



SCAAN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER



THE VOICE OF AREA 05

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

To inform SCAA members and the AA fellowship at large of selected items from GSO, the Area and items of general interest from the Districts

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“I RAISED MY HAND” **How My Journey In General Service Began**

My experience as a member of A.A. general service began when my home group “Fe y Amor” gave me the opportunity to serve as a GSR for District 33 in January of 2018. For the first time, I heard about the A.A. service manual and the 12 Concepts for World Service. I remember the emotion I felt when I attended the first district assembly and the privilege of bringing the voice of my group's conscience when meeting with other GSRs discussing and making decisions that would effect the future of the district. It made me feel like one of the knights of King Arthur's round table. We were all united with a single purpose: to ensure the continuation of A.A. services so that the message continues to reach those who need it most.



The months passed very quickly. I was about to finish my first year as GSR when I remembered that the district held elections for the new panel in September. At that time, there were few servers present, and one more candidate was needed to be able to hold the democratic elections. God manifests himself through our group conscience to elect the new DCM. I felt very special when someone said "Friends, you only need to have goodwill, because the higher power is in charge of preparing whomever he chooses as his servant and he does not overlook acts of goodwill." I remember that at that moment I made a small and sincere prayer to God, as I conceive him, and I asked him for his guidance and that his will be done.

Full of courage, I raised my hand and made myself available as a DCM candidate. When the voting was carried out, it was a tie for four consecutive times. The district decided to go to the hat instead of doing another round of voting. So they entered the names of the other candidate and mine and from the hat they took out a paper that had my name on it, and that is how I was chosen as DCM panel 69-70 from District 33. Fortunately, I had the time and health to serve and the support of my wife. So that same week, I joined the district table to participate in their routine visits and introduce myself to the groups in my district as the elected DCM and take the opportunity to motivate service.

The remaining three months of the year flew by and finally January 1, 2019 was my first district assembly. I was fortunate to have the support of experienced servers among others and the former DCM who offered me valuable suggestions to carry out my service as DCM. This was a constant learning experience, full of growth in all aspects; personal, spiritual and social. With this service opportunity came the responsibilities, one of

which was to introduce myself at the Area 05 meetings.

It was a great experience to arrive for the first time at an Area Assembly and to be meeting with the representatives of other English and Spanish speaking districts and the Area officers who recognize that despite our linguistic differences, we speak the same language of the heart.

It was a privilege to hear our delegate, Tomas S., speak live about the Trustees and directors of the General Service Conference, something I had only read about on paper. I got to observe the large organization and saw how these Area meetings are carried out with an order and precision like that of a Swiss watch. I was surprised to hear the approval of an agenda as they talked about the policies and guidelines and

in general to see so many servers gathered ready to do their best so that the services continue and provide the necessary information for the groups of Alcoholics Anonymous. I liked the exchange of ideas based on A.A. principles, something incredible.

"Friends, you only need to have goodwill, because the higher power is in charge of preparing whomever he chooses as his servant and he does not overlook acts of goodwill."

Another DCM responsibility is to be present at CIH assemblies. It gives me joy to share with the other DCMs from the Hispanic districts, exchanging information and planning future events for the Hispanic A.A. community. Something that I have left a big impression on me are the invitations from the groups to develop topics about the 36 spiritual principles of A.A. This was what sent me to study and read the A.A. literature to develop the suggested topics. Just like everything in A.A. services, once I was invited to to serve, I became the beneficiary - giving it away was how I received it.

Through District and Area assemblies, I have changed my perspective on how service work

should be done in A.A. for the better. They have taught me that things are done with love, gratitude, and goodwill. I continually reaffirm that my higher power speaks to me through A.A.s. Service has taught me that the greater the responsibility, the more humble, understanding and tolerant I must be toward my fellows, and all this has helped me to be a better husband, father, son and brother. Sometimes the disease manifests itself through character flaws, but I know that as long as I stay active within the circle of A.A. service, I will be willing to recognize the true size of my being and forget myself a little. I have come to realize that I am just one more piece of the great puzzle that is A.A. I want to thank God, my "Faith and Love" group and all those who have put a grain of sand in my recovery for showing me how to make service a large part of my recovery.

At the beginning of my second year as DCM, the COVID-19 pandemic came, something that A.A. as a whole had never faced before in its entire history. This brought with it new challenges and limitations to our attempts to carry out our service work as a district. On repeated occasions and for several months we were forced to close our facilities following the orders of the government and health authorities. However, this did not prevent us from continuing to work; thanks to the guidelines suggested by the GSO and Area 05, we continued to work and meet through virtual platforms such as Zoom and by

adhering to safety regulations such as the use of masks, disinfectant gel and keeping our distance, we have continued to visit the groups, providing them with valuable information about A.A. and everything related to the General Service Conference.

It fills me with joy to share in this article that we have already carried out our elections for district officers for what will be the panel 71-72, 2021-2022. This A.A. movement is not only about men and women. It comes from a higher power that is manifested through the consciousness of A.A. groups and organizations that for me personally is God as I conceive. Once again our strength has emerged from our weakness, with full conviction I recognize that service must continue for our lives and for the lives of those to come.

Thank you for allowing me to speak a little bit as a GSR, DCM in these last years that I have lived with you in this community of A.A. in action.

Thank you for the privilege of serving.

Sincerely,

Jacobo M.
DCM. District 33 Panel 69-70



DELEGATE'S REPORT

This is the most difficult article I have penned for SCAAN during this Panel as Delegate. I realize I am not delivering information but saying "Goodbye." Serving as Area 05's Panel 69 Delegate has been one of the greatest opportunities of my life. It has been a pleasure to have been of service. I am really at a loss of words for this occasion so I am going to borrow from greater writers than myself and take some literary license along the way.

"It was the best of times, it is (was) the worst of times" Charles Dickens writes in the opening lines of *A Tale of Two Cities*. Serving as one of the 135 five voting members of the General Service Conference, which serves as guardian of our Fellowship's Steps and Traditions, surely is the best of times. Experiencing our Fellowship's first Virtual General Service Conference, no matter the reason for its occurrence, was history being made in the best of times. We cannot ignore that it proved our affairs could be tended to at a far less cost than in person. The statesmanship of Area 05's Past Delegates, the dedication of our Panel 69 Officers, leadership of our District Committee Members, Chairs and their Alternates and the service to us all by our Committee Chairs, Alternates, Committee Members and General Service Representatives is why it was the best of times. Thanking each of you from the bottom of my heart is a great pleasure. Saying 'Goodbye' is the worst of times.

Bill W. writes "Service gladly rendered, obligations squarely met, troubles well accepted or solved with God's help, the knowledge that at home or in the world outside we are partners in a common effort, the fact that in God's sight all human beings are important, the proof that love freely given brings a full return, the certainty that we are no longer isolated and alone in self-constructed prisons, the surety that we can fit and belong in God's scheme of things – these are the satisfactions of right living for which no pomp and circumstance, no heap of material possessions, could possibly be substitutes."

Further quoting Bill, "Our Traditions are set down on paper. But they were written first in our hearts. For each of us knows, instinctively, I think, that A.A. is not ours to do with as we please. We are but caretakers to preserve the spiritual quality of our Fellowship; keep it whole for those who will come after us and have need of what has so generously been given to us."

So along with 'Thank You' I say, but quoting William Penn "If there is any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow human being, let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again."

To all of the candidates for the Trusted Servant positions to be filled during Area 05's Fall Election Assembly, I wish you all the best today and every day.

I can't say upon what occasion or upon what day I came to believe
In a power greater than myself, but I certainly have that
belief now. To acquire it, I had only to stop fighting and
practice the rest of A. A.'s program as enthusiastically as
I could.

(Twelve and Twelve p. 27)

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas S., Delegate Area 05 Panel 69

Reopening Our Meetings – Town Hall

Traditions, Informed Group Conscience, Questions and Resources

The following presentation has been sourced from multiple collaborative efforts throughout our Fellowship, and is offered by all of us involved as a way of helping our home groups hold an *informed* group conscience on “Reopening our Meetings”. Our hope is that we can present a number of questions in relation to our Traditions your home group might choose to discuss before reopening. We will also be sharing and making available suggestions that have been collected from a number of intergroups throughout the U.S. as well as resources available for us to study to make sure we are in compliance with the law.

Bill W wrote: *“Our Twelfth Step — carrying the message — is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven’t been given the truth may die.”*

In A.A., our Fellowship is at a crossroads. We live in a time of extraordinary and challenging change due to the COVID-19 pandemic — change that’s reshaping the ways we meet, the way we support our services, the way we work with each other, and the ways we can carry AA’s message of recovery.

But to be clear, Alcoholics Anonymous has been through big changes before. And over the years in meeting our challenges, we of Alcoholics Anonymous have always thought anew, and acted anew. We made change work for us, *always looking to extend A.A.’s promise outward to reach the suffering alcoholic, to more and more people*. And because we did, and because we will continue to do so, our Fellowship has always emerged stronger and better and richer and more vibrant than before. And I am confident we will do so again.

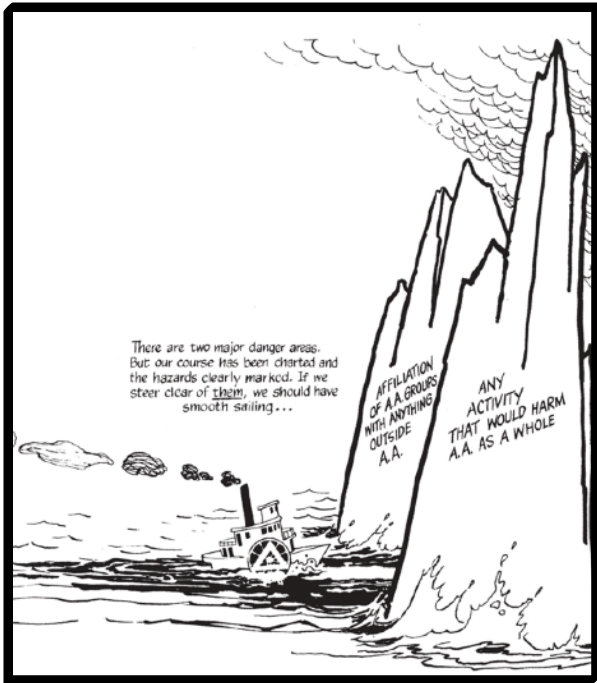
So -- we are all looking forward to reopening our regular face to face meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. I know I am. But at the moment it seems we have more questions than answers about when this might be possible and how we should go about it. While we can’t promise you any answers in this presentation, it is our hope that we can help you ask good questions.

Let’s start by taking a look at our Traditions.

Tradition Four states that: *“Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups, or A.A. as a whole.”*

This means your group is responsible to decide when it is the right time for you to reopen, keeping in mind the wishes of your landlord, as well as local, state, and federal law.

Southern California Area 05 can’t make this decision for your group. The Los Angeles Central Office can’t make this decision for your group. The General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous can’t make this decision for your group. **Your group makes this decision.**



we can reasonably assume that in this case *outside opinion of us in a negative light* would be an equally unhappy outcome.

And certainly, we need to consider **Tradition Eleven**.

Tradition Eleven states “Our public relations policy is based on *attraction* rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.”

It seems to me that part of being *attractive* is being *safe* and *free of disease*. And, truth be told, *staying out the news* because we were cited for health code violations is probably an excellent example of maintaining our anonymity. Bad press is NOT attractive. And if individuals in AA are noted and named, bad press is not *anonymous*, either.

Luckily for us, Alcoholics Anonymous doesn’t just pose problems. There is a solution.

Tradition Two says: “For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself *in our group conscience*.”

Those of us who are familiar with the practice of a group conscience will also be familiar with the concept of “*an informed group conscience*.” The pamphlet P-16, The A.A. Group...where it all begins, is a great source of information.

From the pamphlet P-16, The A.A. Group:

“What Is an Informed A.A. Group Conscience?”

The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of full information, individual points of view, and the practice of

But **Tradition Four** also says that our groups should NOT be autonomous when those decisions might affect other groups or A.A. as a whole. We are asked to consider the effects those decisions might have on others.

An example might be a group that decides to meet *with more participants than the law allows*. If the group then loses its location because of complaints to the landlord or shut-down by authorities, it would *certainly* affect any other group that asked to meet at that location.

Further, imagine an A.A. group being cited publicly and winding up in the news as, “A.A. Meetings a Cesspool for COVID-19 Contamination.” **Tradition Ten** strongly suggests that the “...A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.”

Admittedly this Tradition is talking about A.A. having an opinion on outside issues, but I think

A.A. principles. To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen to minority opinions with an open mind.” (pg 28)

“It is essential that the members be given all facts relevant to the subject at hand... Arriving at an informed group conscience in big matters or small is a process that may take some time. But it is important that minority, or dissenting, views be heard along with those of the majority. In some instances, they may even turn the tide.” (pg 30)

In reaching an informed group conscience, the group is not opened for general discussion. This would only allow the more vocal members to set the debate. If the size of the group permits, it is suggested that the Group Secretary or GSR or CSR call on the list of participants in turn, allowing a set time for each to express his or her views. No participant should speak a second time until everyone has had their turn. This gives even the quietest person the same opportunity and an equal voice.

Now, our common purpose – as I mentioned at the outset - is to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous as stated in our Tradition Five. But in order to do that, especially in these times of pandemic, it is important that we do so *safely* and not endanger the lives or families of those who attend our meetings.

“Because A.A., as such, ought never be organized, as indicated in Tradition Nine, it is individual members and groups who ensure that all members feel as safe as possible in A.A.” (from SAFETY AND A.A.: OUR COMMON WELFARE - SMF-209)

As mentioned, this presentation is offered as a way of helping your home group hold an informed group conscience. Our hope is that we can present a number of questions your home group might choose to discuss before reopening. We will also be sharing and making available suggestions that have been collected from a number of intergroups throughout the U.S.

Here’s a list of resources available from Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AA.org) that are important for any discussion of reopening our meetings

The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous (SMF-122)
 The A.A. Group....where it all begins (P-16)
 Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare (SMF-209)
 AAWS/GSO AA.ORG Updates on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The first three are excellent basic resources for *any* group conscience, pandemic or not. They give us a common language to begin our discussion.

But what is there to discuss with our groups? The following is a list of excellent questions to begin our discussion.

1. Has your home group scheduled a group conscience or business meeting to consider resuming face-to-face meetings?



2. Is your group familiar with the latest CDC, state, and local regulations concerning large group meetings? Where can these regulations be found? How can these regulations be communicated to the group?
3. Has your group considered how its actions and decisions could affect other groups or could affect AA as a whole?
4. Will your group's regular meeting place limit capacity while following government mandates regarding physical distancing? If not, how will your group meet the needs of alcoholics and also avoid controversy?
5. Will your home group consider the use of online or call-in meetings during live, face-to-face meetings --- and why would this option be considered? If online or call-in meetings are utilized during a live, face-to-face meeting, will this raise issues of anonymity?
6. Concerning COVID-19, should our group be concerned with any legal liability issues? If so, what might these be?
7. Will hospitality service (food, snacks, coffee, cake etc.) continue? If so, what safety measures could your group adopt?
8. Will your group supply hand sanitizer? If not, how will your group conduct meetings safely?
9. Will your group continue to share literature between members during in-person meetings?
10. Assuming face masks will be required, will your group supply a mask for those without one? Will the greeter's role be expanded to offer masks? Will there be a need to create new group service commitments regarding safety?
11. How will overflow be handled by the group once maximum room capacity is reached? Will a member be asked to leave if they do not wear a mask — and how can this be handled lovingly?
12. How will your group practice Tradition 7? Has your group considered alternatives to passing a physical basket? If so, how can the basket be passed safely?
13. How has your group considered following government regulations in light of practicing the Traditions—specifically Traditions 4, 5, 10, and 11?
14. Has your group considered in the event a member contracts COVID-19 and names your group as a place they've visited, that health officials may need to do contact tracing for everyone at the meeting?

Some of these questions were raised by South East New York Area's District 618 and some were raised by other Intergroups at recent meetings on reopening our meetings and we use them here with their thanks.

We really wish we had a list of answers to those questions. If you find those answers, or have some group discussion experience to share on these questions, we really encourage you to share your thoughts and experience with us and with A.A. as a whole.

Once your group has developed its own informed conscience about safely reopening spaces for your meetings, please consider sending your group's experience to the Los Angeles Central Office Intergroup through its manager, at manager@lacoaa.org as well as to our good friend Jeff W. at the Group Services Desk at GSO at the following address: groupservices@aa.org

Now, we do have a few starting points for your answers that we can share.

Intergroups and General Service areas throughout the A.A. world are hearing from groups and beginning to create lists of shared experience and suggestions. We have available suggestions which were a collaborative effort of Baltimore, San Francisco, Chicago, and New York Intergroups.

Suggested Guidelines for Groups PDF available

(collaborative effort of the Baltimore, San Francisco, Chicago and New York Intergroups)

Physical Group Reconvening Considerations Checklist PDF available

If you would like to receive a copy of these or any of the materials or questions referenced, please email me at panel67@area05aa.org.

And finally, no list would be complete without references to resources available for us to study to make sure we are in compliance with the law. My experience in A.A. leads me to believe that many of us, and I absolutely include myself in this, think that A.A. is somehow apart from the rest of our civil life; that it is somehow different once we close the door to the A.A. meeting and say the Serenity Prayer. We are not.

Here's a quote from our shared experience on safety:

"A.A. and the Law. Common sense and experience suggest that *A.A. membership does not grant immunity from local regulations* and being at an A.A. meeting does not put anyone beyond the jurisdiction of law enforcement officers. As individuals, A.A. members are also "citizens of the world," and as citizens *we are not above the law.*"

SAFETY AND A.A.: OUR COMMON WELFARE SMF-209

But in order for us to be good citizens we must know where to find the relevant information. This is especially true when we must be ready to Bolt, Bide, and Bury. We must abide by public health regulations. We are presenting these forwardable materials and links, not as endorsements, but to make it easier to find the information we need to be informed, to make good decisions in our group consciences.

LA County Reopening Protocols – Support Groups (pdf available)



This document may be updated as additional information and resources become available so be sure to check the LA County website <http://www.ph.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/> regularly for any updates to this document

State of California Protocols – Cultural Gatherings & Places of Worship (pdf available)
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/cid/dcdc/pages/guidance.aspx#>

State of California Department of Public Health: COVID-19
<https://covid19.ca.gov/>

United States Government Coronavirus Response
<https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus>

Center for Disease Control (cdc.gov)

Altogether, it's a lot to take in. And there's a lot for our groups to talk about.

Speaking on behalf of all the trusted servants from across our Fellowship whose suggestions have contributed to this presentation, we hope we have been of service in providing questions and resources for a fruitful discussion at your next group conscience.

Thank you all for letting us be of service.

Love & Service

Thomas B.

Past Delegate (Panel 67)

Guidelines & Policies Committee (Panel 69)





THE SPIRIT OF ROTATION



It took me a while to understand this principle when I was new in sobriety. I was concentrating so hard on not drinking and trying to survive at my job, I didn't even think about service. I was trying to get to know people a little and searching for newcomers like me to talk to about the struggle. After a month or two, I was able to listen a little more and started to hear about levels of service. I was nervous the first time there was an election for a new secretary in one of my meetings because I had come to rely on the comforting feeling of the same place, same thing. After a bit, I started to understand the "Spirit of Rotation" a little differently and felt as though there was some kind of bigger movement going on, that maybe these people who were willing to be responsible for keeping the meeting running really did have the right intentions and that the jobs they volunteered for helped them stay sober.

Eventually, I was elected as a secretary or treasurer along the way and I also had literature, coffee and set up commitments mixed in there. These commitments got me to the meeting, of course, but they were also huge learning experiences for me. I learned to show up, be organized, have a speaker, have milk for the coffee, set up the chairs well before the meeting and let people be themselves if they had a complaint or a suggestion on how I should do "my job" without being offended. There was so much fear and pride in my drinking life, I had to learn to just be of service for the right reasons. When I started out in General Service as an Alternate GSR, the big lessons started to come, my sobriety was enriched beyond my dreams and, by the way, it has helped to keep me sober.

This month we are all rotating -

THE PRINCIPLE OF ROTATION

Traditionally, rotation ensures that service positions, like nearly everything else in A.A., are passed around for all to share. Many positions have alternates who can step into the service positions if needed.

To step out of an A.A. office we love can be hard. If we have been doing a good job, if we honestly don't see anyone else around willing, qualified, or with the time to do it, and if our friends agree, it's especially tough. But it can be a real step forward in growth — a step into the humility that is, for some people, the spiritual essence of anonymity.

Among other things, anonymity in the Fellowship means that we forgo personal prestige for any A.A. work we do to help alcoholics. And, in the spirit of Tradition Twelve, it ever reminds us "to place principles before personalities."

Many outgoing service position holders find it rewarding to take time to share their experience with the incoming person. Rotation helps to bring us spiritual rewards far more enduring than any fame. With no A.A. "status" at stake, we needn't compete for titles or praise — we have complete freedom to serve as we are needed.

DCMs, DCMCs, Committee Chairs and their Alternates and officers. Something new is in the future for all of us - new lessons to be learned, new skills, and new opportunities to ask for help and guidance.

The work you do is so important in keeping the movement - our fellowship - alive and well. We have been given

the gift of responsibility for representing our membership at the conference, guardianship of the traditions and the direction of our principle service affairs.

"Indeed the Conference is named "the guardian of the Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous." The Traditions themselves outline the general basis on which we may best conduct our services. The Traditions express the principles and attitudes of prudence that make for harmony. Therefore A.A.'s Twelve Traditions set the pattern of unity and of function which our General Service Conference is expected to exemplify at the highest possible degree." (From Article 12 Pg 61 The AA Service Manual)

Thank you all for the hard work and dedication you have shown in Panel 69. Area 05 and A.A. are in good hands. I have been honored to serve as your Alternate Delegate and look forward to seeing you all in the future.

In Service,
Lauren A. - Alt
Delegate, Panel 69

THIRD LEGACY PROCEDURE

A.A.'s Third Legacy Procedure is a special type of electoral procedure, used primarily for the election of delegates and regional and at-large trustees. It is considered to be unique to A.A., and at first glance, appears to introduce a strong element of chance into a matter that should depend solely on the judgment of the majority. In practice, however, it has proved highly successful in eliminating the influence of factions or parties that seem to thrive on most political scenes. The railroading of a candidate for election is made difficult, if not impossible, since voters have a wide selection of candidates to choose from. More importantly, a second-place candidate who may be extremely well qualified but without early popular support is encouraged to stay in the balloting rather than withdraw.



“Through professionals, alcoholics may be reached who might otherwise never find the program, or they may be reached sooner with the help of informed non-A.A.s.”

— *CPC Handbook*, P. 7

When I read the word “informed” in the quote above, it gave me pause. As service members in A.A., we understand that we make healthier, more effective group decisions based on objectivity and information. As a result, we come closer to the God-consciousness of our respective groups and A.A. as a whole.

A.A. gave me the ability to reach a spiritual plane I never imagined. From being introduced to the program at 17, living in doubt that it would relieve me of my Internal Spiritual Maladjustment, to being a new member at 22 in 1986, I stayed, learned, and understood that the only way to find sobriety was to grow spiritually.

If the success of A.A. relies on the information we take from all A.A. literature, does it mean we have to carry THIS message then, by reaching out to others *in all our affairs* in order to survive?

We are working on this idea when it comes to the Cooperation with Professional Communities (CPC) committee. This does not mean that we ask social workers and school administrators to take the place of our 12-step calls; rather, we are able to reach further out into communities as they are in contact with those we do not have the luxury of meeting in our daily lives, or meeting them too late.

As our title suggests, the CPC committee reaches out to health, legal, and spiritual advisors throughout the world, to connect with those we may miss as we tend to our affairs in meetings, and throughout A.A. as a whole. We cooperate by being a part of the community through attending health fairs, donating A.A. literature to public libraries, giving talks at nursing schools and professional organizations and HR departments. We

tell folks in the community what A.A. is and where to find us. We find that it is often valuable to have a newcomers’ packet or a meeting directory with us when we pass through DUI checkpoints and hand this information to police officers.

However, we cannot afford to become stagnant or to live in a proverbial bubble. Our Class A, non-alcoholic trustees, the professional members in our membership, and friends of A.A. including Alanon members help us realize we may not be acquainted with all who suffer from alcoholism.

CPC is an opportunity to grow by not assuming that we know everything about every aspect of alcoholism from its physical nature to legal ramifications, to its effects on society

If each group sponsored a member of the clergy or judge or physician, we would be living in the spirit of educating and informing the communities in which we live, and would thereby, wind up receiving more than we are given. CPC is an opportunity to grow by not assuming that we know everything about

every aspect of alcoholism from its physical nature to legal ramifications, to its effects on society; we get to leave that to the professionals. Rather, we are served by living in the spirit of a relationship that was once a deep connection, for example, between Dr. Bob and Sister Ignatia. For this I am grateful to be a part of this committee.

The statement, “To be helpful is our only aim” fills me with gratitude at any event I attend concerning CPC and am inspired by the joy and spirit of knowing that with God’s help, we find our real purpose: to help the alcoholic who still suffers. “So give freely of what you find, and join us in the fellowship of the spirit.”

Kristen L.
CPC Chair, Panel 69

BOOK REVIEW

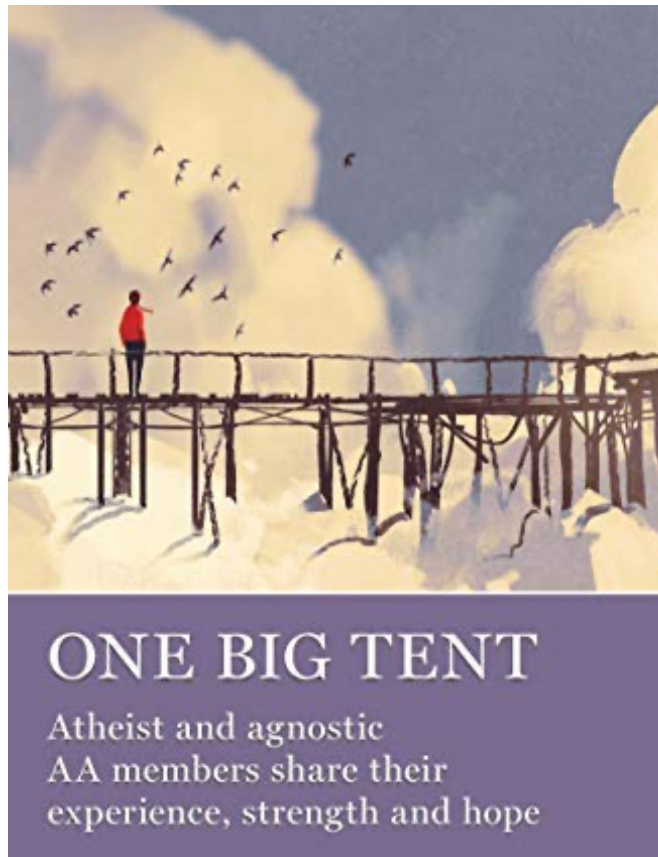
My last drunk was the night of the great wind storm of 2011. Power lines were knocked down so the electricity was out for days. I woke up December 11 from a blackout, and it was clear, in that moment, that the rest of my life could be this dark and hopeless if I kept doing what I was doing. Every time I got up after that day I got sick and, at one point, I felt something tapping me on the shoulder asking, "Have you had enough?"

Weeks later I found myself sitting in the corner of a Women's Big Book Study meeting in South Pasadena. It wasn't my first time in an A.A. meeting but it was the first time I felt like I belonged. I was listening for the similarities rather than differences and for hope rather than excuses to leave. Soon, I found a sponsor and we started the steps. When I did the steps the emphasis was more on expedition than depth. This sense of urgency was driven by the certainty that these steps were going to save my life. The sense of urgency, however, made it easy for me to speed by the parts that talked about God or my Higher Power.

In "Ready to Bolt," one of the stories found in a new collection *One Big Tent - Atheists and Agnostic AA Members Share Their Experience, Strength & Hope*, the author shares that, "as a child I was

curious about religion. Since my dad was an atheist, he didn't want his children attending church. While he was adamant about his feelings he did not ban us from going to services." That was my experience as well. On any given Sunday I would tag along with friends to their family's church services. The only thing that the smorgasboard of samplings revealed, though, was that the Sunday service ending with a table of Winchell's donuts was my number one choice.

Spirituality eluded me.



Later, doing Step Two, I came to believe there was some 'thing' that protected me. I recalled the night I walked the streets of Rosarito by myself after getting spooked at a house party or when I earned my DUI when I decided to drive the wrong way on a one way street in Santa Barbara because I wanted to avoid the cops on State Street. I had plenty of evidence to support the fact that I'd been cared for throughout the years of drinking, but I'd never slowed down enough to consider what 'it' looked like, sounded like, or how it made me feel. When I was

younger I thought my grandma might be watching over me. After my cat died, it felt like Blacky took over. But as I got further into my disease, I was lost.

When I came into the rooms I heard all the suggestions or ways to sidestep the word God, if that was a sticking point for me. People said, "Make it whatever you want." For someone who has made life's big decisions using a process of elimination, that could take me a lifetime. Others said, "Choose something from nature. It

could be the ocean or a tree.” Again, a great option, but not one that I connected with. Someone else said, “Choose anything. You could even make it a doorknob.” That was perhaps the most depressing of all. The blessing was that I was encouraged to try on each of these ideas. That freedom to choose, paired with the assurance there was no ‘right’ answer, was a new experience.

The 2018 Grapevine publication of *One Big Tent* would have been helpful during this time when I was thrashing around with this concept of God or Higher Power. The stories are from members who identify as agnostic or atheist and how they’ve navigated the Big Book and meetings successfully. Yes, Tradition Three, which states “The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking,” offered some comfort. But, when the author of “One Dark Night” states, “I have found that through my own experience and observation of others that it doesn’t matter what I believe, it’s

what I do that counts,” I was able to breathe. When I went on to read in Chapter Three that, “The Big Book was written to include more than a small slice of humanity and there is room for us atheists. I have found a way of life here that first answered my drinking problem and then gave me solutions to my living problem,” I could let out another breath. While I ultimately decided, in early sobriety, that the group was my Higher Power, over the years that definition has changed.

I was in a meeting a week ago and the topic was “God or coincidence?” The lead was powerful and the shares were eye opening, but it was another reminder of the different camps within the rooms of A.A. While I used to worry about which camp I belonged in, “I’m so grateful AA is one big tent with room for everyone.”

Ann W.

Alt Chair SCAAN Committee, Panel 69

2020 CALENDAR (Revised)

January

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1/1 New Year's Day

1/20 Martin Luther King Day

February

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

2/14 Valentine's Day

2/17 Presidents Day

March

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

4/12 Easter

May

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

5/10 Mother's Day

5/25 Memorial Day

June

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

6/21 Father's Day

July

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

7/4 Independence Day

7/18 4 Area Unity Day

August

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

7/31-8/2 Foothill Roundup

September

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

9/7 Labor Day

October

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

10/12 Columbus Day

November

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

11/11 Veterans Day

11/26 Thanksgiving

December

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

12/5 Hispanic Women's Wrks

12/25 Christmas

Notes

1/25 Sat	Winter Area Assembly
2/23 Sun	Area Committee Meeting
3/6 Fri - 3/8 Sun	PRAASA
3/21 Sat	Steering Committee Meeting
4/4 Sat - 4/5 Sun	Pre-Conference Workshop
5/16 Sat - 5/19 Tue	General Service Conference
6/7 Sun	Spring Area Assembly
6/28 Sun	4 Area DCM Sharing Session
7/11 Sat	Area Committee Meeting
7/18 Sat	4 Area Unity Day
8/1 Sat	Steering Committee Meeting
8/15 Sat	Summer Area Assembly
9/12 Sat	Area Committee Meeting
9/26 Sat	Steering Committee Meeting
10/18 Sun	Fall Area Election Assembly
11/1 Sun	El Foro de Servicios Generales
11/14 Sat	Area Committee Meeting
12/12 Sat	Steering Committee Meeting
Host Districts:	
1/25 Assembly - Hollywood Combined	
2/23 ACM - District 30	
4/4 PCW Day 1 - District 3	
4/5 PCW Day 2 - Westside Combined	
6/7 Assembly - District 30	
7/11 ACM - District 3	
8/15 Assembly - District 33 & CIH	
9/12 ACM - Hollywood Combined	
10/18 Assembly - District 14	
11/14 ACM - Westside Combined	
4 Area Share:	
Host Area 93	
Cancelled Events:	
7/2 - 7/5 International Convention	
8/21 - 8/23 Pacific Regional Forum	
9/18 - 9/20 So. Cal. Convention	
Updated:	
8/15/2020 (Fixed typo in Notes section)	
Update approved at Spring Assembly: June 7, 2020	

2021 CALENDAR DRAFT

January						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

1/1 New Year's Day
1/18 Martin Luther King Day

February						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

2/14 Valentine's Day
2/15 Presidents Day

March						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

4/4 Easter
4/15 Tax Deadline

May						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

5/9 Mother's Day
5/31 Memorial Day

June						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

6/20 Father's Day

July						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

7/4 Independence Day

August						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Date TBD Foothill Roundup

September						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

9/6 Labor Day
9/24-9/26 SoCal Conv.

October						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

10/11 Columbus Day

November						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

11/11 Veterans Day
11/25 Thanksgiving

December						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

12/25 Christmas

Notes

1/23 Sat Winter Area Assembly
TBD Area 08 4 Area DCM Sharing Session
2/21 Sun Area Committee Meeting
3/5 Fri - 3/7 Sun PRAASA
3/27 Sat Steering Committee Meeting
4/3 Sat - 4/4 Sun Pre-Conference Workshop (Tentative)
4/18 Sun - 4/24 Sat General Service Conference (Tentative)
5/16 Sun Spring Area Assembly
6/12 Sat Steering Committee Meeting
6/26 Sat Area Committee Meeting
7/24 Sat Summer Area Assembly
8/15 Sun Area Committee Meeting
9/11 Sat Steering Committee Meeting
10/17 Sun Fall Area Assembly
11/7 Sun [TBD] El Foro de Servicios Generales
11/13 Sat Area Committee Meeting
12/4 Sat Hispanic Women's Workshop
12/11 Sat Steering Committee Meeting

Host Districts: 1/23 Assembly - [TBD]

2/21 ACM - [TBD]

4/3 PCW Day 1 - [TBD]

4/4 PCW Day 2 - [TBD]

5/16 Assembly - [TBD]

6/26 ACM - [TBD]

7/24 Assembly - [TBD]

8/15 ACM - [TBD]

10/17 Assembly - [TBD]

11/13 ACM - [TBD]

4 Area Share: Host Area 08 / Date TBD

Updated: October 10, 2020

To be presented at the Fall Assembly: October 18, 2020

DISTRICT CONTACTS

COMBINED DISTRICTS (DCMC = District Committee Member Chair)

Comite Interdistrital Hispanos (Districts 33, 34, 35, 49, 50, 55)	DCMC	cih@area05aa.org	Juan Manuel P
	Alt DCMC	altcih@area05aa.org	Amado G
Hollywood-Wilshire-Downtown Combined Districts (Districts 9, 10, 26, 56, 58)	DCMC	chd@area05aa.org	Lionell G
	Alt DCMC	altchd@area05aa.org	
Westside Combined Districts (Districts 5, 6, 8, 15, 19, 25, 36, 37/38, 39/40, 41, 43, 45, 46)	DCMC	wcd@area05aa.org	Sandra C
	Alt DCMC	altwcd@area05aa.org	Eli J

DISTRICTS (DCM = District Committee Member)

District 2: La Cañada, La Crescenta, Montrose, Sunland	DCM	district2@area05aa.org	Susan P
	Alt DCM	altdistrict2@area05aa.org	Jim A
District 3: Altadena, Highland Park, Pasadena, S. Pasadena, San Marino	DCM	district3@area05aa.org	Jamie W
	Alt DCM	altdistrict3@area05aa.org	Mataji B
District 4: Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina, Glendora, La Puente, West Covina	DCM	district4@area05aa.org	Amy O
	Alt DCM	altdistrict4@area05aa.org	Phillip G
District 5: Culver City, West LA	DCM	district5@area05aa.org	Cynthia L
	Alt DCM	altdistrict5@area05aa.org	Maureen M
District 6: Brentwood, West LA	DCM	district6@area05aa.org	Deborah C
	Alt DCM	altdistrict6@area05aa.org	
District 7: Hollywood, West Hollywood	DCM	district7@area05aa.org	Matthew M
	Alt DCM	altdistrict7@area05aa.org	Carl B
District 8: Beverly Hills, Century City	DCM	district8@area05aa.org	David W
	Alt DCM	altdistrict8@area05aa.org	
District 9: Downtown LA, Echo Park, Silverlake	DCM	district9@area05aa.org	Johanna W
	Alt DCM	altdistrict9@area05aa.org	David L
District 10: LA - Wilshire Corridor	DCM	district10@area05aa.org	Dayna D
	Alt DCM	altdistrict10@area05aa.org	Mike C
District 13: Alhambra, Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, El Monte, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, South El Monte, Sierra Madre, Temple	DCM	district13@area05aa.org	Jenny P
	Alt DCM	altdistrict13@area05aa.org	Rebecca C
District 14: Downey, Bell Gardens, Montebello, Paramount, Pico Rivera	DCM	district14@area05aa.org	Sandra V
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District 15: Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Westchester, Crenshaw	DCM	district15@area05aa.org	Mimi T
	Alt DCM	altdistrict15@area05aa.org	Rich T
District 17: South Gate, Watts, Huntington Park	DCM	district17@area05aa.org	
	Alt DCM	altdistrict17@area05aa.org	
District 18: Whittier, La Habra, La Mirada, Hacienda Heights	DCM	district18@area05aa.org	Faith B
	Alt DCM	altdistrict18@area05aa.org	Betty T
District 19: Compton, LA - South/Central	DCM	district19@area05aa.org	Al T
	Alt DCM	altdistrict19@area05aa.org	David R
District 25: Culver City, West LA, Marina Center	DCM	district25@area05aa.org	Joan R
	Alt DCM	altdistrict25@area05aa.org	Perry L
District 26: Eagle Rock, Glassell Park, Highland Park, Mount Washington, Silver Lake, Echo Park, Elysian Park, Chinatown, Lincoln Heights, Montecito Heights, El Sereno, Boyle Heights, Compton, East Los Angeles	DCM	district26@area05aa.org	
	Alt DCM	altdistrict26@area05aa.org	
District 30: Ontario, Upland, Pomona, Claremont, La Verne, Alta Loma, Rancho Cucamonga, Chino, Diamond Bar	DCM	district30@area05aa.org	Nancy H
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District 33: (Spanish-Speaking) Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Glendale	DCM	district33@area05aa.org	Jacobo M
	Alt DCM	altdistrict33@area05aa.org	Olga M
District 34: (Spanish-Speaking) San Dimas, Pomona, La Verne, Glendora, Ontario, Montclair, Claremont, Chino	DCM	district34@area05aa.org	Antonio M
	Alt DCM	altdistrict34@area05aa.org	Hector Jesus E
District 35: (Spanish-Speaking) San Gabriel East, Azusa, Baldwin Park, El Monte, Pomona, Whittier	DCM	district35@area05aa.org	Luis M
	Alt DCM	altdistrict35@area05aa.org	Daniel F
District 36: West LA, Ohio Ave.	DCM	district36@area05aa.org	Damon D
	Alt DCM	altdistrict36@area05aa.org	Zoe S
District 37/38: West LA, Pico Boulevard, Bel Air, Westwood	DCM	district37-38@area05aa.org	Susan D
	Alt DCM	altdistrict37-38@area05aa.org	Barton L
District 39/40: Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica	DCM	district39-40@area05aa.org	Carole M
	Alt DCM	altdistrict39-40@area05aa.org	Ross S
District 41: West LA, Palms, Rancho Park, Culver City	DCM	district41@area05aa.org	Connor C
	Alt DCM	altdistrict41@area05aa.org	
District 43: West Hollywood, Fairfax, Beverly Hills	DCM	district43@area05aa.org	David M
	Alt DCM	altdistrict43@area05aa.org	Patty L
District 45: Marina del Rey, Westchester, Playa del Rey, Venice, Santa Monica	DCM	district45@area05aa.org	Joe C
	Alt DCM	altdistrict45@area05aa.org	
District 46: Santa Monica	DCM	district46@area05aa.org	Lisa O
	Alt DCM	altdistrict46@area05aa.org	Nico K
District 49: (Spanish-Speaking) LA East, Lincoln Heights, Bell/Cudahy, Montebello, Pico Rivera	DCM	district49@area05aa.org	Julio B
	Alt DCM	altdistrict49@area05aa.org	
District 50: (Spanish-Speaking) Glendale, Altadena, Pasadena, Eagle Rock, Highland Park, Lincoln Heights, El Sereno	DCM	district50@area05aa.org	Rogelio Z
	Alt DCM	altdistrict50@area05aa.org	
District 55: (Spanish-Speaking) LA South/Central, Lynwood, Inglewood, Culver City, Santa Monica	DCM	district55@area05aa.org	Victor G
	Alt DCM	altdistrict55@area05aa.org	Cuauhtemoc S
District 56: Hollywood, Los Feliz	DCM	district56@area05aa.org	Timothy H
	Alt DCM	altdistrict56@area05aa.org	Juliana J
District 58: Wilshire, Melrose	DCM	district58@area05aa.org	Shannon M
	Alt DCM	altdistrict58@area05aa.org	

AREA CONTACTS

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Area Chair	chairperson@area05aa.org	Zoraida R
Secretary	secretary@area05aa.org	Doug S
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Contributions Treasurer	contreasurer@area05aa.org	Sharron S
Registrar	registrar@area05aa.org	Nikki U

PAST DELEGATES

<i>To email all past delegates, use: pastdelegates@area05aa.org</i>		
*Panel 49	panel49@area05aa.org	*Marita H
Panel 51	panel51@area05aa.org	Mary T
Panel 53	panel53@area05aa.org	Jim I
Panel 55	panel55@area05aa.org	Jim W
*Panel 57	panel53@area05aa.org	*Gustavo T
Panel 59	panel59@area05aa.org	Mike P
Panel 61	panel61@area05aa.org	Marcus F
Panel 63	panel63@area05aa.org	Juan M
Panel 65	panel65@area05aa.org	Scott M
Panel 67	panel67@area05aa.org	Thomas B

* If delegates live elsewhere and participate in another area, they are not voting members of Area 05.

COMMITTEES

Archives	Chair	archives@area05aa.org	Mary T
	Alt Chair	altarchives@area05aa.org	Mike M
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	Alt Chair	altav@area05aa.org	Mikey N
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	Alt Chair	altcec@area05aa.org	Bea D
Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	Chair	cpc@area05aa.org	Raymond Y
	Alt Chair	altcpc@area05aa.org	Kristy L
Corrections	Chair	corrections@area05aa.org	Dayna D
	Alt Chair	altcorrections@area05aa.org	Oscar P
Finance	Chair	finance@area05aa.org	Nadine S
	Alt Chair	altfinance@area05aa.org	Samuel P
Grapevine & La Viña	Chair	gvlv@area05aa.org	Mike C
	Alt Chair	altgvlv@area05aa.org	Jose A Q
Guidelines & Policies	Chair	gap@area05aa.org	Thomas B
	Alt Chair	altgap@area05aa.org	Deborah C
Literature	Chair	literature@area05aa.org	David M
	Alt Chair	altliterature@area05aa.org	Armando L
Public Information (PI)	Chair	pi@area05aa.org	Carlos G
	Alt Chair	altpi@area05aa.org	Nancy H
Registration	Chair	registration@area05aa.org	Joe T
	Alt Chair	altregistration@area05aa.org	Crystal G
SCAAN	Chair	scaan@area05aa.org	Ken T
	Alt Chair	altscaan@area05aa.org	Ann W
Translation	Chair	translation@area05aa.org	Jose Luis E
	Alt Chair	alttranslation@area05aa.org	Bill L
Treatment Facilities	Chair	tfc@area05aa.org	Jim I
	Alt Chair	alttrf@area05aa.org	Larry B
Website	Chair	webchair@area05aa.org	Shawn A
	Alt Chair	altwebchair@area05aa.org	Fidel M
Accessibilities (Ad-hoc)	Chair	accessibilities@area05aa.org	Phranc G
	Alt Chair	altaccessibilities@area05aa.org	Timothy S
Cooperation with the Young Community (Ad-hoc)	Chair	cyc@area05aa.org	Jen Kaluhiokalani S
	Alt Chair	altcyc@area05aa.org	Jimmy M
Hispanic Women's Workshop (Ad-hoc)	Chair	mujeres@area05aa.org	Maria Q
	Alt Chair	altmujeres@area05aa.org	Olga M
Interpretation (Ad-hoc)	Chair	interpretation@area05aa.org	Jamie W
	Alt Chair	altinterpretation@area05aa.org	Juan Antonio M

This is a screenshot of a Google Map Customizer interface displaying a map of Southern California, specifically the Los Angeles metropolitan area. The map is overlaid with thick black lines that divide it into five distinct, numbered regions: 33, 34, 35, 49, and 50. Region 33 covers the western coastal part, including areas like Malibu and Santa Monica. Region 34 is in the northeast, encompassing San Gabriel and Upland. Region 35 is located east of Los Angeles, covering parts of San Bernardino and Orange counties. Region 49 is central, covering downtown Los Angeles and surrounding urban areas. Region 50 is in the north, including Burbank and Pasadena. Major freeways such as I-5, I-10, I-405, and SR-60 are clearly visible. Numerous cities and towns are labeled, including Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Van Nuys, Burbank, Pasadena, Los Angeles, Long Beach, Torrance, and Anaheim. Geographical features like the Pacific Ocean, Malibu Creek State Park, and various mountains are also shown. In the top left corner, there's a 'Google Map Customizer' header with a search bar containing 'Canyon Park'. At the bottom right, small text indicates 'Map data ©2018 Google' and provides links for 'Terms of Use' and 'Report a map error'. A standard Google Maps navigation and zoom control is visible in the bottom right corner.

A.A. AREA 05 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
AREA SUMMER ASSEMBLY Minutes
Saturday – August 15, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Call-to-Order:

Area Chairperson, Zoraida R., opened the meeting with the Serenity prayer in English and Spanish, a welcoming statement and opening comments at 9:00 a.m.

Acknowledgments & Readings:

A.A. Birthdays for anniversary dates falling between and including June 8, 2020 through August 15, 2020 were recognized, applauded and serenaded.

The 12 Concepts were read in English by Mason

The 12 Concepts were read in Spanish by Carlos G., Public Information Chair

New General Service Representatives and Alternates were welcomed.

Approval of the Agenda

Chairperson Zoraida R. presented the Assembly Agenda. She *made a motion to approve the agenda with one correction. The Financial Reports items in the Officers Reports section referenced 1st Quarter and it should be 2nd Quarter.* The Chair explains process to vote on Zoom. *Motion was seconded by Sandra C. and approved. Vote count: Yes, 48; No, 0.*

Approval of Assembly Minutes from June 7, 2020:

The Secretary advised that the Minutes of the January 25, 2020 Assembly were in the SCAAN (Area 05 newsletter) which had been distributed via shared folder (somewhere in the cloud), and via email to the Area distribution list, for approval. Motion: *“Approve the June 7, 2020 Assembly minutes as presented in the SCAAN.”* There was a question from the floor regarding missing Spanish Foro report. The Foro report was captured in the Good and Welfare section since it was not on the approved agenda.

Vote count: Yes, 42; No, 0. The Secretary thanked the Translation Committee for translating into Spanish.

Public Chat: The Chairperson mentioned the use of public chat is not encouraged. Items are not translated and can distract members when viewing those messages. Similarly during in person meetings, people aren't coming to microphones randomly to discuss items. It was decided to keep private chat open so members can communicate with one another without addressing the entire meeting list. If you need to get ahold of the Chairperson, please reach out to the Accounts Treasurer privately so he can ping the Chair. She's unable to monitor the chat and facilitate the meeting at the same time. Thank you.

Delegate's Report

Thomas S. introduces himself in English and Spanish. He reflects on his service to Area 5, as Panel 69 Delegate, and recognizes there's only one remaining Assembly this Panel, which is the Election Assembly. For all practical purposes in Panel 69, this is his final full Delegate Report. Thomas welcomes new General Service Representatives (GSRs) today. He explains the name A05/P69 in his virtual title, and time covered in his role as Delegate, Panel 69. New GSRs are serving the final months of Panel 69. And presumes new GSRs in attendance would serve as Panel 71 GSRs. Starting January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022. GSR positions do not necessarily coincide with other meeting/group commitments, such as meeting secretaries that may be a six month commitment. GSRs serve for two years and they should communicate that to their Group.

Everything we do here is on behalf of the institution of A.A. As a whole. If you have questions, please private chat Lauren A., Alt. Delegate, and she will share with Thomas as deemed appropriate. In addition, Thomas has asked Past Delegates to assist answer questions that may need research if he's unable to answer directly.

He acknowledges the SCAAN Chair and Alternate for their contributions producing the Area newsletter. In the Summer edition of the SCAAN is an article, titled Delegate's Report, though it's really an article he submitted for publication and is technically not his report. His report is now and he's making it now. Thomas encourages us to read his article dedicated to one of his sponsees, which includes a prayer practiced daily by Bill and Lois W. beginning in 1941.

GSC Notes: At the last assembly he discussed information about the committee on which he serves, Conference Committee on Trustees. There was some controversy at the General Service Conference in the election process of a Non-Trustee Director of A.A.W.S., Inc., the publishing arm of Alcoholics Anonymous. Due to some procedural issues of the nominees, the position was left open and is temporarily filled by Class A Trustee, Sister Ann. The General Service Board felt it better to leave the position open until next year due to the procedural issues, which needs to be addressed. That election will be addressed at the 71st General Service Conference in 2021.

Conference Process and Final Conference Report: The Conference itself was held virtually in May 2020. However, the conference process is still going on, as it's a year round process. He emailed the anonymity protected versions of the Final GSC report. Delegates normally pass them out in person, but, due to the pandemic, we're not meeting in person and cannot mail them to everyone. We have them electronically. You can print and read them. There's a lot of reading and information contained on those documents. Included were agenda items from 70th to 71st, Conference Considerations, Floor Actions, and Committee Considerations. He cannot cover each item today due to time limitations. They were forwarded in English and Spanish. If GSRs did not receive them follow up with your District Committee Member (DCM). If you develop questions, please contact Thomas S. directly, via telephone or email. Contact information is in the SCAAN.

To reiterate, the Conference is a year-long process. The General Service Conference was, however, only a few days long, but the process takes place all year. He will attend the Final Financial report delivered by someone from General Service Office later today. The Alternate Delegate will take over for Thomas since he needs to leave. The outside audit wasn't completed earlier due to logistical issues caused by the pandemic. Additionally, the Pacific Regional Trustees schedule conference calls to share information.

Foothill Roundup: Many of you participated in the Foothill Roundup. The flyer referenced "donations", however we "contribute" to A.A., in the form of 7th Tradition contributions. We contribute to our own welfare. We donate as good will to other charities, but we contribute to A.A. Thomas encourages GSRs to reference either 7th Tradition or contributions when they address their respective groups.

Corrections Committee: Thomas acknowledged Dayna D., Chair of Corrections Committee. Georgia (Area 16) is conducting a virtual workshop which was forwarded to Dayna. In Southern California we're dialed into Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) which is part of Intergroup not General Service. Many other Areas do their H&I work with General Service Corrections Committees.

Southern California Convention: The convention itself was cancelled. The oldest A.A. convention in California started in 1952. However, they will hold a virtual version September 19, 2020. There will be a General Service Panel chaired by Thomas and the speaker will be Pacific Region Trustee Kathy F. That panel will be from 12 – 1 p.m. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

A.A. Literature: There's a new publication titled, "No Matter What," targeting our members dealing with adversity throughout our sobriety and especially in these difficult times. Thomas S. encouraged GSRs to invite Literature Reps to attend the assemblies or join the Literature Committee. This helps educate Group literature reps on new books and pamphlets and place new publications on their tables.

Trustee At Large Candidates: At the fall Area Election Assembly there will be seven (7) officer positions filled. In addition, Area 5 will elect a nominee a candidate for Trustee At Large for the U.S. There are twenty-one (21) Trustees with fourteen (14) Class B, which are alcoholic, and seven (7) Class A, which are non-alcoholic. Until 1967 the Board of Trustees, which started in 1938, there were more non-alcoholic trustees than alcoholic trustees. Structure changed then to the current ratio.

Of the fourteen (14) Trustees, two (2) are Trustee At Large positions (one each for U.S. and Canada). Nominees: We will hold an election for Area 5 nominee. Deadlines to submit a resume is September 2, 2020. Submit only to our Delegate, Thomas S. He needs to share with Area Committee by September 17, 2020, and then have those forwarded to Area 5 GSRs. Since GSRs are the bulk of those voting at the Election Assembly, we want them to review resumes before the October 18.

Financial Updates from the G.S.O: Thomas reviewed a number of slides that Leslie Backus, Class A Trustee and General Service Board Treasurer. There were 52 slides presented at the 70th. G.S.C., however, that number was reduced today for brevity.

Slide 1: Title Slide: Leslie Backus, Class A Trustee GSB Treasurer

Slide 2: 2019 highlights 7th Tradition was \$8.86M up 5.71% over 2018.

Slide 3: 7th Tradition by Region (Pacific Region did well compared to other regions)

Slide 4: "\$8.04" contributions by Region. (PR contributed more than other regions)

Slide 5: "\$8.04" contributions by Region (by dollars)

Slide 6: A dollar is not what it used to be: \$1 in 1935 compares to \$18.84 in 2019 (inflation)

Slide 7: GSO's Two Basic Functions: Publishing & Services on Behalf of the G.S.B.

Slide 8: Big Book Units Sold (2000-2019 listed) 888K units in 2019

Slide 9: Grapevine circulation via App, Online and Print (2015-2019) 2019: 71,182

Slide 10: La Vina circulation (2005-2019) in 2019 was 10,150

Slide 11: Uses of G.S.B.'s Reserve Fund, such as lease, pensions, construction, medical, etc.

Slide 12: March 2020 letter from Pacific Region Trustee (letter about the fund draw down)

Slide 13: A.A. Grapevine Financial Report (increase of contributions due to pandemic revenue stream)

Slide 16: Contributions increased once the Fellowship learned of the pandemic impacts

Slide 17: G.S.C. expenses \$282,112.00 as opposed to the normal expenses we would incur when in person

Slide 19: Revenue – 6 months results (1/1-6/30)

Slide 20: Expenses – results loss for 1st 6 months: \$282K

Slide 21: Re-budgeted #'s for 2020

Slide 22: 2020 International Convention: results and expenses, some of which was covered by insurance.

Thomas wraps up indicating financial position is better than projected earlier this year when impact from COVID-19 was expected to be much worse. Many members in attendance were thankful of the presentation shared.

Voting Process Testing: Kyle H., Technology Ad-hoc Committee Chairperson: Performed a test of the voting procedure the Area will use at the Fall Election Assembly scheduled October 18, 2020. Kyle shared some pop-Ups for the Polling.

Break

Area 05 Financial Update: (Contributions Treasurer, Sharron S. and Accounts Treasurer, Brian P.). Brian describes the two treasurers responsibilities then shares a document with Area 5 financial status and our bank account balance: \$31,437.66 with PRAASA 2023 funds being \$11,280.40. Area 5's available funds: \$20,157.26. The PRAASA funds are considered "seed" money from other Areas that pass forward funds to host the PRAASA in future years. Prudent reserve for 2021: \$11,588.08 (aka '*lower cash limit*'). Brian continues reviewing anticipated expenses and reduction in costs due to virtual meetings, such as printing we won't incur.

Sharron reviews the Q2 2020 Contributions report, how reporting works and the comparison chart from 2017 - 2020 (current quarter). Reports were shared via email and shared folder by Area Chair. Thanked the Website Committee for their service.

2021 Budget: Nadine S., Finance Committee Chair: Nadine described the budget process. We're in the middle of creating the budget for 2021. Both contributions and expenses aren't what we expected due to the pandemic. The Finance Committee will prepare for both virtual and in-person meetings. She invited everyone to our next budget meeting which is scheduled Saturday, August, 22, 2020. Information will be emailed and placed in the meeting chat for those interested to attend.

Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC) Committee, Antonio A., Chairperson: Antonio reported, things are slowing down for CEC. He's in communication with the Alt. Char, Bea D., however there's not much activity to report at this time. They've been using the telephone to call members rather than meet in person.

Audio Visual, Miguel M., Chair: Miguel reported, we're a supporting committee. As described from the Area 05 guidelines and policies. The Audio Visual Committee provides and coordinates the presentation of A.A. audio visual materials to A.A. groups, A.A. Conventions, districts, other committees such as Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Hospitals and Institutions, and other interested people as appropriate. The Audio Visual Committee participated in the 2020 Foothill Round-Up. In cooperation with the Technology Committee the Audio Visual Committee was able to show videos in a one hour panel. The committee has used some of the budget to purchase equipment. The Audio Visual Committee was able to participate in the monthly general service meeting for District 13. The Audio Visual Committee is participating in the budget process for 2021. The committee will continue to serve in a virtual capacity for meetings and groups. Any questions please contact me at av@area05aa.org

SCAAN Newsletter, Ken T., Chair: Ken thanked all the contributors. The SCAAN Committee is pleased with the latest edition. He thanked Brian P. for the cultural safety article, Julio B., DCM of District 49, and Antonio A. and Bea D. of the CEC Committee, Ann W., Alt. Chair of SCAAN for her article on the Virtual 2020 International Convention, and Lauren A., Alt. Delegate, for their contributions to this edition. Lastly, Ken requests articles from people for the last issue due out this Fall.

Treatment Facilities Committee, Jim I., Chair: Jim reported, he received an email from G.S.O. that heard the need for literature in treatment facilities impacted by the pandemic. Since his committee doesn't have budget for literature to send into facilities he contact H&I and they provided 20 Big Books to the local facility. Thanked Sharron S. for helping make that possible.

Archives Committee, Mary T., Chair: Mary reported, the National A.A. Archives Workshop will be virtual this year. Saturday, September 26, 2020, in the afternoon. Resource available, demos on preservation and a virtual tour of N.Y. GSO's archives. Contact Mary if you're interested.

Accessibilities Ad-hoc Committee, Phranc G., Chair: Phranc reports, right now it just Tim as Alt. Chair, and herself. We haven't done anything specific during the pandemic. That said, they do have some frustrations with lack of ASL interpretation in virtual meetings. Many do not have ASL interpretation. She thank Jamie W., the Interpretation Ad-Hoc Committee Chair, for her service to the Area. The good news is their committee has created an awareness of accessibilities and those challenges. The Westside Combined Districts has a gold can to collect funds in support of ASL interpretation at meetings.

Guidelines & Policies Committee, Thomas B., Chair: Thomas reported, he thanked our Delegate for his report, and his Alt. Chair, Deborah C., other members of the committee. He described the purpose of their Committee. Assists in reviewing other SCAA documents and policies for possible conflict with SCAA Guidelines and Policies and/or the A.A. Service Manual. Made recent changes to Article XII of the Area 5 G&P. They will update the G&P and have those posted to the Area website. They're working with local Intergroups as they prepare to open meetings, including resources and information on things to consider when opening meetings again.

Website Committee, Shawn A., Chair: Shawn reported, things are going well with the website. Fixed the security certificate to enable online contributions and they have developed a process to insure it doesn't happen again. If you're holding Labor Day weekend events, please provide so they can post your event. Please provide in English and Spanish and include the year on the flier.

Public Information Committee, Carlos G., Alt. Chair: Carlos reported, thanked everyone for working for A.A. Continued work with Chinese speaking meeting that meets every Wednesday. People from all over the world are joining the meeting. Attendance is growing. He's very excited.

Literature Committee, David M., Chair: David reported, they participated in the Four (4) Area Unity Day to present on how literature serves to foster unity. This is the 3rd year running at the Foothill Roundup. Interesting to anticipate on what the committee's will look like with virtual meetings next panel. It's a pleasure to serve. If you are new and are interested in working with literature please exchange contact information.

Cooperation with the Ad-Hoc Young Community (CYC) Committee, Jen K., Chair: Jennifer reported, CYC participated in the Foothill Roundup. We hosted a few really cool meetings and events. Some highlights: Intention-setting ceremony, BIPOC & Allies in Recovery meeting, Morning meditation, Scavenger Hunt, Talent show, Over 21 panel. We have sent out an email blast including to the Dept. of Mental Health Transitional Age Youth division for professionals who work with youth who suffer from homelessness, incarceration, and mental health issues. We have the final issue of The Void zine coming out for release at the October assembly, which will be available in both English and Spanish. There is a national online young people's meeting list here (viewers should click on "Pacific" time zone tab at bottom of page):

Here's a link to the national online young people's meeting list - feel free to share at your meetings! (Young person is anyone with room to grow :) Make sure to click on bottom tab for "Pacific Time"

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hEZjE7OpgyEwogoxb_p9Dk6S7xOR7kaQlI2cteWMo/edit?usp=sharing

We'll be meeting on Saturday 9/5 for a final committee meeting to discuss the next issue of the zine, committee and panel successes, opportunities for next year, and becoming a standing committee. All are welcome to attend!

Finance Committee, Nadine S., Chair: Nadine reported, Sam P. is the Alt. Chair. She created zoom information for next week's budget meeting and placed in the chat.

Corrections Committee, Dayna D., Chair: Dayna reported, H&I has recently been able to get literature into the LA County Jails. We have included our committees' pre-release form included with the literature so hopefully we will be getting some new requests soon. Information was included on the form regarding how to access zoom meetings. Area 16 donated 3 gift certificates to the La Vina that were donated to the Spanish Speaking Districts. We are working on getting the "Zine" that CYC created into the juvenile justice center. Audio for the Corrections Conference is available if anyone wants a copy, please email me. Area 11 is hosting a Corrections workshop on August 29th, if anyone would like to attend please email me at corrections@area05aa.org.

Technology Ad-hoc Committee, Kyle H., Chair: Kyle reported, he thanked the other committee members: Claude, Goala and Andrea. Helping the Registration Committee get people into the virtual room. They helped at the Foothill Roundup. District 13 and Westside Combined Districts are utilizing the Technology Committee. Reminds everyone they can use the Area 5 zoom account. Encourage members get involved. We're here to help folks leverage technology. Can be reached via email: technology@area05aa.org

Grapevine and La Vina Committee, Mike C., Chair: Michael reported, there's a new Grapevine publication, No Matter What, Dealing with Adversity in Sobriety. There's an updated Grapevine Daily Quotebook in English, French and Spanish. ePub edition of the Grapevine magazine which is replacing the Grapevine App. You can join us in the 2020 Carry The Message Project, where you can purchase a subscript to the Grapevine or La Vina for another alcoholic, the A.A. Grapevine youtube channel , and listen to a free La Vina audio story.

Registration Committee, Joe T., Chair: Joe reported, he thanked Crystal, Nikki and the Technology Committee for helping them get organized. They're preparing for the Election Assembly in October.

Hispanic Women's Workshop Ad-hoc Committee, Olga M., Alt. Chair: Olga reported, on June 30, 2020., we got together to pick the theme and logo for the event. The 5th annual Hispanic Woman's Workshop will be held Saturday, December 5, 2020. (12/5/20). On August 8th we had another meeting where the liaisons got together from other Areas 03, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 93, were present. They selected the theme and logo. (The remainder of Olga's report was not recorded nor translated live. My apologies).

Interpretation Ad-hoc Committee, Jamie W., Chair: Jamie reported, they're working very hard with ASL interpreters to insure Tim can participate. The committee provides ASL for any Area 5 meetings. It's a mighty committee of one (1). They're learning more about Spanish interpretation and creating a list of people with 2nd languages to help others. Please send information to her to get on the list.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Questions: The Chair opened the meeting for questions to the Delegate since there was time available in the schedule. Thomas addressed those questions.

Lunch: Assembly broke for lunch at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Committee, Raymond Y., Chair: David W. Chair of the Westside Combined Districts reported on their behalf, GSO had asked Area 5 to staff a convention

booth for the Evolution of Addiction Treatment conference in Los Angeles in November, 2020. The conference has been cancelled due to the pandemic.

Brian P. read information that was posted in the chat to insure they are translated and those on the telephone can hear them.

Officer Reports:

Registrar, Nikki U.: Nikki reports on the attendance. It can be fluid. People join then leave. Some people hold more than one Area position. The numbers below were provided by Nikki after the Assembly. They differ from the audio report when Nikki gave the verbal numbers right after lunch. Since attendance is gathered as people join the meeting we no longer conduct the typical roll call at the beginning of our Area meetings.

SERVICE POSITION	TOTAL	VOTING	NON-VOTING
General Service Representatives (GSR)	41	41	0
Alternate General Service Representatives (Alt GSR)	12	4	8
GSR/Alt Chair	3	3	0
District Committee Members (DCM)	12	12	0
Alternate District Committee Members (Alt DCM)	4	0	4
District Committee Member Chairs (DCMC)	2	2	0
Alternate District Committee Member Chairs (Alt DCMC)	0	0	0
DCM/Alt Chair	1	1	0
Committee Chairpersons (Chair)	7	7	0
Alternate Committee Chairs (Alt Chair)	5	0	5
Chair/DCM	3	3	0
Chair/Alt DCM	3	3	0
Chair/GSR	1	1	0
Chair/Alt GSR	1	1	0
Chair/Past Delegate	3	3	0
Area Officers	7	7	0
Past Delegates	1	1	0
Subtotal	106	89	17
Visitors			18
Total Attendance	124	89	35

Individuals serving in dual area roles are counted only once towards total attendance.

GSRs must be registered 72 hours before the Area Fall Election Assembly on October 18, 2020. Nikki describes the information required to register GSRs, such as name, Group name and other details. Please contact her at registrar@area05aa.org

Alternate Delegate, Lauren A., Including the Audit Subcommittee Report: Lauren reports, she's the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) of the corporation. She'll give her Audit Subcommittee report first. Lauren is still waiting for the July financial reports to review. They had a great New GSR orientation last night. Attendance has been great! People asked lots of questions and really appreciates virtual meetings. She attended the Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) monthly Intergroup meetings. They are not taking panels into jails and institutions due to pandemic. They had to cut their Grapevine and **La Viña** subscriptions in half. She's the liaison to things for the Area. She also attended Los Angeles Central Office meeting this month. They had a surplus of funds and decided to make a \$22,000.00 contribution to General Service Office. The office is looking to hire a bookkeeper or they may decide to get a volunteer. They have not yet hired the new Office Manager. She attended the Foothill Roundup and it was a great event. She attended some meetings and they showed films. Planning committee was amazing. She's in close contact with Thomas S., Area 5 Delegate, and they talk several times each week regarding the Area's business and his committee activities.

Secretary, Doug S.: Doug reports, his primary responsibility is to prepare the minutes of Area Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings (ACM). Since the last Assembly he has prepared the minutes for June Assembly (6/7/20), which was approved earlier today and July ACM (7/11/20). Doug thanked the Translation Committee for their hard work translating the reports into Spanish. Doug asked all Committee Chairs to send written reports via email to make his job easier, copy and paste into the report, which increases accuracy. He attended the Unity Day event in July and found it very exciting. Doug would like to copy messages that are sent into chat so he can save or use in the Secretary report. For some reason that feature is disabled. He asked Nikki to describe the use of "legacy General Service number" as compared to the "Netsuite number." Nikki explains when GSO replaced their ERP system last year, they gave all meetings new meeting numbers.

Contributions Treasurer, Sharron S., Including Presentation of 2020 2nd Quarter Contributions Report: Sharron reports, she shared and reviewed the report earlier today and won't cover those details again at this time. She reiterates there are multiple ways for Groups to contribute, such as Area 5, GSO, District, H&I, Central Offices, and other A.A. service entities. Lastly, Sharron discussed the use of "anonymous" tag if you'd like your contribution to remain anonymous.

Accounts Treasurer, Brian P., Including Presentation of 2020 2nd Quarter Financial Report: Brian reports, he attended Unity Day and the Foothill Roundup. They were fantastic events. Kudos to those that participated. He's attending the Chinese and Cantonese weekly A.A. meetings. One order of business: he presented the Q2 2020 Finance Report and notes the contribution numbers match between him and Sharron (Contributions Treasurer). We will vote on the report during the ACM in July (07/11/20). Details may be found in his report distributed via shared folder and email. Mary T. asked a question regarding the G.S.C. payment we usually make to the GSO. She requested Brian email the letter so she can read it.

Chairperson, Zoraida, R.: Zoraida reports, thanked everyone for their participation, she thanked the Area Officers for their service. She's seen a tremendous growth in the Area, especially, with challenges during the pandemic. She visited several Districts and meetings since the last Assembly. Please keep those requests coming. She's spending time with people from our area and several others. There's plenty of

discussion about how and when to open groups. Do they keep going with virtual meetings or should they be hybrid? She thanked Thomas B., Past Delegate Panel 67, and another member who is an epidemiologist on the front lines. Thomas B. put together a presentation and materials to use when Groups are making those decisions. Our Area conducted a town hall that had over 130 members from all over, including LA Central Office participation. We're planning another town hall following requests from members and different service entities. Zoraida regularly attends the Chinese-speaking meeting. It's been an incredible experience. She attend other bilingual meetings in English and Spanish. She usually knows the languages, but to be in a meeting where she doesn't know the language, it's quite spiritual for her to see the power of A.A. at work. Thank you!

Spanish Foro Update: Arturo, Foro Chairperson from District 33: Jacobo M. reports on behalf of his brother Arturo. Member of the Cleveland Group in District 33. He's recuperating from COVID-19. Thank goodness he's doing better.

Report of the Organizing Committee of the XLII Hispanic Forum of Los Angeles Host District 33

Good morning colleagues, receive a cordial greeting from the organizing committee of the 42 annual Hispanic Forum. At this time we want to inform you of the forum activities.

On July 12, our forum meeting was held at the CIH facilities, where all the subcommittees of all the districts were present and where they took up the following agreements.

It was agreed that the forum be cancelled due to the outbreak of COVID-19 infections. It will take place next year and District 33 will host of the event. We are about to speak with the managers of the facility where the event was going to take place. We may have the option to either return the money to us or to give us the premises for the following year. This leaves the treasury with the amount of \$844.34 with the premises paid in full. The decision to cancel was really difficult for the organizing table, since this event was being organized very well. There was a lot of collaboration and a lot of unity. Thank you District 33 for giving us the opportunity to carry out this event even though it has been canceled.

Arturo is the Coordinator, Rodrigo is Secretary and Angel is the Treasurer.

Special Presentation - Reopening Our AA Groups: Thomas B., Guidelines & Policies Chair/Past Delegate. Thomas gave his presentation on things members should consider as we prepare to reopen our A.A. meetings during the pandemic. We'll talk about our Traditions, about the importance of an informed Group conscience, providing you with some questions Groups and members should consider in the process and some resources. He read a paragraph written by Bill W. on page S1 of the A.A. Service Manual, A.A.'s Legacy of Service:

"Our Twelfth – carrying the message – is the basic service the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principle aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of spiritual principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die."

Thomas' presentation was approximately thirty (30) minutes in length. Full report can be heard on audio recording or contacting Thomas directly for him to repeat with your Group, District or other interested parties. He also shared a number of questions GSRs can take back to their Groups to discuss:

- 1. Has your Home Group scheduled a group conscience of business meeting to consider resuming face to face meetings?*
- 2. Is your Group familiar with the latest CDC, state and local regulations concerning large Group meetings? Where can these regulations be found? How can these regulations be communicated to the Group?*
- 3. Has your Group considered how its actions and decisions could affect other Groups or could affect A.A. as a whole?*

4. *Will your Group's regular meeting place limit capacity while following government mandates regarding physical distancing? If not, how will your Group meet the needs of alcoholics and also avoid controversy?*
5. *Will your Home Group consider the use of online or call-in meetings during live face to face meetings? And why would this option be considered? And if online or call-in meetings are utilized during a live face to face meeting will this raise issues of anonymity?*
6. *Concerning COVID-19, should our Groups be concerned with any legal liability issues? If so, what might these be?*
7. *Will hospitality services, such as food, cakes, coffee, etc., will that continue? If so, what safety measures could your Group adopt?*
8. *Will your Group supply hand sanitizer? If not, how will your Group conduct meetings safely?*
9. *Will your Group consider to share literature between members during in person meetings?*
10. *Assuming face masks be required, will your Group supply a mask for those without one? Will the greeters role expand to offer masks? Will there be a need to create new service commitments regarding safety? How will overflow be handled by the Group once maximum room capacity is reached? Will a member be asked to leave if they do not wear a mask? And how can this all be handled lovingly?*
11. *How will your Group practice Tradition 7? Has your Group considered alternatives to passing physical baskets? If so, how so, how can the basket be passed safely?*
12. *Has your Group considered following government regulations in light of practices the traditions? Specifically, Traditions 4, 5, 10 and 11?*
13. *Has your Group considered, in the event a member contracts COVID-19 and names your Group as a place they visited, that health officials may need to do contact tracing for everyone at the meeting?*

You may contact Thomas B. via email to obtain copies of the materials and resources shared:
panel67@area05aa.org

Roundtable Questions

1. What are your concerns about reopening meetings (safety, Traditions, etc.)?
2. Do you have any notable experiences to share regarding online or in person meetings during this pandemic?
3. How well are AA meetings serving newcomers right now?
4. What information on reopening groups do you plan on taking back to your meeting?
5. Is there anything else you'd like to share?

Round Table Report Backs: Moderators shared feedback and comments from the members of respective groups.

Note: Audio recording went silent while in breakout rooms.

Good and Welfare Announcements:

- Doug S., Secretary, noted the Area 5 2020 Calendar had a typographical error. He will correct that on the English version and send to the Area via email distribution list. The Spanish calendar did not have the same typo.
- Thom R., Should online meetings have a General Service structure like the physical meetings? Perhaps, call it Area 94? Something to consider.

Motion to Adjourn:

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting, closing with the Responsibility Pledge in Spanish and English at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug S.

**A.A. AREA 05 – SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
FALL ELECTION ASSEMBLY AGENDA
Sunday – October 18, 2020
Zoom Room:
Meeting ID: 838 4253 9713
Passcode: area05**

- 8:00 **Registration & Zoom Room Fellowship**
- 9:00 **Call-to-Order**
1 Minute Silent Meditation
Declaration of Unity (Spanish and English)
- 9:05 **Welcome & Opening Comments**
AA Birthdays (September 13, 2020 through October 18, 2020)
12 Concepts in Spanish and English
5 minute presentation on Concept IX – Trustee-at-large/US (*Newton P.*) “Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety.”
- 9:25 **Approval of August 15, 2020 Area Assembly Minutes** - Secretary (*Doug S.*)
Approval of October 18, 2020 Election Assembly Agenda – Chairperson (*Zoraida R.*)
- 9:45 **Presentations for November 14, 2020 ACM Vote**
- **2020 3rd Quarter Financial Report** – Accounts Treasurer (*Brian P.*)
- **2020 3rd Quarter Contributions Report** – Contributions Treasurer (*Sharron S.*)
- **2021 Area 05 Calendar** - Secretary (*Doug S.*)
- **2021 Budget** – Finance Committee Chair (*Nadine S.*)
- 9:55 **Election Roll Call** - Area Registrar (*Nikki U.*)
- 10:10 **Introduction of Pacific Regional Trustee & Visitors** – Delegate (*Thomas S.*)
- 10:15 **Zoom Third Legacy Election Procedures** – Technology Lead – Delegate Area 08 (*Jerry S.*)
- 10:20 **Third Legacy Election Procedure** – Pacific Regional Trustee (*Kathi F.*)
Area Guidelines & Policies VII B - Third Legacy Election Procedure (S21 & S22)
- 10:35 **Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Nominee for Trustee-at-Large/US**
* Qualifications and Duties of Trustee-at-Large/US (Service Manual S67 & VIII B. 12, Area Guideline & Policies)
* Introduction of Candidates
* Balloting and Election of Area 05 Nominee for Trustee-at-Large/US
Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Delegate
* Qualifications and Duties of Delegate (Service Manual S48, 49, 50 & III E. 2, Area Guideline & Policies)
* Roll Call of Eligible Candidates and Introduction of Candidates
* Balloting and Election of Area Delegate
Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Alternate Delegate
* Qualifications & Duties of Alternate Delegate (Service Manual S50 & III E. 3, Area Guideline & Policies)
* Roll Call of Eligible Candidates and Introduction of Candidates * Balloting and Election of Alternate Delegate

Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Chairperson

- * Qualifications & Duties of Area Chairperson (Service Manual S44,45- III E. 4, Area Guideline & Policies)
- * Roll Call of Eligible Candidates and Introduction of Candidates
- * Balloting and Election of Area Chairperson

12:30 **Lunch**

1:00 **Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Secretary**

- * Qualifications & Duties of Secretary (Service Manual S45- III E. 5, Area Guideline & Policies)
- * Roll Call of Eligible Candidates and Introduction of Candidates
- * Balloting and Election of Secretary

Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Accounts Treasurer

- * Qualifications & Duties of Accounts Treasurer (Service Manual S46- III E. 6, Area Guideline & Policies)
- * Roll Call of Eligible Candidates and Introduction of Candidates
- * Balloting and Election of Accounts Treasurer

Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Contributions Treasurer

- * Qualifications & Duties of Contributions Treasurer (Service Manual S46- III E. 7, Area Guideline & Policies)
- * Roll Call of Eligible Candidates and Introduction of Candidates
- * Balloting and Election of Contributions Treasurer

Third Legacy Election: Area 05 Registrar

- * Qualifications & Duties of Registrar (Service Manual S45, III E. 8, Area Guideline & Policies)
- * Roll Call of Eligible Candidates and Introduction of Candidates
- * Balloting and Election of Registrar

3:00 **Presentation of Panel 71, Area 05 Officers**

3:15 **Trustee's Report** – Pacific Regional Trustee (*Kathi F.*)

4:00 **Delegate's Report** – Delegate (*Thomas S.*)

4:15 **Good and Welfare Announcements**

4:30 **Closing:** Moment of Silence & Responsibility Statement (Spanish & English)