

CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL AREA 06 (CNCA 06)
ASSEMBLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES FOR
2025 POST-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

The Post-Conference Assembly business meeting was held in a hybrid format on May 17, 2025, with virtual attendees participating via Zoom and in-person attendees at Saroyan Hall in San Francisco, CA. Drew B. opened the meeting at 9:14 a.m., followed by the Serenity Prayer. The A.A. Preamble was read by: Olis S. (District 07). Mu X. (District 40) read the Twelve Traditions in English and Rosa D. (District 20) read the Twelve Traditions in Spanish. Twelve past Delegates were present: Diane O. (Panel 35), Bob D. (Panel 36, Area 28), Barbrea M. (Panel 41), Francisco A. (Panel 55), David N. (Panel 59), Jim F. (Panel 59, Area 38), Ken M. (Panel 61), Raymundo L. (Panel 65), Teddy B-W (Panel 69), Jennifer B. (Panel 71) and Eric L. (Panel 73). Teddy B-W currently serves as a General Service Trustee and Jennifer Brontsema serves as Trustee-at-Large/US on the General Service Board. There was also one past trustee present, David N. (past General Service Board Trustee). There were five past Area Officers present: Judy W., Magdaleno O., Margarete V.A., Michael Q. and Miguel H.

The Pre-Conference 2025 minutes were accepted as published in the May 2025 *CNCA Comments and Comentarios*.

Registered attendance: 203 voting (50 online; 153 in-person) / 119 non-voting (41 online; 78 in-person).

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – CHITRA S.: Thank you for sending me to New York. I'm a glitter ninja, and I get to show up fully as myself. The Pacific Region will host a hospitality suite at the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver. Drew B. will be the chair for our hospitality suite. Please visit while you are in Vancouver and connect with members from other Areas in the Pacific Region. To volunteer in the hospitality suite, email Drew at chair@cnca06.org. A total of 5,000 volunteers are needed for the convention, including greeters and readers for the main meetings. To volunteer as a reader or greeter, visit icvwc2025.org. The [Advance Program](#) has been released and emailed to – Dregistered attendees. You can also find it on aa.org/international-convention. It includes details on badge pickup, scooter rentals for accessibility, transportation, expected weather, and the full schedule of panels and events. Have a wonderful International Convention!

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – CLAUDIA N.: The first General Service Conference was held in New York in April 1951. It lasted four days and brought together 37 delegates from the U.S. and Canada, along with 15 trustees, Bill W., and staff from G.S.O. and the Grapevine. This year, the Conference had 135 voting members, with 93 delegates doing the work, voting, and discussing committee recommendations. A.A.W.S. is currently seeking a Non-Trustee Director (NTD). This is a voluntary service position that begins after the 2026 Conference. Interested A.A. members are encouraged to submit a résumé.

Visit aa.org for details. Bill W. often spoke about the chance meetings that made A.A. possible – Dr. Jung and Rowland H.; Rowland and Ebby T.; Ebby and Bill at a kitchen table; Bill and Dr. Bob at Henrietta Seiberling's home. Today, I thank God for those moments that created "this thing" that saved my life – and so many others.

CHAIR – DREW B.: In Vancouver, B.C. Canada, A.A. will hold its International Convention for the first time in a decade. Our Pacific Region will host a hospitality suite at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel in MacKenzie Ballroom 1. This information is included in the [Advance Program](#). Our Area needs volunteers to help staff the hospitality suite during the hours CNCA is scheduled to host. If you're attending the Convention, please consider signing up to help. Later today, Chitra will share highlights from the 75th General Service Conference. Some of you may already know that a remarkable thing happened: two past Delegates from our Area were elected to serve as Class B Trustees on the General Service Board. Jennifer B. was elected as Trustee-at-Large/U.S., and Teddy B-W as a General Service Trustee. Teddy will continue his service on the Grapevine corporate board, now as a Trustee-Director.

TREASURER – DAN B.: As of April YTD, CNCA is doing well financially. We've received \$51,000 in income from group and district contributions and collections at ACMs and Assemblies. Expenses are slightly higher at \$52,000 and include the Pre-Conference Assembly, committee expenses, and officer travel. Our net operating revenue is approximately - (\$800) and we have \$23,000 in our checking account. We're exploring a Venmo for Nonprofit account, and we've started using our new credit card for safer electronic purchases. Please encourage groups to contribute at cnca06.org/contribute. Checks are still accepted, but they take more time to process. The cost of this Assembly is about \$7,000: \$4,000 for the site, \$2,000 for food, \$150 for coffee, and \$100 for additional parking. Our Assemblies are worth the expense, and we all share the responsibility to make them self-supporting.

ASSEMBLY COORDINATOR – MATT E.: Thank you so much to Districts 05 and 06 for hosting and making us all feel welcome today. We are still looking for bids for all 2026 assemblies, including the Pre-Conference. A few districts have expressed interest. If your district plans to submit a bid, please contact me at assemblycoordinator@cnca06.org. There are specific procedures we need to follow to ensure we're in line with Area guidelines, so early communication is key. Looking ahead, our next assembly will be the Summer Assembly on August 2 at the San Jose Scottish Rite Center.

REGISTRAR – SARAH B.: A lot has happened in the last month! At the April ACM, I shared that I'm using mail merge to send automated confirmation emails to new trusted servants and status-check emails to potentially outdated contacts. Since last month, I've

sent about 120 status checks and 250 confirmation emails. I'm so grateful for technology and everyone in service, past, present, and future. "Modem-to-modem or face-to-face, A.A.'s speak the language of the heart in all its power and simplicity." – Forward to the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

RECORDING SECRETARY – JACKIE B.: The first Recording Secretary's Workshop of Panel 75 will be held Thursday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. A "Minutes 101" orientation for new secretaries will begin at 6:45 p.m., followed by the main session from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Topics include anonymity-protected minutes, data privacy, and best practices for AI tools and cloud storage, with guest presenters from the Web and Tech Committees. Spanish interpretation will be provided. Flyers have been emailed to DCMCs and Committee Chairs. The Motions Book is our Area's primary record of business from 1971 to today. In the section on Assembly history, I learned that our Area's first Post-Conference Assembly was held in 1969 in Santa Rosa. Email recordingsecretary@cnca06.org for a digital copy.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VIÑA – JOSE L.: Members, committees, and groups can purchase literature through their local Area, District, Intergroup/Central Office, or at onlineliterature.aa.org. Special discounted literature packages are available for Corrections, Accessibilities, Treatment, and PICPC Committees. AAWS and Grapevine are monitoring international tariff conditions; while pricing remains stable, updates will be shared if changes occur. Subscribe to the Grapevine and La Viña apps and support the Carry the Message Project! Check out the podcast, YouTube channel, and encourage others to subscribe. The Trustees' CPC/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee launched the Military Veteran Interview Project, inviting U.S. and Canadian Veterans to share their A.A. experience through anonymity-protected audio interviews. New ASL videos for Deaf alcoholics are now on the Grapevine & La Viña YouTube channel. The "American Sign Language" playlist features stories by Deaf alcoholics for Deaf alcoholics. Visit youtube.com/@AAGrapevine.

AREA STANDING & SUB-COMMITTEES REPORTS

ACCESSIBILITIES – ENRIQUE E.: The purpose of the Accessibilities Committee is guided by A.A.'s Responsibility Statement. We are committed to providing information and resources to help make A.A. accessible to all alcoholics who reach out for help. Access barriers may be physical, mental, geographical, cultural, or related to safety and inclusivity. We have flyers available for safety workshops in both Spanish and English, as well as accessibility checklists for meetings and groups. During our next committee meeting before the ACM, we will hear a presentation on the *Plain Language Big Book*, which is an excellent tool for accessibility.

ARCHIVES – ELVIA P.: According to the Area Motions Book, a 1991 Ad-Hoc Committee on Archives was formed to report on: A) The per annum spent on Archives rent and monthly allowance; B) How present Archives operations and plans reflect the Spirit of A.A.'s Traditions; and C) The future direction of CNCA Archives. The report stated that the Archives Committee was making progress but that its success would depend on the support and participation of the Area Committee, District Representatives, and interested A.A. members.

BRIDGING THE GAP – LYNN K.: Bridging the Gap is a 12th Step subcommittee of General Service. BTG gives presentations to rehabilitation centers, detox centers, jails, prisons, and hospitals to inform them that A.A. is available to newcomers upon their release. We then accompany the newcomer to meetings in their home communities. Every district has the opportunity to elect its own BTG Chair to build a committee and expand volunteer support. We are still seeking BTG Chairs for Districts 2, 9, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

FINANCE – JEFF D.: The Finance Committee is currently preparing for the upcoming budget season. The Area is entering the time of year when our normal expenses are at their highest. The cost to have a Delegate attend the General Service Conference is approximately \$9,000, and GSO requests that Areas send a minimum contribution of \$2,200. Via a past area motion, our Area raised that minimum amount to \$3,500. GSO has indicated this year that additional support would be greatly appreciated; therefore, the Finance Committee is considering a proposal to increase our 2025 contribution to a net total of no more than \$5,000.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION – LUIS R.: We are very excited and grateful to hear the Delegate's Report on the General Service Conference, one of the most important events for our community. The I&T committee is responsible for making sure every Spanish-speaking person can hear and understand it. In A.A., no borders or barriers prevent us from embracing one another. Our committee continues working hard to meet the needs of the community, and we are grateful to be of service.

PI/CPC – CLAUDIA N.: Public Information helps inform the greater community about A.A. and alcoholism so they may find help for themselves or a problem drinker. Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) provides information to professionals who work with alcoholics – where we are, what we are, what we can and cannot do. The CPC Desk at GSO publishes a newsletter for professionals called *About A.A.* The latest issue, "Common Myths and Misconceptions about Alcoholics Anonymous," covers A.A. history, spirituality vs. religion, and our connection to medical professionals. The most recent

membership survey stated that 53% of members were referred to A.A. by professionals – our outreach to professionals has a big impact. The Area's PICPC Committee meets in a hybrid format at 9:00 a.m. before the ACM in Petaluma.

TECHNOLOGY – MEG B.: The Technology Committee supports Area 06 by managing tech updates and producing hybrid events like this Assembly. We're known for digital innovation and unity with our Spanish-speaking districts. Now, we're exploring how tech can better serve all members. Got ideas? Visit the Tech Table! Plus, join us this fall for a workshop on "Tech in AA: What is GSO doing?"

WEBSITE – SANDRA S.: The CNCA Web Committee provides digital communication resources to alcoholics, trusted servants, professionals, and the public about Area activities and business. The website is available in English and Spanish at cnca06.org and offers current Area information. The committee consists of six members and holds monthly open meetings – visitors are welcome. This month, a subcommittee was formed to explore revamping the website and gathering input on the Area's needs and usage. If you have suggestions or feedback for the committee, please email webchair@cnca06.org. We encourage everyone to explore and utilize the CNCA website regularly.

AREA BUSINESS

PRESENTATIONS

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

Presentation: Josh R., developer of the Meeting Guide App, and I created the General Service app. In April, Apple approved the app for its App Store. During the Pre-Conference Assembly, we solicited beta testers with Android phones to help with Google's approval process. We went through a two-week testing process with Android volunteers from our Area. Thanks to these volunteers, Google approved our app for the Google Play Store. The app is now available in both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. To download the app, search for "General Service" in your App Store and look for the upside-down triangle icon. Remember to enable location services. A mid-June workshop for DCMCs will cover uploading information. Suggestions for enhancements are welcome.

Questions: Q: In San Mateo, I didn't see my district show up on the app – what's going on? A: That means your DCMC hasn't uploaded the information yet. A workshop is planned for District Chairs in May or June to demonstrate how to upload content to the app. // Q: As registrar, do I have to re-enter everyone's info on the app? A: No, registrars don't need to do anything. Anyone can download the app, and the DCMC will upload district information. //

- Trustee-at-Large/US – *Jennifer B., Trustee-at-Large/US*

Presentation: I'm learning more about being Trustee-at-Large and getting pretty pumped about it. I'm now logged into Onboard, which is how we share information within the Conference and Trustees. My responsibilities include attending quarterly General Service Board meetings, serving on the International Committee all four years (Vice Chair this year, Chair in the last two), presenting at Regional Forums, and attending the World Service Meeting (WSM) every other year and the Meeting of the Americas (REDELA) in alternate years. This June, I'll attend Bulgaria's 8th General Service Conference alongside our International Desk staff. In October, I'm going to Bolivia for REDELA, and next year's WSM is in Portugal. Recently, Kenya invited us to their East Africa Convention, and I'm thrilled to attend and meet Esther, whom I previously interviewed virtually. I'm excited, grateful, and learning so much. Keep putting your hand up and encouraging others – who knows, you might end up in Kenya too!

- Class B General Service Trustee – *Teddy B-W., Class B General Service Trustee*

Presentation: I would like to thank all of you for pouring so much love and service into me over the years and for preparing me. This room holds many memories – I was here in 2011 when we had an assembly, and the person who got me involved in general service, Jeff O., is no longer with us, but I feel he's here in spirit today. I'm filled with joy that I can pour all your love and service back out in this new service commitment. I'll be traveling too, though mostly to Albuquerque – unlike Jennifer, who truly will be trotting the road of happy destiny. As General Service Trustees, we share duties of care, loyalty, and obedience, ensuring that resources support our Fifth Tradition and are used responsibly in accordance with the law. I'll also continue serving on the Grapevine Board and numerous committees, including International Conventions, Regional Forums, Nominating, and Literature. Thank you again – I'm honored and grateful to serve.

NEW BUSINESS:

- To add an inventory question to page 30 of the pamphlet, "The A.A. Group", that reads: Do our group members know where to find up to date information about A.A. on the websites and newsletters of central offices and intergroups, districts, areas, aa.org, and A.A. Grapevine? – *Presented by District 12 Sonoma at the Area Committee Meeting 9/28/24*

Discussion: **Group Consciences:** Felton Group unanimously approved this. // My group also unanimously supports it. // We believe this will be a useful tool from General Service. Many people are unaware that this information exists. // It would be beneficial to all groups. // We support adding the inventory question. It helps inform members about available resources. // Very important addition. Many don't know where to find A.A. info. One minority opinion said there's already plenty. Another person didn't even know the pamphlet existed. // Two people said to leave the pamphlet as is. // Adding this will help us get better, more current information and encourage group inventories. // Our group agreed unanimously. // My group was against it. They felt that most people already knew this information. Two longtimers didn't even know how to use the internet. A minority

opinion supported it, saying it would help members learn how to find information. // We felt this would allow members to better serve the fellowship. // Our group fully agreed – it's a great idea. Even if not discussed, simply seeing the question might inspire people to seek out information and share it with their group. // Thank you for the ASL interpreters – I'm a Deaf member. My group was unanimously in favor. Newcomers often don't know where to find current info on aa.org or our district site. We'd like more awareness of DeafAA.org. // My group thought this was a good question to help all members find info and recommend resources to newcomers and people who can't access audio content in *La Viña*. // **Personal Opinions:** If you're going to include this information in the pamphlet, consider adding the General Service app. // Most groups don't conduct inventories, so adding this might prompt more. In Texas, inventories were common. When I moved here, no one even knew they were supposed to do one. // There's room to amplify this content within the other inventory questions. // We should raise awareness of how to access A.A. info, especially for younger members. // In the Latin American community, there's less access to information. This should go out as widely as possible. // By adding this question, we'll recognize what needs to be done so new members can access the info. It prompts us to ask what we're doing for newcomers and how we can communicate better. // I like the idea, but feel our focus should be on providing vision. Are we nitpicking? We have so many pamphlets – are the other questions outdated? Do we need a separate pamphlet just for inventories? Is this the best use of Conference time for a single question in a single pamphlet? GSRs will report back to their groups about this assembly and the pamphlet. The agenda topic process will generate a wide conversation across the Fellowship, which will be a real benefit. //

<<Motion to become Old Business at the Summer Assembly on August 2, 2025.>>

- 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 A.A. use the service piece in a public information campaign. – *Presented by District 01 Monterey.*

Discussion: **Group Consciences:** We support the PI piece, including the QR codes. // We are in favor; we concluded it's not promotion, it's providing information to the public. For example, not having to bring so many pamphlets during PI presentations. My home group is a women's group, and we believe a QR code is a simple and easy way to convey the message. Someone suggested that scanning the code would be a good experience to quickly find information on A.A. One member, who is on a PI committee, says they already use a QR code and find it very helpful. When traveling, they use a lot of QR codes and think it would be beneficial in A.A. // My group is in favor and says it will help people find A.A. Put them in bathrooms because that's where people hit their bottoms. // Majority in favor; QR codes are useful and accessible for young people. Everybody has a cell phone. // My group was mostly against it. They felt the cost wouldn't be worth it, that it was promotion, and the money would be better spent on H&I. // A few members felt it would be a great tool for PI since their group uses a QR code in their own 12th step work. Many people don't know where A.A. is, and outreach would be beneficial. Minority opinion

asked about the line between attraction and promotion, what this campaign would involve, and said it might be more useful to improve SEO. // Concern that stickers might create litter; some places wouldn't allow them and they'd just be trashed. One person raised a security issue: QR codes can be altered and lead somewhere harmful. // It's not promotion, just answering questions. Public places are a good idea. No need to type in a web address; the QR code takes you right there. // Largely in favor. We think it will reach people that current pamphlets don't. // Majority in favor. Some feel QR codes would carry the message quicker and more accessibly. Very efficient. // My district is excited to have stickers we can put on bathroom doors. We think it would be a "god shot" to many people. // It would be a great PICPC tool and increase membership. // We believe this would make A.A. info more accessible. The info exists elsewhere, but many people aren't tech-savvy. Minority opinion was concerned about cost. // Q: A question was asked at our District sharing session about where to see examples. (Motion-maker responded): A: Examples were handed out at PRAASA and the Pre-Conference Assembly. // Some asked how this would be accomplished and said it seemed too ambitious. They suggested printable stickers where local Intergroups or Districts could add hotline numbers. // My group supported it, but someone asked what other locations besides bathrooms could use a QR code. // **Personal Opinions:** We often forget how hard it is to find information today. QR codes are everywhere. // I'm concerned this motion is being interpreted as promoting stickers. I'm against stickers; they seem promotional and unattractive. // I also worry stickers will end up where they're not wanted. I support service pieces, not stickers. (Chair clarified stickers aren't in the motion.) // When A.A. began, it was one alcoholic talking to another. That's what we need more of – not more cards and pamphlets. We should be less anonymous and reach out directly. // At a school PI event, no young people took pamphlets but everyone had a phone and scanned the QR code. // I like the idea, but we need more than pamphlets. The Area should support groups doing PI work. My group just elected a PI Chair. This ties to the pamphlet inventory question 12 about outreach to professionals. // If this passes, I hope it goes to high schools. I'm a mom and care about the next generation. // Anything that improves communication helps. I'm on PI and can't always carry cards – QRs would help. // We used to have a bus placard that said, "If you drink, it's your business. If you want to stop, it's ours." My group wants to bring that back. // From an accessibility perspective, this idea makes sense. I got sober on Zoom – tech matters. We need to stay open. // My company discourages the use of public QR codes. They can be spoofed or hacked. You don't always know where you'll end up. // My district uses QR codes heavily. We should adapt. Let's educate members on how to use them safely. The motion mentions a service piece, not stickers. // In 1990, we had 2 million members. In 2024, still be 2 million. Flat for 34 years. // That doesn't worry me – it's about quality of sobriety, not quantity. Not just more traffic to the website. // I agree we need more outreach. I'm not sure QR codes are the best way, but we have to do something. // Longtimers are staying home post-pandemic. We need new platforms to reach people and point them to the Meeting Guide app. // At our Access table, we have six QR codes that link to service materials. But we still need face-to-face connection. // There are five PI service cards with space for local QR codes. Was the motion maker aware? (Answer: Yes. The cards are for local committees; this service piece would link to aa.org.) // We must remember not everyone has a smartphone. Many can't access digital resources. // I got a phone book with the wrong number for the local A.A. office. Local info isn't always

accurate. // At the Pre-Conference, I liked the idea of a sticker in a bathroom, but public QR codes raise security and legal issues. It feels promotional. // Could be useful for professional outreach. // I came to A.A. through a therapist's referral. Later, I found pamphlets at a medical office. Professional outreach matters. A bathroom QR sticker has risks. // The motion says A.A. should produce the piece. But A.A. is all of us – groups, districts, Area. My group already has a QR flyer for outreach. Public info takes many forms. // In A.A., we say we need something, and someone already has it. Regardless of this motion, groups and districts can create materials now. PICPC already has examples. // What about those who can't access websites? How do we reach them? // A judge told me about A.A. Google doesn't treat our slogans as promotional. Our name needs to be more visible. // Bill and Bob went into institutions to share about A.A. I didn't even know what PICPC was until recently. We should go to jails, courts, and doctors – talk directly. Our literature says, "A more important demonstration lies ahead of us in our homes and occupations." Share at work or school. One alcoholic talking to another. // If QR codes are risky, why not just print aa.org or an 800 number? //

<<Motion to become Old Business at the Summer Assembly on August 2, 2025.>>

The business meeting was closed at 11:58 am.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

****What's On Your Mind:**** Thank you to Chitra and our trustees, Teddy and Jennifer. // Attendance: 229 in person, 90 online – 319 total. Thanks to the registration volunteers. // \$1,827 in contributions today. // Third Legacy Workshop is hosting a 12-week Service Manual study. // Thank you to San Francisco and San Mateo for hosting. I was moved by the message about imperfect servants making amends. I've dropped out of General Service twice and never finished a panel. I struggle with perfectionism. It helped to hear that others experience this too. Gossip can make service harder. // As Chair of Santa Cruz's Joint Safety Committee, I noted the motion to create an Assembly Safety & Inclusion Committee. Our Area Accessibility Committee has already been holding safety workshops, especially in Spanish-speaking districts. In Santa Cruz, I haven't heard about these efforts, despite having been involved in safety work for four years. We'd like to be informed. // District 40 is hosting the Summer Assembly in San Jose on August 2, 2025. // Thanks to Districts 05 and 06, co-host chairs Susan and Justin, the DCMCs, District 16 for dinner, and to San Francisco and Marin Intergroup and Oficina Central for bringing the bookstore for the first time after the ACM motion. // My group discussed the inventory question and raised concerns about people finding dual diagnosis meetings in local A.A. directories that don't follow our literature or Traditions. // This is my first Assembly. Thank you to Chitra for a great presentation. I'm grateful to serve as liaison from District 20 to District 07. // There are audiobooks for the Steps and Traditions but not for the Service Manual. That would be helpful. Thanks also to the ASL team. // District 11 is hosting the Fall Assembly on November 1. The night before will be a Halloween party and anniversary chip night, with a past trustee as the main speaker. Plan your costumes! //

The Post-Conference Assembly was closed on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 4:10 p.m. by

Drew B. with the Responsibility Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie B.

CNCA Recording Secretary, Panel 75

Disclaimer: AI tools were used to help with transcription, editing, and proofreading. A trusted servant reviewed and approved all final content to make sure it's accurate and follows A.A. principles.