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CHAIR'S PREVIEW

Chair's Preview
June 2024

Feels like summer! It is time to look over our past Summer Assembly Workshop Topics and decide what we would like to discuss in August. We have two sessions of workshops. Each session offers a choice of three formats: hybrid, in-person only, and online only. Some workshops will be held in Spanish, others in English, and translation will be available in all formats. Please turn in your ideas by the June ACM to any of the area officers.

This past month we heard from our Area Registrar, Drew B, who gave his job description at the beginning of the ACM. The bullet points are listed in this month's Comments after the ACM Minutes.

Both our Area Assembly Guidelines and our Expense Reimbursement Guidelines are under revision and are being placed in front of the area for approval.

Discussion regarding the hybrid component of ACMs and Area Assemblies continues, and may go to a vote at our next Assembly.

We are also discussing voting participation at the Area level - as well as Area Officer eligibility. I love the thoughtful discussions that our members are having in order to understand the history of these topics and how changes might effect things in the future. It feels like group conscience being formed through due diligence and heartfelt conversations.

I really feel the growth that is occurring as we all participate in the General Service process, and I am very grateful that we are being led by such an open-hearted Delegate. Our Post Conference Assembly had such emotional engagement by our GSRs – it was amazing to feel the energy of how much we all care.

Thank you for all your hard work – it really shows.

Chitra S.

Chair, CNCA 06

Panel 73



DELEGATE'S CORNER

Delegate's Corner: June 2024

For the next few months, I will be visiting districts (and occasionally groups) in our Area to share what happened at the General Service Conference this year. Being a link in the chain of communication is one of my biggest responsibilities to the Area. It's how I keep the Conference accountable to our ultimate authority, the group conscience.

So I look forward to sharing with you what happened, how it happened, and why it happened... and what comes next. It's an incredible privilege to serve in this

capacity. Thank you for entrusting me. It's a time-consuming and sometimes exhausting endeavor; it is also one of the greatest joys of my life.

Near the tail end of my drinking, I was banned from nearly every bar in the Castro in San Francisco. It's stunning (and a testament to the power of AA) that nearly 15 years later, I am now being welcomed into your communities to share how we will collectively help alcoholics (like that drunk version of me hysterically crying outside of Badlands because the bouncer wouldn't let me in) in the future.

As a Fellowship, we made some big decisions at the Conference this year; we did it collectively, and we now have an opportunity to trust in our collective Higher Powers as we move forward. While I know some people are afraid of what might happen next, I learned to have faith in the process. So let's trust that the Conference helps facilitate Twelfth Step work by making sure our message is accessible. But the day-to-day service work happening at home groups around the world is what keeps our Fellowship thriving.

Please thank the person who arrived early and unlocked the meeting room today and the greeter who remembered that newcomer's name. Thank the speaker, the readers who provide structure to each meeting, the treasurer who's paying the bills on time (something I never managed to do while drunk). We will keep extending our hands out, willing to help a stumbling drunk find the fellowship of the spirit.

The work we do in General Service is meant to facilitate that work. We are in service to you. You are the front lines of service, and I am just a link in a chain letting you know how AA is doing everywhere else.

Yours in service,
Eric Lee, Panel 73 Delegate



MINUTES - AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (ACM)

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 25, 2024

The monthly committee meeting of CNCA was held using a hybrid format on May 25, 2024, with some members attending virtually and others attending at the Petaluma Community Center. Chitra S. opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Chase C. from District 70 read the AA Preamble, Josh from District 04 read Tradition Five, and Maricruz from District 17 read Concept Five in Spanish. There were two new DCMs and four new GSRs. There were eight past Delegates present: Diane O. (P35), Bob D. (P36 Area 28), Barbara M. (P41), Jim M. (P45), David N. (P59; past trustee), Joann L. (P67), Teddy B.W. (P69) and Jennifer B. (P71). The April financial report and ACM minutes were accepted as published in the CNCA Comments and Comentarios. **Birthdays:** 80/6.

*Before opening the meeting, Drew B. shared the Registrar job description, which will be published in the Comments and Comentarios. **Question:** What's been your favorite part of being Area Registrar? **Answer:** I love greeting people as they come into assemblies.*

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE - ERIC L.: Reports from the Conference are now posted on the confidential part of the Area website at cnca06.org/confidential. Registration for the Pacific Regional Forum in Las Vegas this July is open; registration is free, and pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE - MIGUEL H.: Thanks, District 14, for hosting the Post-Conference Assembly and the Hybrid team for always doing such an important job. Special shout out to our interpreter for improvising and making the hallway near the bathroom their interpretation room. Interpretation keeps me and many of us connected in real-time with the rest of the area. A letter from Carolyn W, General Manager, GSO, and Bob W., Chair, AAWS Board: Over the last several years, we have greatly reduced the distribution of the newsletter Box 459 in print format. Not unlike at other organizations, this transition began in 2020 largely due to the need to cut costs. Previously, we printed more than 100,000 copies of each issue and mailed more than 50,000 to members in service. About 3,000 copies per issue are printed and mailed to approximately 200 members in service. In addition, the total number of paid subscriptions has fallen to under 50. Due to escalating costs, the annual cost to print and mail four issues per year is nearly \$35,000. Making Box 459 more widely available digitally through email, subscribers, aa.org, and the Meeting Guide App has significantly expanded its reach and distribution. About AA is the newsletter from the General Service Office of the U.S. and Canada for professionals of all types who deal with alcoholics. This issue looks at "There Is Help for Those with a Drinking Problem." In addition to the website AA.org, a list of links to basic pamphlets was included, such as: "A Newcomer asks," "Is AA for me," "This is AA," Questions and Answers on sponsorship," etc. as a highlight of the incoming 90th Anniversary International Convention — Vancouver 2025

CHAIR - CHITRA S.: Thank you, District 14, and everyone who participated in the Post-Conference Assembly. The engagement was amazing. In my email on Wednesday, with the agenda, is a list of all previous Summer Assembly Workshop topics. Please turn in ideas, topics, and themes for the Workshops for this August's fun Assembly to me or our Area officers over the next month, by the June ACM. Let's invite our higher power into the conversations about our current motions by taking group, district, and committee consciences rather than just voicing our personal opinions. A group is any two or more alcoholics talking about the subject. Get creative. I had a beautiful phone conversation about how our Area operates. We thought differently, and it was safe to have different thoughts. There were no solutions, just connection and conversation, and the act of vulnerably voicing our thoughts was a spiritual experience. Be brave. Pick up the phone.

TREASURER – CLAUDIA N.: As of today, our checking account has \$23,609.90, and our prudent reserve (savings account) is \$13,850.34, 1/12 of this year's budget, or approximately 1-month operating expenses. Actual contributions in April were \$18,583, and our budgeted contributions were \$14,932. Actual expenses in April were \$18,056; the budgeted expenses were \$21,435. Square contributions in April totaled \$5,458 through 119 transactions. Contributions collected at the Post-Conference Assembly totaled \$1744.00. Please let your groups and districts know how grateful the Area is for their generous contributions. You can contribute in multiple ways, online at cnca06.org/contribute/, on square back at the Finance table, and even with cash!

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – JACKIE B.: Thanks to District 14, Mendocino, for a wonderful job hosting the Post Conference Assembly in Willits. Hearing the stories from the GSRs and trusted servants warmed my heart. The D14 DCMs shared that the local community was grateful for the boost it gave the town. They heard from business and hotel owners how considerate we were as visitors. It's a great reminder that we are each a walking example of our principles, and I'm proud we left a positive impression in Willits. I look forward to their Post-Conference Pass It On report at the June Area Committee Meeting next month. Today, we'll hear a Pass It On report from District 18, Spanish North, and District

12, Sonoma, about their experience hosting the Pre-Conference Assembly in April in Petaluma. It's so rewarding to read and hear these post-Assembly reports. Knowing they are recorded in our minutes and preserved in our archives is a testament to this historic period in Area 06 and A.A. as a whole. Today, I will present the revised Assembly Guidelines, the first major update since 2012. Thanks to the Assembly Guidelines Ad Hoc Committee. Save the Date fliers for the Summer Assembly hosted by District 17, Spanish South, are on the back table and in the chat. The Assembly is on August 10th in Campbell, in the heart of Silicon Valley. Question: Why did the smartphone need glasses in Silicon Valley? Because it lost its contacts!

REGISTRAR - DREW B.: Quite a party up in Willits! Thank you to District 14. Final Numbers from the Post-Conference Assembly: 374 Total attendees (148 online; 226 in Person). Those numbers are tied for the 2nd largest attendance. The largest Post Conference was in 1993, with 382. We had exactly 374 in 2022. The composition is as follows: 155 GSRs, 22 Alt. GSRs, 36 DCMs, 5 Alt. DCMs, 16 DCMCs, 6 Alt. DCMCs, 16 District Officers, 8 Area Officers, 24 visitors, 17 Area Committee Members, 12 Past Delegates, and 50 AA Members. This month's group of the month, we're going to beautiful Napa District 11 to the "The Thank God It's" group that meets every day.

RECORDING SECRETARY - SARAH B.: Thank you, District 14, for your service in hosting the Post-Conference Assembly. I'd like to again congratulate A.J. R., the GSR for the Santa Cruz Thumpers Big Book Study, for the winning guess on the Pre-Conference assembly word count competition. The minutes for the business meeting were 6,766, and A.J. guessed 7,012. He used his prize to contribute to the Grapevine Carry the Message Project. Thanks for passing it on, A.J. Someone emailed me this month asking about the history of officer visits in the Motions Book, which I've become familiar with as part of my commitment responsibilities. It was fun and informative to explore it and shed some light on the topic. If you are interested in the Motions Book or need guidance using it, don't hesitate to reach out. As always, thanks for letting me be a nerd in service.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA —MATT E.: In June, Grapevine will be celebrating its 80th anniversary! Here's what Grapevine wants for its birthday this

year: 1) Tell a friend about the Grapevine app, 2) send in a photo for the Instagram account, 3) use Grapevine at your home group - share the daily quote or a reading that you connected with, and 4) gift a subscription to a newcomer. Gift certificates for digital and complete subscriptions are available now at the Grapevine store www.aagrapevine.org/store/gift-certificates. Also, there's a new Grapevine book! "Our Twelve Steps" is available now in English. Plenty of great themes are coming up for future issues, including Remote Communities, Spiritual Awakenings, Atheists/Agnostics, LGBTQ+. Remember that you don't have to be an expert writer to submit your story. We're all experts at describing our experience, and that's all it takes - the editorial staff will polish it up.

DISTRICT REPORTS

DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – ANNETTE C.: D01 heard a short presentation from a GSR about what the Archives Chair position entails. This presentation was distributed to all GSRs so they could make the announcement to their groups. This strategy was a result of our 2023 District inventory. On June 18 at 6:15 pm, we will host a pizza party and hear our Delegate's report from the 74th Conference. Registration for Monterey Bay Area Round Up is open at Montereybayarearoundup.org. If you register before July 1, the cost is \$45. This year's AA/Alanon Conference theme is "Keep it Simple." Join us online with a Kickoff Zoom meeting on Friday night August 30th. The conference will be at the Monterey Conference Center on Labor Day weekend: Aug. 31 to Sept. 1, 2024. There will be a dance, an ice cream social, dinners, breakfast, and many great speakers. General Service will also host a Kahoot A.A. trivia game during the weekend.

DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO)—BRIAN M.: At our May business meeting, we discussed motions at the post-conference assembly and the Delegate's report. Thank you, Eric, for the informative report from the Conference. Monterey and Salinas Intergroups will host Unity Day on June 9 at Toro Regional Park.

DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – DEB A.: Unity Day on May 18 was well-planned, well-attended, heartfelt, and informative. Our Area Delegate kicked off the event, and his panel was well received. Countywide service entities (Intergroup, H&I, ACYPAA, General Service, and local fellowships) shared their individual services to a receptive audience. Ice cream made the day even sweeter. The idea of including a 50/50 raffle was expressed during planning for the event. Our Activities chair brought the idea to our April District Meeting, and there was little support for the raffle but lots for ice cream. The District also supports hosting an Assembly next year/next panel. Unity Day participation sealed the deal and shows that we are willing. We await proposals from two venues and look forward to sharing that information with you soon. Our Archives officer is doing an astonishing job of caring for the rich history of AA in Santa Cruz County, so much so that he wishes to return next panel.

DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – AMARA G.: Our Safety Committee has created an anonymous survey to get a larger view of safety issues within our District and Area. We are encouraging everyone from every District to participate. There is a Spanish version. The focused Women's Safety Workshop in April proved to be a more comfortable environment to help move the conversation forward. There were attendees who traveled over 3 hours to participate. Their dedication helped to inspire planning for a bilingual hybrid Safety in A.A. Forum on October 19th. We continued discussions on the topics of our joint committee structure with D40 and what we can do as a district to address barriers that people face in accessing A.A. Our District awarded five scholarships to attend the Pacific Regional Forum. We continue to have a monthly service manual study and in-depth concept of the month workshop. We will be having a potluck and delegate report at our June meeting. All information can be found on our website <https://district04cnca.org>

DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – KAREN C.: We heard a presentation on Concept Five and its application in service and personal life. This Concept advocates for substantial unanimity rather than just a majority vote to avoid the tyranny of either the majority or minority opinion. It encourages listening to everyone and ensures all voices are heard, regardless of sobriety time, age, or appearance. In that spirit, we heard from our GSRs and collectively shared

experiences, ideas, and support to empower them as fully informed, trusted servants. An impromptu offer to read from the service manual jump-started a line at the mic. The sharing highlighted that a new panel's January/February period focuses on new members and that new GSRs joining throughout the panel must receive the same information. The camaraderie and joy of service led to the idea of pairing new GSRs with experienced GSRs or DCMs for support. Members also shared their experiences from the post-conference assembly. We heard a presentation by the District 04 safety committee about their outreach to AA groups with an anonymous safety survey and an upcoming safety forum on October 19.

DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – BRENT M.: Our alt-DCMC Michael will be stepping down as his attention is needed elsewhere. We thank Michael for his service. We began discussing the importance of the “pass it on” in AA service as we move into the last quarter of Panel 73. We briefly discussed the results of the 74th GSC, reviewing the available material from our delegate, Eric, to ensure that those unable to attend the post-conference assembly know them. We will discuss the results in more detail in our June meeting with the assistance of an area officer. We also discussed our upcoming Unity Day on July 21st. Our local YPAA group, PENYPAA, has offered to host Karaoke as a part of our entertainment, and we are still considering a tattoo booth, a real one. Our Unity Day event always includes the best free lunch in town. A motion to allocate \$1,000 to Norcal H&I failed by substantial unanimity. The prevailing opinion is that H&I has its own collections and that money collected for General Service should remain in GS. district Norcal H&I group is expanding the number of meetings they are taking in the Mateo County Men’s facilities from 2 per week to 5 per week and will include visits to the Maguire facility, our first into that facility since 2020.

DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DAN B.: We had a Post-Conference Assembly debrief at our district meeting. All gave positive feedback, with special thanks to our Delegate for his command of the material and interesting background for items of particular concern to our area. We thank District 14 for a wonderful assembly. We had a Presentation of New Business to form a District Accessibilities Committee. Since our Delegate Report will take most of our June meeting, the item will become New Business at our July meeting. We heard a

presentation from the SF/Marin Intergroup Outreach Chair Rae M. about Intergroup's Outreach Campaign, which yielded 18 new IGRs in 2023. The campaign included a suggested announcement for IGRs to use in meetings to elect IGRs, which activated so many new reps, and people were eager to ask questions. We continued our discussion topic of GSR Engagement, focusing on whether we want to conduct a similar GSR Outreach Campaign. By a show of hands, most attendees wanted to proceed with a Suggested Announcement document. I drafted something, and the district officers will discuss it at our next meeting.

DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – BRIDGET L.: Thank you to District 14 for an incredible post-conference assembly. Thank you, Eric, for your report and for your service to CNCA as our delegate. We had a lively discussion about the post-conference assembly at our district meeting. Past delegate Joann L. spoke about the joy of being a district committee member (DCM). We are engaged with District 70 in preparation for November 9th's Election Assembly at the Cornerstone church in Livermore. We look forward to our delegate's report at our July district meeting.

DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH) – EILEEN P.: We are taking time this month to hear from GSRs about how the Agenda Topic process went. The Primary Purpose group celebrated its 26th anniversary with a potluck and special format. Grupo Pleasanton celebrated five years with a party. All around D70, groups, and fellowships plan picnics, barbecues, and camping trips for sober fun. Our Fall Assembly planning is going well, and all our chair positions are filled with many enthusiastic volunteers happy to help on the event day. We would also like to thank District 14 for their great hospitality at the Post Conference Assembly earlier this month.

DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) - MEG B.: May was a fiery meeting for D08. We tried our best to follow Robert's Rules of Order as we passionately discussed a motion concerning money. The motion is to send 25% of our operating funds to GSO. We ran out of time to discuss it. In June, we will pick up with voting on whether we went to vote again on this motion. We had so much fun in the spirit of service. One new GSR told me he wanted to buy a pack of cigarettes after the meeting due to his excitement. We are also discussing a scholarship to send one

member to the Pacific Regional Forum. This will be fast-tracked in June because the end date for room blocks is June 21. We've begun prep for elections in October. We'll review and present job descriptions and begin planning rotation for the panel. We're feeling the summer party vibe in the air. We're planning our upcoming Golden Jubilee party on June 29th from 2 to 5 pm, hybrid. Following close after, we will host our delegate for a Post-Conference report back and potluck. All are welcome at both hybrid events.

DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH) – DONNA F.: Submitted electronically: District 09 has been quiet after the Agenda Topics and Post-Conference Assembly. We lost a GSR, so we are looking to replace him. Our DCM, Barbara, had the idea to have a little social gathering for our district group, so we will hold our June meeting at Pizza Pirate in Benicia. Those of us who will be rotating out after December are looking for people interested in carrying the torch, and we're thinking about Pass-It-Ons. Our district registrar will continue our project of establishing reliable and accurate lists of active and dormant meetings and ask our groups and meetings what types of workshops they'd like to see their district put on for them.

DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) - STEVE B.: We have scheduled our next Unity Day for June 1st in Fairfield. We will hear about the Delegates' experiences at the conference. There will be an ice cream social followed by a mini-AA film festival.

DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – DYLAN R.: We have been discussing a change of venue as the current facility will no longer be available to us. A small committee of officers (and those desiring to participate) was formed to outreach possible new locations. At our last officer's meeting, a new location was selected, and the process of securing a rental agreement has begun. The district was informed at our last business meeting, and the body was given opportunities to ask questions. Our events coordinator has begun planning our Unity Day for October 12th at Unity Marin Church in Novato. The Marin Accessibilities Committee is compiling a clear and simple "accessibility checklist" handout for local groups to bring awareness of barriers some members may be experiencing in accessing meetings and participation in the AA program. The target message for May: Look around your meeting space. What do you see? Is it accessible? PI/CPC in our district has discussed and decided to make a district-specific pamphlet. What to

put in it will be a discussion point at our next meeting. Our local fellowship committee will continue to have a monthly Sound Bath Meditation at First Presbyterian on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 11:30. It is also sponsoring Marin Founders Day on June 9th in Gerstle Park in San Rafael, speaker meeting at 12 pm. The schedule includes meetings, games, skits, lunch, live music, and family fun. We look forward to seeing you all there.

DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) - SANDY S.: Our DCMs hold their sub-district meeting before our DBM; this month, they reviewed recommendations from our District Inventory and made recommendations if needed. Thank you to District 14 for hosting a fabulous Post-Conference Assembly in Willits. We had many GSRs attend, and Eric's report from the GSC was very heartfelt and spiritual. Some of us enjoyed attending the "Have a Cupcake" and speaker meeting Friday night before the Assembly. Seeing Francisco, one of our Past Delegates, currently living in Mexico...what a treat! Our District sub-committee for returning in person in a Hybrid format continues to work on the logistics; we anticipate meeting in person beginning in July or August. Our Barbeque Unity Day event is June 15th, 11:00 am-3:00 pm, at the Crosswalk Church; we look forward to hearing Eric's report back to the District. BTG continues to be present at Duffy's in Calistoga and Archway Treatment Center in Napa. PICPC, BTG, and H&I participated in a "Foreign Service Workshop – service opportunities outside the group" on May 4th, 2:00-4:00 pm. PI/CPC continues to share local meeting schedules with COPE, Health and Human Resources, MENTIS, ALDEA, Puerto Abiertos, and Probation. Our Intergroup hosts the monthly Birthday meeting and other local events. You can find local information on our website, www.aanapa.org.

DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) - DENISE G.: Thank you, District 14, for hosting the Post-Conference Assembly. There was strong participation from our district. District 12 is planning for our Delegate's BBQ on June 3, 2024, in lieu of our regular business meeting. It is open to all members of the Sonoma County Fellowship. The evening consists of the BBQ, which we host, fellowship, and then we adjourn to the church rectory where everyone can meet the delegate, hear his conference report, and ask questions as time allows. It is an anticipated and popular annual event! We do not conduct business at our June meeting; therefore, our pending motion on changes to the pamphlet "The A.A. Group" will resume in July. Also, our

current officers will start presenting their job descriptions in July. The Regional Forum in Las Vegas will be a topic at our District Meeting in July, and many members from our district plan on attending. We have discussed holding a writing workshop for Grapevine stories in the fall. Nothing has materialized yet, but it has been two years since our last one, and it was very well attended.

DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – HECTOR M.: At The May District meeting, we discussed, voted, and passed a budget. We also talked about how we, as a District, can help the GSRs so that they can better serve their groups. What type of activities, training, or workshops would they like to see held in our District? We encouraged the GSRs to be familiar with the subcommittees like PI/CPC, H&I, Intergroup, and Bridging the Gap and their motions. We also discussed making up a QR code and making it readily available to all, especially newcomers, to guide people in need to our website.

DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – SUZI W.: Our district decided to postpone our May 19th business meeting. District 14 would like to extend our appreciation for having the opportunity to host the Post-Conference Assembly in Willits. All the members in our District showed so much love and support to make it happen. It was an opportunity for us to work together and learn how service is necessary for our personal growth. We especially want to thank all of you who attended in person and online. The love and support received from all the Area members was appreciated, and we are so grateful. A special thank you to you, Eric, for your report. The experience you brought back to us from the General Conference was well covered and exciting to hear. Much was learned.

DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – KATHERINE.: We changed the time of our district meeting. A lot of people attended the Post-Conference, including new GSRs. They came back fired up about A.A. and General Service. We'll channel that excitement into our June 8th Unity Day at River Lodge in Fortuna. Our district is larger than the state of Connecticut, with over two hours from one end to another, so we're trying to get back into Unity Day's custom of rotating locations. We'll have karaoke after the Delegate report. We're getting more GSRs.

DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – PEDRO M.: The GSRs and officers were present at the Post-Conference, and we continue to learn from this experience with enthusiasm. We are organizing our 38th anniversary. Our La Viña workshop has been changed to the first Friday of each month.

DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH)—LUIS R.: We had the privilege of having our delegate give us the conference report. He answered many questions, so our district wanted to thank him. PI had his workshop meeting on the second Sunday of the month. La Viña is still working with groups informing and motivating the magazine. BTG still has the same presentations in Salvation Army, Pathways, and Vida Nueva, and there is a new person on his committee; he was a member of Casa Vida Nueva. The Hispanic workshop is having a business meeting on the third Tuesday of the month, and the committee will inform you more about it. We will have a Unity Day celebrating the 35th District Anniversary on June 23rd, from 10 to 3 pm, and everyone is welcome to attend. We're working on the Summer Assembly.

DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – RODRIGO Z.: Due to our inventory, our district passed a motion to have GSR orientation every month before our business meeting. This will help GSRs learn and understand more about General Service. Our study meeting is getting more and more attractive. At every meeting, we have a speaker with a topic about service. Our CPC and PI committees have been working together on public information. We thank District 14 for that great Post-Conference Assembly. Thank you to the delegate for his great report.

DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH) – JULIO: We meet four times monthly. We're working on our 29th anniversary. We're visiting groups to encourage involvement in service. We had a visit from a past delegate who talked about the importance of participating in assemblies. This month we'll hear the job description of the recording secretary. Our delegate report is coming up. We're working with Santa Cruz to bid for next year's Pre-Conference Assembly.

DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – FRANCISCO Z.: We have a new District website. The Accessibility Committee continues to conduct the A.A. Safety Workshop in different face-to-face and virtual groups. They have also created a group of visits

to fellow veterans in A.A., bringing meetings into their homes. On July 15th, we'll have our Delegate's report from the 74th GSC.

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

ACCESSIBILITIES - THOM H.: There is a hybrid ASL meeting on the 4th Sunday of the month held by the Love and Service Group in District 08. The next one will be on Sunday, June 23, 2024. There is also an All-Area Access Committee Meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month. GSO is looking for stories from neuro-divergent members of A.A. The term "neuro-divergence" can include those with Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, OCD, Down Syndrome, and Tourette syndrome, to name a few. We are still discussing creating a banner for Area Assemblies and Events. Also, we are waiting on pamphlets to display at the Area Committee meetings, Assemblies, and any other events. We are deciding on a topic to present at the Summer Assembly.

ARCHIVES - CAROL H.: The energy in Archives continues to be high. It is wonderful to see the sharing that exists between the districts. District 03 has developed a cataloging system and is working with District 06 for their use. Our focus is on group histories and digitization of materials. We will work with the Web Committee to include the Group History Form on the site. We were excited to have two Area Officers attend our May workday. They got right to work and sorted through several boxes. We are reaching out to the Officers to attend future workdays. We are bringing Archives displays to Districts 5 and 11, something we offer to all districts. Our next workday is June 8 at 193 Mayhew Way, Pleasant Hill/Walnut Creek, from noon to 4:00 pm.

BRIDGING THE GAP - JOHN O.: Our monthly Zoom meetings have struggled with attendance. DCMCs, please encourage the BTG chairs in your district to attend our monthly meeting. We need to have a district willing to host the BTG Forum. Please consider hosting this event by supporting your BTG chair. Gavin will represent CNCA 06 at the BTGWW in September in Montana. Monthly activity: 56 blue cards and four successful bridges. Thirteen blue cards stayed within CNCA, 22 went to CNIA, and one was sent to Nevada. We had a lively and spirited discussion about the role and duties of BTG volunteers. Some districts don't want

to provide rides, and some districts do. Our literature currently suggests that we provide rides. I read two of the motions of new business at the assembly and was available to hold other officer positions. We will discuss the motions at our next BTG meeting.

CNCA COMMENTS/COMENTARIOS – MEG B.: In May, we sent out 20 Spanish and 16 English newsletters. Due to lower numbers of printing, we now pay more per booklet. The total price to print, pack, and mail your booklet is now \$6.62 per person per month. If you wish to add or remove your name to the mailing list, please do so at cnca06.org. Contra Costa County had a lot of fun and experienced growth in unity and fellowship by participating in the service. We hope you will consider taking this commitment in the next panel.

FINANCE - JAVIER L.: We reviewed the motions on the agenda. We are contacting committees with worksheets for the annual area committee budget. We reviewed the update of the finance website statement, the budget reimbursement guidelines on websites, and the possibility of holding a finance workshop.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION - JOSE C.: This month, we translated 27 documents and four emails for the committees and subcommittees, including the monthly newsletter. The interpretation coordinator is finishing arranging the interpreters for the workshops for the Summer Assembly. At our last committee meeting, we discussed our participation in the Public Information workshop on July 20th in Castro Valley. We are trying to prepare your documents as quickly as possible and appreciate your patience.

PI/CPC - MIGUEL H.: Today, we had a great presentation on setting up tables and how to reach out to professionals, clarifying our purpose and basic information on what AA does and what it does not do. QR codes can be added to letters linked to good information resources for those who seek AA. Please grab a flyer for our incoming PI/CPC workshop on July 20 from 1-4 pm. Free food will be provided. About AA is a newsletter from the General Service Office of the U.S. and Canada for professionals of all types who deal with alcoholics. This issue looks at "There Is Help for Those with a Drinking Problem." In addition to the

website AA.org, links to basic pamphlets were included, such as "A newcomer asks," "Is AA for me?" "This is AA," and "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."

TECHNOLOGY - JACQUELINE P.: The Hybrid Team has been asked to produce an upcoming Live/Online PI/CPC Workshop on Saturday, July 20. We'll be verifying the availability of our Hybrid Team trusted servants along with an assessment of equipment needs. The Hybrid Team seeks volunteers to serve as remote Zoom alternates for Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings. If you are available, please contact the Hybrid Event Coordinator, Don L., at the Hybrid table or 925-354-2018. This information is also in the chat. The Hybrid Team continues collaborating with the Area Assembly Coordinator to ensure smooth production of the August 10th Summer Assembly at the Campbell Community Center. The Committee is on target to host an Area Tech Workshop after the ACM on Saturday, October 26. More details to come. The Committee is drafting copy for the currently empty Tech Committee's CNCA06.org website page. We are beginning to craft our Pass-It-Ons for the next Tech Committee & Hybrid Team trusted servants panel.

WEBSITE - JAMES B.: The web committee maintains and updates the website for the Area: CNCA06.org. Our Committee meets on Zoom every third Thursday of the month at 5:15 pm. We have updated and linked to the post-conference materials and continue to update the site as requested. The motions and finance sections have been updated and should now be completely up to date and have all historical data. All meaning as far back as we can go with what we have. We discussed getting a table banner for the Web Committee, creating a tri-fold table display, and what type of content could go on it. Dennis H. will join the committee as a temporary member to assist the committee while I work through the loss of my family. I would thank him as well as the Area Chair for their assistance. I would also like Cathy, Jose and Jeff for their time and effort on the committee.

DCM SHARING SESSION - MAUREEN G.: Toda's DCM Sharing Session format was a go-around of the room, sharing the participants' experience in the Post Conference Assembly in Willits. The themes reflected a moving, emotional, spiritual experience with tangible outcomes to address ways to carry the message to the fellowship and the alcoholic suffering still. Much gratitude for

D14's welcome and the benefits to our individual programs by participating in the process were shared. Our sharing room felt warm and gave a strong impression of the energy at the Post Conference Assembly being incredibly beneficial and full of meaning. Next Month's Sharing Session will be a brainstorm on Summer Assembly Workshop Topics. Join us.

LINGUISTIC SHARING SESSION FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS - SHEILA: Today's speaker talked about the responsibilities of a GSR, including attending assemblies, PRAASA, and interdistrict meetings. The purpose is to create better communication, get to know one another, promote unity, and serve the district. Usually, the same people are participating, so there should be efforts to make it more attractive. There was a suggestion to create or make something different to allow participation and to give info to GSRs to bring motions back to groups. The importance of GSRs taking information back to groups was emphasized. 20 people attended.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA SHARING SESSION - MATT E.: Today, we had an informative discussion around how to get our groups involved in and aware of Grapevine and La Viña. Here are some highlights: Our groups don't know what they don't know. They may not know what kind of content Grapevine has, so I'll read from it when I'm sharing at my meeting. How do we describe Grapevine or La Viña? A 12th step tool. Our meeting in print. A multimedia 12th step tool in my back pocket. Next month's meeting will be led by our friend Hamilton, since I'll be in Ohio for a research internship. Please come and give him your support - our sharing session takes place at 9 am on the morning of the ACM, it is hybrid, and everyone is welcome.

H&I – No report.

YPAAS –

SWACYPAA - MARY ALLEN: Please spread the word about our conference, the Southwest All California Young People in A.A. It will be in San Rafael at Embassy Suites the weekend of Friday, August 9th. It conflicts with the Summer Assembly, but you could still stop by Saturday night or support via scholarships. I would love

to see General Service show up. Shout out to District 12, who assisted us with our conference inventory. About 20 attended, which was probably the best I've ever attended.

CENTRAL OFFICES – DON Z.: Weekly meetings of ICOAA (Intergroup Central Offices of A.A.) Office Managers around the US and Canada discussed several issues this month. Regarding literature: Do we mark up AAWS and Grapevine literature? If so, how much? Do we sell it online? Many charge list/catalog prices for the Big Book, 12 & 12, Living Sober, and other titles marked up. How is your office planning to sell the Plain Language Big Book? Founders Day Events: Open House and Literature on sale at reduced prices. Accessibility: Does your Intergroup support Deaf/ASL groups? How are these funded? Special Purpose meetings were discussed (e.g., first responders, veterans, doctors, lawyers, etc.). Online issues: Meeting Guide updates from the website every 24 hours. Some other online listings don't completely update. One office manager said Code for Recovery walked her through the solution step-by-step. Finance: Google Grants were discussed. Are they counter to 6th and 7th Traditions? It was noted that AAWS takes advantage of Google Grants. Should we invest our Prudent Reserve in CDs? AAWS does. Special events donation drawing items are accepted from A.A. members only, with a few exceptions. This week's discussion asked how we care for ourselves when things in the office get overwhelming. How do we recharge? Many said they attend at least one Al-Anon meeting each week. The key is remembering we are not alone. The next ICOAA Conference will be in Las Vegas on August 22-25, 2024.

NCCAA – CHASE C.: The Northern California Council of A.A. is having a conference on October 4-6th in Sacramento. We'll be celebrating 75 years of conferences. This is the oldest conference in A.A. Here are some fun facts about this council: The NCCAA Conference is where we elected our first Panel 1 Delegate. The fifth annual conference was in Sacramento, and at this conference, Sacramento elected its Panel 2 Delegate. Visit norcalaa.org to register.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S WORKSHOP - MARICRUZ: The 9th Hispanic Women's Workshop had two meetings with the representatives of participating areas and our organizing committee. We are working with the committees on the most

important points, such as the room, the date, and the food. On May 4, the election of the motto and emblem took place. We had seven participants, and the higher power was manifested with the election of Area 06. On May 18, another meeting was held with the areas, and the organizing committee, and an agreement was reached that the workshop would take place on December 7, 2024 and that we would work so that the workshop becomes self-sustaining. We will do this through checks and voluntary contributions again. There was a participation of 14 colleagues via Zoom and three in person.

LA VIÑA ANNIVERSARY: None.

FORO HISPANO – ALEX: The 5th annual Foro Hispano is moving forward on time as scheduled. It will be on October 13th in San Jose. We've selected the logo and theme: United to Strengthen our Structure.

PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY REPORT – ELBA S.: We had a successful pre-conference assembly with 450 in attendance, with a large attendance of new people. After a lot of worry and a tight budget, we ended up being way under budget, especially on food, where only \$5 per person was spent between breakfast and lunch for two days. The total budget was \$8,645, and \$6,836.92 was spent. We had several volunteers on the different committees who helped us make the event more bearable and contributed greatly to its success. There were difficulties, such as misunderstandings on where to park, which were resolved during the day of the event without any major inconvenience. Cleanup was completed 25 minutes after the assembly closed with the help of many volunteers. Based on the experiences obtained in co-hosting this event, suggestions were presented in the pass-it-on that may be useful for future district and area events.

AREA BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF GUIDELINES

- Approval of Revised Assembly Guidelines – *Presented by CNCA Assembly Coordinator*

Presentation: Jackie shared that she added language about the duration of assemblies, including the Election Assembly, and revised language about decorations and soda sales. The craft paper rolls and round table covers will be part of the decorations budget.

Questions/Discussion: **Q:** Costs are very clear for one-day assemblies. What about two-day assemblies? **A:** I (Jackie) chose the word “typical” to give a general idea without limiting us to spending only up to \$6,000 for rent. // The ad-hoc committee recommended not including a price range because there is such a large range. When a bid is made, the Area approves or disapproves regardless of cost. // Jackie suggested changing the rental rates language to “Non-profit rates for an Assembly typically range from \$1,000 to \$6,000,” rather than specifically referencing a one-day assembly. Some two-day conferences have fallen under \$6,000. // **Q:** Who checks to see if there’s good enough WiFi? Will that be in the guidelines? **A:** This was intentionally left out of the guidelines until the Area Assembly motion on hybrid Assemblies is decided. If that motion passes, the guidelines will be updated again. There were no objections. <<**Guidelines approved.>>**

- Revised Expense Reimbursement Guidelines – *Presented by CNCA Finance Committee*

Presentation: The time to submit reimbursement has been changed from 90 to 60 days. Section 1.3 regarding Archives: The archives Chair and Archivist (0311-1) will be funded for travel to the monthly Archives workday. Section 1.4: “The PI/CPC chair is to be reimbursed according to area reimbursement policy for travel expenses to PI/CPC events within CNCA when participation is requested.” Item 4: PRAASA, we’ve corrected language to reflect motions “CNCA has an approved policy (established by motion 8002-1) to Pay expenses of registration, room, and transportation for Delegate to PRAASA. Motion 90Sum-2 to fund the Alternate Delegate and one other Area Officer to PRAASA.” A new section on Technology Committee (5) explains Tech Hybrid Event Committee reimbursement.

“Technology Hybrid committee: That CNCA Technology Committee’s required onsite Hybrid Sub-Committee (now known as the Tech Hybrid Event committee), its members are eligible for travel expense reimbursement, beginning January 1, 2023, pursuant to Expense Reimbursement Guidelines. (Motion 2308-06).” The mileage rate is now .50 per mile. Interpretation and Translation item 3 was added

to reflect expenses previously incurred but are no longer incurred due to translation software purchase.” This is not on the draft presented, but an addendum will be added at the end of the expense guidelines stating that this is not a comprehensive list of eligible reimbursements, as many are already outlined in the budget but not here.

Questions/Discussion: **Q:** For Archives committee reimbursement, is it provided to the Archivist or the chair? Or to both? **A:** It’s been muddy, but it seems to be both. This is why we’re putting it in the guidelines, so it’s clearer in the future. It will be both. <<Guidelines will be presented next month for disapproval, if any.>>

OLD BUSINESS

- That CNCA provide funding of \$800 to this year’s Annual Hispanic Women’s Workshop, the cost asked of each Area to put on this year’s workshop. – Presented by Maricruz R., Hispanic Women’s Workshop liaison

Discussion: **Group consciences:** None. **Personal opinions:** None. Vote by substantial unanimity. None were opposed; no minority opinion was heard. <<Motion passed.>>

NEW BUSINESS

- That CNCA’s prudent reserve be set to an amount equivalent to two months’ operating expense – Presented by Megan B. and Chuck B.

Discussion: District/group consciences: None. Personal opinions: A philosophical approach can be taken to this. There is an issue of risk in that the prudent reserve can serve as a buffer. Alternatively, having money sitting static instead of being used for A.A. as a whole, such as contributions to GSO. My inclination is toward contributions to GSO. We can limit our risk because we have cost-cutting measures we can take to respond to emergency situations. // Going the presentation given last month, I had difficulty finding a tangible reason to increase our prudent reserve. The closest I could find was, “We chose two months based on A.A. service literature.” If we’re going to increase our prudent reserve by \$13,000 to sit there, we need cause to do so. We may not have survived the COVID-19 pandemic, but we did. Financially, we’ve been holding steady and paying our bills. We had a little hiccup last year that was adjusted. If we’re going to set aside \$26,000, we need to look at the balance we carry in our checking

account each month. // I support this motion. In the North Bay, we experienced two disasters: wildfires and covid. Our contributions came to a halt. We increased the budget for our district to get by. Fortunately, we held on and didn't have to use it. We can forward our money over to Area now. It's a sense of security to know we can operate and function by our means should a disaster hit. One month is far too conservative. // Our last draw down into our prudent reserve was in 2020, which was unrelated to any of the occurrences referenced in the presentation. How do we determine when we're experiencing financial difficulty? Understanding what it is and how it's determined would be helpful. // The question about prudent reserves is ongoing. I've participated in this discussion at many levels, and it always comes up. Some people need greater security or stability, and some say, "Just trust God." I'm not concerned about our finances despite what we've been through. No disaster or emergency is greater than A.A. We can always ask for money. // My experience within the group is that it's never just one month. Frequently, it's three months or more. It came up in a group I was in recently, and we decided on three months. I was impressed with how thoroughly this was researched when it was presented. I think this is a good idea. // I don't have an opinion yet; I'm still forming one, but I wanted to share some thoughts I'm having. I'm curious what building up the prudent reserve would look like should we pass this motion. I would assume bit-by-bit, we would take some of our contributions and add them to the reserve, but if our contributions don't increase during that period, could we find ourselves drawing into our prudent reserve as we increase it? I'd love to hear about that if anyone has any insight. // I'm concerned about the interest that will incur on the prudent reserve. My bigger concern is that we don't often hesitate to improve expenses. // When we increase the prudent reserve every year, we look at the budget and take 1/12 of the budget. This year, I (the Area Treasurer) transferred the amount of the difference (\$865) from checking to savings. If this motion passes, depending on our financial health, we will increase the reserve incrementally. The interest we accrue on our savings account is about 11 cents monthly. GSO does it differently, but they have much more funds in their savings and are a much bigger organization. // **Q:** Of the one-month budget that is a prudent reserve, what portion of it is a fixed expense, and what portion is variable? For example, the rent for this venue is fixed, but some other travel costs could be put on pause. **A:** It's about 1/3 fixed cost. 2/3 variable cost is the cost we've already determined to spend by motions.

It's the ACM's decision on how we want to carry the message and support our area. **Q:** How much is our rent? **A:** \$1280 per month for all the activities we do here. // I encourage people to consider this an organization, not a group. My group's prudent reserve is three months of rent, and our expenses are almost entirely rent. It makes sense to base it on that number. In the Area, it's not the same as groups. We wouldn't have to shut things down if we got no contributions for a month. The monthly costs we outline for the basics are not the same as typical groups. It's predominantly other things we do. We have strategies for addressing short-term negative income in the area. // I'm a former chair of the finance committee. I have a different take on fixed versus variable. From my perspective, it's all fixed. What we spend is what you've told us to spend by motion. The Area has said, "You need to spend our money this way." There were questions that came up a few months ago about whether the finance committee could decide something. No, the finance committee doesn't decide where to spend our money; you do. The only variable expense is district travel by our Area Officers. Occasionally, based on the financial situation, they have decided to suspend district visits for a period. In my experience, over time, districts don't like that. They like having their officers visit, so it can become controversial. From my perspective, what we spend is fixed because it's what you tell us to spend. // **Q:** When was the last rent increase? **A:** This year. // I'm a past finance committee chair. I have no opinion about the motion itself; I see this as an opportunity. I hope that DCMCs and DCMs will help their GSRs explain how the Area spends its money to their groups. This is a great opportunity to let the groups know our current costs and what the Area has done. Groups may not be aware of what our yearly budget is. // In Contra Costa, we've had many motions come up about money on this panel. Having a motion about money forces groups to talk about money. Through the conversations, many people don't know what prudent reserve is or haven't thought about how we use money in A.A. That might be a fun summer assembly discussion topic. <<**Motion will become Old Business at the Area Committee Meeting on May 25, 2024.**>>

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Election Assembly

We spent a lot of time discussing how long our elections take and discussing potentially having more people available. I want to know why we have people available for every commitment. We see everyone stand multiple times. I'd like to know the background and basis for that approach. // Each position has different requirements, time expectations, etc. Some people may be available for some positions and not others. I've you're busy in April, you shouldn't make yourself available for Delegate or Alternate Delegate. Some people don't want to deal with money at all, to the point that they would not make themselves available for Treasurer. Some people may be unable to travel extra, so they aren't available to be Assembly Coordinator. That's why we make people available for each one individually. The reason why the last election assembly ran so long last time is not because so many people were available; we've always had lots of people available. It's because the counting went incredibly slow. It took two hours to get through one ballot for the first position. That's why we will do text voting to speed it up and see how that goes. // I'm glad the area has made in-hand efforts to reduce the time it takes to vote. I think everyone who is available should have the opportunity to be elected. People line up and give qualifications every time because that's how it's been done. There's no secret formula. This was the first election assembly I've seen that ran over time. Hopefully, electronics will come to our aid. // I've had experience of elections in my professional life. We had nominations (one event) and the elections (a separate event). The nominations would set the ballot, then the next event would be to vote on the ballot. I don't know if this would be too controversial, but it's worked in other situations. // On the motion about who is going to be eligible for area officer, someone asked if they must be past DCMCs or DCMs from Area 06. The answer was that the motion didn't say, so the presenter said they assumed they could be from other Areas. That's not very clear. The problem with motions like that is that they leave it to our interpretation. When motions are unclear, it leaves it to interpretation. It should be clearer. // Currently, area officer eligibility says DMCs or DCMCs, but it doesn't distinguish what state they're from. // The reason and benefit for people qualifying for each position is that it helps with recency bias, which is when people recall more recent information than older information. There may be a bias if someone makes themselves a recording secretary, for example, and you hear their qualification but not that of someone who qualified for a previous position. I think we might limit the time to shorter periods for qualifications so we

can reduce “campaign speeches.” It should be about your relevant qualifying experience, not your ideology toward what the right of participation means. My service sponsor told me you should share about your service experience and how you determined you were available. // **Q:** How much time do they have? **A:** I’ll chair that assembly (the current Delegate), but I don’t know yet. The last assembly was two minutes. It will probably be something between 60 seconds and two minutes. There’s no motion on it. I don’t want to have to limit people. We’ll see. // We follow the Third Legacy election procedure in this area (appendix G in the A.A. Service Manual). It takes some time, but it’s a very spiritual procedure that I believe is necessary for an organization like this. We’ve followed this for decades. Until you’ve experienced it, you don’t realize how spiritual it is. Until we decide to change that, I don’t think we should change anything. // I stood as an eligible person for election at that last assembly and had a guttural reaction to everything that happened. I could cast lots of ash and fire and complain, but instead, I suggest we don’t have to pivot a whole lot. Unless the coffee pot is on fire, there’s no real disaster to change things. We change one thing. It only happened one time out of many elections.

Food at Assemblies

As a Delegate, I get access to something called the “Delegate Mailman/woman.” Through it we get to email other delegates about anything we’re curious about. I asked delegates if they provide food at assemblies and if they charge for it. Most areas provide food for assemblies. About 2/3 of them don’t do it themselves. They have food trucks, or they meet at a hotel and have a banquet, and you can pay to go to the banquet, similar to PRAASA. We are one of the few areas that fund food at every assembly. The CNCA officers went to CNIA’s election assembly. At that assembly, you buy tickets, and that gets you food. The food options were hot dogs, salads, and chips. // I propose we have less sweets. We need to have more balanced food. // I don’t know a lot about the history of this. I was impressed with the hospitality. Sharing a meal is a spiritual experience; I don’t think we should throw this away. // I talked with other trusted servants, and we decided we’d be willing to pay for food or purchase tickets. Someone said we could put the money in the 7th tradition bucket. Someone from the finance committee told us the assembly cost per person. I put that amount in the basket. After having that announcement, I’ve noticed the past two reports have had

better success with 7th tradition contributions. That was effective. // I can see the finances here. \$7.50/person for one day, \$10.00 for two days. But the cost per person for an assembly is more than this. I know we love food, but we need to do something about this. I mentioned the cost of the area assembly in my district. We need to keep telling them about the basket. // It's difficult to meet dietary restrictions when cooking for many people; some have been more successful than others. Maybe we could put something in the assembly guidelines about planning for multiple dietary options. You don't have to make a whole new menu to accommodate vegans or vegetarians. // We have service material for each position and the guidelines. There is a thorough document for ordering food chairs with sample menus. Catering for a group of 300-400 is challenging. We have only 20 minutes to ensure everyone gets served, impacting the food we serve. The Districts have been handling it, but it's a stressor for some districts, especially the smaller ones. It takes up a lot of the planning time. // After discovering the cost of an assembly per person, I contributed. I think the pre-pay for food is a good idea. I had just started eating kosher but didn't expect the assembly to accommodate my diet, so I planned my own meals accordingly. We need to be reasonable about expectations on meeting dietary restrictions. // If we don't provide the food and have food trucks, I have this nightmare of a vision of one or two food trucks and 200 people in line rushing to eat. If we go to food trucks, we need variety and a lot of them. // We hosted an assembly as an extremely small district with small participation. It was incredibly stressful. That time should be used to help the alcoholic who still suffers. We could still eat together and have an outside source provide the food. I wonder how much it would save our budget if we didn't provide food. // We should be careful when we talk about food. I'm hearing a discussion about limiting other districts from hosting. We should encourage other district's participation. // Would our assembly count go down if we didn't have food? People can go get a lunch. // I had strong feelings about food, so I made myself available as breakfast chair for the Pre-Conference Assembly. I had a good time. Food brings us together. I came into General Service early in sobriety. I couldn't afford all of it, so it really helped me out when you fed me. I was still going to a food bank. Thank you. // We could do a potluck. Everyone brings their own food to share. // This is for everyone, not for me. We should keep it as is. It contributes to unity. // Many GSRs come from districts where they don't get funds to go to ACMs or assemblies. They pay for

themselves. // Sometimes, there isn't participation from districts. From what I see and from speaking with people from the district, we're not used to eating certain things. I think it would be best if we leave it as is.

What's on Your Mind?

We have a visiting sponsor service in H&I. It's an opportunity to share experience, strength, and hope with those on the inside who don't have access to A.A. It's one-on-one in-person sponsorship for A.A. members confined to medium-to-long term rehabilitation facilities in Northern California. You can receive more information via email. The Area 53 H&I business meeting is on the first Wednesday of every month. // We have a dinner the day before the Summer Assembly. If you want to participate, contact Luis R., District 17 DCMC.

Chitra S. closed the meeting at 3:30 with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah B.

CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 73

CNCA JOB DESCRIPTION: AREA REGISTRAR

Average Time Commitment: 20-30 hours per month

Expected Work:

- Capture, process, and maintain group and individual updates with GSO Fellowship Connection database, Area Airtable database, and Mailchimp email database.
- Capture, process, and report on digital registrations for all assemblies.
- Storage and upkeep of registration supplies.
- Attend Area Committee Meetings.
- Provide relevant reports to ACM and Assemblies.
- Attend Area Officers meeting following ACM.

- Attend 4 assemblies per year.
- Visit average of 3 districts and/or committees per month.
- Work on Agenda Topic Summaries with other Officers.
- Attend quarterly GSO Area Registrar sharing session (online).
- Create and maintain working relationships with District registrars.
- Collaborate and communicate with Area members on registration details.

Optional but suggested:

- Support our partner Area CNIA with the elections once per panel.
- Host District Registrar sharing sessions.
- Attend PRAASA and Regional Forums
- Represent the Area at various events.
- Miscellaneous Service Opportunities

Drew Baker

Area 06

Area Registrar

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA PRECONFERENCE ASSEMBLY 2024 MINUTES

The Pre-Conference Assembly business meeting of CNCA was held at the Petaluma Veterans Memorial Building in Petaluma on April 6, 2024, with members attending and participating in person and virtually. Jim F. presented the assembly orientation. Chitra S. opened the meeting at 9:00 followed by the Serenity Prayer. Dana K. from District 08 read the AA Preamble; Michael M. from District 11 read the Twelve Traditions, and John A. from District 18 read the Traditions in Spanish. There were ten past Delegates present: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (P36 from Area 08), Barbara M. (41), Jim M. (45) David N. (59), Jim F. (59; Area 38), Ken M. (61), Joann L. (67), Teddy B. (9), and Jennifer B. (71). There were

five Past Area Officers: Ray W. (P63), Martha B. (57), Michael Q. (63 & 65), Judy W. (63), and Magdaleno O. (69). There was one past trustee present, David N. The Fall Assembly minutes were accepted as published in the CNCA Comments and Comentarios. Attendance: (Two-day registered): 527 in person and 189 online.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – ERIC L.: The General Service Conference starts next weekend and lasts for an entire week. The Conference will meet for nearly 80 hours over seven days, culminating in a list of recommendations and advisory actions to the General Service Board, which is charged with implementing these. Because of virtual technology, we've already held some meetings but have conducted no business. As an Area, we meet again at the Post-Conference Assembly; that's when I will share with you what happened, how it happened, and why it happened – regarding some of the topics we will discuss this weekend.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – MIGUEL H.: I continue praying for Eric and scheduled a week off. I will pay great attention to all that today to take notes with our Delegate and Recording Secretary. Something I can suggest is to walk around and shake some hands. You can make some of your life's best friends here. The General Service Office on Treatment and Accessibilities requests sharing from the Fellowship on the experience of alcoholics with neurodivergence, a mental or neurological function from what is considered typical or normal (frequently used when referring to autistic spectrum disorders). The GSO and Patrick Claymore, 2025 International Convention Coordinator, request speakers. Historically, A.A. has invited non-A.A. friends to be panel speakers at our International Conventions. In keeping with this custom, the 2023 General Service Conference recommended that "p to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers be invited to attend the 2025 International Convention. You must complete one online form for each speaker suggestion, for which you have up to a maximum of five. We are looking for speakers who would be very comfortable sharing their professional experience working with Alcoholics Anonymous. We hope you might suggest professionals who could also be considered as possible future Class A Trustee suggestions. The General Service Board will make selections. Please send me

your suggestions for non-A.A. speakers t by Wednesday, May 15, 2024. If there is anything I can do to support you or your Districts, please let me know.

CHAIR—CHITRA S.: Thank you so much, District 18 Spanish North and District 12 Sonoma, for all your hard work putting this weekend together. This is from Bill W, in the chapter called A True and High and Constant Purpose, in Our Great Responsibility: "When I was asked to write a greeting for this conference, I think I used the word family in describing AA for the first time. It occurred to me that we were more than a therapy, more than a group of alcoholics trying to get along in the world. We here in this room are small fragments of a huge and growing family, a fragment collectively designated for the time being as trusted servants for the rest and appointed to a mission that will further our purpose and our destiny." The agenda packets contain the motions, background, and our voting procedure. We will be hearing group consciences on agenda items, and the packet will give you the order in which we will hear them. We will see each other again on May 11th at the Post Conference Assembly in Willits, hosted by District 14 Mendocino. Our traditions say that Group Conscience is how we express our higher power. Thank you for sharing this experience with me.

TREASURER – CLAUDIA N.: Our checking account has \$26,630.20, and our prudent reserve (savings account) is \$13,850.22, 1/12 of this year's budget, or approximately 1-month operating expenses. At the end of this quarter, our actual contributions were \$43,269, and our budgeted contributions were \$35,176. Actual expenses were \$32,219; the budget was \$31,704. Actual expenses in last year's first quarter were \$45,460. Contributions through Square/online totaled \$13,172, approximately 30% of total contributions. Please thank your groups and districts for their generous contributions. Today is a great example of where spirituality and money mix as we come together to do the work connecting our groups, districts, and Area to AA as a whole. Thank you for all you do! You can contribute in multiple ways today by utilizing the QR Codes on the buckets online at cnca06.org/contribute/, on Square at the Finance table in the back, and even with cash!

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR—JACKIE B.: I'm grateful to District 12 Sonoma and District 18 Spanish North for their incredible work hosting this assembly, and I especially acknowledge our assembly co-chairs, Elba, and Michele, for their planning and leadership. I have been revising our Assembly Guidelines to align with our evolving practices, integrating the ad hoc committee's recommendations. Our guidelines are vital in creating a continuity of best practices for assemblies across districts and time. The updated guidelines and bid form will be presented at the ACM this month. We've made so much progress this panel regarding online and in-person accessibility at our assemblies. Assisted listening, simultaneous hybrid interpretation, priority seating on aisles, reserved wheelchair spaces, additional parking spaces for those with limited mobility, and clearly designating all-gender restrooms whenever available are some of our initiatives. Please book rooms for the post-conference assembly in Willits, hosted by District 14 Mendocino, on May 11th. Come early to ride the famous skunk train! District 17 Spanish South will host the summer fun assembly in Campbell on August 10th. The fall election assembly will be in Livermore on November 9th, hosted by District 07 Alameda North and 70 Alameda South. It is so special when we come together as an Area to do the hard collective work of keeping the hand of AA available and accessible to all who need our help.

REGISTRAR—DREW B.: This assembly has been and always will be a physical manifestation of our second tradition. Please register! We do digital registration now. If you are online, there is a link to fill out in the chat or link tree. If you are here in person, you can register using your phone. We register at assemblies to help plan for the future, which, in my opinion, is what general service is all about. Our Registration table is at the front entrance of the Assembly because, as Registrar, I feel as if I am the "Area Greeter," which, coincidentally, is my favorite AA group commitment and the one I currently hold at my home group in Pleasant Hill. We are such a diverse area, and we have many different groups with fun and intriguing names. At each area committee, I identify one that has a fun name for a group you might want to check out. Today, the group I picked from District 07 Alameda North is called Dolphin Quest, which meets on Thursday Nights in Oakland.

RECORDING SECRETARY – SARAH B.: This time last year, I was scared and unsure of my ability to do this commitment. Would I be able to type fast enough? What if I missed something? What if the minutes were too long? Today, I'm grateful for what I've learned since then and hopeful to pass along my experience and the experience of others by hosting a virtual Meeting Minutes workshop later this month, on Saturday, April 20th, from 10-11:30 am. Interpretation will be provided, and all are welcome, especially those currently holding recording secretary commitments, and anyone interested in learning more. Another project I'm happy to announce is a fun game to support Grapevine and La Vina. I'm accepting guesses of the word count for today's business meeting for a chance to win a print subscription, with which you can do whatever you want. Our past winners have given their prizes to the Carry The Message Project. The Fall Assembly minutes are in the December 2023 issue of the Comments and Comentarios on the area website, and the 2023 Pre-Conference Assembly minutes are in the May 2023 issue. If you find yourself looking up old issues of the Comments/Comentarios, you may also be interested in our Area's Motions Book. It's a historical document containing motions acted upon and information about our Area dating back to 1970. You can have your own Panel 71 Motions Book here in thumb drive form, or I can email it to you.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VINA CHAIR – MATT E. As our area has prepared for this assembly, I've had the absolute privilege of having so many conversations with so many of you, discussing the agenda topics that are coming up this year. I have heard such an outpouring of love for Alcoholics Anonymous and its services in different written forms. I was especially grateful for the sharing session we held last month, where I heard from our La Viña reps about how La Viña has impacted their community and how it saved and continues to save lives. If you haven't downloaded the Grapevine and La Viña apps, you can scan the QR code on the large window shade displays at the back of the room. The Grapevine podcast has been downloaded over 760,000 times, which puts it in the top 1.5% of podcasts globally. Total subscriptions for the Grapevine are up 12% year over year. Subscriptions for La Viña are up 43% year over year.

AREA STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES

ACCESSIBILITIES – THOM H.: The Accessibilities Committee has gone hybrid since the Fall assembly. We continue to have a strong representation from the various Districts in our Area. District 11 will host a workshop on April 20. We decided to have a banner created and are deciding on the design. Currently, we need a recording secretary, this is a great way to learn about what the Accessibilities Committee does. We seek input on how to serve best the districts we support. If you need anything, you can email accessibilitieschair@cnca06.org. Our Accessibilities Committees explore, develop, and offer resources to alcoholics with significant barriers to receiving the Alcoholics Anonymous message and participating in our program of recovery. We want A.A. to be available to all alcoholics who reach out for it.

ARCHIVES—CAROL H.: We continue to encourage group histories and are developing a method for accepting online submissions. We are also working with the web committee to get Archive information on the CNCA website. We meet at the Area Committee Meeting at 10 a.m. and every month on the 2nd Saturday from noon to 4:00 p.m. at 193 Mayhew Way, Pleasant Hill.

BRIDGING THE GAP – JOHN O.: District 08 Contra Costa will host the BTG forum this fall. Districts are now migrating over to the Airtable system. We have four people interested in attending the BTGWW in Montana this year. I will attend the H&I conference in Bakersfield on May 3rd-5th. BTG/AA is now a key component, along with other organizations supporting those released from institutions. We are networking with the Central office to answer all correspondence requests.

FINANCE – JAVIER L.: I want to introduce the finance committee members: Treasurer Claudia N., Russ A., Leslie W., and David S. If you see them collecting money from the buckets, they are doing their service. The finance committee prepares and presents a budget for the upcoming year, advises, and assists the elected treasurer of CNCA 06, assists all CNCA officers, chairs, and committee members in adherence to the yearly budget, and provides liaisons to the Area standing and sub-committees. The area is responsible for providing the assembly, and this pre-conference assembly costs around \$7600, which is

approximately \$20 per person. You will see 7th tradition buckets all around, which is one way to contribute to the Area today. We will begin working with the committees on the budget worksheets.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – JOSE L.: We meet via Zoom on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Since the last assembly, we have translated approximately 160 documents for Area Officers and Committees, 48 miscellaneous emails, plus the Comments for the months of November through March. We helped with the Agenda Topics summaries and PRAASA Steering Committee document translations. We have been present with the equipment for a couple of unity days, ICYPAA, WACYPAA, standing committees workshops, and PRAASA 2024. The Interpretation Coordinator contacted all the needed interpreters and confirmed availability for ACM Monthly Sharing Sessions, Standing Committees, and the assemblies for the panel.

PUBLIC INFORMATION/COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL

COMMUNITY – MIGUEL H.: The point of PI/CPC is to ensure there is an opportunity for those who suffer from alcoholism to learn there is a solution, “when anyone anywhere reaches out for help”. Over 50% of alcoholics have been estimated to die unaware that there is a solution. PI/CPC gets to know how to contact alcoholism or substance abuse counselors, armed forces officers, unit commanders, or military chaplains, athletic coaches, clergypersons, corrections officers, court officials, educators, employers or employee assistance professionals, health care professionals (doctor, nurse, psychiatrist, psychologist, etc.), judges, juvenile services professionals, law enforcement officers, lawyers (prosecutor, defense attorney), probation or parole professionals, public health officials, and senior services professionals. Thanks to Brent M. for coordinating a table at the American Society on Aging event at The Hilton San Francisco Union Square in March and all those who helped. Some of us attended a 12-step tour of the SF library in February.

TECHNOLOGY—ANDREW S.: The Area Committee Members approved the Technology Committee’s guidelines in March 2024. Many contributed their wisdom, experience, and humor to this year-long collaborative spiritual process

to create a new Area committee and its “operating instructions.” The Hybrid Team performed a walk-through of the Petaluma Veterans building to optimize equipment placement and bandwidth for today's best possible hybrid experience at the April Pre-Conference Assembly. The Committee is on target to create a hybrid Area Workshop. We’ve tentatively planned for Saturday, October 26, after the Area Committee Meeting (ACM). We thank the area for approving the purchase of a foldable handcart to move our equipment from storage to vehicles to the ACM or assembly sites. We presented an overview of Text to Vote opportunities at the February ACM. The Hybrid Team launched a two-month reduced capacity trial at the ACM to move in the most prudent financial direction. This trial didn’t affect our online participants or technology services offered at the ACM, but “Chat” was disabled during the morning Committee and Sharing Sessions. If the trial is acceptable to the Area, we can reduce the number of required onsite hybrid members for the ACM every month, reducing travel reimbursement expenses. Committee members shared their frustration at how many members did not get to share at March’s PRAASA in San Francisco. The voices of possibly 75% of those brave enough to come to the microphone went unheard. We are passionate about technology in A.A., giving a voice to the voiceless. We wondered whether an app like Slack or Discord could help at events like these and discussed the possibility of creating an A.A. General Service forum on a popular platform like Reddit. We’d love to hear any thoughts you have. CNCA06 is on the first wave of technology adopters in our A.A. structure, and we are dedicated to increasing communication, enthusiasm, and education through technology. Please attend an upcoming online Committee meeting. Visit our webpage at cnca06.org for the link. Our hybrid team includes Duncan, Edgar, and Patrick onsite and Noel, Russ & Jacqueline online.

WEBSITE—JAMES B.: The web committee maintains and updates the area's website, CNCA06.org. Our committee meets on Zoom every third Thursday of the month at 5:15 p.m. We have updated and posted the agenda topic background materials and configured and added the group conscious form. We have worked through how to post and update the CNCA comments on the site since the Area changed from a PDF format to a lovely email format. If you do not receive the CNCA comments directly in your inbox, you can sign up for either the English or

Spanish version using the form on the website. We began testing an update to the interface of the web site to simplify the interface. Changing the WordPress theme has been more difficult than anticipated because important parts were missing, like the menus. If terms like Plugin, WordPress theme, DNS, hosting, CSS, HTML, updates, and/or website are exciting to you, and you would like to contribute to the Area, we have room for you on our committee. You do not have to be a technology guru to join the committee. Please contact the web chair and an area officer; they can help get us in contact. Thanks to our committee members Cathy, Jose, and Jeff for their time and effort on the committee.

AREA BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS:

- That CNCA 06 extend voting participation at the Area Committee meetings and at assemblies to the Chairpersons of Area standing and sub-committees. - *Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O, Jose L, Thom H – Standing Committee & SubCommittee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73 at the Area Committee Meeting on 12/16/23*

Presentation: Thom H. presented. This motion was originally presented at the December 2023 Area Committee Meeting (ACM) and is driven by Concept Four's "Right of Participation," which allows a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge (A.A. Service Manual). Chairs of CNCA standing and subcommittees tend to practice the policies and procedures of their committees. This often results in motions that move forward the Area's ability to assist the still-suffering alcoholic. CNCA's past procedures advise that chairs of standing and subcommittees have no vote. A similar motion came before the body seven years ago. It was passed at the Preconference Assembly in 2016 and failed at the Post-Conference.

Questions: **Q:** Which are standing committees and subcommittees? **A:** All those who gave reports today are standing and subcommittees (Accessibilities, Archives, Bridging the Gap, Finance, PI/CPC, Interpretation and Translation, Technology, and Website). There are two kinds of committees. Area Officers appoint Standing Committees to serve the Area (Finance, Tech, Web, I&T). Subcommittees (Archives, BTG, PI/CPC, and Accessibilities) serve districts. There is more sharing, but they still have a chair and still work for the Area but in a

different way. // **Q:** How are the chairs of these standing and subcommittees selected? **A:** The chairs are elected by the voluntary members of that committee. // **Q:** What was the sense or feeling of the chairs bringing this motion forward? **A:** A lot of the policies are created by committees and presented to the area, but the committee chairs don't have a vote on the policies they create. // **Q:** How would they vote? **A:** They would have the same vote as DCMs, DCMCs, GSRs, and Area Officers. // **Q:** What are the requirements for being part of a standing committee or subcommittee? **A:** Anyone can volunteer to be a member of the committee (i.e., have never served as a GSR, DCM, DCMC, etc.) Consequently, a chair does not need those qualifications to be elected chair. // **Q:** How many committees exist on the list in the General Service structure? **A:** We're not the Conference or part of the Conference structure. We meet the needs of the area. **Q:** Where did this motion originate? **A:** The chairs of the committees brought it forward. // **Q:** If this were to pass and the chair could not attend a meeting and vote, would the alternate get a vote instead? **A:** As written, just the chair gets a vote. // **Q:** Is there any consideration for having service requirements for the committee chairs, or is it independent of each committee? **A:** There are no service requirements, but they have been participating in current affairs (attending committee meetings and area committee meetings) and have knowledge of and sometimes craft motions brought to the area. // **Q:** Committee members are volunteers. Do they volunteer and are appointed by Area Officers? **A:** Chairs are voted in by the committee members once formed. Area officers appoint standing committee members once they put their names in to say they are available. Subcommittees are volunteers. // **Q:** Who would the chairperson be voting on behalf of? **A:** They would be voting as a representative of their committee. // **Q:** How would this impact the votes? **A:** There are eight committees, so eight more people would be voting. Today, we have 100 people, so eight would be about .8%. **Q:** Do other areas do this? **A:** Seventy other areas are doing this. // Point of information: it's only seven new voting members because the PI/CPC Chair is the Alternate Delegate, who already has a vote. << **Motion to become New Business at the Post Conference Assembly on May 11, 2024.>>**

- That CNCA 06 expand area officer eligibility to Chairpersons of Area standing and subcommittees. - Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O,

Jose L. Thom H – Standing Committee & SubCommittee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73
at the Area Committee Meeting on 12/16/23

Presentation: Thom H. presented. He presented an amendment to add "...who have served as DCMs and/or DCMCs." This motion is also about participation. Through months of loving discussion, area members continue to voice their support and approval of the Area Committee chairs to have full participation in the area's business and be eligible to serve as Area Officers. Of the 93 areas across the U.S. and Canada, 70 include committee chairs in voting and area officer eligibility. From personal experience having been a DCMC and a committee chair, I've learned about processes as a committee chair than as a DCMC.

Questions: **Q:** When was the amendment made? **A:** Just now. When asked to give the presentation, I discovered it was presented this way in 2016. To be eligible as a delegate, you need to be a current DCM or DCMC. For a chair to be eligible as an Area officer, they should have had similar experience as a GSR. // **Q:** Do they have to have been DCMC or DCM from Area 06? **A:** It was not stated, but I assume they would be eligible from other areas. // **Q:** With this amendment, it seems that the requirements for being elected committee chair have changed, making it harder to elect a committee chair. Is that the intention? **A:** This motion is not intended to change the committees themselves. The intent is to have more people available and eligible. Unless the committees' guidelines are changed to match these motions, the chairs will have the same availability to be elected chairs. // **Q:** Why was the amendment made? **A:** Without the amendment, area officer eligibility would conflict with Delegate eligibility (requirement to have been a GSR). // **Q:** To be eligible to be an area officer, you must be a current DCM or DCMC, but this amendment does not align with that. // **A:** This motion would change that. If someone is a committee chair, they are not a district chair simultaneously, so they must have been a past DCMC or DCM. // **Q:** Is the amendment affecting the previous motion? **A:** No. // I request a friendly amendment to the motion to include GSRs (i.e., past DCM, DCMC, or GSR). // **A:** We decline that amendment because a Delegate must have been a DCM or DCMC. // **Q:** Are GSRs eligible to be area officers? **A:** No. Only DCMCs, DCMs, and area officers. << Motion to become New Business at the Post Conference Assembly on May 11, 2024.>>

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

Discussion: The Area Chair shared that this motion was voted on at the Fall Assembly and failed. A motion to reconsider that passed, making it an item of Old Business again. **Group consciences:** This is unnecessary. The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions help individuals and groups. It's not necessary to include the Twelve Concepts. It's not for the average member. // This is unnecessary. We have the book t Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. The Concepts are in the A.A. Service Manual. The General Service Board is low on funds. There are better things to spend money on. // This is not necessary. In AA, there are enough expenses due to a critical recession. We need to be more prudent in how we spend money. // The wording of this motion is to consider. My group supports exploring and gathering more information on logistics and cost. Having combined literature makes the Concepts more accessible. **Personal opinions:** I didn't know about The Concepts until 20 years of sobriety. That's a real loss. // **Vote by substantial unanimity.** In favor: 131 (105 in person; 26 online). Opposed: 108(91 in person; 17 online) Abstained: 11 (4 in person; 7 online). Motion did not obtain 2/3 in favor. No minority opinion was heard, as this item was previously reconsidered. <<< **Motion Failed.** >>>

NEW BUSINESS:

- That CNCA continue to provide hybrid functionality for every Area Committee Meeting and each Assembly. – Presented by District 15, Humboldt/Del Norte at the Area Committee Meeting on 09/23/23

Discussion: **Group consciences:** Our District is in favor mainly for access. Our Area has a large geography. We should be prudent with cost. A strong minority of opinion of what is lost in the language of the heart in hybrid. // Our District strongly believes that this needs to be a policy. There is currently no policy. We've learned and created a system that works well. It's been a long road, but we've made such progress. The motion is not about whether you like hybrid or Zoom or

you don't; it's about making sure we provide this for remote communities to be able to attend ACMs and Assemblies. Important to our district because Area meetings are very far away. Many in our district cannot attend in person at all. // My group is in favor of a policy and commitment to hybrid. Our GSR cannot make it to assemblies due to travel concerns. She's grateful to be able to continue to participate. // Our group feels it's necessary for accessibility, not just for those traveling, but those who cannot attend for physical reasons or those whose groups can't afford to send them. // **Personal opinions:** In our district, some meetings have split off and become virtual only. They registered with our area. Perhaps we should consider a virtual Area. // I use a mobility device, and I'm active in Accessibilities. Wouldn't be able to participate without hybrid. Our fellowship has many members active online. This policy would encourage participation. // Having hybrid meetings is important for access. I'm concerned that people will find a reason not to come even if they can come. // This is a tool for remote communities to keep people informed and continue to carry the message. Our program requires sacrifice but sometimes you must make a bigger sacrifice. // Being able to see the captions on the screen is so helpful for me since I have a hearing impairment. I read lips and it's hard for me to read people's lips when they share at the microphone. // I was on Zoom in assembly in Eureka. I felt a large disconnect. If this motion passes, I hope those online can have breakouts and be able to communicate and connect. // Many things we do at District and Area may serve as a model for how other groups implement practices. // I'm a caretaker. I'd prefer to go in person but I'm not able to. I appreciate being able to attend online. // I support the motion. This relates to Concept Four and the Right of Participation for GSRs. My group is online and attracts newcomers from all over the country and internationally. // I'm grateful to be here online. I wouldn't be able to attend if not hybrid. I care for a family member in hospice. We should operate focused more on love and less on fear. // Hybrid is both in-person and online. When we were online only during the pandemic, we disenfranchised people. Please understand if this passes, we are committing to both in-person and online. The idea that we could save money by meeting only on Zoom doesn't apply if we commit to both. // I have sponsees that are caregivers. They want to be a part of General Service, but the hardship of travel expenses and childcare are barriers. Increasing technology isn't the only way to increase accessibility. // //

14:40 I'm concerned about the structure of the motion. What about 10:00 meetings? 11:00 sharing sessions? They're not included in the motion. I'm afraid we left out two very important sharing sessions currently being done hybrid and are not part of ACM. // My group is hybrid. Zoom is good. A woman in the hospital could join the meeting and wanted this available. // Being able to attend these meetings helps me to be a better GSR. // In 1939, technology came out to reach alcoholics in the US and Canada: The Big Book. Now it's 2024 and we're using a new way to reach out to alcoholics. This is moving us forward. // I'm co-chair of my District's Access Committee. I'm concerned about the other hybrid meetings that occur on the day of the ACM that are not included. Can there be a friendly amendment? // There would need to be another motion. Someone asked this question during the presentation of new business, and the motion-maker declined to add it. // We put in great labor. We reached for the future when the First 100 were visualized. We now see the world through the internet. // The Fourth Edition of our Big Book mentioned "new practices and customs," including "online." Modem to modem and face to face, A.A. speaks the language of the heart. I support this motion. We have members in our fellowship who find their sobriety meeting only online. // Hybrid meetings increase participation and may give us more flexibility in venues. We don't need venues to be as large. // When I got sober, all meetings were online. At my first assembly in 2021, I was asked to be a timer. This is important to continue for new people. Being able to join online allows me to stay in service. // Hybrid is important because I've been able to attend. There is no excuse for not informing our groups. // Many people in our area must travel for work or personal reasons and want to remain in service. Being hybrid opens the possibility of not feeling isolated. // This is about accessibility. For a stretch of my sobriety, I was only able to participate online. I've been to some assemblies in person, but I miss them sometimes. I'm discouraged by the "us versus them (online and in person)" People being online is their choice. We adjusted quickly to meeting online in the pandemic. We've gotten better. I'm happy to participate. // I nearly lost my life to this disease in the pandemic and got sober on Zoom. I'm a single mother and can still be of service. Childcare costs and logistics are difficult to attend in person, but I do when I can. The online component is powerful, I'm sober because of it. // For inclusivity and accessibility, I support this motion. My husband is immunocompromised, so I don't go to big

gatherings. I'm active in General Service through being able to participate online. We should make another motion to include all the area meetings. << **Motion to become Old Business at the Post Conference Assembly on May 11, 2024.**>>

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, others in service at the assembly, and the effort put forth by those delivering their group's conscience to inform the Delegate.]] [[Many members wished Eric well on his trip to the General Service Conference.]] // Saturday: I'm grateful for the accessibility of this location, the captions, and parking, in particular. // There is a 750-word max on the online group consciences form. When are the Christians in A.A. going to listen to those who aren't Christian, especially when it comes to the use of religion in A.A.? // The awareness of inclusivity and accessibility is heard today. I'm proud of the work we do. I'm grateful to be part of this area. GSRs have put in a lot of work. // Thanks to my Spanish-speaking fellows for giving me different perspectives. It proved that language is culture. Think about asking your groups asking more neutral questions to get more meaningful information. // When you Google Alcoholics Anonymous, links come up that aren't A.A. that say they're A.A. I've been reporting them to Google and have noticed that they've stopped coming up in search. // April 12 is the first African American in AA group in Marin. St. Andrew's Church Marin City 7 pm. // In July 1944 of the Grapevine, Dr. Bob wrote about tolerance being like a hub with radiating spokes. We start at the outer circumference and approach our destination through many routes. To say that one spoke is better than others is only true to the extent that it reaches the destination it's intended to. Without tolerance, we might be inclined to think we've found the best or shortest route. // Traditions aren't rules or laws, we obey them willingly because we need to and want to. They bring out a living experience rooted in love. I used to go to Spanish-speaking meetings because there were faces like mine. // Many members didn't get to share at PRAASA in March. The Area Tech Committee is passionate about giving a voice to the voiceless and exploring options to facilitate communication (e.g., Slack, Discord, etc.). // We received \$2,000 in contributions today (Saturday). // I hope that in the plain

language of Big Book, that “pitiful and incomprehensible demoralization” will not be changed or removed. // H&I conference May 3rd-5th. A State of Love and Service together with SoCal H&I. // I’m pleased that our group conscience on the trans pamphlet hasn’t changed. The first presentation of this pamphlet helped me because I was hiding my gender expression and it helped me come out. // I came out as transgender nonbinary at six years sober. I’m an alcoholic. Hearing group consciences reminded me of page 84 of the Big Book, which states that love and tolerance are our code. // A quote from Bill W. in the July 1965 issue of the Grapevine. The essence of all growth is a willingness to change for the better and shoulder whatever responsibility comes. // I used to have my racial identity tied to my alcoholism, but as I got more time sober, I didn’t care as much. Hearing the group’s consciences about a proposed pamphlet for Asian American alcoholics reminds me that it’s not about me. Those who think it’s needed, it’s important to them. // The microphone we’ve been using this afternoon was a purchase approved by the ACM. The investments the Area is making in technology are working very well. // Thanks for registration team. This is the fourth biggest Day One Pre-Conference Assembly in recorded history. In the room, we have 349, and online, 108 for 457 total registered. // I’m excited we have these large numbers, but where are our GSRs? In this county, we have over 400 meetings. How can we make this easier? // The Monterey Bay Area Roundup is Labor Day weekend. Montereybayarearoundup.org. With participation with Al-Anon and the Spanish-speaking community. // When I think I’m unique, I need to reach out and touch others. I’m a new GSR. I’m trying to copy what you’re doing and it’s working. // The food was amazing. // I’ve been to a lot of meetings, but CNCA always does its best. This has been a fantastic meeting and a great group to be with. Sunday: The flowers on the tables were picked from the homes and gardens of the members of District 18 and their families. We are being welcomed into the home and community of the Districts. // District 14 Mendocino is hosting the Post-Conference in Willits. We’ll have a meeting with coffee and dessert the evening before. Please join us. // Thanks to the I&T committee for helping us with Agenda Topics. I’d like us to use words that correspond with AA language. Some of the words weren’t interpreted correctly. // Thanks for the coloring books and crosswords, they helped me listen. // Thank you to SWACYPAA for selling drinks. // In the past, social media platforms were treated as separate issues. The same

happened with changing words. We should handle them like categories. // SWACYPAAs thanks those who supported us today by purchasing snacks and drinks. SWACYPAAs is August 8th in San Rafael at Embassy Suites. // It was nice to hear the groups in favor of creating a pamphlet for trans alcoholics. I love trans alcoholics and am in full support of them. If you want to know more about trans alcoholics, come talk to me. // The first international online convention is in October. Visit aa-intergroup.org. There was a discussion that people can't access the internet and can't join on Zoom, but you can dial in. Let me know if you need help accessing A.A. and you don't have internet. // I'm sorry we're still having problems with registration. A lot of people online are not getting counted. I am grateful for the constant improvement and attention to helping those of us online participate. I love split screen; please continue at the ACM. // Some people shared about agenda items and how much they may cost. Perhaps people should consider their own practices around money and anonymity on social media, including group contributions and personal contributions. // There is a National AA Technology Workshop on September 13th-15th online and in St. Louis, MO. // The assembly helped inform me on what might happen at the Conference to inform my group. I look forward to the post-conference assembly. // There's a lot to learn as a first-timer. I want to acknowledge other first-timers to the assembly. I'm glad I came. // Thanks to Eric for listening to us. // This has shown me how uninformed a lot of us are about what is in our pamphlets. It's encouraged me to look at the pamphlets we already have. // Thanks to those who asked about the Motions Book and the upcoming Meeting Minutes Workshop. Reminder for the assembly word count competition. // Thank you for your contributions at the Assembly. Our two-day total is about \$2,500. // Registration totals: Day one: 349 in room; online 108 (24% online). Today: 178 in room; online 81 (45%). Two-day total: 527 in person and 189 online (35%). Total two-day registrations: 716. // There is going to be a PI/CPC workshop. We're looking for a location that can hold 15+ people and has some hybrid capability. The event will be hybrid and bilingual. // Special call out for the translators and holding themselves together when we lost audio. It made me feel that we're closer through technology. // I might have caught the GS bug. I come from groups that don't have representation and I'm going to work on fixing that. // The past delegates sang a

traditional sendoff song for the delegate to the tune of Tina Turner's "Proud Mary."

The meeting was closed at 5:30 by Chitra S. with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Babcock
CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 73



FINANCIAL REPORTS

California Northern Coastal Area
 Budget vs. Actuals: 2024 Budget - FY24 P&L
 January - April, 2024

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Revenue		
002 Group Contributions	41,416.47	38,000.00
003 District Contributions	15,152.34	6,000.00
004 Assembly Contributions	2,451.38	2,000.00
005 Tradition 7, Area Comm.	1,580.85	1,333.32
008 Personal/Misc Contributions	734.60	2,233.32
010 Interest Income	1.35	1.68
Total Revenue	\$61,336.99	\$49,568.32
GROSS PROFIT	\$61,336.99	\$49,568.32
Expenditures		
020 EXPENSE		
021 Delegate Expense	4,212.41	3,569.82
050 Officer Expense	9,362.86	11,941.86
130 Committee Expenses	9,983.26	12,620.32
300 General Expenses		
310 Assembly Expenses	10,616.71	8,545.00
340 Area Committee Expenses	11,641.49	11,705.00
360 Administration and Fees	970.81	1,108.32
370 Other Conference	3,500.00	3,650.00
Total 300 General Expenses	26,729.01	25,008.32
Total 020 EXPENSE	50,287.54	53,140.32
Total Expenditures	\$50,287.54	\$53,140.32
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$11,049.45	\$ -3,572.00
NET REVENUE	\$11,049.45	\$ -3,572.00

California Northern Coastal Area
 Statement of Financial Position
 As of April 30, 2024

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Operating Funds - Checking	24,901.29
Prudent Reserve - Savings	13,850.34
Total Bank Accounts	\$38,751.63
Other Current Assets	
Assembly Deposits	850.00
Undeposited Funds	1,832.95
Total Other Current Assets	\$2,682.95
Total Current Assets	\$41,434.58
TOTAL ASSETS	\$41,434.58
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
Operating Funds ~ Adjusted	19,245.13
Prudent Reserve ~ Savings	11,140.00
Net Revenue	11,049.45
Total Equity	\$41,434.58
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$41,434.58

AREA MOTIONS

Area Committee Motions

- **Continue at Area Committee Meeting June 22, 2024**

OLD BUSINESS

- That CNCA's prudent reserve be set to an amount equivalent to two months' operating expense – *Presented by Megan B. and Chuck B. on 4/27/24*

Area Assembly Motions

- **Continue at Summer Assembly August 10, 2024**

OLD BUSINESS

- That CNCA continue to provide hybrid functionality for every Area Committee Meeting and each Assembly. – *Presented by District 15, Humboldt/Del Norte at the Area Committee Meeting on 9/23/23*
- That CNCA 06 expand area officer eligibility to Chairpersons of Area standing and sub-committees. - *Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O, Jose L, Thom H – Standing Committee & Sub-Committee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73 at the Area Committee Meeting on 12/16/23*
- That CNCA 06 extend voting participation at the Area Committee meetings and at assemblies to the Chairpersons of Area standing and sub-committees. - *Presented by Carol H, Jacqueline P, John O, Jose L, Thom H – Standing Committee & Sub-Committee Chairs CNCA06 Panel 73 at the Area Committee Meeting on 12/16/23*

2024 CALENDAR - PANEL 73

CNCA 2024 Calendar

June 22 — Area Committee Mtg

July 12 - 14 — Pacific Regional Forum, Las Vegas, NV
27 — Area Committee Mtg

August 10 — Summer Assembly
24 — Area Committee Mtg

September 28 — Area Committee Mtg

October 26 — Area Committee Mtg

November 9 — Fall Election Assembly
23 — Area Committee Mtg

December 21 — Area Committee Mtg (Note: 3rd Sat)

Panel 73 Assembly Dates

2024 Summer Assembly
Aug 10, 2024
Campbell Community Center
1 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell, CA
Hosted by D17 Spanish South

2024 Fall Election Assembly
Nov 9, 2024
Cornerstone Fellowship of Livermore

348 N Canyons Pkwy, Livermore, CA 94551

Hosted by D07 Alameda North and D70 Alameda South

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

SUMMER ASSEMBLY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024

Campbell Community Center
1 W. Campbell Ave. Campbell, CA

Zoom ID: [632 553 607](#) | Password: 1935

REGISTRATION	8:00 – 8:45 AM
ORIENTATION	8:45 – 9:00 AM
AREA BUSINESS MEETING	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
LUNCH	12:00 – 1:00 PM
WORKSHOP SESSION I	1:00 – 2:15 PM
WORKSHOP SESSION II	2:30 – 3:45 PM
REPORT BACK	4:00 – 4:30 PM
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?	4:30 – 5:00 PM



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

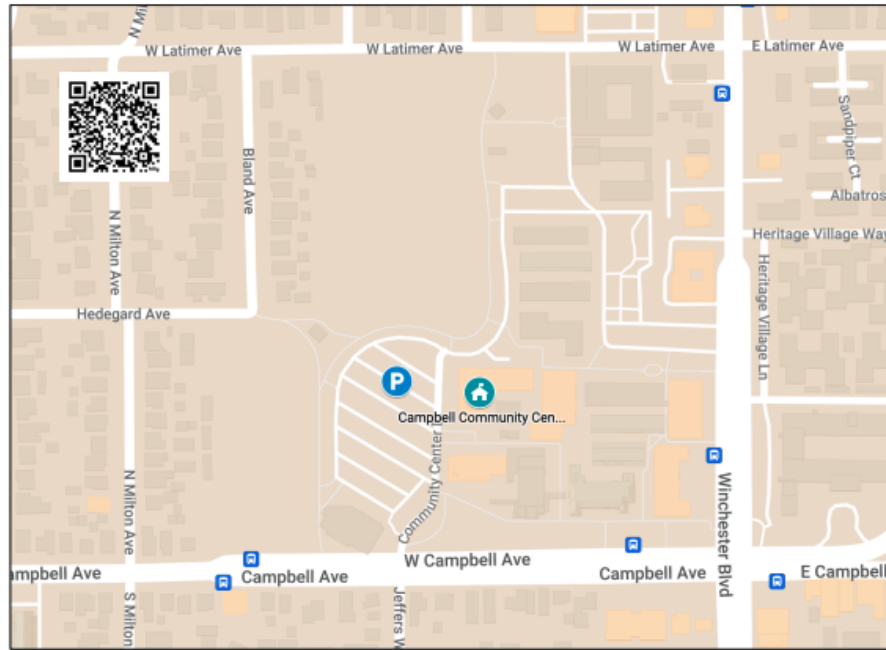
Attending in-person? Bring your FM RADIO for Spanish-English interpretation and Assisted Listening.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS: bit.ly/cnca06-summer24

PARKING: 500+ parking spots on-site.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: [BART](#) to Millbrae and [Valley Transportation Authority \(VTA\)](#) Green Line to Downtown Campbell; [Amtrak](#) and [Greyhound](#).



Hotels near Campbell, CA:

Four Points San Jose Airport

1471 N 4th St, San Jose
(408) 452-0200 [marriott.com](https://www.marriott.com)
Rates \$118 - \$136

Doubletree by Hilton San Jose

2050 Gateway Pl, San Jose
(408) 453-4000 [hilton.com](https://www.hilton.com)
Rates \$115 - \$158

Courtyard by Marriott Campbell

655 Creekside Way, Campbell, CA
(408) 626-9590 [marriott.com](https://www.marriott.com)
Rates \$152 - \$201

Alternate Lodging:

Coyote Valley RV Resort

9750 Monterey Rd, San Jose
(866) 376-5500
[coyotevalleyresort.com](https://www.coyotevalleyresort.com)
Rates: RVs \$80 - 90

Vacation Rentals

[Airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com)
[VRBO.com](https://www.vrbo.com)

COMMITTEES AND SHARING SESSIONS

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

CNCA 06 ACM – Area Committee business meeting (HYBRID) - meets at 12:30pm on the 4th Saturday of each month, except January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **632 553 607**. Contact CNCA Chair Chitra S for questions/password: chair@cnca06.org

Accessibilities committee (HYBRID) - meets at 11:00am on the 4th Saturday of each month, except January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday. Zoom meeting ID: **987 0872 2632**. Contact Accessibilities Chair Thom H for questions/password: accessibilitieschair@cnca06.org

Archives committee (HYBRID) - meets at 10:00am on the 4th Saturday of each month, except January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **987 0872 2632**. Contact Archives Chair Carol H for questions/password: archiveschair@cnca06.org

Bridging the Gap (BTG) committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 7pm on the 4th Thursday of each month, except November it meets HYBRID at the ACM. Zoom meeting ID: **988 7891 7593**. Contact BTG Chair John O for questions/password: btgchair@cnca06.org

DCM sharing session (HYBRID) - meets at 11:00am on the 4th Saturday each month, except in January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **568 947 843**. Contact CNCA Chair Chitra S for questions/password: chair@cnca06.org

DCMC sharing session - Closed Meeting - DCMCs and Alternate DCMCs only. (HYBRID) - meets at 10:00am on the 4th Saturday of each month, except January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday.

Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **568 947 843**. Contact CNCA Chair Chitra S for questions/password: chair@cnca06.org

Finance committee - Closed Meeting – Finance committee members only (in-person) - meets at 11:00am on the 4th Saturday of each month, except January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday.

Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Contact Finance Chair David N for questions: finance@cnca06.org

Interpretation & Translation committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 7:00pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Zoom meeting ID: **964 6132 5139**. Contact I&T Chair Jose L for questions/password: interpret@cnca06.org

Linguistic sharing session for Spanish Speakers (in-person) - meets at 10:00am on the 4th Saturday of each month, except January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Contact CNCA Chair Chitra S for questions: chair@cnca06.org

Literature/Grapevine/La Viña sharing session (HYBRID) - meets at 9:00am on the 4th Saturday of each month, except in January and December it meets the 3rd Saturday. Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **987 0872 2632**. Contact Literature Chair Matt E for questions/password: literature@cnca06.org

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

Address: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Zoom meeting ID: **568 947 843**. Contact PI/CPC Chair Miguel H for questions/password: alternatedelegate@cnca06.org

Technology committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 7:00pm on the 2nd Monday of each month.

Zoom meeting ID: **961 5695 6661**. Contact Tech Chair Jacqueline P for questions/password: techchair@cnca06.org

Website committee (ONLINE only) - meets at 5:15pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Zoom Meeting ID: **843 8245 4422** Contact Web Chair James B for questions/password: webchair@cnca06.org

CONTACT US

Delegate

Eric L

Delegate@cnca06.org

Alternate Delegate

Miguel H

AlternateDelegate@cnca06.org

Chair

Chitra S

Chair@cnca06.org

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Treasurer@cnca06.org

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Recording Secretary

Sarah B

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Literature/Grapevine/La Viña

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Reilly K

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CNCA

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Petaluma, CA 94954

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NorCal H&I Committee

PO Box 192490

San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

www.handinorcal.org

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PO Box 2407 James A Farley Station

New York, NY 10116-2407

All other Correspondence:
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PO Box 459 Grand Central Station
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212-870-3400
www.aa.org

