involved, and the success they had in submitting around 30 stories from members to GV/LV by the end of a single 3-hour workshop. Next month we will have a past non-trustee Director of GV share their experience of service at that level, with Q&A.

H & I – KAREN B.: Our meeting is moving to the 4th Sunday of the month. Our H&I Conference is May 19th-20th at Wyndham Sacramento. Flyer available on our website HandINorCal.org. H&I can always use volunteers. Please attend your local H&I Committee Meeting or check out the volunteer section on our website.

YPAAAs:

ICYPAA – JENNIFER B. - The 63rd International Conference for Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous is in San Francisco on Labor Day weekend, September 1st – 4th. Register now (\$35) and book your hotel room at www.ICYPAA.org. There are opportunities to be of service on the host committee. Business meetings are the third Sunday of every month now, going to two a month in June. The hybrid meetings rotate between Vacaville and SF, and subcommittees meet on Zoom. Please reach out to me or Jackie B. if you have any questions.

CENTRAL OFFICES: No report

NCCAA: No report

HISPANIC WOMEN’S WORKSHOP: No report

LA VIÑA ANNIVERSARY – SERGIO S.: The event is July 21st - 23rd in Area 09 Santa Ana, California; registration is \$25. The event is on the official page of La Viña. Make a room reservation soon, they are running out. One bedroom is \$139/night, two bedroom is \$160/night. The banquet is \$60. The committee will visit Area 09 and Area 03 Phoenix. Over 100 people from different areas and districts attended our meeting in San Jose.

The committee is making a cup with the logo and t-shirts for sale. Contact Sergio S.

FORO HISPANO - FREDDY: We are working on a logo and a theme. We are working with districts to form their subcommittees. We have collected the 7th tradition funds.

AREA BUSINESS

ASSEMBLY BID: 2023 Fall Assembly

- Assembly Bid for the 2023 Fall Assembly on November 4, 2023, at The Moose Monterey Lodge 876 (555 Canyon Del Rey Blvd., Del Rey Oaks, CA). Total bid cost: \$5,050. - Presented by District 01 Monterey

• Presentation: Elena presented the bid, describing the facility. Questions: **Q:** Does it have WiFi or is the cell service good, because there were issues with that in the past? **A:** Yes, we looked at a previous location but there was too much interference with radio transmitters. For the proposed location, The WiFi isn't enough for everyone to use, but there shouldn't be any issue with cellular service, which is what our Area hotspots work off. **Vote by simple majority. << Assembly Bid Approved >>**

HOUSEKEEPING MOTIONS:

- That CNCA provides interpretation for the upcoming Registrar Workshop on May 4th, 2023, at 6:30 pm at a cost not to exceed \$75.00. - Presented by CNCA Registrar Drew B.

• Presentation: The Area registrar shared that the previous Area registrar had a sharing session, and GSO does a regular registrar sharing session. He would like to continue this practice. This is an opportunity to share experience and improve the service. There were no questions or objections. **<<Housekeeping motion passed.>>**

- That CNCA 06 purchase two 100-cup coffee-

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makers for use at Area Assemblies and other CNCA events, at a cost not to exceed \$350 total. - Presented by CNCA Assembly Coordinator Jackie B. on 4/22/2023

- **Presentation:** The Assembly Coordinator shared that we used to have four that failed. We purchased two coffee makers for the ACM, and we need more. We borrowed from an Intergroup for the pre-conference assembly, but we should not continue that. **Questions:** **Q:** Is this a replacement for two coffee pots that died in the pandemic? **A:** Yes. **No objections.** <<**Housekeeping motion passed.**>>

NEW BUSINESS:

- That CNCA hold a linguistic sharing session for Spanish Speakers on the day of the ACM at the Petaluma Community Center. – Presented by CNCA Alternate Delegate Miguel H. on 3/25/2023

● **Discussion:** **Group consciences:** None. // **Personal opinions:** I think it's helpful to GSRs. It's a great idea to keep it up. // **Q:** Is it open to everybody, and will there be English interpretation? **A:** We don't know. // Many GSRs participated in the last panel. I think there is a need. **Q:** Will this involve any additional expense from the Area, and if so, how much? **A:** The cost will be \$76 per month rent with a two-hour minimum. // I'm the facility contact for the ACM and in favor. This session started when we returned in person. We were saving the conference rooms but not yet having the committees there, and that's when they started to gather. I've seen 50-60 in attendance. It's important for them to have an hour to speak with each other without needing an interpreter. The fact that it has happened month after month and enriched the area means it's needed. // I agree with this motion. This is something that allows us to learn. We don't have English interpretation now, but we could in the future. // It felt good to participate as a visitor. I would like that door to stay open to continue to learn more

and will help future GSRs. // In the meeting there are lots of questions due to a lack of information about service, and in the meeting, those questions were answered. There are a lot of new people this panel coming here wanting to learn. // This separates Spanish-speaking from English-speaking members. We have a sharing session for DCMs with interpretation already. // My first time attending the ACM, I didn't know what meeting to go to. This sharing session isn't just for GSRs, it's for anyone from the area. // I see the value we have of the DCM sharing session which has interpretation. All are welcome there. If that was more attractive, that may meet the need. // I learned and shared so much of what I learned after attending this sharing session. When I work with the Spanish-speaking community, they don't have information and are hungry for it. This sharing session gives them the information they are seeking. // I agree with what was said about the difference between going somewhere where you must rely on interpretation and being among people speaking the language. // I'm with the accessibility committee. I hear a lot of people wanting this to happen. Our district has always had a focus on educating new participants at every level. I don't understand how this should be an area responsibility and expense. The DCM sharing session used to be packed. // This sharing session sounds casual and isn't going to take the place of other sharing sessions. Perhaps English-speaking participation could be done later. // The topic of how to get people interested in General Service comes up constantly, and this sharing session is accomplishing that. I would want to do everything possible to get people of any language involved in service. // When English-speaking GSRs come to me and wonder what they're doing, I encourage them to come to the ACM to hear the experience of others, and I think this sharing session is a very wise way to do this for Spanish speakers. // We have seen increased participation from the Spanish-speaking community over the past few years. They should be able to attend either the DCM sharing session or the proposed one to maintain unity. Perhaps in the

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future, we could expand to other languages. // It's easier to speak with others in my language. // This meeting has been going on for seven months, but we've been doing it for free. The members will now pass a seventh tradition basket to pay rent. It doesn't interfere with the DCM sharing session. It helps as a filter before you get into the business of the ACM. // In my district we hardly study the concepts or general service positions. This is a good opportunity for people from the Hispanic community to start learning. Our area tries to be inclusive. This sharing session is giving them the opportunity to fall in love with service. // I attended an H&I NCCAA conference. I attended a Hispanic Women's meeting, and it changed the way I look at service. I learn the most when I learn from people that are different from me. I would like the opportunity to attend as an English speaker to learn from you. // I'm in favor of this if it's at a different time from the DCM sharing session. I'd like to go as an English speaker to listen and learn from you. // When I arrived here for the first time, my sponsor had to do his service and he sent me to a different meeting. I was very shy and did not know what to do. I felt bad and I didn't feel a part of it. This is why it's very important that we all welcome each other and learn to communicate in Spanish and English. I love the sharing session because there is a lot of participation. I got to present something from my district, and we are growing. I am in favor of finding a solution for all.

<< Motion to become Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting on May 27, 2023. >>

OLD BUSINESS:

- That CNCA Technology committee's required on-site Hybrid Sub-Committee members are eligible for travel expense reimbursement, beginning January 1, 2023, pursuant to the Area Expense Reimbursement Guidelines, while doing the work of the Hybrid Sub-Committee. – Presented by the CNCA Technology Committee 2/25/23

• Discussion: **Group consciences:** None. // **Per-**

sonal opinions: The tech committee chair provided the motion's estimated financial impact. Assuming two assemblies per year at more than 175/200 miles of travel (which includes four hotel rooms), the current five members' transportation to ACMs, assemblies, and area events at current reimbursement guidelines (49 cents per mile, bridge tolls, and \$150/night lodging for assembly hotels), the annual cost would be \$8,172. The maximum annual cost if the five members originated from the farthest part of the area would be \$10,297. The committee sought a bid to have our hybrid needs provided by Tech12. For a one-day assembly providing the same services we currently provide, including using some of our equipment, it would cost \$8,100. // I'm concerned about the sustainability of the cost and the lack of job descriptions, it's too broad. I'm concerned that we're setting a precedent by it being reimbursed retroactively. // The committees are new, and we are still working on our draft guidelines. // I was on the tech committee previously. It looks like it's running smoothly now, do we still need the number of people we have in person now? // The hybrid subcommittee looks each month at whether they can do their service with fewer people. This month we have five and we're looking at trying three. We're building the car while trying to drive it. // We have multiple hybrid meetings happening in several rooms at once. If the committees weren't hybrid, we could do it with fewer people. // The assembly coordinator shared current commitments on site: sound/AV person, two people in each of the committee rooms, online host, liaison to the interpreter that listens to interpretation in Zoom, and the person who runs the projector. We would like to have one person in each committee room. We could have a smaller team, but that would decrease quality. // I'm a former area treasurer, and the numbers don't seem higher than they should be. We are shifting how we spend money in the area. We are spending more money on technology because there's a need. We are moving away from mailing the Comments/Comentarios of about the same amount of money. It puts us into the modern world. // **Q:** Are the subcommittee members also setting up the equip-

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—MAY 2023

ment? **A:** Yes. The five members get here early and do a lot of work in the morning. // I'm from a hybrid district. It is very time-consuming and complicated to set up equipment and get things running. I can't imagine the difficulty for the area. // I served on the ad hoc hybrid committee. This same conversation came up for reimbursement and it was approved. The reason we reimburse people to come here is because they are required to provide the service. // The area chair requested further discussion from online members on this motion because it affects hybrid capabilities. << **Motion to remain Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting on May 27, 2023.** >>

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

The post-conference assembly dinner is Friday, May 12th at the UCSF Mission Center Building. // Someone from a group in my subdistrict suggested that when you go to a meeting in person text someone to meet you there. // When I got the assembly bid, I was happy, but the due date of the deposit was April 1st. Did we pay the money before we approved the bid? // The assembly coordinator shared that learning the financial practices of the area is a little more complex than what's in the guidelines. We don't want to make a habit of putting down the deposit for an assembly venue before the bid is accepted. However, in northern California, there aren't many spaces available to accommodate 300 people, it's usually either much smaller or much larger. Sometimes we find a good space that meets the guidelines, and the district needs the money to put a hold on it because we only meet once a month. I decided to use the right of decision to do this. This might have been the wrong decision and I welcome feedback. I'm learning. At the same time, we need to find assemblies that work for us and not wait too long to get them // I'm a new archives chair for my district and this has been powerful to be here in person and meet people. I'm impressed with the hybrid component, especially the interpretation. //. These meetings are being done very well, thank you to this panel. // There's a phenomenon of change blindness in which you

don't notice something changing until it's compared to a previous version. We don't deal with the same hybrid problems we had before because we've gotten better at what we do. It's easy to forget how messy it was. // I'm nervous that our PRAASA might not have any hybrid component. There were over 90 people at the pre-conference assembly online. People who can't attend in person want to be part of General Service. // Before I had a lot of anxiety about wanting to include everyone (in person and online) but now I'm wondering whether it would be good to have an online area because the in-person experience and the online experience are very different. I like options. Maybe it's not bad to separate.

The meeting was closed at 3:30 pm by Chitra S. with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah B.
CNCA06 Recording Secretary

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CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA PRECONFERENCE ASSEMBLY 2023 MINUTES

The Pre-Conference Assembly business meeting of CNCA was held at The Veterans Memorial Hall in Richmond on April 1, 2023, with members attending and participating in person and virtually. Assembly orientation was presented by Ken M. Chitra S. opened the meeting at 9:15 followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by: Victoria M. from District 08, Matt G. from District 05 read the Twelve Traditions, and Eduardo S. from District 20 read the Traditions in Spanish. There were ten past Delegates present: Teddy B. (Panel 69), Joann L. (P67), Bob D. (P36 from Area 08), Jennifer B. (P71), Barbara M. (P41), Diane O. (P35), David N. (P59), Ken M. (61), Raymundo L. (65), and Woody R. (P50 Area 07). There were five Past Area Officers: Magdaleno O. (P69), Michael Q. (P63 & 65), Martha B. (57), Margarete V., and Dennis H. (P69). There were two past trustees present: David N. and Rod B. The Summer Assembly minutes were accepted as published in the CNCA Comments and Comentaríos. **Attendance:** 538

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – ERIC L.: I look forward to hearing group consciences this afternoon, tomorrow morning, and through email and the web form on the Area website. The Conference will start on April 23, and I will return and share what happened at the Post-Conference in May. I look forward to sharing with all of you there and at the numerous district meetings, Unity Days, and special events I attend over the next few months to make sure vital information is being communicated to the groups.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – MIGUEL H.: I continue to pray for our Delegate, Eric. I feel privileged to have attended PRAASA and brought pictures of the photo I took of our area at PRAASA. The

Alcoholics Anonymous 27th World Service Meeting is held every year alternating between New York and other countries. The report from the 2022 meeting is out, and I will share some of a presentation from a representative from Bolivia. Weaknesses: Lack of trusted servants in their service structure and lack of knowledge about how the service structure works. In both directions, communication failures between various parts of the structure and the Fellowship. Strength and Hope: The 2023 Conference theme is “In the Spirit of National Integration.” Their current service leaders understand our 36 principles enable personal transformation and growth, which then get reflected in the collective.

CHAIR – CHITRA S.: Thank you District 20 Spanish East and District 08 Contra Costa for making this event happen. This is our first pre-conference Assembly with both sharing and voting, from members online and in person. We have old business today and might be voting on it. The agenda packets have the background on the motion and our voting procedures. This weekend we will be hearing group consciences on agenda items. We get to see each other again on May 13th for the Post Conference Assembly in San Francisco (District 16). Our traditions say that Group Conscience is how our higher power is expressed. I can't wait to go through this process with all of you.

TREASURER – CLAUDIA N.: Our checking account has \$38,152.03 and our prudent reserve, which is one month's operating expenses, has \$13,000.96. This quarter, our actual contributions were \$37,412.06 and our projected contributions were \$28, 501.25. Please thank your groups for their generous contributions to CNCA. Our actual expenses this quarter were \$45,460.81 and our budgeted expenses were \$31,949.87. We made payments in March for multiple assemblies that were not budgeted until later in the year, hence the difference in expenses.

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es. Please be sure to let your groups and meetings know CNCA has changed its address. Please send all disbursements, contributions, and correspondence to our new address: California Northern Coastal Area, 1390 N. McDowell Blvd. Suite G-339, Petaluma, CA 94954. By the end of this year our previous San Francisco PO Box will no longer be active. Today you can make contributions by scanning the QR Codes on 7th tradition buckets, placing cash in the buckets, using Square at the finance table, and online at cnca06.org/contribute/ Please help us spread the word about this online contribution option.

REGISTRAR – DREW B.: It is my responsibility to help connect you and your group to us here at the Area and AA as a whole. I do that by communicating with your District Registrar to get your contact info. Our co-founder Bill W. wrote, "It might be helpful to think of GS as a kind of dialogue or communication between the groups, the trusted servants working on their behalf, and the GS Office and GS Board as they all manage the Fellowship's affairs." My hope this weekend is for you to feel more connected, unified, and part of CNCA.

RECORDING SECRETARY – SARAH B.: I've been enjoying updating and familiarizing myself with our area motions book, and I'm happy to share a soft copy with anyone that requests it. Hopefully, it will soon be available on our area website. It's a great resource for our history as an area. I'm finding my groove with compiling the minutes for the ACMs and look forward to doing the same for today's assembly. Thank you to those that have helped me learn and grow in service.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – JACKIE B.: While our method of gathering and communicating at Assemblies has evolved into this hybrid virtual experience, our fundamental purpose remains the same - to thoroughly inform our Area Dele-

gate to participate at the upcoming GS Conference. Thanks to District 20 Spanish East and District 08 Contra Costa and our Hybrid Subcommittee and their Alternates. There is a survey to provide feedback on the assembly, or you can email me directly. At the Post Conference Assembly, the delegate's re-port will be interpreted into American Sign Language, Spanish-English interpretation, and as-sisted listening. The Summer "Fun" Assembly is August 12th at the Redwood Acres Fairground in Eureka, CA, hosted by District 15 Humboldt Del Norte. District D01 is bidding at the April Area Committee Meeting to host the Fall Assembly in Del Rey Oaks in Monterey County. I have been working on developing tools and service materials to help Districts in the Assembly bidding and planning process. If you would like to learn more about hosting an Assembly, please email me.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MATT E.: The Spanish translation of the book Experience, Strength, and Hope (Experiencia, Fortaleza y Esperanza) is available on aa.org for free digital reading. This book is 56 stories from the first three editions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous translated into Spanish for the first time. The print version will be available soon. AA Grapevine Inc. and AA World Services have both increased the price of printed books. AA Grapevine Inc.'s increase has been applied to the top ten best-selling Grapevine books (including Language of the Heart and Emotional Sobriety) and will be applied to all other Grapevine books as they are reprinted. AA World Services' price increase goes into effect on April 3rd. The increase will be about 20% for books and about 30% for pamphlets. Since covid, the costs associated with distributing our literature have gone up. The increased costs have resulted in a revenue loss of over \$1.2 million per year. These same cost increases also directly affect

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Grapevine Inc., especially because Grapevine/La Viña does not accept direct contributions, and all the revenue comes from subscriptions and book sales. These price increases are responsible and necessary to continue to operate prudently. Progress on the Grapevine app is well underway! It will be a subscription service for your smartphone giving members access to digital copies of the Grapevine along with a host of other features. A developer has been selected, and 450 survey responses on desired features and functions have been received. Sample screenshots are to be shared at the Conference in April, development is expected to be completed in June, and the app is expected to officially launch in September 2023.

AREA STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES

ACCESSIBILITIES – THOM H.: The Accessibilities Sub-committee has all the positions filled; Thom H. as chair; Enrique M. Alt. chair; and Lupe O., recording secretary. District 15 is preparing a proposal to have future PRAASAs be virtual. D07 is considering models for offering ASL interpretation at AA meetings and events. D70 is working on its hybrid issues. D07 and 70 are exploring a combined Accessibilities Committee. D12 is finalizing a survey for workshop topics and is looking into a QR code to poll local meetings about access issues. D14 has a newly remodeled Alano Club with accessibility for all in mind. The Hispanic women's workshop committee asked to be a sub-committee of the accessibilities committee and we are exploring how to best serve their needs. We had a brief update on the Deaf Access Project, which began in Panel 71 and is nearing completion. A report with findings and recommendations will be given at our April Committee meeting. Our Committee held a sharing session on Agenda Item E from the Treatment/ Accessibilities Agenda Topics to be shared today.

ARCHIVES – CAROL H.: *The delegates' board on the Archives display goes back to the first GS*

Conference. Please feel free to pick up a Group History form. The Archives committee is growing. We are continuing to reach out to districts that do not have an Archives Chair. Our workday at the Archives repository is on the 2nd Saturday of every month from noon to 4:00.

BRIDGING THE GAP – JOHN O.: *Dating back to the 1970s, Bridging the Gap supports that very important first step for alcoholics who have been released from a hospital, treatment center, or correctional facility. By providing a temporary contact, Bridging the Gap helps newcomers make the transition to Alcoholics Anonymous in their home community. Many of our BTG District committees work very closely with the Hospital & Institutions teams, sometimes placing our Blue cards and white cards in the Grapevines provided by H&I.*

FINANCE – DAVID N.: *The members of our committee are Claudia N., our Treasurer, Russ A., Javier L, Leslie W., and me. At each of our monthly meetings, we ask questions about our finances, get clarification, and provide any suggestions. We can discuss any ideas that will improve or sustain our finances. We discuss motions that are in front of the area and give our opinion as to whether we feel the area can absorb the financial impact of the motion. We draft the area budget for the following year for consideration by the area committee. Each committee member has been assigned to one or more of our area standing and sub-committees to help them determine their financial needs for next year. We'll start that process in May. Please reach out if you have questions about the area's finances.*

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – JOSE L.: *The I&T committee facilitates translation and interpretation services for CNCA to improve communication within CNCA. Our equipment technicians are David H. from D12 and David R. from D08; our portable radio coordinator is Jose*

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C. from D18; our interpretation coordinator is Helena B. from D01; our recording secretary is Lisa D. from D70; and our translation coordinator is Ben G. from D12. Our committee meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 pm on Zoom. We received 70 FM radios and 89 working earphones. We have translated approximately 73 documents and 13 emails, the Comments and Comentarios for February and March, and helped with the agenda topics summaries. The interpretation chair confirmed interpreter availability for ACM Monthly Sharing Sessions, Standing Committees, and the assemblies for the panel.

PI/CPC – MIGUEL H.: One of my commitments is chairing the PI/CPC Committee. The committee meets every fourth Saturday of the month at 9:00 am at the same location as the ACM and online. It is an open meeting. Recently we had a presentation by Francine B. on how to create a PI/CPC committee that I translated into Spanish. We also received a letter from Michael, a GSO Staff Member C.P.C Coordinator of exhibits at professional events asking for your help for the National Professional Conference, American Psychiatry Association, to be held in an in-person event on May 20-24, 2023, in San Francisco, CA. <https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/meetings/annual-meeting>. We will set up/break down the C.P.C. exhibit and keep the leftover A.A. literature and rack. Please let me know if you are interested to be part of this service. This information and the Powerpoint presentations will be sent to the PI/CPC email contact list.

TECHNOLOGY – ANDREW S. (REPORTING FOR JACQUELINE P.): This is the area's newest standing committee created in Panel 71. The committee consists of Andrew S., Bill H., Dennis N., and Don L., and the elected chair, Jacqueline P. The committee will be reviewing the draft Technology Committee Guidelines, job descrip-

tions, and policies, assessing the landscape of the Area's communication technology and passwords, its equipment, and subscription services. The Hybrid Sub-Committee comprises nine members, five onsite to produce Area Hybrid Live meetings and two working remotely. Its members are Duncan L., Edgar L., Emma A., Jose F., Noel E., Patrick C., Pamela S., Tony F., and Vanessa H. The Hybrid Sub-Committee's Standing Officer is Assembly Coordinator Jackie B. with two Tech Committee members, Bill H., and Don L., serving as alternates. We are looking at how other Areas deal with technology, and how they develop and work on their tech policies. We are in a live chat group with tech officers and committee chairs we met from PRAASA 2023. Our committee presented a motion to reimburse travel expenses to its required onsite members at the Area Committee meeting in February. The Hybrid Sub-Committee meets monthly to debrief about our production and considers members' comments via a survey sent to DCMCs. We have a place on our committee for those wishing to be of service.

WEBSITE – JAMES B.: The web committee maintains, runs, and updates the website for the Area cnca06.org. We try to ensure it is fully translated into Spanish. In the last three months, we elected positions on the committee, updated billing and transferred accounts to manage and update the site, updated the group conscious form, and updated and posted the background materials and other CNCA materials (e.g., the Comments/Comentarios). The committee continues updating the site as needed. Finally, we have been reviewing the contents of the media library for content, age, and size, and are looking at how to remove outdated documents and information. We welcome feedback through the "contact us" form. Pick "website chair" to provide any feedback.

PRAASA 2024 – TEDDY B-W: Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly is a

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weekend conference for 1,500 service nerds! Each of the fifteen areas of the Pacific Region hosts PRAASA on a rotational schedule and our Area is hosting in 2024. We have signed the contract with the San Francisco Marriott Marquis, the venue for the event March 1-3, 2024. We have a logo, badges, and bookmarks. We have over 80 volunteers signed up so far to work on the various committees. If you would like to volunteer to serve for PRAASA 2024, please send an email to me. Our budgeting process is underway, and we are receiving the pass-it-on from the PRAASA 2023 host committee. We have noted that the motion for future PRAASAs to incorporate a virtual component was not discussed at PRAASA 2023 and so the PRAASA 2024 Steering Committee will be reviewing its decision to await direction from PRAASA as a whole.

ICYPAA - CRYSTAL AND JUSTIN: The 73rd International Convention of Young People in AA will be in San Francisco from September 1-4th at the Marriott Marquis. It was last here 11 years ago. The theme is to watch loneliness vanish. Registration is \$35. It's one of two conferences recognized by GSO.

WACYPAA - MIGUEL AND ASHIN: The Western Area Convention of YPAA is at the Oakland Marriott from December 28th to 31st. Pre-registration is \$25. Visit wacypaa25.com.

AREA BUSINESS

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 Mendocino at the Area Committee Meeting on 10/22/22*

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Presentation: DCM Warren R. presented online. This was a Conference agenda item in 2015 coming from our Area, and the Conference decided not to act. They thought the Concepts had adequate exposure in the current literature. We wanted to revisit this. We've seen people have a glazed look in their eyes after being handed the Service Manual. The initial idea was for a book, but we simplified the motion. The intent is to make the concepts more available for the fellowship at large. When we took this motion to groups, they would ask, "What are the Concepts?" We want our groups to have this discussion to increase knowledge.

Questions: Q: Would this mean adding the twelve concepts to the existing Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book? A: This was the original idea, but we decided to simplify it to create any literature combining the three legacies and the summaries and let the fellowship decide. This is not meant to replace the 12X12. We are asking for an entirely new piece of literature. // Q: Are we talking about having two separate books: the 12X12 as it exists today and another book, the 12X12X12? // A: The idea is to get the concepts more visible, and it would be a way to combine all three. Whether it's a book or not is another matter. // Q: Can this be stated in such a way that it's clear about what will be produced? // A: We are keeping questions to clarify the intent of the motion. // Q: Is the entire Service Manual going to be reproduced or will there be a new edition that's not the same? // A: It would have no effect on the current service manual. // Q: Is this necessary? A: We are keeping questions to clarify the intent of the motion. // Q: Who is the intended target audience and intended format for use? Service sponsors, meetings, business meetings? A: The audience is everybody in the fellowship and could be used for whatever purpose necessary.

<< Motion to become New Business at the Post Conference Assembly on May 13, 2023.

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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 on 10/23/21*

Discussion: Group consciences: We're glad to change the "lustful enough to rape," but are uncomfortable with the religious direction of the change. // We have nothing against inclusivity, but the problem is that there are infinite ways to be inclusive such that there isn't a way for everyone to feel included. Does this speak to our primary purpose or is it secondary? // My group is opposed to reinstating this language because rape is not an act of lust, it is an act of power and violence. Personal opinions: Lust is not the cause of rape. Rape is a crime of violence and power. Many of us experience lust. It can lead to adultery or bad choices in partners. That is different from rape, which is predatory conduct. In my 34 years of sobriety, I have met very few women who have not been victimized, because it is easier to rape someone if they are disabled by alcohol or drugs. Less force is required. This is the most common form of rape on college campuses, for example. It is very upsetting to survivors of rape in these rooms to hear language in our program that appears to normalize or excuse rape, or to describe it as anything other than a violent crime. It is untrue, it is misinformation, and every time survivors hear this inside the rooms, they are driven further from our program. That is inconsistent with our primary purpose.

Vote by substantial unanimity: Over 2/3rd voted against this motion.

Minority Opinion: There was a problem with

the wording of the motion. The motion stated that "lustful enough to rape" was the only part to change, not the other seven deadly sins (e.g., angry enough to murder, gluttonous enough to...). Choosing that piece is a very emotional part. My group would want to change all of them back to their original form. If we change one thing to appease people's emotions, we're going to have to change one thing after another. The way that it was changed has begun to offend atheists and agnostics because we replaced it with something religious.

There was no motion to reconsider. <<< Motion Failed. >>

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*

Discussion: Group consciences: One argument is that "conceive" is the same as pregnant, but it also means to understand, comprehend, perceive, project, imagine, and create. The word "conceive" isn't wrong, but "understood" isn't either. It's trying to resolve something that isn't wrong. Conceive is the appropriate use, there is no need to change it. // My group thinks this decision should be made only by Spanish speakers. Personal opinions: Conceive has a wide range of meanings especially if you're talking about a higher power or God. Lots of words in Spanish can't be translated literally. "Understand" might be simpler but "conceive" has a wider range. I don't see the need to change it. // It makes sense to me, understand is a synonym for conceive. // We should maintain it. As Bill W. said, "let's keep it simple." // The

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word concebir is deeper than understanding. I don't think it will create confusion with new members. We prefer to keep it. // Many members have only been to elementary school, so "to conceive" is much more advanced. "Entender" is simpler. Not everybody has the capacity or education to understand "concebir." // I'm bilingual. My English is better than my Spanish, and I also speak Spanglish. For the literal translation, "entendimos" is better. "Concebimos is a higher education level. I think there is a need for a simple Spanish translation as there may be in English.

<< Motion to become Old Business at the Post Conference Assembly on May 13, 2023. >>

Sharing on PRAASA:

This was my first PRAASA [many members shared that this was their first PRAASA]. It was a beautiful experience. The best part was hearing from the Trustees and having them sign my service manual. Thanks to District 40 for allowing me to go. // It was my second PRAASA and it was a different experience than my first. It fortified my being in AA. I encourage those who haven't gone to go because the spirit of AA is received. // It was a wonderful experience to be among people I wouldn't have gotten to know. AA has changed my life. I thought that being an alcoholic was the lowest low; I didn't know I would make friends. // I got to chair a small panel at PRAASA that was not part of the program, and I also went into the PICPC committee. It was a great experience. // I really enjoyed it. There was a lot of information and was a beautiful experience. Thank you for my group's support. // This was one of the best decisions of my life, thank you to my group for the economic support. I enjoyed listening to past delegates and hearing about their love of service. This had the biggest impact and motivated me for service. // I was impressed with the Spanish-speaking population there. It was incredible and heartwarming. I would like to encourage us to

recognize this large population of us. I want to recognize the alarm bell that was set off by our trustees, it's a heavy weight for Eric. This year's conference is going to be a big deal. Please pray for Eric and all our conference. The magic of every one of us together is lifesaving and life changing. // They gave a lot of information for new GSRs. I enjoyed it a lot, including the sharing from the trustees. I learned a lot. // It was an incredible experience. I got to know Miguel as he translated for me at the YP roundtable meeting. I felt part of because I was able to share. I'm happy about that. // I was given the opportunity to be of service to La Viña. I had an idea to create audio in other dialects. Now that we're having these experiences, I'm working to translate it into my dialect for indigenous people. // I'm grateful my district sent me. I'd like to share some quotes of things I heard: "If it's going to increase unity, the change is probably worthwhile," "Service is the rent you pay for the space you have in heaven," "The group conscience is our collective eleventh step," "how we do things in AA is more important than what we do," "nothing pays off more than restraint of pen and tongue," and "do some kind of service to pay for your sobriety." // I was heartened to see people from different states work at roundtables to come to solutions with technology. Another takeaway was to get connected to young people in service across our region. // It was a cool experience to be around people from various states. I walked away with a lot of contacts, which wasn't the experience I got when I attended PRAASA for the first time on Zoom. One of my takeaways is that GS is about taking care of AA. Often when I talk about GS in the rooms, I see old-timers roll their eyes. Basically, what I say is I love this program, AA saved my life. I ask them not to roll their eyes if they love AA because GS keeps our doors open. I also want to shout out to young people; they had a meeting at 11:45 pm on Saturday. I was impressed with that energy. // I'm grateful that I went to the microphone during PRAASA. I feel love and warmth from

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people there united. I shared with other people, three from Alaska, and they talked about how they serve in their districts. Sharing with DCMCs at the roundtable was the most important takeaway. // When I first got to AA, it was just the four walls of the group. I'm a GSR for the first time. Now that I'm going to different places, I feel a lot of responsibility. The sharing from the delegates gave me trust and removed my fear. // It was great to see people I know and meet new people. I attended the Hispanic women's meeting and listened to their experiences with struggles in the community to maintain our sisterhood. I was given a ticket for the dinner, and I was grateful for that. // Hearing that a lot of people suffer the same as I do motivates me to continue serving my community. // We took seven newcomers to PRAASA. I was happy to see other people happy. They can't stop talking about it. // PRAASA gave me the commitment and motivation that I need to help the person still suffering. I'm grateful to my higher power and to PRAASA for helping me to better serve La Viña. I appreciated the dedication during the workshop. La Viña is part of my medicine and recovery. // With all due respect, I'm disappointed that we're discussing PRAASA at the assembly. It's outside our GS structure and it's taking away from time to discuss business that can help the still-suffering alcoholic. We don't have enough time to discuss business as it is. I suggest we keep the PRAASA discussion very limited. // I understand how they focus on giving information to GSRs, the GSR is the most important. I saw how they focus on how we can do what we do. // I'm glad we were in person. I felt the love in AA. My big takeaway is that many people love AA. Even if don't agree with someone's opinion, we all want AA to thrive. My name was pulled from a hat to be funded in the past, and I'm grateful for that practice in my district. I volunteered at the PRAASA 2024 table and that was fun. I look forward to volunteering more.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

[[Many members expressed their gratitude for being able to participate in the assembly both online and in person, including expressing gratitude to the hybrid committee, the planning committee for the assembly, and others in service at the assembly.]] // I drove from LA to be here. There is a spiritual power in me being here. I just graduated college, and this was the only week I could come here without it interfering with my new life. I know there is my higher power in that. // I believe our loving higher power created A.A. and A.A.'s writings through Bill W. Bill and Bob passed the authority of AA to the groups. Our loving higher power expresses itself through the group conscience. If we are getting ideas and inspired thoughts to make changes to our literature to make it more modern, more inclusive, less offensive, and more politically correct, maybe it's our loving higher power editing its own writings to help us evolve with the times. It's not our book or words that get and keep us sober, it's our loving higher power through our literature, through our sponsors, through each other, and through ourselves. // It's disheartening to hear people think trans people are a political thing. We're just existing, we want to get sober, we want to live. Our gender shouldn't be an issue. Unfortunately, a large part of our community has issues with feeling comfortable in AA. I deal with a lot of alcoholics who do not want to go to regular AA meetings at all. It's a small population of people needing help. // I was hurt by hearing someone say, "If you can't hear, go to an ASL meeting." I can't hear well but I don't sign. I'm grateful that we have a safety set-up. I was able to talk to people to feel better. Please be careful about what we share with each other. // Over the entire assembly, we had 538 registered. Saturday, we had 352, and Sunday 186. That was 237 GSRs, 21 alternate GSRs, and 48 DCMs. // Last panel our area passed a motion to request an agenda item for a graphic novel of the Big Book. The conference committee declined to add it as an agenda topic. Yet, we still see agenda topics submitted by individuals in-

PRECONFERENCE ASSEMBLY MINUTES—MAY 2023

stead of coming from a whole area. I think what becomes an agenda top needs to be addressed by the conference. // Thank you to those that stopped at the archives display, I hope you enjoyed it. Thank you to our interpreters. // Thanks to the officers for the agenda topics summaries. We'd be lost without them. // My service sponsor called GS one of the last true democracies, and I've seen this here at the assembly. My partner sees me traveling for service and asked me, "When are you going to take me on a trip?" This has been exciting and wonderful. // I want to wish our delegate a good trip to New York. I pray that my higher power illuminates him and that good decisions made are for AA as a whole. We love him. [[Many members expressed gratitude for and faith in our delegate and wished him a good trip to the Conference]] // We've increased participation by the Latino community and English speakers through interpretation and radios. We will need more radios in the future and will provide them. // This weekend reminded me how GS deepens sobriety and spirituality. // I ask the area to re-evaluate the practice of mechanizing communication during the group conscience process. Not everyone speaks at the desired pace, and not everyone can wordsmith their thoughts to meet the time requirements. Cutting off people before they finish their group's thoughts is inconsiderate, short-sighted, and unnecessary. There is no way to know who might be deterred from speaking up for fear of being clapped away. I understand we feel justified that is a way to stop the people that go on and on. This is the job of the chair with the support of the experienced members of the service panel. A gently spoken "wrap it up" could be a start. My estimate is that most if not all the people that were clapped off would have had the chance to finish if we didn't have the extraneous sharing session on PRAASA. The hybrid component was very well done. // I really wish we had some literature explaining what nonbinary and transgender are. In the revisions of the safety statement, I was disappointed that they

removed the part about how someone's gender is what they say, not how they are perceived, and it explained was nonbinary is. From my own experience, it's easier for people to assign someone a gender based on how they perceive them, leaving very little option for the person to express their own gender. I've also experienced having to have an escort to use the facility that I want to go to. Once someone came to me and wondered if "nonbinary" is a computer term. Our area supported a motion four years ago to have a transgender pamphlet as an agenda item and unfortunately, it didn't make it. // Everywhere in the service structure, we are encouraged to be guided by the traditions and concepts. Warranty four is about having an ample discussion, and five, not acting punitively. Let's remember basic principles. Some discussions got brought up during the break. A lot of people felt unsafe with the venue, in terms of parking, having to walk to the location, and feeling crowded in the building. Thank you for making it hybrid, I felt way more a part of. // We received about \$1000 in cash and about \$400 in Square. // Everything is recycled but if you say it three times, it's your own. My partner is transgender and probably one of us. They come to meetings because they like it. I've heard someone say that how we treat each other is more important than what we do. I'm grateful for mostly loving the conversation around the safety piece. What I heard is that we have an area that cares about making sure the rooms of AA are as safe and welcoming as possible. // I got resentful that our time got cut off. // There is an H&I Conference May 19th and 20th in Sacramento. // I appreciate the work done to investigate what happened with the board. I've been thinking about participation in concept five. There are no second-class workers, and we shouldn't be punitive. There seems to have been a reactive response that needed more reflection. // Thank you for inviting me from Reno. // Our chair did a great job. As alt. delegate, I'm not worried about having access to the delegate dashboard. // Unity is on my mind because

PRECONFERENCE ASSEMBLY MINUTES—MAY 2023

personal recovery depends on it. When I was younger, I had a lot of ideas about how I see it. What I've learned is if I seek to understand rather than be understood, to accept rather than be accepted, to love rather than be loved, I have a shot. If someone makes a disparaging remark, I can accept it. I've been bullied at some meetings, but I went back because I want to stay sober. // The post-conference assembly hosted by D16 is May 13th in SF. There is free parking at the assembly. District 06 is hosting dinner for Post Conference in the Mission district with paid parking. We'll send flyers to DCMCs. // Years ago, I had a sponsee that couldn't read English well. He could only relate to "It Happened to Joe." We need more graphical literature. // Would it be possible to have a Spanish-speaking assistant to help with the minutes? // Our area is doing an excellent job. God bless Eric on his trip. // We're sending out a survey for feedback on the assembly. // PRAASA 2024 will be in San Francisco at the Marriott Marquis March 1-3rd next year. Email me if you want to get in-volved. // I'm grateful to be a service sponsor. The GSRs have more confidence now. // I have so many emotions being here. I want to talk about what it's like being a black woman of color in these rooms and to only see two of us here, to hear safety come up, to have an alliance with my transgender and nonbinary friends, brothers, sisters in this program and how it affects me. You can say that safety isn't an issue when it doesn't happen to you, but when I'm in a Zoom room and hear the n-word, it affects me. Study the traditions and concepts thoroughly. Before you stand up and quote the concepts or tradi-tions, go to a meeting, or start a meeting and study them. Do not weaponize them against one another. // I'm getting ready to help indigenous people from my area. // Thanks for speaking close to the microphone for those online. // ICYPAA is September 1-4 in San Francisco. I'm from outside the area. This is the first time on this side of accessibilities, you've raised the bar

for service work, and I'm going to take that back to my area. // Thinking about taking this back to this group is giving me strength. // The things we do today will keep the lights on for AA in the future. My parents thank you for giving them their son back. I hope everyone that needs it gets the experience of AA. Accessibility to AA is so important. // [[The past delegates sang Eric a spirited well-wishing parody song, "Trusted Servant," to the tune of Madonna's "Like a Virgin.]] // There's always ego in service, it makes you feel good. My service changed when my sponsee died by suicide from overdose. I do it for people like him now. I can't save him, but we have collectively helped save someone like him. People leave because we're not doing enough, we're doing something wrong. Saying he didn't want it enough isn't right. Let's make it work for everybody.

The meeting was closed at 11:55 by Chitra S. with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah B.
CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 73

CNCA BUDGET VS ACTUAL - MAY 2023

California Northern Coastal Area
 Budget vs. Actuals: 2023 Budget - FY23 P&L
 January - March, 2023

| | TOTAL | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | ACTUAL | BUDGET | % OF BUDGET |
| Revenue | | | |
| 002 Group Contributions | 29,992.36 | 22,000.00 | 136.33 % |
| 003 District Contributions | 6,360.00 | 5,000.00 | 127.20 % |
| 005 Tradition 7, Area Comm. | 914.25 | 750.00 | 121.90 % |
| 008 Personal/Misc Contributions | 195.00 | 750.00 | 26.00 % |
| 010 Interest Income | 1.41 | 1.25 | 112.80 % |
| Total Revenue | \$37,463.02 | \$28,501.25 | 131.44 % |
| GROSS PROFIT | \$37,463.02 | \$28,501.25 | 131.44 % |
| Expenditures | | | |
| 020 EXPENSE | | | |
| 021 Delegate Expense | 2,103.21 | 3,058.08 | 68.78 % |
| 050 Officer Expense | 7,950.36 | 9,655.52 | 82.34 % |
| 130 Committee Expenses | 6,954.50 | 7,731.99 | 89.94 % |
| 300 General Expenses | 30,669.74 | 11,504.28 | 266.59 % |
| Total 020 EXPENSE | 47,677.81 | 31,949.87 | 149.23 % |
| Total Expenditures | \$47,677.81 | \$31,949.87 | 149.23 % |
| NET OPERATING REVENUE | \$ -10,214.79 | \$ -3,448.62 | 296.20 % |
| NET REVENUE | \$ -10,214.79 | \$ -3,448.62 | 296.20 % |

CNCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION—MAY 2023

California Northern Coastal Area

Statement of Financial Position

As of March 31, 2023

| | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Bank Accounts | |
| Operating Funds - Checking | 25,158.15 |
| Prudent Reserve - Savings | 13,001.07 |
| Total Bank Accounts | \$38,159.22 |
| Other Current Assets | |
| Undeposited Funds | 50.48 |
| Total Other Current Assets | \$50.48 |
| Total Current Assets | \$38,209.70 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$38,209.70 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Total Liabilities | |
| Equity | |
| Operating Funds ~ Adjusted | 37,284.49 |
| Prudent Reserve ~ Savings | 11,140.00 |
| Net Revenue | -10,214.79 |
| Total Equity | \$38,209.70 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | \$38,209.70 |

CNCA CALENDAR—PANEL 73

2023

May 13 — Post-Conference Assembly
27 — Area Committee Mtg

June 24 — Area Committee Mtg

July 22 — Area Committee Mtg

August 12 — Summer Assembly (Eureka)
26 — Area Committee Mtg

September 23 — Area Committee Mtg

October 28 — Area Committee Mtg

November 4 — Fall Inventory Assembly
25 — Area Committee Mtg

December 16 — Area Committee Mtg
(Note: 3 rd Sat)

Panel 73 Assembly Dates

2023 Pre Conference Assembly
April 1 & 2, 2023
Richmond Veterans Hall
968 23rd St. Richmond, CA
Hosted by Districts 20 & 08

2023 Post Conference Assembly
May 13, 2023
Donworth Event Center, St. Stephen's
Church
473 Eucalyptus Drive, San Francisco, CA
Hosted by District 16

2023 Summer Assembly
August 12, 2023

2023 Fall Inventory Assembly
Nov 4, 2023

2024 Pre Conference Assembly
April 6 & 7, 2024

2024 Post Conference Assembly
May 11, 2024

2024 Summer Assembly
Aug 10, 2024

2024 Fall Election Assembly
Nov 2, 2024

CNC AREA COMMITTEE & ASSEMBLY MOTIONS—MAY 2023

Area Committee Motions

- Continue at Area Committee Meeting May 27, 2023

Area Assembly Motions

- Continue at Post-Conference Assembly May 13, 2023

OLD BUSINESS

That CNCA Technology committee's required on-site Hybrid Sub-Committee members are eligible for travel expense reimbursement, beginning January 1, 2023, pursuant to the Area Expense Reimbursement Guidelines, while doing the work of the Hybrid Sub-Committee. – *Presented by the CNCA Technology Committee at the Area Committee Meeting 2/25/23*

That CNCA hold a linguistic sharing session for Spanish Speakers on the day of the ACM at the Petaluma Community Center. – *Presented by CNCA Alternate Delegate Miguel H. 3/25/2023*

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

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*

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 (CNCA 06)
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS PRESENTS

POST-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY 2023

"AA's Three Legacies - Our Common Solution"

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023

Donworth Events Center

473 Eucalyptus Dr. San Francisco, CA
Enter Parking Lot at 501 Buckingham Way

Zoom ID: [632 553 607](https://us02zoom.us/j/632553607)

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| REGISTRATION | 8:30 – 9:30 AM |
| ORIENTATION | 9:30 – 9:45 AM |
| AREA BUSINESS MEETING | 9:45 AM - 12:30 PM |
| LUNCH | 12:30 – 1:30 PM |
| PANEL ON CONFERENCE THEME | 1:30 – 2:15 PM |
| DELEGATE'S REPORT | 2:15 – 3:45 PM |
| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS | 4:00 – 5:00 PM |
| WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? | 5:00 – 5:30 PM |

BRING YOUR FM RADIO FOR SIMULTANEOUS SPANISH-ENGLISH
INTERPRETATION AND ASSISTED LISTENING

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: <https://goo.gl/maps/UQr25PUHjccuzf4z5>

PARKING: Please park near the Old UA Cinema at 501 Buckingham Way. Entrance to the Donworth Event Center is via the Parking Lot on Buckingham Way.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: Take BART to Civic Center, switch to MUNI K and M Lines Outbound to Eucalyptus and 19th Avenue. Also close to MUNI 28 and 29 Bus Stops.



Lodging near San Francisco/SFO:

Hampton Inn San Francisco Downtown/Convention Center

942 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Front Desk (415) 546-3110

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/sfocchx-hampton-san-francisco-downtown-convention-center>

Nightly Rate: \$157 - \$224

DoubleTree by Hilton San Francisco South Airport Blvd

275 South Airport Blvd, South San Francisco, CA 94080

Front Desk (650) 873-3550

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/sfosadt-doubletree-san-francisco-airport-south-blvd/>

Nightly Rate: \$163 - \$204

Best Western Plus Grosvenor Airport Hotel

380 South Airport Boulevard, South San Francisco, CA 94080

Front Desk (650) 873-3200

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.05297.html

Nightly Rate: \$134 - \$169

PANEL 73 AREA OFFICERS & AREA MEETING INFORMATION

Delegate
Eric L.

Alternate Delegate
Miguel H.

Chair
Chitra S.

Treasurer
Claudia N.

Registrar
Drew B.

Recording Secretary
Sarah B.

Assembly Coordinator
Jackie B.

Literature/Grapevine/La Viña
Matt E.

Pacific Regional Trustee
Reilly K.

CNCA
1390 N. McDowell Blvd
Suite G – 339
Petaluma, CA 94954
www.cnca06.org

NorCal H&I Committee
PO Box 192490
San Francisco, CA 94119-2490
www.handinorcal.org

Contributions to General Service Board:
General Service Office
PO Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

All other Correspondence:
General Service Office
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
212-870-3400
www.aa.org

CNCA 06 ACM, STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES, and SHARING SESSIONS

For questions about meetings, including passwords, please contact the committee chairs by going to:
<https://www.cnca06.org/contact-us/>.

CNCA 06 ACM – Area Committee business meeting (HYBRID) - meets at 12:30pm on the 3rd Saturday in January and December, and the 4th Saturday all other months of the year. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **632 553 607**.

Accessibilities committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 11:00am on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Zoom meeting ID: **950 7110 9610**.

Archives committee (HYBRID) - meets at 10:00am on the 3rd Saturday in January and December, and the 4th Saturday all other months of the year. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **918 3100 3118**.

Bridging the Gap (BTG) committee - meets at 11:00am on the 3rd Saturday in January (HYBRID) Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID for January only: **832 3215 6632**.

DCM sharing session (HYBRID) - meets at 11:00am on the 3rd Saturday in January and December, and the 4th Saturday all other months of the year. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **863 9891 9417**.

DCMC sharing session – *Closed Meeting - DCMCs and Alternate DCMCs only.* (HYBRID) - meets at 11:00am on the 3rd Saturday in January and December, and the 4th Saturday all other months of the year.

Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **969 2698 7068**.

Interpretation & Translation committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 7:00pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Zoom meeting ID: **964 6132 5139**.

Literature/Grapevine/La Viña sharing session (HYBRID) - meets at 9:00am on the 3rd Saturday in January and December, and the 4th Saturday all other months of the year. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **987 0872 2632**.

Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) committee (HYBRID) - meets at 9:00am on the 3rd Saturday in January and December, and the 4th Saturday all other months of the year.

Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **568 947 843**.

Technology committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 6:30pm on the 4th Thursday of each month. Zoom meeting ID: **961 5695 6661**.

Website committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 5:30pm on the 3rd Thursday in January. Zoom Meeting ID: **957 8148 9983**.