

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA PRECONFERENCE ASSEMBLY 2023 MINUTES

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

OFFICER REPORTS

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

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – MIGUEL H.: I continue to pray for our Delegate, Eric. I feel privileged to have attended PRAASA and brought pictures of the photo I took of our area at PRAASA. The Alcoholics Anonymous 27th World Service Meeting is held every year alternating between New York and other countries. The report from the 2022 meeting is out, and I will share some of a presentation from a representative from Bolivia. Weaknesses: Lack of trusted servants in their service structure and lack of knowledge about how the service structure works. In both directions, communication failures between various parts of the structure and the Fellowship. Strength and Hope: The 2023 Conference theme is "In the Spirit of National Integration." Their current service leaders understand our 36 principles enable personal transformation and growth, which then get reflected in the collective.

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

TREASURER – CLAUDIA N.: Our checking account has \$38,152.03 and our prudent reserve, which is one month's operating expenses, has \$13,000.96. This quarter, our actual contributions were \$37,412.06 and our projected contributions were \$28, 501.25. Please thank your groups for their generous contributions to CNCA. Our actual expenses this quarter were \$45,460.81 and our budgeted expenses were \$31,949.87. We made payments in March for multiple assemblies that were not budgeted until later in the year, hence the difference in expenses. Please be sure to let your groups and meetings know CNCA has changed its address. Please send all disbursements, contributions, and correspondence to our new address: California Northern Coastal Area, 1390 N. McDowell Blvd. Suite G-339, Petaluma, CA 94954. By the end of this year our previous San Francisco PO Box will no longer be active. Today you can make contributions by scanning the QR Codes on 7th tradition buckets, placing cash in the buckets, using Square at the finance table, and online at cnca06.org/contribute/ Please help us spread the word about this online contribution option.

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

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

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – JACKIE B.: While our method of gathering and communicating at Assemblies has evolved into this hybrid virtual experience, our fundamental purpose remains the same - to thoroughly inform our Area Delegate to participate at the upcoming GS Conference. Thanks to District 20 Spanish East and District 08 Contra Costa and

our Hybrid Subcommittee and their Alternates. There is a survey to provide feedback on the assembly, or you can email me directly at assemblycoordinator@cnca06.org. At the Post Conference Assembly, the delegate's report will be interpreted into American Sign Language, Spanish-English interpretation, and assisted listening. The Summer "Fun" Assembly is August 12th at the Redwood Acres Fairground in Eureka, CA, hosted by District 15 Humboldt Del Norte. District D01 is bidding at the April Area Committee Meeting to host the Fall Assembly in Del Rey Oaks in Monterey County. I have been working on developing tools and service materials to help Districts in the Assembly bidding and planning process. If you would like to learn more about hosting an Assembly, please email me.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – MATT E.: The Spanish translation of the book Experience, Strength, and Hope (Experiencia, Fortaleza y Esperanza) is available on aa.org for free digital reading. This book is 56 stories from the first three editions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous translated into Spanish for the first time. The print version will be available soon. AA Grapevine Inc. and AA World Services have both increased the price of printed books. AA Grapevine Inc.'s increase has been applied to the top ten best-selling Grapevine books (including Language of the Heart and Emotional Sobriety) and will be applied to all other Grapevine books as they are reprinted. AA World Services' price increase goes into effect on April 3rd. The increase will be about 20% for books and about 30% for pamphlets. Since covid, the costs associated with distributing our literature have gone up. The increased costs have resulted in a revenue loss of over \$1.2 million per year. These same cost increases also directly affect Grapevine Inc., especially because Grapevine/La Viña does not accept direct contributions, and all the revenue comes from subscriptions and book sales. These price increases are responsible and necessary to continue to operate prudently. Progress on the Grapevine app is well underway! It will be a subscription service for your smartphone giving members access to digital copies of the Grapevine along with a host of other features. A developer has been selected, and 450 survey responses on desired features and functions have been received. Sample screenshots are to be shared at the Conference in April, development is expected to be completed in June, and the app is expected to officially launch in September 2023.

AREA STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES

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

ARCHIVES – CAROL H.: The delegates' board on the Archives display goes back to the first GS Conference. Please feel free to pick up a Group History form. The Archives committee is growing. We are continuing to reach out to districts that do not have an Archives Chair. Our workday at the Archives repository is on the 2nd Saturday of every month from noon to 4:00.

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

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

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – JOSE L.: The I&T committee facilitates translation and interpretation services for CNCA to improve communication within CNCA. Our equipment technicians are David H. from D12 and David R. from D08; our portable radio coordinator is Jose C. from D18; our interpretation coordinator is Helena B. from D01; our recording secretary is Lisa D. from D70; and our translation coordinator is Ben G. from D12. Our committee meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 pm on Zoom. We received 70 FM radios and 89 working earphones. We have translated approximately 73 documents and 13 emails, the Comments and Comentarios for February and March,

and helped with the agenda topics summaries. The interpretation chair confirmed interpreter availability for ACM Monthly Sharing Sessions, Standing Committees, and the assemblies for the panel.

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

TECHNOLOGY – ANDREW S. (REPORTING FOR JACQUELINE P.): This is the area's newest standing committee created in Panel 71. The committee consists of Andrew S., Bill H., Dennis N., and Don L., and the elected chair, Jacqueline P. The committee will be reviewing the draft Technology Committee Guidelines, job descriptions, and policies, assessing the landscape of the Area's communication technology and passwords, its equipment, and subscription services. The Hybrid Sub-Committee comprises nine members, five onsite to produce Area Hybrid Live meetings and two working remotely. Its members are Duncan L., Edgar L., Emma A., Jose F., Noel E., Patrick C., Pamela S., Tony F., and Vanessa H. The Hybrid Sub-Committee's Standing Officer is Assembly Coordinator Jackie B. with two Tech Committee members, Bill H., and Don L., serving as alternates. We are looking at how other Areas deal with technology, and how they develop and work on their tech policies. We are in a live chat group with tech officers and committee chairs we met from PRAASA 2023. Our committee presented a motion to reimburse travel expenses to its required onsite members at the Area Committee meeting in February. The Hybrid Sub-Committee meets monthly to debrief about our production and considers members' comments via a survey sent to DCMCs. We have a place on our committee for those wishing to be of service.

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

PRAASA 2024 – TEDDY B-W: Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly is a weekend conference for 1,500 service needs! Each of the fifteen areas of the Pacific Region hosts PRAASA on a rotational schedule and our Area is hosting in 2024. We have signed the contract with the San Francisco Marriott Marquis, the venue for the event March 1-3, 2024. We have a logo, badges, and bookmarks. We have over 80 volunteers signed up so far to work on the various committees. If you would like to volunteer to serve for PRAASA 2024, please send an email to me at praasa2024@gmail.com. Our budgeting process is underway, and we are receiving the pass-it-on from the PRAASA 2023 host committee. We have noted that the motion for future PRAASAs to incorporate a virtual component was not discussed at PRAASA 2023 and so the PRAASA 2024 Steering Committee will be reviewing its decision to await direction from PRAASA as a whole.

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

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

AREA BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF NEW BUSINESS:

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

Presentation: DCM Warren R. presented online. This was a Conference agenda item in 2015 coming from our Area, and the Conference decided not to act. They thought the Concepts had adequate exposure in the current literature. We wanted to revisit this. We've seen people have a glazed look in their eyes after being handed the Service Manual.

The initial idea was for a book, but we simplified the motion. The intent is to make the concepts more available for the fellowship at large. When we took this motion to groups, they would ask, "What are the Concepts?" We want our groups to have this discussion to increase knowledge.

Questions: **Q:** Would this mean adding the twelve concepts to the existing Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book?

A: This was the original idea, but we decided to simplify it to create any literature combining the three legacies and the summaries and let the fellowship decide. This is not meant to replace the 12X12. We are asking for an entirely new piece of literature. // **Q:** Are we talking about having two separate books: the 12X12 as it exists today and another book, the 12X12X12? // **A:** The idea is to get the concepts more visible, and it would be a way to combine all three. Whether it's a book or not is another matter. // **Q:** Can this be stated in such a way that it's clear about what will be produced? //

A: We are keeping questions to clarify the intent of the motion. // **Q:** Is the entire Service Manual going to be reproduced or will there be a new edition that's not the same? // **A:** It would have no effect on the current service manual. // **Q:** Is this necessary? **A:** We are keeping questions to clarify the intent of the motion. // **Q:** Who is the intended target audience and intended format for use? Service sponsors, meetings, business meetings? **A:** The audience is everybody in the fellowship and could be used for whatever purpose necessary.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

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

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

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

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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

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

Discussion: **Group consciences:** One argument is that "conceive" is the same as pregnant, but it also means to understand, comprehend, perceive, project, imagine, and create. The word "conceive" isn't wrong, but "understood" isn't either. It's trying to resolve something that isn't wrong. Conceive is the appropriate use, there is no need to change it. // My group thinks this decision should be made only by Spanish speakers. **Personal opinions:** Conceive has a wide range of meanings especially if you're talking about a higher power or God. Lots of words in Spanish can't be translated literally. "Understand" might be simpler but "conceive" has a wider range. I don't see the need to change it. // It makes sense to me, understand is a synonym for conceive. // We should maintain it. As Bill W. said, "let's keep it simple." // The word concebir is deeper than understanding. I don't think it will create confusion with new members. We prefer to keep it. // Many members have only been to elementary school, so "to conceive" is much more advanced. "Entender" is simpler. Not everybody has the capacity or education to understand "concebir." // I'm bilingual. My English is better than my Spanish, and I also speak Spanglish. For the literal translation, "entendimos" is better. "Concebimos" is a higher education level. I think there is a need for a simple Spanish translation as there may be in English.

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

Sharing on PRAASA:

This was my first PRAASA [many members shared that this was their first PRAASA]. It was a beautiful experience. The best part was hearing from the Trustees and having them sign my service manual. Thanks to District 40 for allowing me to go. // It was my second PRAASA and it was a different experience than my first. It fortified my being in AA. I encourage those who haven't gone to go because the spirit of AA is received. // It was a wonderful experience to be among people I wouldn't have gotten to know. AA has changed my life. I thought that being an alcoholic was the lowest low; I didn't know I would make friends. // I got to chair a small panel at PRAASA that was not part of the program, and I also went into the PICPC committee. It was a great experience. // I really enjoyed it. There was a lot of information and was a beautiful experience. Thank you for my group's support. // This was one of the best decisions of my life, thank you to my group for the economic support. I enjoyed listening to past delegates and hearing about their love of service. This had the biggest impact and motivated me for service. // I was impressed with the Spanish-speaking population there. It was incredible and heartwarming. I would like to encourage us to recognize this large population of us. I want to recognize the alarm bell that was set off by our trustees, it's a heavy weight for Eric. This year's conference is going to be a big deal. Please pray for Eric and all our conference. The magic of every one of us together is lifesaving and life changing. // They gave a lot of information for new GSRs. I enjoyed it a lot, including the sharing from the trustees. I learned a lot. // It was an incredible experience. I got to know Miguel as he translated for me at the YP roundtable meeting. I felt part of because I was able to share. I'm happy about that. // I was given the opportunity to be of service to La Viña. I had an idea to create audio in other dialects. Now that we're having these experiences, I'm working to translate it into my dialect for indigenous people. // I'm grateful my district sent me. I'd like to share some quotes of things I heard: "If it's going to increase unity, the change is probably worthwhile," "Service is the rent you pay for the space you have in heaven," "The group conscience is our collective eleventh step," "how we do things in AA is more important than what we do," "nothing pays off more than restraint of pen and tongue," and "do some kind of service to pay for your sobriety." // I was heartened to see people from different states work at roundtables to come to solutions with technology. Another takeaway was to get connected to young people in service across our region. // It was a cool experience to be around people from various states. I walked away with a lot of contacts, which wasn't the experience I got when I attended PRAASA for the first time on Zoom. One of my takeaways is that GS is about taking care of AA. Often when I talk about GS in the rooms, I see old-timers roll their eyes. Basically, what I say is I love this program, AA saved my life. I ask them not to roll their eyes if they love AA because GS keeps our doors open. I also want to shout out to young people; they had a meeting at 11:45 pm on Saturday. I was impressed with that energy. // I'm grateful that I went to the microphone during PRAASA. I feel love and warmth from people there united. I shared with other people, three from Alaska, and they talked about how they serve in their districts. Sharing with DCMCs at the roundtable was the most important takeaway. // When I first got to AA, it was just the four walls of the group. I'm a GSR for the first time. Now that I'm going to different places, I feel a lot of responsibility. The sharing from the delegates gave me trust and removed my fear. // It was great to see people I know and meet new people. I attended the Hispanic women's meeting and listened to their experiences with struggles in the community to maintain our sisterhood. I was given a ticket for the dinner, and I was grateful for that. // Hearing that a lot of people suffer the same as I do motivates me to continue serving my community. // We took seven newcomers to PRAASA. I was happy to see other people happy. They can't stop talking about it. // PRAASA gave me the commitment and motivation that I need to help the person still suffering. I'm grateful to my higher power and to PRAASA for helping me to better serve La Viña. I appreciated the dedication during the workshop. La Viña is part of my medicine and recovery. // With all due respect, I'm disappointed that we're discussing PRAASA at the assembly. It's outside our GS structure and it's taking away from time to discuss business that can help the still-suffering alcoholic. We don't have enough time to discuss business as it is. I suggest we keep the PRAASA discussion very limited. // I understand how they focus on giving information to GSRs, the GSR is the most important. I saw how they focus on how we can do what we do. // I'm glad we were in person. I felt the love in AA. My big takeaway is that many people love AA. Even if don't agree with someone's opinion, we all want AA to thrive. My name was pulled from a hat to be funded in the past, and I'm grateful for that practice in my district. I volunteered at the PRAASA 2024 table and that was fun. I look forward to volunteering more.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

[[Many members expressed their gratitude for being able to participate in the assembly both online and in person, including expressing gratitude to the hybrid committee, the planning committee for the assembly, and others in service at the assembly.]] // I drove from LA to be here. There is a spiritual power in me being here. I just graduated college, and this was the only week I could come here without it interfering with my new life. I know there is my higher power in that. // I believe our loving higher power created A.A. and A.A.'s writings through Bill W. Bill and Bob passed the authority of AA to the groups. Our loving higher power expresses itself through the group conscience. If we are getting ideas and inspired thoughts to make changes to our literature to make it more modern, more inclusive, less offensive, and more politically correct, maybe it's our loving higher power editing its own writings to help us evolve with the times. It's not our book or words that get and keep us sober, it's our loving higher power through our literature, through our sponsors, through each other, and through ourselves. // It's disheartening to hear people think trans people are a political thing. We're just existing, we want to get sober, we want to live. Our gender shouldn't be an issue. Unfortunately, a large part of our community has issues with feeling comfortable in AA. I deal with a lot of alcoholics who do not want to go to regular AA meetings at all. It's a small population of people needing help. // I was hurt by hearing someone say, "If you can't hear, go to an ASL meeting." I can't hear well but I don't sign. I'm grateful that we

have a safety set-up. I was able to talk to people to feel better. Please be careful about what we share with each other. // Over the entire assembly, we had 538 registered. Saturday, we had 352, and Sunday 186. That was 237 GSRs, 21 alternate GSRs, and 48 DCMs. // Last panel our area passed a motion to request an agenda item for a graphic novel of the Big Book. The conference committee declined to add it as an agenda topic. Yet, we still see agenda topics submitted by individuals instead of coming from a whole area. I think what becomes an agenda top needs to be addressed by the conference. // Thank you to those that stopped at the archives display, I hope you enjoyed it. Thank you to our interpreters. // Thanks to the officers for the agenda topics summaries. We'd be lost without them. // My service sponsor called GS one of the last true democracies, and I've seen this here at the assembly. My partner sees me traveling for service and asked me, "When are you going to take me on a trip?" This has been exciting and wonderful. // I want to wish our delegate a good trip to New York. I pray that my higher power illuminates him and that good decisions made are for AA as a whole. We love him. [[Many members expressed gratitude for and faith in our delegate and wished him a good trip to the Conference]] // We've increased participation by the Latino community and English speakers through interpretation and radios. We will need more radios in the future and will provide them. // This weekend reminded me how GS deepens sobriety and spirituality. // I ask the area to re-evaluate the practice of mechanizing communication during the group conscience process. Not everyone speaks at the desired pace, and not everyone can wordsmith their thoughts to meet the time requirements. Cutting off people before they finish their group's thoughts is inconsiderate, short-sighted, and unnecessary. There is no way to know who might be deterred from speaking up for fear of being clapped away. I understand we feel justified that is a way to stop the people that go on and on. This is the job of the chair with the support of the experienced members of the service panel. A gently spoken "wrap it up" could be a start. My estimate is that most if not all the people that were clapped off would have had the chance to finish if we didn't have the extraneous sharing session on PRAASA. The hybrid component was very well done. // I really wish we had some literature explaining what nonbinary and transgender are. In the revisions of the safety statement, I was disappointed that they removed the part about how someone's gender is what they say, not how they are perceived, and it explained was nonbinary is. From my own experience, it's easier for people to assign someone a gender based on how they perceive them, leaving very little option for the person to express their own gender. I've also experienced having to have an escort to use the facility that I want to go to. Once someone came to me and wondered if "nonbinary" is a computer term. Our area supported a motion four years ago to have a transgender pamphlet as an agenda item and unfortunately, it didn't make it. // Everywhere in the service structure, we are encouraged to be guided by the traditions and concepts. Warranty four is about having an ample discussion, and five, not acting punitively. Let's remember basic principles. Some discussions got brought up during the break. A lot of people felt unsafe with the venue, in terms of parking, having to walk to the location, and feeling crowded in the building. Thank you for making it hybrid, I felt way more a part of. // We received about \$1000 in cash and about \$400 in Square. // Everything is recycled but if you say it three times, it's your own. My partner is transgender and probably one of us. They come to meetings because they like it. I've heard someone say that how we treat each other is more important than what we do. I'm grateful for mostly loving the conversation around the safety piece. What I heard is that we have an area that cares about making sure the rooms of AA are as safe and welcoming as possible. // I got resentful that our time got cut off. // There is an H&I Conference May 19th and 20th in Sacramento. // I appreciate the work done to investigate what happened with the board. I've been thinking about participation in concept five. There are no second-class workers, and we shouldn't be punitive. There seems to have been a reactive response that needed more reflection. // Thank you for inviting me from Reno. // Our chair did a great job. As alt. delegate, I'm not worried about having access to the delegate dashboard. // Unity is on my mind because personal recovery depends on it. When I was younger, I had a lot of ideas about how I see it. What I've learned is if I seek to understand rather than be understood, to accept rather than be accepted, to love rather than be loved, I have a shot. If someone makes a disparaging remark, I can accept it. I've been bullied at some meetings, but I went back because I want to stay sober. // The post-conference assembly hosted by D16 is May 13th in SF. There is free parking at the assembly. District 06 is hosting dinner for Post Conference in the Mission district with paid parking. We'll send flyers to DCMCs. // Years ago, I had a sponsee that couldn't read English well. He could only relate to "It Happened to Joe." We need more graphical literature. // Would it be possible to have a Spanish-speaking assistant to help with the minutes? // Our area is doing an excellent job. God bless Eric on his trip. // We're sending out a survey for feedback on the assembly. // PRAASA 2024 will be in San Francisco at the Marriott Marquis March 1-3rd next year. Email me at praasa2024@gmail.com if you want to get involved. // I'm grateful to be a service sponsor. The GSRs have more confidence now. // I have so many emotions being here. I want to talk about what it's like being a black woman of color in these rooms and to only see two of us here, to hear safety come up, to have an alliance with my transgender and nonbinary friends, brothers, sisters in this program and how it affects me. You can say that safety isn't an issue when it doesn't happen to you, but when I'm in a Zoom room and hear the n-word, it affects me. Study the traditions and concepts thoroughly. Before you stand up and quote the concepts or traditions, go to a meeting, or start a meeting and study them. Do not weaponize them against one another. // I'm getting ready to help indigenous people from my area. // Thanks for speaking close to the microphone for those online. // ICYPAA is September 1-4 in San Francisco. I'm from outside the area. This is the first time on this side of accessibilities, you've raised the bar for service work, and I'm going to take that back to my area. // Thinking about taking this back to this group is giving me strength. // The things we do today will keep the lights on for AA in the future. My parents thank you for giving them their son back. I hope everyone that needs it gets the experience of AA. Accessibility to AA is so important. // [[The past delegates sang Eric a spirited well-wishing parody song, "Trusted

Servant," to the tune of Madonna's "Like a Virgin."]] // There's always ego in service, it makes you feel good. My service changed when my sponsee died by suicide from overdose. I do it for people like him now. I can't save him, but we have collectively helped save someone like him. People leave because we're not doing enough, we're doing something wrong. Saying he didn't want it enough isn't right. Let's make it work for everybody.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Babcock
CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 73