

**CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 (CNCA 06)**  
**AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 22, 2025**

The monthly Area Committee Meeting (ACM) was held using a hybrid format on March 22, 2025, with virtual attendees on Zoom and in-person attendees at the Petaluma Community Center. Drew B. opened the meeting at 12:32 pm, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The AA Preamble was read by Cody B. from District 90, Jose from an unidentified district read Tradition 3 in Spanish, and Nicole from District 12 read Concept 3 in English. We welcomed four (4) new GSRs and two (2) new DCMs. There were three past Delegates present: Diane O. (P35), David N. (P59 Delegate, past Class B Trustee), and Jennifer B. (P71). The February 2025 financial report and ACM minutes were accepted as published in the *CNCA Comments* and *Comentarios*. Birthdays: 10 anniversaries totaling 149 years of sobriety. **Attendance:** 120 (40 online and 80 in-person).

## **REPORTS**

### **OFFICER REPORTS**

**DELEGATE – CHITRA S.:** I'll be at the General Service Conference during April's ACM. As we prepare for the Pre-Conference Assembly, I encourage inventory: What's missing? How can we do better? What tools do you need? Group consciences are due by April 12 to [delegate@cnca06.org](mailto:delegate@cnca06.org). PRAASA was amazing—connecting with other delegates was a highlight. Since its Nov 1 release, over 156,000 copies of the *Plain Language Big Book* (PLBB) have sold. The eBook has sold 4,440 copies, generating more than \$23k in revenue. One facility even allows tablets at meetings just for the PLBB—“light bulbs and miracles” are happening. International Convention 2025 registration is \$160 until April 15, then \$185. Flyers, volunteer info, and watch party registration are available. GSO is hiring a new staff member, and the resumes are due May 31. They're also seeking veterans for an interview project. Financial highlights (unaudited) as of Dec 31: operating revenue is \$19.7M, surplus is \$996K, contributions are up 7%, literature sales down 14%, Grapevine up 8%, La Viña up 17%. Reserve Fund is at 6.74 months. Pamphlets for Asian/Asian-American and transgender alcoholics are in development. I'll email links to DCMCs and Committee Chairs soon.

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE – CLAUDIA N.:** Good afternoon and welcome to the 14-day countdown to the Pre-Conference Assembly in Santa Cruz! It's always powerful to witness our Area come together to share their groups' conscience in love and service. At PRAASA, I met other Pacific Region Alt-Delegates and attended roundtables—CPC in particular—where ideas and experiences were shared from across the Region and Canada. CPC has made two recent requests: input from Veteran A.A.s for an Interview Project and shared experience working with neurodivergent and unhoused alcoholics. Flyers are available, and input can be sent to [cpc@aa.org](mailto:cpc@aa.org).

**CHAIR – DREW B.:** I got sober at 20 and turn 50 tomorrow. Serving as CNCA Chair is one of the greatest honors of my now undeniably long life. This week, I joined a sharing session with Area Chairs and was reminded how special CNCA is—our tech use, unity, and service commitment truly stand out. Today we'll hear a General Service App update, New Business from District 01, and possibly vote on Old Business. It's the final agenda topic push—our Pre-Conference Assembly is just two weeks away. See you in Santa Cruz!

**TREASURER – DAN B.:** February was another strong month with \$25K in contributions—about \$16K over budget. Expenses were \$16K, catching up from a low-spending January. We're in good shape with around \$30K in checking. The Square-QBO integration issue continues, requiring

extra steps to record electronic transactions. Funds are still coming in. CNCA now has a credit card linked to our Bank of America account, providing added protection for online purchases. Officers unanimously approved funding a third officer to PRAASA, a long-standing motion. Matt E. was selected and joined us in Anchorage. It was great to be with so many of you—one highlight was a Spanish-speaking meeting hosted by “Hijos de Caos” across the street, where we shared deeply. Being with 90 of you made me proud—our Area shows up strong, and so does our love for A.A.

**ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – MATT E.:** The Pre-Conference Assembly is two weeks away: Saturday and Sunday, April 5 - 6 at the Civic Auditorium in downtown Santa Cruz. Most parking nearby is metered street or garage parking, with a daily max of \$16. Carpooling is encouraged. Please bring a reusable coffee cup and water bottle. Flyers with the tentative schedule are available on the table and in the Zoom chat. We look forward to seeing you there! Looking ahead, if your district may be interested in hosting an assembly next year, please let me know—I'm here to help throughout the process.

**REGISTRAR – SARAH B.:** This month was full and productive. I attended an area registrar sharing session hosted by GSO, where we discussed topics like adding an Area La Viña Chair in Fellowship Connection. I hosted a registrar sharing session with about 21 participants. I'm looking forward to the pre-conference assembly and finally meeting many trusted servants in person — big thanks to the registration chairs for staying on top of everything. This month, I added 16 groups to Airtable, including several that were previously unlisted. Notable new groups include Grupo La Alegria de Vivir Hayward, Grupo Humildad Amor y Servicio de Oakland (D20), Wednesday Woodside Meeting (D05), Antioch Saturday Women's Meeting (D08), and Weekend Warriors (D15).

**RECORDING SECRETARY – JACKIE B.:** I'll start with some timely history from our Motions Book, the official record of Area actions and milestones. The CNCA Agenda Topic Background Summaries began in 2001 to improve communication with Spanish-speaking members. In 2003, a motion was passed to translate all background material into English and Spanish. The format remained unchanged for over 20 years until this panel. The new template includes a hyperlinked table of contents, glossary, larger sans-serif font, and design improvements to aid navigation. The summaries are available at [cnca06.org/confidential](https://cnca06.org/confidential) or through your DCM or committee chair. To request an electronic copy of the motions book, email [recordingsecretary@cnca06.org](mailto:recordingsecretary@cnca06.org).

**LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – JOSE L.:** As we gather to discuss agenda topics, the spirit of unity and love for A.A. shines bright. Our groups are having important discussions about the Service Manual, La Viña, the proposed 12 and 12 and 12 book, revisions to *Living Sober* and *Plain Language Big Book*, and the progress of the 5th Edition English and 4th Edition Spanish Big Book.

## **DISTRICT REPORTS**

**DISTRICT 01 (MONTEREY) – ELENA B.:** At our March meeting, the visiting officer presented on “What to Expect at the Pre-Conference Assembly and How to Deliver Your Group Conscience,” followed by a mock sharing session to help GSRs prepare. We passed the 2025 budget and approved a motion to create a Visitation Committee to visit groups without GSRs. Several GSRs attended the Districts 04 & 40 Agenda Items Workshop and found it very helpful. Our DCMC and a DCM also attended PRAASA.

**DISTRICT 02 (SALINAS/SAN BENITO) - JUAN T.:** A few of us attended the hybrid Agenda Topics Workshop in San Jose. I'll be visiting groups in Salinas to help with agenda topics and

prepare them for the Assembly and their two-minute presentations. I'll also do my best to visit as many groups as possible in District 02 to introduce myself and encourage participation in General Service.

**DISTRICT 03 (SANTA CRUZ) – AMELIA C. (ALT-DCMC):** At our district meeting, “What’s on Your Mind” sparked lively discussion, including a suggestion to expand our website to better serve members in service and the still-suffering alcoholic. With a visitor from the Area Accessibilities Committee, we continued last month’s conversation on reaching Deaf and hard-of-hearing alcoholics in Santa Cruz County. Thanks to our visiting Area Officer for guidance on collecting group conscience. We’re hosting an agenda topics workshop tomorrow on Zoom, and we are just two weeks away from co-hosting the Pre-Conference Assembly with District 19!

**DISTRICT 04 (SANTA CLARA NORTH) – JON R.:** It was an exciting month for District 04! Our website was recognized in *Box 4-5-9* for its PLBB timeline—kudos to our Panel 73 servants. At our district meeting, we lost internet at our usual location, but thanks to mobile hotspots (and a visiting Area Officer!), we pulled off a hybrid meeting. That officer also gave a great presentation on ACM vs. Assembly business. GSRs practiced facilitating group consciences, and we co-hosted a well-attended Agenda Topics Workshop with District 40. Visit [district04cnca.org](http://district04cnca.org) for committee info and updates.

**DISTRICT 40 (SANTA CLARA SOUTH) – PAM S.:** March’s Agenda Topic Workshop with D04 and D40 gave GSRs practice presenting and facilitating group consciences. A past delegate shared insights from the General Service Conference, emphasizing how vital our group voice is to AA as a whole. An Area Officer presented a group conscience process, and four DCMs modeled presenting agenda topics. Breakouts allowed everyone to practice. Collaborating with D04 and getting participation from Districts 01, 02, and 03, our circle is growing! While GSRs focus on topics, we seek to streamline our District Guidelines.

**DISTRICT 05 (SAN MATEO) – JONATHAN L. (READ BY SUSAN C. DCM):** We provided 5 PRAASA scholarships to District members, including two first-timers. We co-hosted the Agenda Topics Workshop in San Francisco with Districts 06 and 16, where several new GSRs learned to gather group consciences. At our district meeting, we reported PRAASA highlights and discussed a Public Information agenda topic, guided by a visiting Area Officer. Our GSRs are prepared and excited to carry their groups’ voices forward!

**DISTRICT 06 (SAN FRANCISCO) – DAVID S.:** Four districts came together last weekend for an agenda topics workshop in San Francisco. At our March district meeting, we passed a housekeeping motion to reimburse BTG for an Airtable subscription and held a mock-sharing session on the *Living Sober* agenda topic. Our Archives Chair will begin work on a District Motions Book. We also experienced a few unexpected officer resignations, which we hope to fill in April.

**DISTRICT 07 (ALAMEDA NORTH) – BRIDGET L.:** We co-hosted a great agenda topics workshop this month with District 70. We also funded a new GSR to attend PRAASA, where he greatly expanded his knowledge of General Service. District 07 is now gearing up for the Pre-Conference Assembly—Santa Cruz, here we come!

**DISTRICT 70 (ALAMEDA SOUTH)—CHASE C.:** A visiting Area Officer presented on the agenda topics process, its purpose, and microphone etiquette. Our Agenda Topics Workshop, co-hosted with District 07, was well attended—thank you to the past Delegates for their presentations. We also created a temporary landing page called the “GSR Hub” to serve as a

one-stop location for everything GSRs need regarding agenda topics. It includes a digital form to submit group consciences, helping streamline the process and support our GSRs in gathering and reporting their group voice.

**DISTRICT 08 (CONTRA COSTA) – CHUCK B:** At the March district meeting, we elected the chair of our new standing committee on Accessibilities. We passed a housekeeping motion to allow our Bridging the Gap Chair to produce 1,000 bookmarks with contact information that can be handed out at the centers that they visit. Our visiting area officer helped us conduct a sharing session and group conscience for one of this year's agenda topics, Literature Item K., a request to update the book *Living Sober*.

**DISTRICT 09 (SOLANO SOUTH)—BILLIE JO C.:** We had a well-attended meeting. We will take a district conscience on the agenda topic of revising *Living Sober*.

**DISTRICT 90 (SOLANO NORTH) – DEBRA M.:** We had a wonderful Unity Day in Vacaville, where we learned how to facilitate agenda topic sessions with our groups. A new open LGBTQ meeting, The QR Code, has started and meets every other week with strong attendance. It's an exciting time to be in General Service as we see more inclusion in our Fellowship.

**DISTRICT 10 (MARIN) – FRANK T.:** Our in-person Agenda Topics Workshop was held on March 1. GSRs who couldn't attend received a list of online workshops from other districts. The March District meeting featured three roundtable segments: 1) Media Blitz review; 2) Sexual Harassment (Safety); and 3) GSRs on their Agenda Topics process. We heard a presentation on how to share in an Assembly at the microphone. We elected a new Registrar and met District 18's new liaison to our District.

**DISTRICT 11 (NAPA) – DUNCAN L.:** We are finally finding our rhythm—meetings feel more organized, and officers are settling in. Our DCMs hosted a great workshop on taking a group conscience, and GSRs are now hard at work. We discussed Area and Assembly motions, and GSRs are bringing them back to their groups. A visiting Area Officer gave a wonderful presentation on the Delegate's journey. We'll soon vote on a proposed agenda item from Napa. PRAASA in Anchorage was a great experience for our new officers!

**DISTRICT 12 (SONOMA) – MAUREEN G.:** District 12 will present New Business at the Pre-Conference Assembly to add an inventory question to the pamphlet, *The A.A. Group*. We're currently short a few DCMs, though we just elected our first Alt DCM. PRAASA provided helpful recruitment ideas, like offering more food and personally inviting members to serve in new ways. We also elected Kevin B. as our new Alt DCMC.

**DISTRICT 13 (LAKE) – CHRIS W.:** Copies of the Agenda Topic Summaries were distributed to groups and committees. BTG and H&I remain active, and two Fire Camp meetings carry the message to 30-40 people each week. 63 A.A. meetings are held each week in Lake County.

**DISTRICT 14 (MENDOCINO) – ALEX P.:** Our GSRs and DCMs have been diligently working on agenda topics. At the Pre-Conference next month, our Delegate will hear from representatives in Gualala, the Village of Mendocino, Fort Bragg, Willits, Redwood Valley, and Ukiah. 34% of our groups from across the district contribute their voices to AA. District 14 engages in more than just agenda workshops; all of our committees remain active, and their hard work is greatly appreciated.

**DISTRICT 15 (HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE) – JANINE L.:** A Recording Secretary was elected. We will continue to have GSRs and officers provide written reports to the Recording Secretary. H & I and HCI have reached out for Unity Day planning. The DCMC and district officers are working on recruiting GSRs for all of the groups. The DCMC attended the monthly Speaker Meeting to recruit and spoke on Concept 3. Seven District 15 people represented us at PRAASA. We are looking to get PI/CPC, BTG, and Accessibility Committees going strongly.

**DISTRICT 16 (SPANISH CENTRAL) – ROSALBA P.:** We continue working to inform our groups about General Service and the benefits of the Hispanic Forum. While we don't yet have a committee, our board is ready to support. The flyer for our first Interdistrict meeting of the five Spanish-speaking districts is out—join us April 19, 2025, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. at the Mission Group, 2010 Mission St., SF. Lunch provided! District 16 will host the Post-Conference Dinner—details soon. Groups have agenda topics, some with consciences. We still have vacant service positions. Thank you for letting me serve.

**DISTRICT 17 (SPANISH SOUTH)—ERIC R.:** A visiting officer spoke about the importance of participating in General Service. We held our business meeting for the Hispanic Forum and attended the Agenda Topics Workshop in San Francisco, which was very helpful. Our PI committee participated in a wellness fair at the Sunnyvale Community Center.

**DISTRICT 18 (SPANISH NORTH) – ALMA L.:** We held our business meeting on March 19. Our visiting officer shared the importance of sponsorship in service and how to choose a sponsor, which was very informative. We covered the Intergroup Liaison service position, but still have vacancies in Public Information, CPC, and the Sonoma Intergroup Liaison. GSRs are starting to gather their group consciences, and some groups without GSRs have asked for support. There's a lot of enthusiasm for the Pre-Conference Assembly. We continue visiting groups to encourage the election of GSRs. "Bridging the Gap" had two successful connections. We're improving our GSR orientation meetings. Thank you for letting me serve.

**DISTRICT 19 (SPANISH SOUTH SOUTH)—ADAN M.:** Thanks to our visiting officer for inspiring us in service. Our district is excited to work on agenda topics. We believe discussing self-support, finances, and updates to the Service Manual is very important. We look forward to the upcoming Assembly and the 6th Hispanic Forum.

**DISTRICT 20 (SPANISH EAST) – MISAIEL M.:** With the visit from our Area Officer, we learned the value of inventory—even at the Conference level. It reminded us that we may be making mistakes without realizing it, and we're glad the Conference will address effective communication and inventory. Our committees are actively bringing workshops to groups, including on La Viña, Safety in A.A., CPC, and PI. District 20 participated in PRAASA in Alaska—it was emotional and informative. We hope to co-host the Inventory or Election Assembly next year with District 07. Thank you for letting me serve.

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

**ACCESSIBILITIES—ENRIQUE E.:** We had 10 members join today's meeting. District chairs shared updates on challenges, wins, and plans. Area committee volunteers presented a safety workshop using GSO service material [SMF-209](#), which District 20 has been using with groups. This presentation is available to any district. Accessibility message of the month: Is your district website linked to [DeafAA.org](#)? It offers resources for Deaf and hard-of-hearing members. The Access Committee will have an info table at the Pre-Conference Assembly.

**ARCHIVES – ELVIA P.:** We continue to distribute old Grapevines, which we also make available for free at the Pre-Conference Assembly. An Area Officer answered questions about drafting a motion to purchase a multi-function device to replace the repository's scanner and copier, and to replace the lock on the "safe" where irreplaceable materials are kept. Fun fact: the May 1996 Grapevine featured "Online AA – A Report to Our Readers," describing early AA in cyberspace via dial-up.

**BRIDGING THE GAP – LYNN K.:** In February, 32 BTG presentations took place across our Area. We received 84 blue cards (requests for contact) and 47 yellow cards (new volunteers), resulting in seven successful bridges. Our H&I position has been filled. The Spanish Coordinator and Literature Coordinator positions remain open, though we hope to fill the Literature position next month.

**COMMENTS/COMMENTARIOS - BLAKE L.:** Month two of sending out *Comments* and *Comentarios* went smoothly. Mailchimp gets easier to use each time. Thank you to our Chair, Delegate, Recording Secretary, and especially our translators for all your contributions. I also want to thank the Panel for consistently providing relevant content. District 12 appreciates the opportunity to serve the Area in this way. Thank you for letting me be of service!

**FINANCE – JEFF D.:** Attendance was low at this month's Finance Committee meeting. We discussed funding the Delegate's General Service Conference expenses—our \$3,500 minimum commitment will be met, with additional funds pending March actuals. The Area Officers voted to fund a third PRAASA attendee, which is reviewed yearly and approved when funds allow. We are also reviewing reimbursement guidelines for outdated language. Additionally, the Area now has a credit card for safer transactions, and the Treasurer has received a check scanner to improve processing efficiency.

**INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – LUIS R.:** Our committee is working hard to provide the best service possible, which makes me very happy. We meet monthly to discuss and make decisions together. We welcomed a new member, Juan Daniel, who will coordinate interpreters for Zoom and hybrid meetings. This month, we translated and edited about 14 documents, including agenda topics, and supported other committees with translations for their meetings.

**TECHNOLOGY—MEG B.:** We discussed pre-con setup and logistics; our team will be on-site at 5:30 a.m. Saturday. We're organizing software subscriptions and exploring Microsoft Office licenses for internal use, and we encourage feedback from officers and committee chairs. We finalized our group conscience discussion for the virtual ACM motion. Stop by our table at the Pre-Conference for workshop surveys and volunteer opportunities. The tech committee is checking in with committee chairs on their tech needs. We're seeking help with hybrid meetings; contact Don L. or me if you're interested.

**WEBSITE – SANDRA S.:** Committee members are actively working on website updates, edits, and resolving system and email issues. Thanks to past web committee members for training those new to website design. The Committee is diligently working to bring the CNCA06.org website up to date. We appreciate your patience with us. Panel 75 Agenda Topics, Background Information, and Background Summaries are now posted under "What's New" in English and Spanish as Word documents, making it easy to cut, paste, or edit for group consciences. Suggestions and feedback are welcome at [webchair@cnca06.org](mailto:webchair@cnca06.org).

**PI/CPC – CLAUDIA N.:** We had a well-attended meeting with about 30 people. Our Delegate, Chitra, shared on all things PI, noting that once she understood the “why” of the Comprehensive Media Plan, the rest was easy to follow. GSO is exploring how to review PSAs in Spanish and French. Looking at PI through Steps 4–6 can help identify strengths, weaknesses, and action items. One member shared about presenting at health fairs at a local junior college and involving young people. Members discussed how PICPC efforts often begin at the group level with PICPC representatives.

**LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA SHARING SESSION – JOSE L.:** We discussed updates to the 5th edition of the Big Book and the 4th edition of the Spanish Big Book, as well as the *Plain Language Big Book*. Members shared PRAASA experiences, including concerns from Spanish-speaking members about issues with La Viña apps and media channels. Some Spanish-speaking districts are planning an interdistrict workshop on tech accessibility. Concerns were also raised about La Viña’s finances. One member shared how they create literature displays, offering ideas to support visibility and engagement with Spanish-language materials.

**DCM SHARING SESSION – NICOLE C:** This month’s sharing focused on the topic “What does a DCM do?” A new DCM opened with reflections on their role—facilitating GSR schools, holding sub-district meetings, and keeping GSRs informed about Conference activity. Qualifications include sobriety, service experience, and time to serve, along with humility, patience, neutrality, love, and service. DCMs noted that duties vary by district, though the Service Manual offers guidance. Many found the Fellowship Connection database helpful. Struggles with participation continue, with suggested solutions including food, showing up, leading by example, and building joyful connections.

**SPANISH LINGUISTIC SHARING SESSION – MAGDALENO:** Members discussed how to present their group’s conscience to the Delegate. Agenda topic sharing sessions are underway, and the background summaries have been very helpful. Our sharing session wants to have well-prepared presentations that start with a clear introduction so everyone understands the topic and can participate. All members are encouraged to get involved.

**H & I – JAMES C.:** This month’s report includes several housekeeping items: We’re considering ending literature storage since most AAWS orders go directly to areas and institutions. We’re also discussing moving Quarterly meetings fully online, with only 1–2 in-person meetings per year, to reduce rental costs. The annual Pink Can financial report is available online, and I have copies if needed. We have open service positions: Finance Committee Member, Archives Chair, Literature Chair, and Web Chair—details at [www.handinorcal.org](http://www.handinorcal.org). Our next Quarterly meeting is April 27, 2025; contact me for location or Zoom info.

**YPAA (YOUNG PEOPLE IN A.A.) – NONE**

**CENTRAL OFFICES – NONE**

**NCCAA (NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF A.A.) – CHASE C.:** NCCAA was well attended, and next year it won’t conflict with PRAASA. A *Plain Language Big Book* workshop generated lots of enthusiasm and appreciation. Recordings are available for purchase at the Sound Solutions website.

**HISPANIC WOMEN’S WORKSHOP – NONE**

**LA VIÑA ANNIVERSARY – NONE**

**FORO HISPANO – JOSE L:** I'm pleased to share that District 19 has stepped up to host the 6th Foro Hispano, and their request was approved. This occasion will be their first time hosting, and we're grateful for their service. We assured them they are not alone—support from other districts will be available throughout the planning process. Seed money has been provided to help them begin organizing. Tomorrow, we'll hold a meeting to inform and support them with a "pass-it-on" of experience and guidance. Thank you.

## **AREA BUSINESS**

### **PRESENTATION:**

- **General Service App Update** – *Presented by Dan B., Area Treasurer.*

*Presentation:* The app is now available in the Apple App Store—search “AA General Service” to download. The Android version is not yet approved. Google requires a two-week beta test with active users. We need Android users willing to download and use the app daily during the test period. Testing will begin after the Pre-Conference Assembly. To participate, provide your Gmail address to me or our Tech Chair, Meg. A full presentation or workshop will be offered later for DCMCs on how to upload district information to the app. *Questions:* **Q:** If I have an Apple phone but use Google Drive, can I participate? **A:** If you use Google Drive on an Apple phone, you still need an Android phone to participate in testing for the Google Play app store. // **Q:** I downloaded the app on my iPhone and it says my district is not yet participating. How do districts participate? **A:** After Google approval, DCMCs will be loaded into the system, and districts can opt in. // **Q:** Do testers need to log in or actively interact, and how often? **A:** Google requires testers to interact with the app daily, but it can be as simple as opening a link or clicking a button. // **Q:** Would it be helpful if Android users in my district signed up to test? **A:** Yes, anyone interested can send their email to [treasurer@cna06.org](mailto:treasurer@cna06.org). // **Q:** What is the name of the app? **A:** A.A. General Service App. // **Q:** Until when can we submit our email addresses to participate? **A:** Until the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 5-6. The announcement will be repeated at the Assembly so GSRs can participate.

### **PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS:**

- That CNCA06 request that A.A. produce a public information service piece with a simple and consistent message, including QR codes, that could be used across the United States/Canada service structure. And to request that AA use the service piece in a public information campaign. — *Presented by District 01 Monterey.*

*Presentation:* This motion is inspired by ads for Human Trafficking seen in airports and churches—simple, direct, and featuring QR codes. The idea hit me that this could be an agenda item. I imagined a public info service piece reading “Are you having a problem with drinking?” with [aa.org](http://aa.org) and two QR codes: one linked to a landing page created and maintained by GSO, and the other to the Meeting Guide App. The problem this proposed agenda item addresses is that our membership is not growing. According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 209 million people worldwide have alcohol dependence. A.A. has remained around 2 million members since 1990. This idea aims to reach those who don't yet know about A.A. and help grow our fellowship. The motion was developed with input from 12 A.A. members, whose suggestions were incorporated into the proposal. District 01 voted unanimously to pass the motion. In conclusion, we feel it would be beneficial for A.A. to have a simple, consistent message that conveys in seconds: if you're having a problem with alcohol, A.A. is here—what A.A. is, and how to find it now. Placed widely, it could plant seeds for those still stumbling in the dark to find the light someday, just as we have. *Questions:* **Q:** Is this leaning towards promotion? **A:** I don't know. // **Q:** How is this different from the PI posters that GSO already has available on their website? **A:** This



would already include QR codes maintained by GSO, making them print-ready with no changes needed and ensuring a consistent message across AA. // **Q:** I wanted to clarify—by service material, do you mean posters and other marketing materials? **A:** I produced a sample business card of what I was thinking, but it could be anything—social media, printed materials, etc. // **Q:** Do you want to specify in the motion that GSO produces and prints this material? **A:** My service sponsor helped me with this wording. // **Q:** Do you feel the current service material is not adequate, and that's why you are proposing it? **A:** Yes. // <<<**Motion to become Presentation of New Business at the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 5, 2025.>>>**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- That the ACM, Area Standing Committees, and Area Subcommittees that meet in the same month as CNCA's assemblies are conducted online only during those months. – *Presented by the Panel 73 CNCA Finance Committee*

**Discussion: Group consciences** – Seven groups in District 70 voted unanimously in favor, but one group wanted to know if there is a cost to moving online. // My group agrees to have them online because we must use all the tools available to us. // The groups in my district are split; it's a big topic, and there are questions about how it will affect the area. // My groups are also split, but one group felt it was irrelevant to the AA groups and should be decided by the trusted servants who attend the ACM. // My group conscience is to have it in person for the human touch. // **Personal opinions** – I heard in the last discussions that it would be better to try this on a trial basis—we could test it for a year and make a motion to change it back if needed. // As a Spanish member, I'm afraid of technology and change, but if I don't try, I won't grow. I heard there are two Zoom accounts with interpretation, which would benefit the Spanish session and committees. We could start at 8 am to avoid needing another Zoom account. // I appreciate the intent and believe Finance and Officers can adjust, but the Spanish linguistic session will be most affected. I wish not all assemblies were included and that there were more of a middle ground. // I support it financially, but after a DCMC session, I had hallway conversations that added real value. Losing that four times a year may not be worth the savings. // When I got sober, I was afraid to be in the rooms, but human interaction made me feel heard and part of. Zoom is great for access, but I fear using it as a crutch. In 2021, AA membership dropped below 2 million. // The money we spend comes from the basket—are we using it wisely? We can reverse this later and still hold watch parties to maintain connection. // I don't think saving money is worth losing hallway conversations. // I'm a Spanish member whose homegroup is on Zoom. I know the challenges of online meetings, but I learn more in person—this is where I find energy, sponsors, and fellowship. We train leaders here. // I served as Chair during shelter-in-place and rotated in on Zoom. Chairing from my living room and hearing group consciences from people's couches felt strange. During the pandemic, we lost almost all Spanish group participation. If a pandemic didn't bring us online, cost-cutting won't either. // I believe this would improve accessibility. // I hate leaving my house, so it's strange for me to be in this position. We talk about saving money, but for what? The groups give money to carry the message, which includes each other. A delegate once said we should ask if we are being of service to those new to this level of service. // I don't think a material concern should drive a spiritual decision. // I'd like to keep it in person, but it's not bad to try something new. // **Vote by Substantial Unanimity: Yes (9) / No (38) / Abstained (3). Motion fails. No minority opinion was shared. <<<Motion fails>>>**

- That CNCA allow Intergroups and Central Offices to sell Conference-approved literature by A.A.W.S., as well as A.A. Grapevine/La Viña magazines and books, at Area Assemblies, with the following provisions: 1) Literature must be available in both English and Spanish; 2) The sale of sobriety medallions, t-shirts and other types of merchandise will be prohibited; and 3) the Intergroup / Central will have sole financial responsibility for

literature sales. – *Presented by Matt E. Assembly Coordinator and Jackie B. Recording Secretary*

**Discussion:** **Group consciences** – Seven (7) group consciences were collected and most were in favor; one group wanted materials available in French, another wanted some non-conference literature like *A New Pair of Glasses* and *24-Hours A Day*. One group was adamant that Intergroup should cover the cost of running the literature table. // **Q:** District 16 asked if they were to host an assembly, would Oficina Central be required to sell literature in English? **A:** The language in the motion is intentionally flexible and not prescriptive. The host district invites an Intergroup to participate and reminds them that we are a bilingual Area, requesting that literature be provided in both English and Spanish. // My group is in favor but wants to know if every piece of literature must be in both English and Spanish, or if a selection in each language is acceptable. // **Personal opinions** – This is a no-brainer. A Central Office shows up, staffs the table, and brings literature. Literature helps us carry the message. // My concern is that my district has two Intergroups—if this motion passes, which one is responsible for the books? // If each district has its own Intergroup, what happens when two districts co-host? // **Vote by Substantial Unanimity: Yes (49) / No (0) / Abstained (0) <<<Motion Passes.>>>**

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

- *Paperless Comments/Comentarios*

**Discussion:** The officers discussed whether we're actively asking members to sign up for paper or expecting them to figure it out themselves. Paper requires more cost and a team, while digital does not. // GSO stopped sending printed service manuals and Box 459; we may be less informed now. Going fully paperless risks cutting off communication for districts that rely on printed materials. // Paper is played. I recycle the printed *Comments*. Digital has analytics—how many people open, click, or scroll? We should choose either paper or digital, not both. // When I was DCMC for Contra Costa, we went from 1200 printed copies to 34. Producing and mailing those few felt pointless. I work in public health and don't see the accessibility need for paper. // As registrar, I added a checkbox on the registration form to request printed *Comments*. Half who checked it later said email was fine, and the other half didn't respond, possibly because they don't check email. // In my linguistic district, about half of our officers need paper *Comments*—they struggle with technology. One or two GSRs don't even have email. // I've printed them from my email before. // It's physically harder for me to read online. I ignore most emails, but I read paper while eating breakfast. I was excited to receive English and Spanish copies together so I could compare them and learn Spanish. // I can't keep up with tech updates and scams. I rely on receiving paper *Comments* and *Comentarios*. It's not about preference—it's about aging and losing access. //

### **WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?**

A safety issue came up today, and it's a good reminder for the Pre-Conference Assembly to be mindful of our reactions and how we speak to one another when someone shares from the microphone.

*The meeting was closed at 3:31 by Drew B. with the Responsibility Declaration.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie B.

CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 75