



CNCA COMMENTS



A.A. Confidential—August 2023

www.cnca06.org

California Northern Coastal Area of Alcoholics Anonymous

Chair's Preview

It is feeling like summer and time for the Fun Assembly – we are all gathering together in the beautiful redwoods of Eureka, CA for our Summer Assembly on August 12th. We are in the second quarter of our panel, and have learned how to ask for our group's opinion on different topics and have practiced relaying what our groups think to the Area. We will now practice forming and expressing our own thoughts during the Summer Assembly Workshops, asking provocative questions to each other in online and in-person settings, in English and Spanish. We are flexing our brain's muscles with thoughts of *Why Are We Here? How Do We Keep Each Other Safe? How Do We Ask For Help? How Do We Invite People In? These questions will prompt our members to speak to the issues in our Area involving unity, humility, purpose, discrimination, courageous conversation, safety solutions, sponsorship, communication, respect, accessibility, apathy, and hybrid with its costs and benefits. We are building ourselves into great leaders who can listen, be the unbiased voice of others, and also formulate our own thoughtful ideas on how to keep AA relevant for future generations.*

In July's Area Committee Meeting our attendees agreed to **change the date of the November 2023 ACM to the third Saturday of the month, so we will now meet on November 18th this year** instead of November 25th. Please note the change in your calendars.

We passed a housekeeping motion to pay travel expenses for an outside facilitator to attend this year's Fall Assembly, so we now look forward to welcoming Monty C, Delegate for Area 08 San Diego and Imperial County, to lead us in our Area Inventory on November 4th.

The Ad Hoc Newsletter Committee presented two housekeeping motions, which passed, to facilitate the change of our Area Newsletter moving from a primarily paper format to an easily distributable digital format. The paper format of the August Comments/Comentarios will contain a 'postcard' outlining the procedure to opt-in to future paper versions of our Area Newsletter. The default method to receive the newsletter from now on will be digital, and our editing team will use Mailchimp to create and distribute the newsletter beginning next month.

Our Area passed a motion for our I&T Committee to purchase 120 new digital radios to assist with language gaps at our Area Assemblies and ACM's.

Please look at the Area Motions page of this newsletter and be sure to take a district, committee, or group conscience on our five current motions. Let's keep the communication between our members and Area active and thoughtful.

Thank you for letting me serve,

Chitra S.

CNCA 06 Chair, Panel 73

Delegate's Corner: August 2023

“Service is what prayer looks like when it gets up off its knees and walks around in the world.”

Very early on in my recovery, I got involved in service work – my first commitment was picking up cigarette butts outside my meeting. But I didn't do service for noble reasons. I wanted desperately to fit in, and since I didn't know how to talk to people, a service commitment would let me be around people without having to actually talk to people.

I stayed involved in service because it felt good. Sometimes, it was noble. I actually was able to help people, make meaningful connections, become a part of the group. I even got invited to the lunch that all the cool kids went to (well, everyone went to, and I just wanted so desperately to fit in).

Service eventually took on new meaning for me. It shifted gradually from what I could get out of service (connection, a sense of ownership, self-esteem) to what I could put into service. Not to say that I don't still get ego-driven rewards from service. But I at least now try to be more humble about it.

Recently, I've been thinking about service outside of AA. My parents are getting older, and I've noticed that they sometimes need extra help with things. It's honestly a bit terrifying. But I am finally able to be of service to the people who took me in when I destroyed my world and helped me rebuild it by making me go to AA. For so long, I wanted to give back to my parents what they had done for me. And now, through service, I get to.

Yours in service,
Eric L. Panel 73 Delegate

Looking for Something?

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AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—August 2023

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES July 22, 2023

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held using a hybrid format on July 22, 2023, with some members attending virtually and others attending at the Petaluma Community Center. Chitra S. opened the meeting at 12:30 pm with the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Laura from District 11, Manisha G. from District 07 read Tradition Seven, and Vivian K. from District 07 read Concept Seven. We welcomed three new GSRs, and two new DCMs. There were eight past Delegates present: Jennifer B. (P71), Teddy B.W. (P69), David N. (P59, past trustee), Bob D. (P36), Joann L. (P67), Jim M. (P45), Diane O. (P35), and Barbara M. (P41). The June financial report was accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments and Comentarios*. A correction was made to the June minutes regarding the presentation of new business from the Technology Committee. **Attendance:** 77 in person; 53 online. **Birthdays:** 58/5.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – ERIC L.: I have shared Conference reports at 17 districts; this helps make sure what happened at the Conference is not a mystery to people. I shared information with DCMCs about a non-trustee director vacancy and about inaccurate quarterly contribution statements from GSO that are now being fixed. Beta-testing has launched for the Grapevine App; early reviews are enthusiastic. The first draft of *A.A. in Plain Language: A Tool for Accessing the Big Book* has been completed. A working group is now reviewing it.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – MIGUEL H.: The General Service Office is looking for new staff members including a French-speaking Canadian residing in either the U.S. or Canada and willing to relocate to New York. Fluency in English and excellent English writing skills are required. This position is responsible for work specific to each of

our 12 service desks, rotating to a new office and assignment every two years. Assignments include Treatment/Accessibilities/Remote Communities, Conference, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Corrections, Group Services, International, International Convention, Literature, Nominating, Public Information, Regional Forums, and Staff Coordinator. Candidates should have at least six years of continuous sobriety, strong writing and communication skills, and a good understanding of our service structure to be a “special worker.” Contact me for information on duties and responsibilities.

CHAIR – CHITRA S.: In the book *Our Great Responsibility* (pg. 162), Bill W. speaks of the requisites of leadership, including love, understanding, forgiveness, and communication of the heart. The Summer Assembly is an opportunity to practice developing our voices on issues related to our primary purpose. It is our responsibility to participate thoughtfully in discussions. How does your group feel about creating literature that would combine the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with the Twelve Concepts for World Service? Bring your group consciences to the Assembly for the morning business meeting.

TREASURER – CLAUDIA N.: Our checking account has \$31,063.64, and our prudent reserve (one month’s operating expenses) has \$13,001.40. At the end of June, our actual contributions were \$6,716, and our budgeted contributions were \$11,167.09. Actual expenses were \$8,461.33; the budget was \$8,492.69. Our budgeted expenses were right on, but our budgeted income was more than what came in in contributions. Almost every month this year our actual income was greater than what was budgeted, so all is well! Please thank your groups for their contributions. Please spread the word about our updated address and online contributions at cnca06.org/contribute/. Our old P.O. Box will close on November 30th. We will gradually be replacing paper receipts with emailed receipts, with a complete phase-out by December 1st.

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REGISTRAR – DREW B.: With two new district registrars starting this last month, (welcome Jan from D13 and Patty from D04) every district has a registrar. GSO has asked me to assist in an initiative to update “unknown” groups in the Area. It’s called the “Data Integrity” project, and I will be working closely with our district registers and the Member Services Team at GSO to ensure we are efficient and accurate with updates. This month’s meeting of the month is Dolphin Quest, which meets Thursday nights at 8 in Oakland.

RECORDING SECRETARY – SARAH B.: I continue exploring the Area motions book for history about our assemblies. The first summer assembly of record was in 1966. The first motion passed that was introduced at a summer assembly (in 1989) was to write GSO a letter asking that a topic regarding charging fees at AA events be added to the national agenda. More trivia at the summer assembly. I’m accepting guesses for the summer assembly word count competition. The 2022 summer assembly minutes were 6,646 words. The agenda had two items of old business that were both acted upon. You may submit your guess by email or by coming to talk to me.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – JACKIE B.: I’ve attended planning meetings for the upcoming summer assembly (in Eureka, hosted by D15 Humboldt Del Norte) and assisted prospective bidding districts on site selection for the 2024 Summer and Fall Assemblies. The venue database I’ve compiled has been helpful in site selection and will save bidding districts time. Feedback from the venue survey has been added to the notes section of the database. Volunteers are needed to expand the listings; please email me if you are available to be of service. Pass-it-On assembly reports have been helpful, and I hope assembly committees continue to create and share them.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MATT E.: New printings of the Soft Cover Big Book (in all formats) will have a new “soft velvet touch” finish. This is a common cover finish in the publishing industry and eliminates the need for ordering high-

cost, low-availability materials. The deadline for applying to join the working group on the updated pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic” is July 31st. I’m excited to hear about the experiences of La Viña reps that attended the La Viña Anniversary in Oregon. Grapevine and La Viña are always seeking to hear from you. Stories, anonymized photos, and jokes can be submitted at www.aagrapevine.org or www.aalavina.org

DISTRICT REPORTS

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – ELENA B.: District 01 is thrilled to announce we have a DCM! BTG continues to open meetings in facilities. MBAR had a very successful fundraiser as they continue to plan for 2024. A GSR created a flier inspired by the Delegate’s report to inform and encourage group treasurers to contribute digitally.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) - BRIAN M.: We look forward to our Delegate report on August 2nd. We have discussed Area motions and are looking forward to the Summer Assembly. Salinas Valley Area Intergroup is hosting the Coastal Rally August 18-20. There will be meetings, BBQs, ice cream, brunch, and fellowship.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – DEB A.: We welcomed six new GSRs. Intergroup added a donation link to their webpage that includes District, Area, and GSO. We are entertaining the possibility of hosting an Area Assembly. We heard ideas for a Unity Day to include all service arms within Santa Cruz (i.e., CRUZYPAA and the Joint Committee on Safety). GSRs were encouraged to ask their groups about other ideas.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – AMARA G.: Santa Clara Intergroup organized Unity Day for 8/6. We created a website (district05cnca.org), thanks to the examples set by D06, 07, and 08. One helpful feature is the entire discussion around District and Area motions. Working groups have formed to organize Safety Workshops to continue conversations and create more guidelines for groups to address safety issues.

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – KAREN

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C.: Our district business meeting heard the delegate's report. We have representatives from BTG, PICPC, and SCCYPAA now in regular attendance. Our Unity Day is coming soon with a great slate of activities, speakers (Father Tom), delegate report, food, and fellowship.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – BRENT M.: We held our annual Unity Day. The event included presentations about the importance of service, sobriety BINGO, a report by the delegate, and a presentation by our Area archives who also provided an awesome display at the event. It inspired a volunteer to consider filling our District archives chair position. We discussed the plain language translation of the Big Book at our business meeting. PICPC worked with Districts 04, 40, and 17 at a Veterans Stand Down event in Santa Clara County.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DAN B.: Our visiting area officer (VAO) facilitated elections. We elected a DCM for Subdistrict 245: Alamo Square/Hayes Valley and a new BTG Chair. We passed the proposal to purchase 30 closed-circuit radios to facilitate communication with our Spanish-speaking districts. In breakout sessions, GSRs discussed presenting our Delegate's "Top 10 Takeaways from the General Service Conference" to their groups. I visited a new meeting for the transgender alcoholic at the SF Castro Country Club called "Tea4T." They elected their first GSR and were happy to hear that discussions are happening in our Area about paths forward for a pamphlet for the transgender alcoholic.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – MANISHA G.: We trialed a hybrid meeting format with about 10 people in person at Sacred Heart Church in Oakland. We will continue this format in the July meeting and vote on whether to continue hybrid. Our VAO presented "GSR Tips on Distilling Information to prepare for reports to their group & the importance of service sponsorship." Teddy B.W. presented on the Grapevine app, fostering discussion. We voted to jointly place a bid to host an assembly in 2024. Our district now uses LinkTree

with a special section called GSR Corner. We now also can collect group contributions through Venmo.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – THERESA M.: We had our Delegate Night and Potluck in June, with approximately 60 people in attendance. We have elected a new Tech Host to take over our hybrid District meeting format. We have been doing a hybrid meeting since February and we are still learning and improving it.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – MEG B.: Our district discussed how we communicate. We introduced "linktree" for easy access to our agenda, reports, website link, 7th tradition, GSR resources, area resources, and events. We discussed what to add to our website and how to implement anonymity. We discussed the ACM motion regarding a Spanish sharing session. Some explanation was needed to help GSRs understand the function of the ACM. We also talked about the summer assembly and the GSR job description. We looked at our sub-district map and reviewed the benefits of having a DCM. We will hold an election for a DCM in August. Our mid-month officer check-in resulted in a plan to touch base with all groups in our county to strengthen ties to general service.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – DONNA F.: No report.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – STEVEN L.: Our Unity Day is July 29th in Fairfield. We'll hear our Delegate's report and enjoy some ice cream and a skit called dysfunctional jeopardy. Our archives chair Tony W. converted a cassette recording made on November 10, 1985, of the Public Information Committee being interviewed on Vacaville radio station KUIC, into a YouTube video. We have a controversial topic within our District that we're seeking experience, strength, and hope on.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – DYLAN R.: One of our two DCMs held a subdistrict meeting to explain the inverted triangle and flow of information. Our

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Unity Day will be on October 21st in Novato, and our events coordinator is reaching out to groups to get involved. We added more volunteers to our BTG committee, and our tech committee has accepted two new members. Our Intergroup held a fun event and will be hosting a sober dance.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – SANDY S.: *We have open officer positions we are attempting to fill. Our DCMs hold a GSR school prior to our business meeting. Thank you to our VAO for presenting about hybrid meetings. Our intergroup hosted a Summer Picnic and has voted to fund a Meditation/11-step workshop. The Intergroup/District Web committee is working on a printable meeting schedule from the website. H&I is taking meetings into Napa State Hospital and the Napa Women's Jail; they hope to visit the juvenile hall soon.*

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – DENISE G.: *We have open positions to fill. Our VAO discussed building enthusiasm in General Service. We are planning our Unity Day for October 14, 2023. It's an all-day event that includes, breakfast, lunch, speaker panels, a speaker meeting, sobriety countdown, a skit performed by SOCYPAA, and more. All are invited. The theme is "Planting Seeds of Change." Our Sonoma County bookstore has recently been remodeled and they now accept online orders. They are discussing a motion to sell non-conference-approved literature. Our District archivist will be redoing the display at the bookstore.*

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – HECTOR M.: *We approved several scholarships for members to attend the Summer Assembly. We hosted a successful Spring Fun event and plan to make it a yearly event, with participation from a local recovery center. We are planning to host the very first sponsor/sponsorship workshop. Date to come soon.*

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – MICHAEL Q.: *Our 3*

DCM rotation seems to be working well. Our recording secretary and coastal intergroup liaison positions are being manned by temporary volunteers. We have a GSR serving as H&I Liaison on a trial basis. MENDYPAA is very active, and our PI/CPC committee is picking up steam. Our VAO outlined the assembly motion from our district and elaborated on the workshop topics. Next month, in Willits, will be our delegate report and ice cream social.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – MEGAN M.: *D15 has located a facility to hold our monthly meetings. We can rent their equipment to allow for a hybrid meeting for \$10 a meeting. Our first hybrid meeting is on the second Saturday of October at 10 am. In our July meeting, a member introduced a motion that suggests making virtual access a requirement of all CNCA 06 Area and Assembly meetings. We look forward to the Summer Assembly and are encouraging our Humboldt & Del Norte County AA members to attend.*

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – PEDRO M.: *We continue to motivate groups and have a new GSR. On Sunday, July 30th we will celebrate our 35th anniversary and hear the Delegate's report. Everyone is invited. It will be at Grupo Central in San Francisco, 4260 Mission Street.*

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH) – LUIS R.: *Sub-districts are visiting groups without GSRs to motivate one and La Viña is motivating groups to subscribe members and to send their stories. BTG and PI continue their same activities. CPC and PI will work together in the Half Moon Bay area to inform about AA and mention the Hispanic grupo in the area. We have a volunteer who will interpret at the district when needed for the interpretation committee until we find a coordinator. We have a new GSR from the la Salida group from San Mateo County, the first from this group since it opened its*

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doors about 5 years ago. We have a big event August 25th-27th hosted by Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. It's free and all are welcome.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – RODRIGO Z.: D18 continues to work with the groups, sharing information on what is happening in A.A. We have brought the results of the 2023 GSC and had the delegate share his conference report. We are planning our 30th anniversary. We invite everyone to come to celebrate 30 years of service.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – SARA N.: Thanks to the visitor who told us about the summer assembly. Many of us were motivated to join. We are still working on our agenda and motivating more trusted servants of the 26 groups that we are to join general service.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – FRANCISCO Z.: We are preparing for the Hispanic Interdistrict meeting on August 27 from 9:00 to 3:00 at 405 E. 10th Street in Pittsburg. There will be panels from members of Districts 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 and from four of our Area Officers.

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

ACCESSIBILITIES – ENRIQUE.: The committee discussed ways to improve accessibility, inclusivity, and community outreach within A.A. The key areas of focus included providing large print service manuals, inventorying electronic devices for distribution, addressing attendance issues due to COVID restrictions, outreach to the Hispanic women community, budget considerations, and the creation of a Spanish Sign Language Big Book. Plans for a skit presentation at PRAASA 2024 and the possibility of providing childcare at Area assemblies were also discussed.

ARCHIVES – CAROL H.: A few members expressed their concerns that we have no Hispanic representation. We miss them at our meeting. We brought an archives display to the D05 Unity Day. Let us know if you would like a display for your

Unity Day. We drew a name (David H. from D03) and an alternate (Elvia P.) to attend the National AA Archives Workshop in Sudbury, Ontario Canada, September 7 - 10. Our next workday is August 19. All are welcome.

BRIDGING THE GAP – JOHN O.: We've been working to secure the location for the Bridging the Gap Forum in Clear Lake. We have two new BTG chairs, Sacha from D06 and Ashley from D12, and one new volunteer. There may be opportunities to expand BTG Services by networking with other agencies such as social services counselors. We are looking closely at the budget to determine the financial impact. Blue cards: 39; many were distributed within the area, 13 went to CNIA 07, and 2 were sent to Los Angeles area 05. Six presentations were given.

FINANCE – DAVID N.: We discussed the 2024 CNCA budget. Thank you CNCA standing and sub-committees for preparing committee budgets. Please submit any remaining budgets by the Summer Assembly. Reach out to your Finance Committee (FC) liaison with questions. We will develop the budget by the end of August to review the first full draft at our September meeting. The budget will be presented to the ACM in November for disapproval if any at the December ACM. We plan to hold a hybrid Finance Workshop on Sunday, October 8 provided by District 20. More to come, including a housekeeping motion for small costs to support the workshop.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – JOSE L.: We translated about 24 documents, a couple of emails, the Comments, and Comentaríos this month. We will purchase 100 radios, two cases, four chargers, and a power strip if our motion passes. We discussed our 2024 budget and set up volunteers for ICYPAA September 1st-4th. We are building a second bigger interpretation booth for the sharing session room. Please bring your FM radios to the Summer Assembly.

PI/CPC – MIGUEL H.: Elisabeth from D11 gave a

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presentation on “How to break the steps to the public and to the professionals.” Some main points were that we don’t keep track of members, we are not religious, we don’t share what we hear in meetings, and we don’t give opinions regarding medications. Did you know that 50% of people who die from alcoholism never heard of AA? We have lots of work to do. We will hold a PI/CPC Workshop on September 16, 2023, from 2:00 pm-5:00 pm in Los Altos.

TECHNOLOGY – JACQUELINE P.: We continue to develop our guidelines and job responsibilities both for the Tech Committee and the Hybrid Sub-Committee. Our committee has entered the budget process. We sent out a brief Technology Assessment to Officers and Committee Chairs to discover if any new software or hardware is needed. The Hybrid Subcommittee will be testing out a bi-directional camera and a new microphone for the ACM and Assemblies. Come visit us at our table at the Summer Assembly and let us know about technology in your District. Do you think a Technology Sharing Session at the Area Committee Meeting would be helpful to you and your District? Please email me your thoughts. We would love to have more members join us on the Tech Committee.

WEBSITE – JAMES B.: We meet on Zoom on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:15 pm. All are welcome. We have open positions on the committee and would love to have you join. All you need is an open mind and willingness to help. At our meeting, we heard updates on reducing, archiving, and removing outdated information, and discussed the Comentarios and our 2024 budg-

et request. We confirmed who is available to attend the NAATW (National AA Technology Workshop). We will update the WordPress theme on the website and update WordPress plugins. We welcome your feedback

ASSEMBLY AD-HOC: No report.

CNCA COMMENTS / COMENTARIOS - MEG B.: El Sobrante Fellowship hosted the monthly Lick & Stick. About 392 pieces were sent. Love and Service group in Pleasant Hill will host the next L&S. Publishing is going so smoothly. The printing company is amazing and fast.

PRAASA 2024 – JENNIFER B.: Our area is hosting the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA) next year! (March 1-3 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in San Francisco). I’m the new Chairperson and received the pass-it-on from our previous chair, Teddy. If you want to volunteer, please email me. We are finalizing our budget so we can set a prudent registration price. The website is live at www.praasa.org – where you can down-load save-the-date flyers. You can sign up to be notified when the registration and hotel room block open by early November. We will have save-the-date cards available at the Summer Assembly and at ICYPAA on Saturday, 9/2, and Sunday, 9/3 from 10 am to 4 pm. Two-hour volunteer slots are open.

Ad Hoc NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION – KERSTIN C.: We are still discussing changes and adding things to Assembly guidelines, to make it easier for future panels. We are hoping to have something more concrete in the next couple of months to pass on. Visi-

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tors have come to our meetings to provide information.

DCM SHARING SESSION – MAUREEN

G.: We heard a presentation by Judah N, District 12, DCM on the never-ending conference process. He shared a great resource located on the Sonoma County AA website [sonomacountyaa/neverending](https://sonomacountyaa.org/procedimiento-interminable) In Spanish at: <https://sonomacountyaa.org/procedimiento-interminable> . Participants expressed the need to take in the Conference process and the General Service calendar from more than one perspective. The Service Manual, service sponsors, and fellows in general service are available to help. Next month's presentation: "The GSR, the most important person in the room."

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA SHARING SESSION – MATT E.: *Today we discussed possible paths forward for a proposed pamphlet "AA for the Transgender Alcoholic," which was declined to be put on the Conference agenda in 2021 and 2022 after our Area's request. It included ideas like having our Area produce it, having a local intergroup (or intergroups) produce it, having content produced rather than strictly literature, and not limiting ourselves to a single path forward. A member shared that the Conference has acted in surprising ways in the past and therefore another request may be warranted.*

H & I (SUBMITTED BY KAREN B. ELECTRONICALLY) – The next H&I business meeting is on 7/22 at 11 am. You can attend via Zoom or in person. See HandNorCal.org for info. The new handbook from our state prison system has new regulations that may enable us to roll Inside Visiting Sponsorship Service

(IVSS) out in more institutions soon. H&I can always use volunteers. Thank you for your Pink Can contributions.

ICYPAA – JENNIFER B.: The International Conference for Young People in AA is 9/1 – 9/4 in San Francisco at the Marriott Marquis. I suggest you register as soon as possible. The pre-registration price is currently \$35 and will increase to \$40 on August 1st. On-site registration will cost more. More info can be found at www.ICYPAA.org. On the website, you can pre-register, learn more about the history of ICYPAA, book a hotel room, contribute to a scholarship fund to help someone else attend, request scholarship funding, and buy tickets for the pre-conference event. The pre-conference event is a 3-hour tour of Alcatraz Island. Seats are limited, so you'll need to sign up soon.

CENTRAL OFFICES:

VALLEY INTERGROUP CENTER – DON Z.: I'm the Office Administrator of the Valley Intergroup Service Center Office in Dublin. They support two Unity events each year in Winter and summer. We enlisted the help of the Group Services desk in New York to support a group with a problem. They responded quickly and shared the experiences of other groups in situations like our own. We have resumed publishing paper schedules and the first edition of the Valley View Newsletter in a couple of years. I participate every Friday morning with Intergroup Central Office Administrators from all over the US and Canada, meeting to discuss a variety of topics. Recently we discussed whether to accept government money from the Employee Retention Program (ERP), for central offices that retained their employees through the

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pandemic. We'll be participating in the 38th annual Intergroup and Central Offices of AA (ICOOA) Seminar in Cincinnati, OH in October.

NCCAA: No report.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S WORKSHOP - MARY CRUZ: We held a meeting and multiple areas attended (05, 06, 08, and 09), including some members from Mexico. Area 05 2023 host committee is visiting groups and requesting contributions for the event on Saturday 12/9 in Pasadena. Hotel rooms are still available. We've received \$865. We are having a meeting this month to choose speakers and topics. Area 06 will be the host in 2024.

LA VIÑA ANNIVERSARY: No report.

FORO HISPANO – CARLOS: The event is on 10/22 in Hayward at 1050 Mattox Road in Hayward, from 8 am to 4 pm. We continue to take in contributions to fund the event. Thank you to the Area for their support with interpretation.

AREA BUSINESS

SENSE OF THE ROOM:

- Do we want to change the November Area Committee Meeting from November 25th to November 18th?

Questions: **Q:** Why do we want to change it?
A: There's a holiday the current week. A sense of the room was taken. <<The November ACM will be on Saturday, November 18th instead of November 25th.>>

HOUSEKEEPING MOTIONS

- That CNCA reimburse Monty C., Del-

egate for Area 08 (San Diego and Imperial County), for his travel expenses to facilitate the 2023 CNCA Inventory Assembly at a cost not to exceed \$750. – *Presented by Eric L., Delegate.*

Presentation: *The item is already a line item in our budget. \$750 is the maximum but the actual cost will likely be less.*

Questions: **There were no questions or objections.** <<Housekeeping motion passed.>>

That CNCA purchase the Panel 73 assembly word count competition prizes from the AA Grapevine store, effective May 14th, 2023, at a total cost not to exceed \$174. - *Presented by CNCA Recording Secretary, Sarah B., and CNCA Literature/Grapevine/La Viña Chair, Matt E.*

Presentation: *The intent is to encourage interaction with the minutes and supporting Grapevine. This covers the entire panel's expenses for prizes, starting with the 2023 Post-Conference Assembly and excepting the 2024 Fall Election Assembly. The maximum cost of each prize is approximately a one-year print subscription (\$28.97) rounded up to \$30.*

Questions: **Q:** What if there's a tie and two people win? **A:** We would figure it out; perhaps whoever submits first.

There was an objection. <<Housekeeping will become New Business at the Area Committee Meeting on August 26, 2023.>>

That CNCA provide funding for the CNCA Bridging the Gap Forum to be held on September 30, 2023 at the Senior Center

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3245 Bowers Ave, Clearlake, CA at an amount not to exceed \$1500. - Presented by John O, Bridging the Gap Chair

Presentation: This is an annual event. Possible themes include “releasing opportunities.” Speakers would include those from corrections, treatment centers, and the court system to let us know how we can better serve BTG activity.

Questions: **Q:** Would this be hybrid? **A:** We have not thought about that. **There were no objections.** <<Housekeeping motion passed.>>

That CNCA provide funding to subscribe to an email service provider for the Comments/Comentarios newsletter at a cost not to exceed \$400 per year. – Presented by the CNCA Ad Hoc Newsletter Committee

Presentation: The committee presented their recommendations last ACM. This motion is one of their recommendations. This is the cost for MailChimp service.

Questions: **Q:** Is this only for Comments and Comentarios (C/C) or would it include other mailings? **A:** MailChimp would be sitting with the editor of C/C. // **Q:** Is this intended to establish an ongoing precedent or only for this year? **A:** The ACM voted for the Comments/Comentarios to go digital last summer, so this is an ongoing effort. The Area will choose whichever email service is financially prudent to achieve that. // **Q:** Is the subscription rate determined by the number of emails sent? **A:** The current cost covers 5,000 emails and our subscription base is about 500. // **Q:** Did you know that our web server can be configured to email out that number of emails easily? **A:** We did not know that,

but MailChimp offers an easy template to pass on to the next panel. // **Q:** The \$400 would offset the cost of postage. About how much do we spend on postage annually? // **A:** Postage on C/C is budgeted \$2,000. So far, we’ve spent less than \$400. // **Q:** Would we still save money while including people who continue to want to receive printed mailings? **A:** Yes. The committee doesn’t anticipate there being many people wanting printed copies. **There were no objections.** <<Housekeeping motion passed.>>

That CNCA provide funding to print Opt-In postcards for the Comments/Comentarios newsletter at a cost not to exceed \$200. - Presented by the CNCA Ad Hoc Newsletter Committee

Presentation: This is a recommendation to initiate an information campaign with a postcard inserted into the paper C/C for a few months, allowing people to send in the postcard to let the Area know that they want it printed.

Questions: **Q:** How often would people need to opt in? **A:** We don’t know what the officers have in mind, but we recommend it would be a one-time signup. We hope there will be other ways to sign up (e.g., on the CNCA webpage). // **Q:** Why can’t we opt-in online? **A:** Because the C/C is on paper. **There were no objections.** <<Housekeeping motion passed.>>

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

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 2023

work of the Hybrid Sub-Committee. – *Presented by the CNCA Technology Committee 2/25/23*

Discussion: **Group consciences:** Our group unanimously supports this motion, citing the 7th tradition and the importance of supporting the hybrid component at all ACMs and assemblies, allowing all groups an ear and a voice. // My group 100% approves of this motion. We would not exist if we didn't have the technologists to provide this for us. // My District supports this motion. // The GSRs in my district reported that these members provide a valuable service and deserve compensation for their expenses. **Personal opinions:** I think the technology committee should be paid mileage, but I don't think it's right to pay mileage for one committee over another. We treat everyone the same and don't play favorites. Concept 11 mentions employment for money in the Service Manual. Authority and money are deeply linked. Possession/control of money implies possession/control of people. Unwisely used, this can result in unhappy division (haves on one side and have-nots on the other). A part of the fence must be taken down for harmony. // We should provide reimbursement and support the hybrid component. Some people can't attend in person for health reasons, and they should be able to participate. Technology is here to stay. If we adhere to guidelines of anonymity. It seems equitable. // My concern is not knowing the year-to-date cost since it's retroactive. I wonder if a tech committee member is coming for another position they are reimbursed for (i.e., District), would they still be reimbursed by the Area? // In the expense reimbursement guidelines, it says if a committee member is being reimbursed by a district, they are reimbursed first by the district prior to being reimbursed by the Area. // If your job description requires you to be there, we need to reimburse you. // **Motion passed by substantial unanimity.** 38 in favor; 4 against; 4 abstentions. The minority opinion was heard. I'm not against the principle of the motion, I'm concerned about sustainability. // We don't reimburse everyone who does service (e.g., members of the finance and I&T committees). I'm also concerned about financial sustainability. // I'm confused about how and who is reimbursed for hotel stays. Also, it's a lot of money for a lot of people. **Motion to reconsider passed by simple majority:** 21 in favor; 17 against. <<**Motion to remain Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting on August 26, 2023.**>>

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:** We're not in favor of the motion. This meeting has helped us a lot, but the motion should not be exclusive to Spanish-speaking members. It should be open to everybody. **Personal opinions:** This is not about having a closed meeting for linguistic members. The sharing session will decide whether they want interpretation and/or a visiting area officer. // If we add interpretation, there is a financial impact, there could be an officer impact, but it sounds like those can be addressed later. But this motion is not about that, it's just

AREA COMMITTEE MINUTES—JULY 2023

about having the sharing session. // English speakers have more experience and history with participation in General Service than Spanish-speaking members. Our Area was formed in 1950. The first linguistic district was formed in 1970 in Los Angeles and formed in the 90s in CNCA. I see this as a matter of equity. There is a need for education in Spanish speakers' native language. Is this service needed? This marginalized group has expressed it is. I believe that English speakers are worried they will lose participation from Spanish speakers at other sharing sessions if we hold this sharing session. I hope they will continue to participate. // I attended this sharing session for the first time today and saw a lot of excited new people. We need more information for our Spanish-speaking community. Let's not take away the opportunity for people to learn. // I've seen the enthusiasm in our Spanish-speaking companions to have a meeting where they can speak their own language. I understand the concern that Spanish speakers don't attend the Archives committee. It's difficult for Spanish speakers to learn the language of General Service. When I have a question and it's explained in my language, it's a lot easier for me to understand. I have seen the benefit of this sharing session. If there is a need for English interpretation later, we can meet that. // I'm concerned that 10 am is the only time that Spanish speakers can meet. We've had participation from Spanish speakers in Archives in the past, and there is no longer participation. I wish it could be at another time so they could participate // The linguistic districts would like English speakers to attend this session, too. // I'm concerned that the lack of interpretation is a reason not

to financially support this motion. << **Motion to remain Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting on August 26, 2023.>>**

That CNCA purchase 120 digital radios at a cost not to exceed \$2800. - Presented by the CNCA Interpretation and Translation Committee on 5/27/2023

Discussion: **Group Consciences:** None. **Personal opinions:** None. **Vote by substantial unanimity in favor.** 36 in favor; 3 against; 2 abstentions. No minority opinion was expressed. <<**Motion Passed.>>**

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

A lot of people are buying radios from the I&T committee. I encourage people to put their names on the radio. We'll have a label maker at our table. // September 16, 2-5 pm PICPC Workshop in Los Altos in Hybrid format. // Of our 93 areas, there are few in which the area committee chairs are non-voting members. I'd like to continue the discussion about voting participation.

The meeting was closed at 3:27 by Chitra S. with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah B.
CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 73

CNCA BUDGET VS ACTUAL - August 2023

California Northern Coastal Area

Budget vs. Actuals: 2023 Budget - FY23 P&L

January - June, 2023

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Revenue		
002 Group Contributions	53,784.06	46,000.00
003 District Contributions	6,726.00	10,000.00
004 Assembly Contributions	2,770.51	1,650.00
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	1,920.26	1,500.00
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	4,286.91	1,500.00
010 Interest Income	2.46	2.50
Total Revenue	\$89,490.20	\$60,652.50
GROSS PROFIT	\$89,490.20	\$60,652.50
Expenditures		
020 EXPENSE		
021 Delegate Expense	5,558.52	7,048.92
050 Officer Expense	16,172.56	20,865.99
130 Committee Expenses	15,095.20	15,613.99
300 General Expenses	47,730.21	39,494.52
Total 020 EXPENSE	84,556.49	83,023.42
Total Expenditures	\$84,556.49	\$83,023.42
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -15,066.29	\$ -22,370.92
Other Revenue	\$800.00	\$0.00
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$800.00	\$0.00
NET REVENUE	\$ -14,266.29	\$ -22,370.92

CNCA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION—August 2023

California Northern Coastal Area

Statement of Financial Position

As of June 30, 2023

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	20,488.00
Prudent Reserve - Savings	13,001.40
Total Bank Accounts	\$33,489.40
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	687.60
Total Other Current Assets	\$687.60
Total Current Assets	\$34,177.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$34,177.00
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	37,303.29
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	11,140.00
Net Revenue	-14,266.29
Total Equity	\$34,177.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$34,177.00

CNCA CALENDAR—PANEL 73

2023

August **12 — Summer Assembly**
26 — Area Committee Mtg

September **23 — Area Committee Mtg**

October **28 — Area Committee Mtg**

November **4 — Fall Inventory Assem-**
bly
18 — Area Committee Mtg
(Note: 3rd Sat)

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

Panel 73 Assembly Dates

2023 Summer Assembly
August 12, 2023
Redwood Acres Fairgrounds, Home Ec.
Building
3775 Harris St, Eureka, CA 95503
Hosted by D15 Humboldt del Norte

2023 Fall Inventory Assembly
November 4, 2023
The Monterey Moose Lodge
555 Canyon Del Rey Blvd, Del Rey Oaks,
CA
Hosted by D01 Monterey

2024 Pre Conference Assembly
April 6 & 7, 2024
Petaluma Veterans Memorial Building

1094 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA
Hosted by D18 Spanish North and D12
Sonoma

2024 Post Conference Assembly
May 11, 2024
Willits Community Center
111 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA
Hosted by D14 Mendocino

2024 Summer Assembly
Aug 10, 2024

2024 Fall Election Assembly
Nov 2, 2024

CNC AREA COMMITTEE & ASSEMBLY MOTIONS—August 2023

Area Committee Motions

- Continue at Area Committee Meeting August 26, 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 CNCA provide funding for one member of the Technology Committee to attend the Annual National AA Technology Workshop to be held September 8 through the 10 in Winchester, Virginia at a cost not to exceed \$1200. -*Presented by the CNCA Technology Committee on 6/24/2023*

That CNCA purchase the Panel 73 assembly word count competition prizes from the AA Grapevine store, effective May 14th, 2023, at a total cost not to exceed \$174. - *Presented by CNCA Recording Secretary, Sarah B., and CNCA Literature/Grapevine/La Viña Chair, Matt E*

Area Assembly Motions

Continue at Summer Assembly August 12, 2023

OLD 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*

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

FALL ASSEMBLY 2023

"THE AREA INVENTORY"

SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Monterey Moose Family Center
555 Canyon Del Rey Blvd. Del Rey Oaks, CA

Zoom ID: [632 553 607](#) | Password: 

REGISTRATION	9:00 – 10:00 AM
ORIENTATION	10:00 – 10:15 AM
AREA BUSINESS MEETING	10:15 AM - 12:00 PM
LUNCH	12:00 – 1:00 PM
AREA INVENTORY	1:00 – 5:15 PM
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?	5:15 – 5:30 PM



Attending online? Spanish-English interpretation and Closed Captioning will be provided on Zoom.

Attending in-person? Bring your FM RADIO for Spanish-English interpretation and Assisted Listening.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS: <https://bit.ly/cnca-fall-2023> or scan QR code in map

PARKING: Park anywhere in the complex. Follow signs and volunteers to entrance.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: Take Amtrak, Greyhound or Monterey Airbus (from SFO or SJC) to Monterey Transit Plaza. Monterey-Salinas Transit Bus #7 to Hwy 68/Canyon Del Rey.



Hotels near Del Rey Oaks, CA:

Super 8 by Wyndham Monterey
2120 N Fremont St, Monterey, CA
wyndhamhotels.com/super-8
Reservations (831) 264-8769
Nightly Rate: \$90 - \$130

Ramada by Wyndham Monterey
2058 N Fremont St, Monterey, CA
wyndhamhotels.com/ramada
Reservations (831) 204-1253
Nightly Rate: \$132 - \$156

Comfort Inn Monterey Peninsula Airport
1200 Olmsted Rd, Monterey, CA
comfortinnmontereyairport.com
Reservations (831) 372-2945
Nightly Rate: \$197 - \$230

Alternate Lodging:

Santa Cruz/Monterey Bay KOA Holiday
1186 San Andreas Rd, Watsonville, CA
koa.com/campgrounds/santa-cruz
Reservations (800) 562-7701
Nightly Rate: Cabins or RVs \$105 -
\$175, Tent Camping \$90

Monterey Fairgrounds RV Park
2004 Fairground Rd, Monterey, CA
montereycountyfair.com/about-the-rv-park
Reservations (831) 717-7167
Nightly Rate: RVs \$70

NEED A PLACE TO STAY?

The Host Committee can connect to you to local AA's willing to host guests overnight. Email assemblycoordinator@cnca06.org

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 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: **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**.