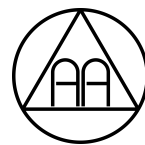




SCAAN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER



THE VOICE OF AREA 05

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

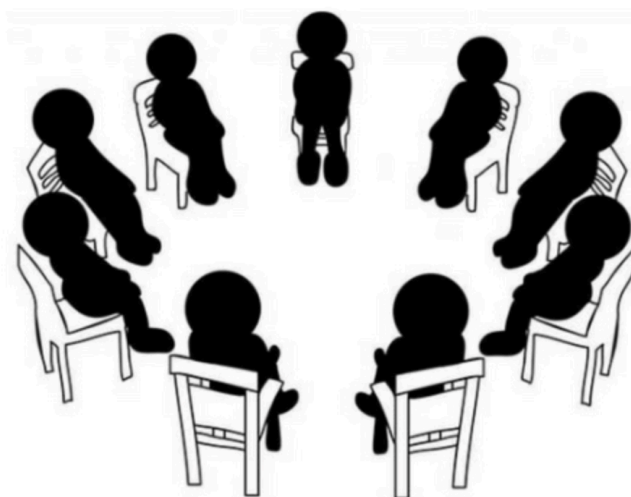
To inform SCAA members and the AA fellowship at large of selected items from GSO, the Area and items of general interest from the Districts

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Responsibility Statement

" I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."



DELEGATE'S REPORT

The 7th Tradition and Services

Hello Area 05.

We are more than half way through the year already and I am becoming enlightened everyday through being your Delegate! The conference work still continues throughout the year and so does my Public Information Committee. Here are a few updates from our committee.

The Comprehensive Media Plan is still being created and we should have a draft at the 72nd Conference.

I had a chance to meet with the new Conference Committee chair for P.I. Beau B. This week and Beau was very interested in our consideration regarding a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media. This led to a discussion regarding getting away from a print-first model and he listened and heard what we discussed about utilizing all the platforms we now have available - YouTube, Podcasts, Instagram, etc., for this purpose. I also explained our committee's discussion last year about a Powerpoint presentation for the Public Information Committees at the Area level to use as a jumping-off point instead of a pamphlet or workbook. This could outline some ideas and suggestions for committees in a very clear and concise way and be available on the web page, as well as editable PDF's. The Conference Podcast now has a "crew" assembled and they are hard at work outlining and trying to help the Communications Department with this. We talked about all kinds of content from Class A's to Judges being interviewed regarding their alcoholic cases to comedy and more.

Some notes about the 7th Tradition and the \$7.34 for 7/31 Campaign.

If you remember in my 71st Conference report I showed you a slide that showed that in 1935 a dollar was enough to put in the hat. Now in 2021 in order to cover the services provided by AA that amount is \$19.33.

Here are the recurring operating expenses of Alcoholics Anonymous so you can know where your 7th tradition money goes.

Salaries. That is employees and staff at GSO and AAWS.

Payroll Taxes & Benefits

Occupancy or Rent

Travel and meals covers our Trustees travel expenses

Selling Expenses E Commerce Platforms

Professional Fees

Costs of Services Supplied to the Fellowship

The General Service Conference

Group Services

Supporting Services answering correspondence and answering calls

Outreach

Service Leadership Activities such as

Nominating Activities

World Service

Trustee Directors Activities

International Convention

The Prudent Reserve - Should be at least 7.5 months.

This is what General Service does. This is the work that keeps our movement going - creating new literature, publishing our BB, staffing the office, funding our trustees to travel and come to our meetings, providing Group Services and registration materials as well as new GSR materials, outreach and public information expenses - correspondence with our persons in custody, answering your phone calls and correspondence and our prudent reserve to be able to complete all of this work in case of an emergency.

Some groups will be staying virtual and ask the question-

"We will be staying on Zoom and have no expenses. Why should we contribute to the 7th Tradition?"

The spirit of self-support ensures that even minimal expenses are borne by the whole group rather than by individual members. In addition, many groups want to continue support for other A.A. services. Local intergroup/central offices still have bills to pay, such as rent and utilities. Many have employees who are working hard to keep meeting information updated and respond to calls for help. The Online Intergroup of A.A. also has its own costs which require support, and many districts and areas continue to have expenses as they support the work of committees and plan future events. Furthermore, the General Service Office needs to

cover its operating expenses in order to continue providing services. Literature sales, which traditionally help pay for services, currently are much lower than usual.

Your District is also in need of support. Events and workshops need support from the group's members. Rent for meeting space and any other work that may come along. Some Districts are also able to fund their DCM to go to PRAASA every year and also, provide a few dollars for GSR's to attend too.

Let's talk about what your central offices do.

They provide your groups literature, meeting information, support outreach via Central Service Representatives and delegates from each zone in L.A. Pay the salaries of the employees at the office, rent and utilities and continue to keep phone lines open for anyone needing a meeting or a 12th step call 24 hours a day. Purchasing your literature from your central office helps to keep them open. I know it is easy to order online but we need these services and they need your support.

And let's talk about our work here in Area 05. We provide information for our groups from the General Service Office and AAWS, committee work and outreach from committees such as P.I., Cooperation With the Professional Community, and Treatment Facilities, Accessibility as in ASL translation, translation services for our Spanish Speakers remote communities outreach, support for the delegate to attend the General Service Conference and expenses for the conference itself, liaising with events such as the Foothill Roundup, The Hispanic Women's' workshop, The Hispanic Foro, the 4 Area DCM sharing session, the SCAAN newsletter, maintaining our Archives and History, maintenance of our Website, Hosting Grapevine Writing Workshops, Maintaining our finances, maintaining literature displays, audio visual and tech support, and outreach to persons in custody through our Corrections committee, The 7th tradition contributions we receive fund all of this work and more.

I am not saying any of this to make anyone feel guilty or to apply any pressure on any member. I know that our members and Districts contribute on a regular basis but I wonder if the groups are getting the message of what our 7th tradition does for them. The information I am giving you stemmed from a conversation with someone who didn't understand or had never been informed about what these parts of our movement do. I know when I was new, I thought the basket and 7th tradition was only to keep the rent paid and the coffee and donuts coming and that was good enough for me then but when I learned how AA actually functions and how all of these elements, jobs and functions contribute to helping an alcoholic who is still suffering, and letting people know, who ask, what AA is and isn't. I understood what my responsibility to the 7th tradition was.

Any amount that is thrown into that basket is helpful and sometimes I haven't been able to put in anything but the change I had, my wallet was empty. Bill W. had a moment of clarity when he was struggling to get the fellowship to understand self-support and to contribute. We do not accept any outside contributions, it's up to us. Please read the essay from Bill on the 7th Tradition.


As most of you know, this month there is a campaign called \$7.24 on 7/31 and I will post the flyer here in the SCAAN. This will be very helpful to General Service. But, after hearing a report from our Pacific Region Trustee this month that we are not on track to keep the 60%/40% ratio going from 2020 to have the 7th tradition pay for the majority of our expenses instead of literature sales, I wanted to talk about our 7th tradition and what it does and I hope the fellowship will keep the incredible trend from 2020 and continue to support General Service through contributions.

I look forward to seeing you all in-person. This may not be until PRAASA in March but I am expecting many, many handshakes and hugs. Until then, Thank you for being here, continuing to carry the message and continuing to do Area 05 work - for fun and for free.

Lauren A.

Area 05 Delegate, Panel 71

**The \$7.34 Per Member,
Per Year
7/31 Challenge!**



**Groups can meet the challenge by covering the
cost of their own groups services for the year!**
In 2020 Members = 1,473,390
Cost of Services = \$10,814,682

**Each group contributes \$7.24 per member by
July 31, 2021 to The General Service Board**

**Contributions can be made online at aa.org
Include "\$7.34 for 7/31" and your group
number
Or
Send to: General Service Board, Box 459 Grand
Central Station NY, NY 10163-0459**

Join Us AREA 5!

Monthly Archives Committee Meeting
Every last Saturday of the month at 1 PM
Zoom ID: 817 2080 2278
Password - area 05

Monthly SCAAN Committee Meeting
Every First Monday , 7pm - 8pm
Zoom ID:835 8323 6889
Password - area5

If you would like to share your Committee's Monthly Meeting
PLEASE SEND INFO TO: scaan@area05aa.org

Area 5 Committees

- Accessibilities
- Area Archives
- Audio Visual
- Cooperation with the Elderly Community (CEC)
- Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
- Corrections
- Finance
- Grapevine/La Vina
- Guidelines and Policies
- Interpretation
- Literature
- Newsletter (SCAAN)
- Public Information (P.I.)
- Registration
- Spanish Speaking Women's Workshop Ad-hoc
- Spanish Speaking Women's Conference
- Translation
- Treatment Facilities
- Website/Tech (AREA05AA.ORG)
- Cooperation With the Young Community Ad-hoc

USEFUL WEBSITES

aa.org - General Service in New York. (GSO and World Services)

area05aa.org - Southern California Area Assembly (Area 05)

aagrapevine.org - A.A. Grapevine (A monthly journal of A.A. stories articles of interest.)

aagrapevine.org/espanole - A.A. La Vina (A.A.'s Spanish Language Magazine)

New General Service Representative Fears & Reflections

If I am going to be practicing a program of honesty, I might as well start this article with a confession. When I was first introduced to the general service side of Alcoholics Anonymous, the position of “General Service Representative” sounded so honorable and prestigious to me. How would I join this group of respected AA’s? What did I have to do to become that perfect AA-er? Once I was given the title of General Service Representative for my Friday night group, I felt so proud! I was now one step closer to AA prestige. My alcoholism quickly turned an act of servitude into something self-serving. Turns out, my grandiose idea might very well come with the territory of being new in general service. I felt my budding sober insanity confirmed after speaking with someone who had already completed their first full panel as an area five general service representative. It was an enlightening conversation – a true God shot. It is something that I recommend new general service reps, like myself, to investigate.

As a newly elected GSR, I was eager to sit down with someone who’d already been deep into the general service trenches. Enter Chris, a GSR who’s recently completed two years representing District 9’s Fresh Start Meeting on Sundays at Pathfinders Alano Club in Atwater. Chris’ invitation into general service came in the form of sponsor direction. As sponsors do, they suggested that he continued taking on more service commitments at his regular meetings. It just so happened that the General Service Representative role was open, and Chris had already practically been everything else, so why not? “I had no idea what to expect! I had a year in sobriety when I became a GSR, so I had no exposure to the larger structure of AA”, he told me, reliving those early days. He said he came in with no real expectations, just another doe-eyed newcomer, ready to serve – whatever that meant! More was certainly revealed as he journeyed through this commitment.

As I confessed to him my fears of messing up in general service, Chris chuckled and nodded his head. He agreed that in the beginning, he wanted to look like the A-plus GSR, like the A-plus alcoholic. “It’s not about appearances”, he reassured me. It is about service, about carrying the message, and about doing your part”. I find that it’s just a big lesson in humility. I’m just another cog in the wheel, serving the group”, he said. He reminded me that service work tends to shift one’s perspective from self-centered to group centered. It allows one to focus on others, vs. self. Chris notes that there are a lot of different personalities involved in general service, just as there are in each group, and in the world at large. This role has taught him to interact with differing personalities, as well as dealing with self. “It helps me refocus. I see now that AA and that life is bigger than me, and that everything is working as it should,” he said, with a relaxing breath. He notes it is good practice in surrendering and giving up control of AA and of life.

In finishing up our conversation, I asked Chris about his most memorable moment during his term. He stated there were too many, but the theme stays the same. He said it is making new friends. Most of his numbers in his phone are people in the program, specifically people involved in general service.

Meeting and hanging out with people at service-centered events, such as Service Summer Camp that took place last year, the general assemblies, and one cannot forget about fellowshiping after the monthly business meetings. Even more so, he explains, “It has gone above and beyond anything I could imagine. It is helping me stay sober, it helps me to help others stay sober – like a circle, it just keeps going round and round!”

Before serving at the District level, Chris only attended AA meetings. He had earned 6 months at one point, solely relying on meeting attendance. When coming back into the rooms, he realized meetings alone would not cut it. He held commitment after commitment at his home group – whatever helped him stay involved. Chris stated, “All service positions force you into the spotlight for a moment. People know who you are, they expect you at the meeting”, and with a brief pause, he finished with, “It’s not what I thought I wanted, but really, what I needed”.

- Lauren R., District 3 GSR in conversation with Chris S., District 10 DCM

**Your
D.C.M.**
District
Committee
Member

**2021 Virtual
Four (4) Area DCM Sharing Session**



A 4 Area DCM Workshop Fostering
Creativity and Growth
in Service Work

Date: **Saturday, July 31, 2021**
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PST

ZOOM Meeting ID: **919 2712 1685**
Passcode: 2021DCM4

Theme: **Unified in Love & Service**
Reaching Out to Anyone, Anywhere....

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Spanish and ASL Interpretation provided
For Questions Email 4areadcmss@area8aa.org

MEET WITH THE DELEGATE



SUNDAY AUGUST 29TH, 10:00 AM
ZOOM ID: 963 3443 1250
PASSCODE: DELEGATE05



PRAASA LOGO CONTEST

Southern California Area 05 is hosting PRAASA in March, 2023, and we need a logo for the event.

Win:

- Free 2023 Registration
- Free 2023 Saturday night banquet ticket

Submit your original design:

To: logo@area05aa.org

By: 11 pm, Thursday, September 30, 2021



PRAASA 2023 LOGO CONTEST GUIDELINES

PRAASA (Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) is an annual General Service event that rotates among the 15 General Service Areas in the nine western states.

PRAASA will be hosted by our Area, Southern California Area 05, in March, 2023, and we need a logo.

Logo Use

The logo will be used for buttons and letterhead, but not for large signs or banners. It should look good in both color and black and white, and duplicate well.

Submission Guidelines

- The contest is open to any member of Alcoholics Anonymous who lives in, or attends meetings in, Southern California Area 05.
- Submit a digital color copy of your original design in a standard format (jpg, png, pdf, tiff, docx) by attaching it to an email.
- Include your name and phone number in the body of the email.
- All submissions become the exclusive property of PRAASA 2023 and the Submitter irrevocably assigns to PRAASA 2023 all rights to submitted artwork without limitation.
- You may submit as many logos as you like, but each one should be attached to a separate email.

Deadline

Entries must be sent by 11 pm, Thursday, September 30, 2021.

Send to:

logo@area05aa.org

Prizes

The winner of the PRAASA 2023 Logo Contest will get one (1) free PRAASA 2023 registration and one (1) free Saturday night PRAASA 2023 Banquet ticket.

Design Tips

The PRAASA logo should symbolize both PRAASA and what is unique about the Southern California Area 05 of A.A. in accordance with A.A. Traditions and without violating Trademark law.

Southern California Area 05 extends from the Pacific Ocean on the west through Ontario on the east, and from Rosecrans on the south to Mulholland and the crest of the Santa Monica/San Gabriel/San Bernardino Mountains on the north, including La Crescenta and La Canada/Flintridge.

The purpose of PRAASA is to develop greater unity among the members, groups, and Areas of the Pacific Region; to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences; and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of A.A.

Do you speak Spanish or another language?

*"Our primary purpose is to stay sober, and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety."
-- from AA preamble*

Area05 is beginning to compile a foreign language databank listing Area05 AA members who would be interested in helping alcoholics who do not speak English.

We are particularly looking for members who can volunteer as Spanish Language Interpreters for various events; this is a huge need for our area. *If you are available to interpret Spanish-English or English-Spanish please consider being of assistance to our sizeable Spanish speaking community.*

We are looking for members who speak other languages as well. Assisting a non-English speaking alcoholic may involve interpreting a meeting or event, even making a phone call to someone -- really, it's up to you to decide how to help. To serve as a contact you need not be perfectly fluent; sometimes just a little help in their native language is enough to let a suffering alcoholic know that we care about them.

Date: _____

Name: _____

City/District: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

What languages do you know: _____

Are you willing to accompany an alcoholic to a meeting? _____

Are you willing to help alcoholics outside your district? _____

If there are any restrictions or requests you have, please list below:

Email to: Accessibilities@Area05AA.org

2021 CALENDAR

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				

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
9/17-19 SoCal Conv.
9/24-26 Foothill Roundup

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
2/21 Sun Area Committee Meeting
3/5 Fri - 3/7 Sun PRAASA
3/27 Sat Steering Committee Meeting
3/28 Sun & 4/3 Sat Pre-Conference Workshop
4/18 Sun - 4/24 Sat General Service Conference
5/16 Sun Spring Area Assembly
6/12 Sat Steering Committee Meeting
6/26 Sat Area Committee Meeting
7/24 Sat Summer Area Assembly
7/31 Sat 4 Area DCM Sharing Session
(Host Area 09 Mid-Southern CA)
8/15 Sun Area Committee Meeting
9/11 Sat Steering Committee Meeting
10/17 Sun Fall Area Assembly
11/7 Sun El Foro de Servicios Generales
11/13 Sat Area Committee Meeting
12/4 Sat Hispanic Women's Workshop
12/11 Sat Steering Committee Meeting

Updated: July 18, 2021

OFFICERS

Delegate	delegate@area05aa.org	Lauren A	(323) 791-4471 [cell]
Alternate Delegate	altdelegate@area05aa.org	Doug S	(310) 569-7807 [cell]
Area Chair	chairperson@area05aa.org	Nikki U	(310) 320-1010 [cell]
Secretary	secretary@area05aa.org	Brian P	(415) 722-2596 [cell]
Accounts Treasurer	acctstreasurer@area05aa.org	Zoraida R	(626) 374-8677 [cell]
Contributions Treasurer	conttreasurer@area05aa.org	Shawn A	(909) 285-5790 [cell]
Registrar	registrar@area05aa.org	Miguel M	(626) 215-2398 [cell]

PAST DELEGATES

<i>To email all past delegates, use: pastdelegates@area05aa.org</i>			
*Panel 49	panel49@area05aa.org	Marita H	(760) 610-9601 [cell]
Panel 51	panel51@area05aa.org	Mary T	(310) 935-8267 [cell]
Panel 53	panel53@area05aa.org	Jim I	(310) 984-4708 [cell]
Panel 55	panel55@area05aa.org	Jim W	(213) 700-2602 [cell]
*Panel 57	panel57@area05aa.org	Gustavo T	(213) 200-0322 [cell]
Panel 59	panel59@area05aa.org	Mike P	(818) 426-2667 [cell]
Panel 61	panel61@area05aa.org	Marcus F	(310) 403-5671 [cell]
Panel 63	panel63@area05aa.org	Juan M	(626) 222-5568 [cell]
Panel 64	panel64-08@area05aa.org	Dean B	(760) 274-5309 [cell]
Panel 65	panel65@area05aa.org	Scott M	(909) 560-5704 [cell]
Panel 67	panel67@area05aa.org	Thomas B	(310) 801-0893 [cell]
Panel 69	panel69@area05aa.org	Thomas S	(310) 658-8905 [cell]

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

COMMITTEES

Archives	Chair	archives@area05aa.org	Sandra C	(310) 365-5584 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altarchives@area05aa.org	Kristy L	(626) 421-1448 [cell]
Audio Visual (AV)	Chair	av@area05aa.org	Juan Manuel P	(323) 671-9346 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altav@area05aa.org		
Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC)	Chair	cec@area05aa.org	Amy O	(626) 290-6598 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altcec@area05aa.org		
Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	Chair	cpc@area05aa.org	Joe C	(310) 345-8721 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altcpc@area05aa.org	Bill R	(310) 922-8248 [cell]
Corrections	Chair	corrections@area05aa.org	Mimi T	(808) 276-2438 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altcorrections@area05aa.org	Barnaby S	(818) 823-4041 [cell]
Finance	Chair	finance@area05aa.org	Nancy H	(951) 609-5396 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altfinance@area05aa.org	Susan P	(818) 352-4405 [cell]
Grapevine & La Viña	Chair	gvlv@area05aa.org	Jacobo M	(213) 804-7223 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altgvlv@area05aa.org	Paul D	(818) 300-3646 [cell]
Guidelines & Policies	Chair	gap@area05aa.org	Jenny P	(973) 885-7054 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altgap@area05aa.org		
Literature	Chair	literature@area05aa.org	Armando L	(909) 275-4118 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altliterature@area05aa.org	Jennifer O	(310) 413-2567 [cell]
Public Information (PI)	Chair	pi@area05aa.org	Mike C	(202) 294-4041 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altpi@area05aa.org	Sean C	(714) 853-0012 [cell]
Registration	Chair	registration@area05aa.org	Samuel P	(323) 588-1787 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altregistration@area05aa.org		
SCAAN	Chair	scaan@area05aa.org	Mataji B	(213) 908-4785 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altscaan@area05aa.org	Nadine S	(714) 335-7385 [cell]
Translation	Chair	translation@area05aa.org	Arnulfo G	(909) 414-5333 [cell]
	Alt Chair	alttranslation@area05aa.org	Fidel M	(909) 851-2706 [cell]
Treatment Facilities	Chair	tfc@area05aa.org	Mike M	(626) 940-7390 [cell]
	Alt Chair	alttrf@area05aa.org		
Website	Chair	webchair@area05aa.org	Kyle H	(213) 570-7384 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altwebchair@area05aa.org	Claude D	(626) 696-5531 [cell]
Accessibilities/Interpretation (Ad-hoc)	Chair	accessibilities@area05aa.org	Jamie W	(562) 900-2463 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altaccessibilities@area05aa.org	Jose Trejo M	(626) 494-9662 [cell]
Cooperation with the Young Community (Ad-hoc)	Chair	cyc@area05aa.org	Gola R	(310) 795-7252 [cell]
	Alt Chair	altcyc@area05aa.org	Sharron S	(310) 210-6427 [cell]

COMBINED DISTRICTS (DCMC = District Committee Member Chair)

Comite Interdistrital Hispanos (Districts 33, 34, 35, 49, 50, 55)	DCMC	cih@area05aa.org	Antonio A	(626) 422-7368 [cell]
	Alt DCMC	altcih@area05aa.org	Antonio M	(626) 409-2004 [cell]
Hollywood-Wilshire-Downtown Combined Districts (Districts 9, 10, 26, 56, 58)	DCMC	chd@area05aa.org	Jo S	(323) 680-6294 [cell]
	Alt DCMC	altchd@area05aa.org	Terry B	(949) 929-6333 [cell]
Westside Combined Districts (Districts 5, 6, 8, 15, 19, 25, 36, 37/38, 39/40, 41, 43, 45, 46)	DCMC	wcd@area05aa.org	David W	(310) 779-4339 [cell]
	Alt DCMC	altwcd@area05aa.org	Joe C	(310) 345-8721 [cell]

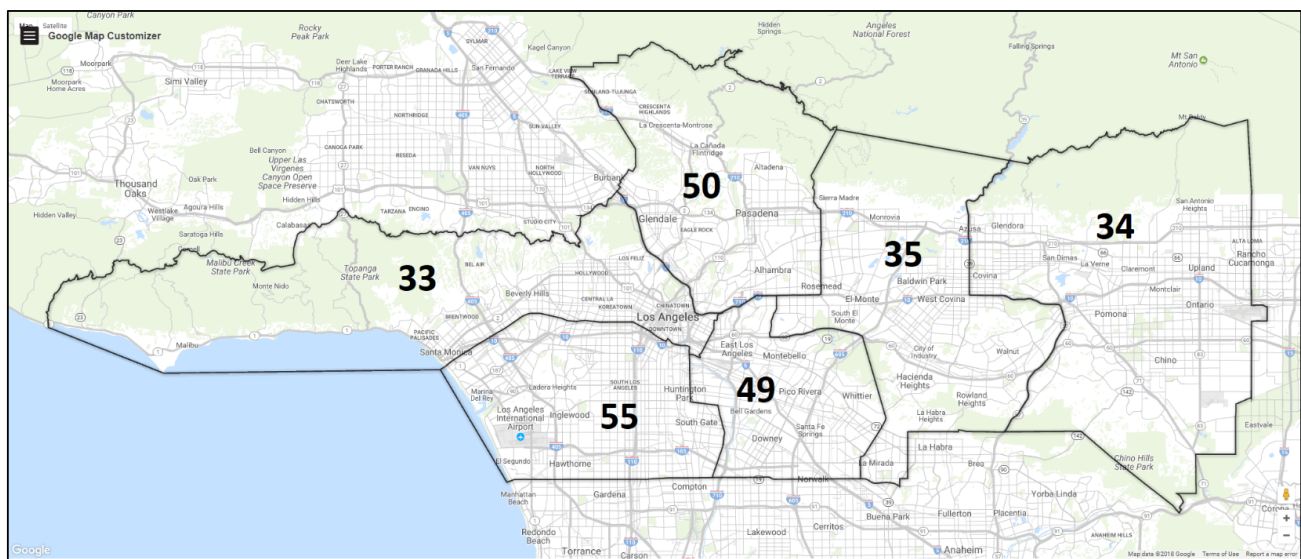
DISTRICTS (DCM = District Committee Member)

District 2: La Cañada, La Crescenta, Montrose, Sunland	DCM	district2@area05aa.org	Jim A	(310) 713-8241 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict2@area05aa.org	Susan P	(818) 352-4405 [cell]
District 3: Altadena, Highland Park, Pasadena, S. Pasadena, San Marino	DCM	district3@area05aa.org	Mark S	(626) 238-5073 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict3@area05aa.org	Aidan S	(626) 755-7027 [cell]
District 4: Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina, Glendora, La Puente, West Covina	DCM	district4@area05aa.org	Matt W	(626) 502-5195 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict4@area05aa.org	Deena L	(626) 858-1811 [cell]
District 5: Culver City, West LA	DCM	district5@area05aa.org	Cindy H	(414) 628-5531 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict5@area05aa.org		
District 6: Brentwood, West LA	DCM	district6@area05aa.org	Sean C	(714) 853-0012 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict6@area05aa.org	Sharron S	(310) 210-6427 [cell]
District 7: Hollywood, West Hollywood	DCM	district7@area05aa.org	Carl B	(323) 394-7430 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict7@area05aa.org	Barnaby S	(818) 823-4041 [cell]
District 8: Beverly Hills, Century City	DCM	district8@area05aa.org	Hanny P	(310) 990-3142 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict8@area05aa.org		
District 9: Downtown LA, Echo Park, Silverlake	DCM	district9@area05aa.org	Elizabeth M	(843) 696-5381 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict9@area05aa.org		
District 10: LA - Wilshire Corridor	DCM	district10@area05aa.org	Chris S	(323) 605-9077 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict10@area05aa.org		
District 13: Alhambra, Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, El Monte, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, South El Monte, Sierra Madre, Temple City	DCM	district13@area05aa.org	Donald H	(626) 232-3620 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict13@area05aa.org		
District 14: Downey, Bell Gardens, Montebello, Paramount, Pico Rivera	DCM	district14@area05aa.org	Susie P	(562) 225-3138 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict14@area05aa.org	Christopher B	(323) 365-7663 [cell]
District 15: Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Westchester, Crenshaw	DCM	district15@area05aa.org	Claire B	(310) 621-8286 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict15@area05aa.org		
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	Carlos C	(714) 770-6922 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict18@area05aa.org	Ericka G	
District 19: Compton, LA - South/Central	DCM	district19@area05aa.org	Marquese H	(323) 901-8213 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict19@area05aa.org	David R	(310) 993-3184 [cell]
District 25: Culver City, West LA, Marina Center	DCM	district25@area05aa.org	John J	(808) 635-8498 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict25@area05aa.org		
District 26: Eagle Rock, Glassell Park, Highland Park, Mount Washington, Silver Lake, Echo Park, Elysian Park, Chinatown, Lincoln Heights, Montecito Heights, El Sereno, Boyle	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	Alex H	(909) 276-1591 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict30@area05aa.org	Armando L	(909) 275-4118 [cell]
District 33: (Spanish-Speaking) Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Glendale	DCM	district33@area05aa.org	Miguel Canseco S	(310) 560-1441 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict33@area05aa.org	Arturo F	(323) 801-3974 [cell]
District 34: (Spanish-Speaking) San Dimas, Pomona, La Verne, Glendora, Ontario, Montclair, Claremont, Chino	DCM	district34@area05aa.org	Tomas R	(909) 270-0499 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict34@area05aa.org	Juan A	(909) 784-8876 [cell]
District 35: (Spanish-Speaking) San Gabriel East, Azusa, Baldwin Park, El Monte, Pomona, Whittier	DCM	district35@area05aa.org	Manuel A	
	Alt DCM	altdistrict35@area05aa.org		
District 36: West LA, Ohio Ave.	DCM	district36@area05aa.org	Paul D	(818) 300-3646 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict36@area05aa.org	Jacy K	(818) 481-8346 [cell]
District 37/38: West LA, Pico Boulevard, Bel Air, Westwood	DCM	district37-38@area05aa.org	Susan D	(310) 770-8389 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict37-38@area05aa.org		
District 39/40: Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica	DCM	district39-40@area05aa.org	Jennifer C	(650) 248-0222 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict39-40@area05aa.org	Sarah P	(310) 200-1560 [cell]
District 41: West LA, Palms, Rancho Park, Culver City	DCM	district41@area05aa.org		
	Alt DCM	altdistrict41@area05aa.org		
District 43: West Hollywood, Fairfax, Beverly Hills	DCM	district43@area05aa.org	Al T	(310) 279-8890 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict43@area05aa.org		
District 45: Marina del Rey, Westchester, Playa del Rey, Venice, Santa Monica	DCM	district45@area05aa.org	Mark M	(310) 359-3444 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict45@area05aa.org	Bobbi T	(310) 883-4511 [cell]
District 46: Santa Monica	DCM	district46@area05aa.org	Robbie J	(917) 573-2275 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict46@area05aa.org		
District 49: (Spanish-Speaking) LA East, Lincoln Heights, Bell/Cudahy, Montebello, Pico Rivera	DCM	district49@area05aa.org	Juan Antonio M	(562) 805-9269 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict49@area05aa.org		
District 50: (Spanish-Speaking) Glendale, Altadena, Pasadena, Eagle Rock, Highland Park, Lincoln Heights, El Sereno	DCM	district50@area05aa.org	Guario R	(213) 570-4297 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict50@area05aa.org		
District 55: (Spanish-Speaking) LA South/Central, Lynwood, Inglewood, Culver City, Santa Monica	DCM	district55@area05aa.org	Hector Rolando Lopez	(323) 947-3868 [cell]
	Alt DCM	altdistrict55@area05aa.org	Mario R V	(310) 508-5945 [cell]
District 56: Hollywood, Los Feliz	DCM	district56@area05aa.org		
	Alt DCM	altdistrict56@area05aa.org		
District 58: Wilshire, Melrose	DCM	district58@area05aa.org		
	Alt DCM	altdistrict58@area05aa.org		

AREA MAP (English-Speaking Districts)



AREA MAP (Spanish-Speaking Districts)



A.A. AREA 05 – SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
A.A. AREA 05 – SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
MINUTES FROM THE SPRING AREA ASSEMBLY
Sunday – May 16, 2021
(via Zoom)

Call-to-Order

The 2021 Spring Area Assembly Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM on Sunday, May 16, 2021 by Nikki U., Chairperson, with a 2-minute silent meditation, the serenity prayer, welcoming remarks, and opening comments.

People with A.A. Birthdays (Anniversaries) from January 24, 2021 to May 16, 2021 were recognized and serenaded with the birthday song. Birthdays: David W., Darryl K., Pam S., Mary T., Bobbi T., Denise E., Bud O., Mimi T., Shawn A., Lauren A., Marcus F., Claire B., Garry B., Zoraida R., Jennifer G., Mitch H., Traci E., Dorothy O., Paul DeC., Thomas B., Alexis R., Claude D., Joe H., Jonie S., Jill P., Jenny P., Megan P., Terry B., Miguel G.

Miguel S. (Alternate District Committee Member Chair, Combined Hollywood Districts) read *The Twelve Concepts for World Service (Short Form)* in English

Bill L. (Secretary, District 33) read *The Twelve Concepts for World Service (Short Form)* in Spanish

Introduction of new General Service Representative and Alternates

Nikki U., Chairperson, invited all new General Service Representatives (GSR) and Alternate GSRs to introduce themselves.

New GSRs and Alternate GSRs: Darryl K. (GSR), Mitch H. (GSR), Ann G. (GSR), Bud O. (GSR), Dave D (GSR), Lary V. (GSR), Lisa K. (GSR), Traci E. (GSR), Robert K. (GSR), JoyAnna H (GSR), Doug (GSR), Levi W. (GSR), Chuckles K. (GSR), Jennifer G. (GSR), Laetitia B. (GSR), Yoli H. (GSR), Samantha E. (GSR), Joe H. (Alt GSR), Jenny O. (GSR)

Roll Call

Miguel M. (Registrar) reported the day's attendance:

Potential	Present
Area Officers	7
DCMs	29
Alt DCMs	14
GSRs	280
Alt GSRs	39
Total	369
	88

Potential	Present
Past Delegate	10
Committee Chair	17
Alt Chairs	9
DCMCs	3
Alt DCMCs	2
Total	41
	32

Total Present	
Voting Members	120
Visitors	15
Total	135

Serving in Multiple Positions	
Individuals	14

DCMC/ALT DCMC Panel 71				
	CIH	HCD	WCD	Area 05
DCMC	1	1	1	3
ALT DCMC	0	1	0	1

Area Officers: 2021 - 2022 Panel 71					
Delegate	1	Secretary	1	Registrar	1
Alt Del	1	Accts Tr	1	Total	7
Chair	1	Cont Tr	1		

District	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	13	14
DCM	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
ALT DCM	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GSR	0	8	2	2	0	0	1	8	0	1	3
ALT GSR	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	8	3	3	1	1	1	9	1	2	4

District	15	17	18	19	25	26	30	33	34	35	36
DCM	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
ALT DCM	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
GSR	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	2
ALT GSR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	3	0	0	2	1	0	1	3	0	5	5

District	37-38	39-40	41	43	45	46	49	50	55	56	58
DCM	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
ALT DCM	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
GSR	2	3	1	5	5	1	1	0	0	0	0
ALT GSR	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Total	3	4	1	5	7	2	3	0	1	0	0

Approval of Agenda and January 23 Assembly Minutes

Nikki U., Chairperson, made a motion to approve the Assembly Agenda. The motion was seconded by Alexis R., GSR. The motion passed unanimously 69-0.

Brian P., Secretary, made a motion to approve the Minutes from the January 23rd Area Assembly. The motion was seconded by Joe C., CPC Chair. The motion passed unanimously 49-0.

Delegate's Report – 71st General Service Conference Report: Personal and Spiritual Experience – “What I Saw, Heard, and Felt”

Lauren A., Delegate, reported the following, accompanied by slides that she had prepared:

Lauren started by reading “Why do we need a Conference?” by Bernard Smith from the book *Our Great Responsibility*.

Lauren told of the meetings she had with the Pacific Region delegates. She spoke about her experience at the Pacific Region AA Service Assembly (PRAASA), and showed us a banner created by Tom A., delegate from Area 07, keychains, and bookmarks she received in the mail from other areas.

Lauren announced that at the Conference, they elected a new trustee-at-large, Marita R., from Area 42, and explained the duties of the trustee-at-large. She introduced Marita, who was present at the meeting.

Marita greeted everyone and shared that she was the second person from Area 05 to serve as a Trustee. Jackie Johnston was also from Area 05 and served as a general service trustee.

Lauren spoke about the AA meetings that took place at the beginning of each day of the Conference. She said that the first thing that she learned was to keep an open mind and listen.

There was a fun hospitality suite that was open the day before the Conference for attendees that featured music, dancing, and “wearing funny hats”.

Lauren shared that the real (unofficial) theme of the Conference was “Don’t Panic” and that Thad N., the delegate from Idaho Area 18 sent all of the Pacific Region delegates socks that said, “Don’t Panic”. She shared about the 1728 (12x12x12) Meeting that happened on Saturday. There was also a delegates-only meeting.

Lauren listed off the following statistics about the delegates: Average age was 54, the oldest was 79, youngest was 34, average length of sobriety was 27, longest sobriety was 45, shortest sobriety was 8, average length of service was 24, longest was 42, and shortest was 6. The makeup of the Conference was 70.5% delegates, 19.7% trustees, and 9.8% General Service Office.

She then shared that there was a Remote Communities meeting and shared about the presenters and the purpose of Remote Communities efforts, which was to assist AA members who lived in underserved remote communities which were difficult to reach due to geography, language, or culture. She mentioned that Brian P., Secretary, wrote an article about the Chinese meetings in Area 05 that was published in that year’s Remote Communities Communicator. They discussed linguistic, Spanish-speaking, indigenous, native islander, and geographic communities. They also discussed whether trusted servants in General Service were setting themselves apart from the fellowship as a remote community, and who we were failing to reach, like Native Americans, Asian-Americans, homebound alcoholics, and technically disadvantaged people.

There was then an Archives Presentation by the trustees’ Archives Committee, chaired by Francis G., given by Michele M. the General Service Office Archivist. In 2020, they received 950 requests for information and research, 300 cartons of materials were moved to 8th floor, and they started a Covid-19 project to collect information about AA during the pandemic.

Sunday began with a roll call, greetings, and board report summaries.

Michelle G. opened conference and spoke about goals directed towards inclusivity. It was also noted that leadership is needed, framed around our primary purpose. The General Service Board would be reviewing our process for handling emails and phone calls. They recognized the traditions, particularly anonymity in traditions 11 and 12 were their main focus. They talked about how to better use class A trustees to reach the professional community, relief received from increased 7th tradition contributions, and pledged that they would continue to honor the Fellowship’s support by providing the services and publications in a variety of formats that we needed to carry the message.

Beau B., general service trustee, explained the Board’s committee structure – Technology, Publishing, Finance, Internal Audit, and Nominating.

In January, AA World Services launched enhanced eBook and audio book distribution and published a new souvenir book, A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous.

There were two new translations of the Big Book: Tatar (Russia), and Oriya (India). The Big Book then was translated into 73 languages. There were 24 translations pending, which included 19 new translations and 5 revisions or re-translations. The Twelve and Twelve was available in 51 languages, the Daily Reflections in 37 languages with one pending, Living sober in 37 languages with 3 pending, and Came to Believe in 19 languages.

The Grapevine Board summary was given by Kathi F. She spoke about the purpose of the Board, and announced 3 new books: Mujeres en AA, Free on the Inside, Prayer & Meditation. In 2020 an ePub was introduced for the Grapevine and La Viña for reading the magazines on devices or listening to the articles in audio, available in yearly or monthly subscriptions. A Spanish audio version of Language of the Heart was also produced. Coming in 2021-2022: SMS texting.

Lauren then shared about Conference activities that happened from Monday through Friday.

They had Committee Meetings, and her assignment was to serve on the Public Information Committee. Their committee had already met a few times before the Conference. They started to put together recommendations and considerations for their report later that week.

On Monday, Trish L. and Newton P., trustees-at-large reported on the 26th World Service Meeting, which was held virtually and was attended by 69 people from 44 countries. There were 22 women delegates, which was an increase from the 25th World Service Meeting where 10 women attended. There was a story from Maria from Brazil. Lauren mentioned that a full report could be emailed by request.

Leslie B., the treasurer of the General Service Board gave a financial report, and at the end of the day, they had regional trustee election caucus meetings and Marita R. emerged as the Pacific Region's candidate.

On Tuesday, they had conference committee meetings, afternoon workshop sessions, and they closed the day with a delegates-only meeting.

On Wednesday and Thursday, other regions had their elections for trustee-at-large nominees, and they started committee reports and discussions.

Lauren thanked the past delegates from Area 05 for the lovely dinner and chocolates they sent her.

Friday was more of the same and they finished on Saturday at 2:15 am Eastern Time after a 15-hour day.

Lauren shared that she listed all week to amazing people from the US and Canada. Some of the input on the agenda items brought everyone to tears, and the talk about inclusivity, remote communities literature, and how Grapevine and La Viña influenced sobriety in and out of jails was honest and thought-provoking, and the ideas were progressive and intense.

Lauren did not hear anyone speak with malice or anger, even when being emphatic about changes being made. People would passionately state what their area had discussed and if they did not prevail in a vote, they carried on in acceptance and love.

Lauren shared about how there was a point Thursday night where her eyes and head hurt and fatigue had set in after being in front of a screen for 10 hours a day for six days straight, but she was able to pull through without losing sight of the goals of the Conference. She also talked about how she barely made her gratitude booth time on Wednesday because she was dead asleep, and her partner woke her up.

She shared that the Pacific Region Delegates had a text thread going the whole week which was fun and hilarious. They also sent each other a lot of love and encouragement all week.

Seven Pacific Region delegates were elected to serve as committee chairs or alternates, with 4 elected to chair positions and 3 elected to alternate chair positions. Lauren, herself, was elected to be the chair for the Public Information Committee.

She reported that motions were made, seconded, and discussed thoroughly. There were points of order, points of information, motions to reconsider, and revotes. Several times someone called the question with a few people left at the mic, and the Conference always decided to allow the last people to speak before voting.

Lauren was appreciative of the preparedness of the delegates and of all the insights she had not thought of, even after reading every word of the background and taking notes and remembering what Area 05 had shared with her. She said it was a Conference of action and that hearing people from all 93 areas, staff members, and trustees speaking their minds and consciences was a very spiritual experience.

Lauren shared that she was nervous the few times she went to the mic, but with the help of her higher power, she was clear, concise, and understandable.

She shared about how in the Pacific Region delegates' text thread, someone said they were working on not letting their face show what they were feeling during discussions, and they dubbed this "resting zoom face"

Lauren shared about her new friendship with Karla Y, first-year delegate from Area 93 and how they helped each other with fun decompression chats before or after the day and it helped them digest everything that was happening.

She reiterated that the Conference accomplished all their work, extending their days Thursday and Friday and finished the Conference at 2:15 in the morning. They were all exhausted but smiling and it was announced that Patrick C., the conference coordinator would be rotating to a new position and Steve S. would be taking over next year, when the Conference was to be in person from April 24-30 in Brooklyn, NY.

Lauren shared that the Panel 70 delegates dubbed themselves the "pandemic panel", and the Panel 71 delegates dubbed themselves the "Point-of-Order Panel" or "Poo Panel" because of the numerous points of order they made.

Lauren then went over the financial reports.

Grapevine budgeted magazine circulation declined to 62,000 from 63,000 in 2020. Budgeted online ePub circulation increased to 5,442 from 5,175. Budgeted gross profit on subscriptions was \$1,137,000 compared to \$1,300,000 in 2020. Budgeted Grapevine net operating costs was \$354 million compared to \$299 million in 2020.

La Viña budgeted magazine circulation decreased to 5,605 from 6,435 in 2020. It is budgeted to decrease the general fund by \$401,000 as compared to \$385 budgeted in 2020.

The Grapevine's average circulation was way down from 2015 partly due to the lack of events this year. We were doing well so far in the first 3 months of 2021 but still had a lot of work to do.

Lauren then shared the financial highlights for 2020 from the General Service Office. The 7th Tradition brought in \$10 million, which set a record. Cost of services was \$10.8 million, down 14% from 12 million. Self-support covered 94.9% of cost of services, compared to 69% in 2019.

AA World Services Publishing's gross profits were \$6 million, down 29.7% from \$9.36 million in 2019. These funds were used to cover a \$550,000 shortfall between contributions and cost of services.

In 2020, \$1.1 million were saved from travel, meals, and accommodations, \$1.5 million in non-personal savings, and a lockbox where the banks could pick up contributions directly saved them three full-time employees' salaries.

They implemented a voluntary retirement incentive plan, and it was taken by 5 employees.

The General Service Office (GSO) budget for 2021 budgeted \$15 million in revenue (compared to \$16 million in 2020) with \$9 million from contributions (compared to \$10 million in 2020). Gross literature profit was budgeted to be \$5 million compared to \$6 in 2020. Total operating expenses were budgeted to be \$15 million compared to \$16 in 2020. They budgeted an operating deficit of \$58,814 which did not include pension expenses as compared to a surplus of \$47,900 in 2020.

GSO was grateful to the Fellowship for their response to their 7th tradition messages which increased contributions by \$1.4 million compared to 2019. The pandemic caused literature gross profits, pension expenses, and travel, meal, and accommodations expenses to decline.

24,000 groups sent \$5,970,000 and individuals sent \$4,286,383 in contributions totaling \$10,256,167. Online contributions increased greatly in 2020. Mail-in contributions increased slightly.

In the Pacific Region, we contributed \$2,204,629 with a contribution per capita of \$6.85. Lauren reminded us that \$1 in 1935 was equivalent to \$19.33 today.

Lauren explained that GSO's two basic functions were publishing and services and then presented financial details from publishing, leadership, nominating, international conventions, the General Service Conference, and trustees.

She told that big book sales were down, and explained that we needed a \$4 million draw-down from the reserve fund because literature sales were down significantly during a time when we needed a lot of cash to fulfill our obligations, such as the voluntary retirement plan, the eighth-floor office move, NetSuite implementation, work on the website, and registration fee refunds for the cancelled International Convention that needed to be paid prior to receiving insurance payments.

The prudent reserve was 9 months of operating expenses in January. The target is 9 to 12 months.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, all services continued at AA World Services from March to December 2020, over 125,000 alcoholics were provided with digital Grapevine subscriptions for free, 1,800 pieces of inmate correspondence were sent, and 1,200 members behind the walls were connected to AA members outside. More than 90,000 emails and phone calls were responded to since the office physically closed on March 20, and they had a completely virtual General Service Conference.

Lauren suggested the following main takeaways: 1) AA was still there and thrived during uncertainty, hope remained, and the message continued to be carried. 2) The prudent reserve was designed for these situations and would carry us through until the membership could get back on its feet. 3) It remained and unprecedented time in the world and a pivotal time so it was the time for the membership to continue demonstrating what self-support really meant.

Questions

- Samantha, District 3 GSR: regarding inclusivity, have delegates discussed more inclusive language in meeting formats and next big book, any more details? Lauren: Yes, she will be talking about that – there will be some language changes coming up in her next report – a lot of inclusivity ideas – not much said about meeting formats – meetings are autonomous, your meeting can decide for itself.
- Dean B., Past Delegate, Panel 64 Area 08: Is the Visual History book printed in Spanish? Lauren: Yes. You can get it at aa.org.
- Sandra C., Archives Chair, for the presentation for Archives, others asked for a copy as well. Lauren: Report will be in Delegates Corner on website. Archives will always receive a copy.
- Thomas S., Past Delegate, Panel 69: Did you experience personally or witness anyone using Right of Decision? Please explain to the assembly what Right of Decision is. Lauren: She explained that she heard everything the Area told her from the Pre-Conference and then went to the Conference and started to hear things we had not talked about – from trustees, staff members, etc. and incorporated that and made decisions on how to vote – most things we discussed were right in line with what conference did. There was one thing where she voted against it and then changed her vote after minority opinion.
- Thomas S., Past Delegate, Panel 69: Who became your new best friend and why? Lauren: Karla Y. – her sister was in hospital right at start of Conference and they talked. One morning her phone rang very early. It was Karla and they discussed the night before. They started talking regularly and made a close friendship. The Pacific Region delegates are amazing – like a little gang. Their daily chat was very supportive. They have all been to each other's report-backs. They were the "cool kids".
- Doug S., Alternate Delegate: Regarding the \$4 mil draw down to refund registrations for the cancelled International Convention, was the insurance payment received, and if so, was draw-down replenished? Lauren: She was not sure and would get back to Doug.

- Jon H. and Mark M., District 45 DCM: What are the nominating activities which consume 25% of something on one of the slides? Lauren: When trustees rotate out, there are all kinds of interviews that need to be conducted, searches sent out, and they hire professionals to help. Trustees are very important to the structure of the General Service Conference, and we must have excellent representation from a wide body of people. She said she could probably find specifics and get it to them.
- Sandra D., District 37/38: No-one should be locked out of meetings – are there any guidelines? Lauren: Anyone is welcome at any AA meeting. Closed meetings have developed over the years, and each group is autonomous, but the purpose is to make meetings available to anyone. The statement read from Bernard Smith was from 1954. He was a non-alcoholic trustee – we need to keep the doors open for anyone. Never lock anyone out or in. We never turn anyone away. There are no guidelines or rules – your meeting is autonomous.
- Jenny P, Guidelines & Policies Chair: Was there anyone who had difficulty accessing the Conference due to internet/tech challenges? Lauren: Not that she knew of – there were 2 or 3 tech orientations held by tech12 where they helped people update zoom and trained them how to do things. Some people had poorer connections, but they just turned their cameras off, and it helped.
- How can the GV/LV have profit but also net loss? Lauren: She will get back to them later.
- With internet literature sales, has New York gotten this more established since the South Bay Central Office currently could not do bulk sales? Lauren: A lot of central offices closed. She knows that the LA Central Office was still selling literature and leaving it outside of the door of their office. She was surprised that online literature sales did not increase more, but she suspected this was because people were not going to physical meetings and did not need supplies for them. She was not sure about the South Bay Central Office.

At 10:32 AM, the Area Assembly recessed for a coffee break and morning stretch.

The Area Assembly was called back to order at 10:45 AM

Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Meetings

Assembly members split off into breakout rooms for Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Meetings at 11:00 AM

The Area Assembly reconvened at 11:45 AM

Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Cooperation with the Young Community Chair, Gola R., reported the following:

They had 11 people at their meeting. They discussed various ways of reaching out to the young people's community to inform them that they are not too young to get sober and that there was fun to be had in sobriety. They set a goal to create a quarterly event that would feature speakers that got sober young and have long-term sobriety, or AAs who are still young and involved in YPAAs. They had also received enough submissions to create another edition of their zine and were trying to figure out how to create and distribute that. They were also working on creating a YPAA meeting list for our area organized by district. They would be meeting first weekend of June to discuss everything more.

Accessibilities/Interpretation Ad-Hoc Committee Chair, Jamie W., reported the following:

They had 5 people at their meeting. If anyone had an event coming up that needed American Sign Language interpretation, they could contact Jamie and she could help set that up. They were continuing to collect names and information of people who knew second languages. Anyone with questions/concerns could contact Jamie at accessibilities@area05aa.org

Website/Technology Committee Alternate Chair, Claude D., reported the following:

They had 7 people at their meeting. They discussed adding a page to the website to give details about how to hold hybrid meetings, they had 5 new members and discussed the basics of website committee.

Treatment Facilities Chair, Mike Mc., reported the following:

They had 8 people at their meeting. They discussed the Bridging the Gap program and some of the workshops that had been held throughout the country. Mike attended Southeastern New York Area 49's zoom workshop where they shared their experience with Bridging the Gap in Manhattan. They shared that they utilized a Google Voice number to help link newcomers with members. Central Offices needed to be aware of the number and list of volunteer temporary contacts. It was a little different then due to the pandemic. They stressed that anytime that anyone was meeting someone from a rehab or facility for the first time, that safety was paramount and that they needed to do it in pairs. The committee also discussed their need for an alternate chair.

Translation: no report was given.

Southern California Area Assembly Newsletter (SCAAN) Chair, Mataji B., reported the following:

They had 1 people at their meeting but had 4 people in their committee. They would be meeting the first Monday of each month at 7pm on Zoom. They want to have wide representation from the area not only in the publication but also in their committee. They would be printing 30 copies of the last SCAAN issue in Spanish as requested by some members. She received one of the area's discount printing cards for Office Depot.

Registration Chair, Sam P., reported the following:

They had 2 people at their meeting – himself and the Registrar, Miguel. They discussed how committee can be of service to the Registrar. Sam would be contacting the DCMs to get info of all the district registrars to make sure their contact information was correct and to make sure they had their forms. Sam invited anyone to join committee and was looking for alternate chair. Sam could be contacted at registration@area05aa.org

Public Information (PI) Chair, Mike C., reported the following:

In their committee meeting, they talked about having a meeting with the Los Angeles Unified School District. They also talked about getting big books into drawers or front desks of hotels. They were going to be helping Julio B., a member from one of the Spanish-speaking districts who needed literature & books for a health fair on June 12. They also wanted to talk to libraries to find out how many big books they had and whether they were accepting big books in print or audio formats.

Literature Alternate Chair, Jenny O., reported the following:

Jenny was the new alternate chair for the committee. They had 12 people at their meeting. Their main goal was to see how they can improve literature sales. They wanted to use their \$200 budget and make a digital flyer to inform members and newcomers about how they can find and purchase literature at the aa.org online bookstore, inform literature chairs about the latest titles available, including Grapevine and La Viña books. They wanted to remind everyone that it was up to each meeting to decide what literature they displayed, and that the committee had a full display of all literature that could be set up as needed. They looked forward to hearing Lauren's report about language changes.

Guidelines and Policies Chair, Jenny P., reported the following:

The previous chair had to step down, so Jenny has taken over as chair. They reviewed notes from last committee meeting and talked about correcting email aliases in the Guidelines and Policies. They had 6 people in attendance at their meeting. They discussed and assigned people to review suggested items, one of which was the Hispanic Women's Workshop being included in the SCAA Activities section and getting correct language from the liaison. Another was working with the Website/Technology Committee to get a new expanded definition the committee. Members of committee reported that they found it challenging to find the Guidelines and Policies on the area website.

Grapevine / La Viña Alternate Chair, Paul DeC., reported the following:

They had 3 people at their meeting. They were having monthly meetings on the last Saturday of every month. They discussed some old business and Grapevine's Carry the Message Project and other resources at grapevine.org and lavina.org. They could support with informing any districts or groups that did not have Grapevine or La Viña representatives. They had a La Viña workshop planned for 8/22. They were also planning a Grapevine writing workshop that was to be hosted either by the Westside Combined Districts or the area. They were deciding on a date and whether it would be held virtually or hybrid. They talked about how Grapevine and La Viña representatives could keep things fresh and the upcoming Westside Combined Districts Not-a-Glum-Lot Picnic and Love and Service Festival and having a table at the events. They also wanted to find out if there were Grapevine meetings in the LA area.

Finance Chair, Nancy H., reported the following:

They had 8 people at their meeting. There were 4 items in the Financial Guidelines and Policies that they needed to follow up on. There was also a correction that needed to be made to the 2021 budget which was an additional line item that needed to be added to total. They were revamping the budget report and would be presenting it later that year. They were looking for non-computer-savvy volunteers to help figure out whether they wanted to go from Quicken to Quickbooks. They also talked about the audit subcommittee that oversaw their work to make sure everything was in order.

Corrections Chair, Mimi T., reported the following:

They had 8 people at their meeting which were mostly new. Darryl had a great personal share. Their monthly meeting was on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 11 to noon. They were updating their database. They asked anyone who did not have jail clearance and who wanted to volunteer for their Contact-Upon-Release program to let them know. The program matched volunteers with members inside who were getting released. Volunteers contacted them with letters prior to their release. The inside members respond by calling the committee's Google Voice number, and then volunteers connected them to a virtual or in-person

AA meeting. The Los Angeles Hospitals and Institutions Committee was including the letters with the materials that they brought with them into correctional facilities. When things were in full swing, they were getting about 5 requests a week. Southern California H&I had gotten DVDs of panels into two women's facilities and was working on getting them in a juvenile detention facility.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Joe C., reported the following:

They had 8 people at their meeting. They were in touch with the General Service Office to stay current with what was going on at the Conference level to bring it back to our Area, Districts, and Groups. Most districts in our Area had CPC committees. District 14's had just started and were working with DUI attorneys. The Conference was working on Search Engine Optimization for AA's websites. At that time, when googling "How can I Stop drinking", AA was found on page 16 of the results. They were working on creating a google sheet to help manage information about upcoming CPC events. They were also on creating a Google slide deck that they could use with a "What is CPC?" slide and another slide with summaries and QR codes of relevant pamphlets. They were going to adapt the slides to each profession they were reaching out to.

Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC) Chair, Amy O., reported the following:

They discussed the Public Service Announcement (PSA) that was created last year before Covid. They were going to either adopt it or add to it with a goal of creating a PSA for the elder community. They were also working on putting a flyer they had into digital form.

Audio Visual Chair, Juan Manuel P., reported the following:

They had 10 people at their meeting. They discussed showing AA videos on zoom to make AA meetings more attractive and were getting help from Miguel M., the last panel's AV Chair.

Archives Chair, Sandra C., reported the following:

They had 10 people at their meeting which included 6 new members. They requested that each district or combined districts have a liaison for their committee. Their monthly meeting is on the last Saturday of each month at 1pm. A few of their members who were trained in handling archived documents were working on the inventory at the storage facility. They had a goal of building a website for archives and hoped to have their first archives website subcommittee meeting the next week. Each district would have a page on the website, and they wanted all districts to send info and pictures (meeting rooms or buildings, lists of officers, and any other info). Archives had a beautiful display in English and Spanish that they could bring to events. They were starting to visit district meetings and were going to be attending District 10's meeting. The Pacific Region archivists had a monthly meeting and our archivist from Area 05 was going to be hosting the one in June.

The Area Assembly recessed for lunch at 12:22 PM

The Area Assembly was called back to order at 1:00 PM

Delegate's Report – 71st General Service Conference Report: Business Report, Conference Actions, Questions & Answers

Lauren A., Delegate, reported the following, accompanied by slides that she had prepared:

In response to questions asked earlier, the General Service Office (GSO) had received their insurance payments and the board was considering whether to put it back in to the reserve or whether it was needed for operating costs. And, for the costs related to the Nominating Committee, it was mostly for travel for interview and consultants' fees.

Lauren spoke about how items got on the Conference agenda each year, submitted by individual AA members, groups, delegates, trustees, area assemblies, appointed committee members, directors, and staff members from AA World Services, Inc. (AAWS) and Grapevine, Inc. The deadline for submissions that year was September 15, 2021.

Two-thirds of the voting members at the General Service Conference (GSC) were Area Delegates with the rest being directors and staff of AAWS and Grapevine, inc. and Trustees.

She then explained committee reports, recommendations, advisory actions, additional committee considerations, floor actions, and simple majority items.

Lauren then read a quote from Bill W. and shared about the advisory actions of the 71st General Service Conference, starting with the Public Information (PI) Committee which was the one on which she served.

They recommended that the two PSAs in development be approved after the voiceover scratch tracks were replaced and other minor editorial edits, and their recommendations passed as advisory actions. They had the producer and other key members of the projects with them during their discussion available for questions. The PSA with the working title "Party" was very contemporary and showed actors portraying a diverse group of twenty-something young professionals. The other had the working title "Wall".

They also passed a budget of \$60,000 for the tracking of PSA broadcasts. Another action that was passed was to conduct a feasibility study on the paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms like Netflix, Hulu, and YouTube and to have a report on the research brought back to the 2022 Conference PI Committee.

They also passed an advisory action for podcasts be produced by GSO in cooperation with the Grapevine office and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference PI Committee. They discussed that the content would be like that found in AA newsletters and the AA Grapevine and that they would utilize AA's class A trustees. The Communications Services department had \$15,000 set aside to begin the project.

Other advisory actions were passed to revise the pamphlets "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings" and "A Message to Teenagers" and discussed providing them in digital formats.

They accepted the reports from the Trustees' PI Committee, their report on Google Ads, the Comprehensive Media Plan, the relevance and usefulness of video PSAs, and the report from the Survey Methodology Working Group on the Triennial AA Membership Survey.

They suggested that the triennial membership survey be conducted but no action was taken due to the timing of it since many groups were not meeting, and suggested they review the relevance and working of questions on the survey, discuss the audience for the survey results pamphlet, and produce a training video for delegates and General Service Representatives (GSRs) on data collection.

They also reviewed all PI service materials and resources and suggested a PowerPoint presentation be developed for providing shared experience on how to present AA at non-AA events.

They reviewed the trustee's PI Committee's review of PI pamphlets and encouraged them to continue to review PI materials.

They requested that editorial updates be made to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity", discussed the content and format of the PI Workbook, and recommended that GSO move away from a "print first" approach and move towards website content and digital media.

The committee also conducted elections and elected Lauren as the Chair of the Committee for the 2022 Conference and Jim F. from Area 38 Eastern Missouri as the Alternate Chair.

Lauren then spoke about advisory actions that resulted from recommendations from the Literature Committee and quickly described the purpose of the Literature Committee.

Advisory actions included the acceptance of the "AAWS Policy on Conversion of Written Conference-approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format", that a 5th edition of the Big Book be developed, that the 5th edition Big Book would include a new foreword, updated preface and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V, to replace the phrase "mate of the opposite sex" with "partner" on page 117 in the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (12 x 12) while adding a footnote to explain the change, to change the sentence that included the phrase "lustful enough to rape" on page 66 of the 12 x 12 while adding a footnote (vote was close), that the pamphlet "AA for the Black and African American Alcoholic" be updated to include fresh stories and a new title noting the importance of getting input and involvement from members of the community from the intended primary audience, to approve the draft update of "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" which was retitled "Experience Has Taught Us: Our Twelve Traditions Illustrated" while not retiring the older version, adding the long form of each tradition to the end of each essay for the tradition in the 12 x 12, that a 4th edition of the book Alcoholicos Anónimos be developed, to revise a sentence in the pamphlet "Frequently Asked Questions About AA" regarding meeting costs, revising the pamphlet "Questions & Answers on Sponsorship" to change the suggestion that a sponsor and newcomer be "of the same sex" and instead suggest that "sponsorship should be avoided whenever a romantic entanglement might arise between sponsor and sponsee", that the draft pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in AA (which features a story by our own Zoraida R.) be approved, and that a draft version of the Big Book be translated into plain and simple language and be developed in a way that is accessible and relatable to as wide an audience as possible.

There would also be revised drafts of the pamphlet "Too Young", "Twelve Steps Illustrated", "Questions & Answers on Sponsorship", "Young People in AA", "AA's Three Legacies" and several items that were deferred due to time restraints.

A recommendation to revise a part of the pamphlet "The AA Group" regarding open and closed meetings did not pass.

Committee considerations included requests to audit the first 164 pages of the Big Book (took no action, they agreed the first 164 pages should remain unchanged), to add a proposed addendum to a 5th edition foreword of the Big Book (took no action, the new foreword would be written to reflect pertinent information at that time), to add a subtitle "How Not to Take the First Drink" to the book "Living Sober" (took no action, current title is effective), that draft language about safety and AA be added to the book "Living Sober" and the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" (additional consideration of accessibility of the language was needed), and for development of workbooks around the Big Book (requested a feasibility study).

Lauren then moved on the items from the Corrections Committee.

There was an advisory action to revise AAWS literature directed to members behind the walls and replace the terms "inmate" and "offender" with "person in custody" that was initially defeated with a vote of 49 yeses and 83 nos, but after some wonderful sharing during minority opinion they voted to reconsider, and the recommendation passed 99 to 31. Lauren described how she herself changed her vote from no to yes after hearing new perspectives.

There were committee considerations to explore the need for developing different language to refer to "persons in custody", to develop a service piece to help local committees who are carrying the message behind the walls with using digital materials, and to explore thread-based online forums and new communication ideas that would allow members and committees to provide shared experience.

For items from the Treatment and Accessibilities Committee, the recommendation that audio interviews with AA members in the armed forces be approved and posted on the AA website was passed. Lauren said they heard a story from a female air force pilot.

There were committee considerations to gather more interviews from as broad a cross-section of AA members in military duty as possible, including members of the Canadian Armed Forces and native Spanish- and French-speaking members, to develop a questionnaire for future interviews that included topics such as Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), injuries, and other barriers, requested a draft pamphlet or progress report for the pamphlet "AA for the Older Alcoholic to be brought to the 2022 Conference, and requested ongoing reviews and revisions of materials to replace the term "special needs" with "accessibilities" across all AA literature.

For the Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) items, there were advisory actions to have GSO implement a LinkedIn page as described in a 2018 advisory action, to create a pamphlet for mental health professionals, and to approve the updated draft pamphlet "Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous" with minor changes and retitled "Faith Leaders Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous". They had a committee consideration regarding the CPC kit to improve the digital format to work better with a variety of devices, improve content page navigation, add a QR code to the "For Professionals page on aa.org, and to create a tabletop display with a QR code, and to update language in service material in the kit to keep it current.

For Finance Committee items, there were advisory actions to add a watermark with the word "SAMPLE" to the pie charts in the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix", and to add language to the same pamphlet to explain that not all areas and entities worked the same way so contributions should be adjusted accordingly.

The had committee considerations that included a suggestion to make the same updates from the pamphlet "Where Money and Spirituality Mix" to all similar service materials, no actions taken after a reviews of the maximum individual annual contribution of \$5,000 and maximum individual bequests of \$10,000 (agreed that amounts were still appropriate), no action taken after reviewing the suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference, no action taken after reviewing requests to reconsider a 1972 advisory action stating that GSO should not accept contributions from clubs (though contributions groups meeting in clubs was okay), no action taken after discussion the mechanization of group contributions in the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix", no action taken after reviewing the Self-Support Packet (packet was relevant and current), no action taken after discussion Concept XII, Warranty Two and the practice of "selling of our books at cost or less" (a change was not necessary), no action taken after reviewing the "Google Grants and Seventh Tradition Report" (the discount was not in violation of the 7th tradition), and updating "The AA Group Treasurer" and the "AA Guidelines of Finance" service materials to include information on how to financially support the AA Grapevine.

For items from the Trustees Committee, there were advisory actions to approve the recommended slates of trustees and officers for the General Service Board and directors for the AAWS and AA Grapevine Corporate Boards.

There was a committee consideration where no action was taken after reviewing the "Statement of Concern and Motion to Censure for Submission to the 71st General Service Conference" (though the trustees and Conference heard the body and were working on better communication and transparency).

For items from the Report and Charter Committee, there were advisory actions to discontinue the printing of the AA Directories (Canada, Eastern US, and Western US), to approve the new 2021-2023 edition of the AA Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service (which Lauren said is gorgeous and in large print), to revise paragraph one, the Purpose statement of the Current Conference Charter to include the Twelve Concepts in the list of things the Conference is in guardianship of, and to add a new section to the end of the Twelve Concepts for World Service titled "Amendments".

Their committee considerations included the acceptance of a report from the Publishing department outlining the GSO process for timely and accurate preparation and publication of the 2021 GSC Final Report, encouragement to use the digital anonymity-protected version of the GSC Final Report, notes of the value of the "A.A. Near You" resource on aa.org and of the importance of GSO updating and making available listings of Central Offices, Intergroups and Answering Services, and a suggestion to include the listings to the GSR and DCM kits and the AA Group Handbook.

Before sharing about Grapevine and La Viña Committee items, Lauren shared an email she received that day announcing free access to the Grapevine and La Viña from 5/26/21 to 6/10/21 in celebration of Founders' Day.

For the Grapevine and La Viña Committee, there was an advisory action to implement an Instagram account, and committee considerations that included suggestions to add additional information to the AA Grapevine Workbook, no action taken after considering a request to develop a pamphlet on how to utilize the AA Grapevine to carry the AA message (workbook and other materials already have this information), no action taken after considering gender-neutral language options for possible changes to the AA Preamble (needed more info, but later became a floor action – stay tuned), a request for the Grapevine Board to gather additional shared experience from the Fellowship related to the topic of gender-neutral language options for the AA Preamble and bring back results to the 2022 GSC, and an agreement to forward to the AA Grapevine Board the suggestions to produce two books: AA's Twelve Concepts (working title) and The Home Group II (working title).

The Agenda Committee's items resulted in advisory actions for the theme for the 2022 GSC to be "AA Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service.", for the discussion topics to be "How do A.A.s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify, and Serve?", "Going Beyond Fear", and "How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere", and for the workshop topic to be "The Warranties – Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World."

Their committee considerations included a suggestion to create a workbook or guideline about the role of a Conference committee chair, a suggestion that the trustees' GSC Committee explore the feasibility of the three chairs of the corporate boards creating snapshot anonymity-protected videos after each quarterly board weekend providing project details and updates to be shared by Regional trustees and delegates locally to provide enhanced communication throughout the service structure, a request that the trustee's GSC committee consider new ways to communicate information from the opening session that describes how the Conference operates and floor actions so that Conference members can understand it better and more effectively participate, no action taken after reviewing a proposal suggesting additional avenues for AA members to share input on GSC agenda items (challenged area delegates to encourage participation in the Conference process), a suggestion to explore the feasibility of getting GSC background materials translated into French and Spanish sooner than the current deadline of the first week of March, and a suggestion to consider a year-over-year analysis of each category of GSC evaluations.

For Policy and Admissions items, a recommendation to change the requirement for a motion to decline to hear a floor action from a two-thirds majority to a simple majority did not pass. There were advisory actions to develop a process for polling the GSC between annual meetings, the Equitable Distribution of Workload Process (detailed in the Report from the 2020 trustee's GSC Committee) be implemented on a three-year trial basis, for the US/Canada General Service Structure to recognize online groups and encourage their participation, and for the GSB to form a committee to explore future possibilities for the participation of online groups.

Their committee considerations included, after review of the GSO general manager's report regarding GSC site selection, an agreement to the overall goal of reducing costs and a request that future reports include more details on specific sites, the selection of dates for the 2025 GSC, a request to revise the "Process for Approving Observers to the Conference" so that the committee could approve routine requests, and encouragement to sue the full budget for translating background materials if it meant they would be available sooner.

For Archives Committee Items, there were no recommendations, but they had committee considerations which included suggestions to revise the Archives Workbook regarding the section “Guidelines for Collecting Oral Histories” to include text offering suggestions on ways to conduct ASL interviews and to add sample interview questions relating to “vision for the future”, and no action taken after reviewing the report on “Proposed Book on AA History” (project scope too large for one volume, current fellowship is so large and diverse that people could be left out unintentionally, use of funds towards book development instead of preservation of materials would not be prudent, other works on AA history have been produced by historians using primary resources including those at GSO).

For the International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee, there were no recommendations, but there were committee considerations to gather shared experience from the Fellowship regarding ways to close the Big Meetings at the International Convention such as the Lord’s Prayer, 3rd and 7th Step Payers, and AA’s Declaration of Unity, and suggestions about encouraging interest in Regional Forums and attracting first-time attendees (use meeting guide app, use videoconferencing, better informing host regions, extending outreach materials for Spanish-speaking and LGBTQ communities, conduct at least one presentation or workshop in Spanish and/or French at each forum).

Lauren then shared about Floor Actions (when members offer an amendment or completely new item to the floor of the Conference). The Conference declined to consider an action to immediately release the “Ad Hoc Committee Progress Report – Google Grants and the 7th Tradition” to the members of the 71st GSC. Then, an action to change the beginning of the AA Preamble from “Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share...” to “In Alcoholics Anonymous we share...” passed. Then, another action to change the same line to “Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share...” passed. There was another action to allow edits to the chapters “To Wives”, “The Family Afterward” and “To Employers” while leaving the Preface, Forewords, “The Doctor’s Opinion”, “Dr. Bob’s Nightmare” and the Appendices unchanged was withdrawn by the maker of the motion because they were satisfied by the approval of developing a plain-language translation of the Big Book. A floor action to update the pamphlet “AA for the Native North American” to be more respectful and inclusive with fresh stories and corrections passed unanimously. Lastly, a floor action that the newly revised AA Preamble be presented to the GSB for approval as the new revised AA Preamble passed.

Lauren shared that they heard the serenity prayer in Spanish, French, and English, and “with tears and smiles”, they ended the 71st General Service Conference. She echoed something she heard from past trustee Madeline P and said, “this conference stepped out in faith” and that they listened to members and became willing to vote for change. She explained that making changes did not remove anything from us but was helping take our movement into the future, to ensure that there is an inclusive and diverse AA available for the alcoholic who still suffers. She expressed hopes that all would carry the messages sent by the Conference on inclusivity, the need for diversity in our membership and leadership, the willingness to embrace technology, and the continuance of the hard work and service being done. She shared that on May 1st, all the advisory actions were approved by the GSB. She said she looked forward to the 72nd GSC which was to be held in Brooklyn, NY and read some of Bill W.’s words from the 1960 GSC regarding change and showed a photo of her desk where she sat for the 8 days of the Conference.

A request was made to the Chair, Nikki U., that the Delegate be allowed to share and answer questions for as long as she needed and not be cut off. Nikki granted the request.

Questions and Answers:

Q (from multiple people): Would the PowerPoint be shared?

A: Lauren would put a quick reference guide to all the advisory actions, recommendations, and considerations into the chat, along with two documents about the advisory actions from the GSC and will also be emailing them out to DCMs to distribute to their GSRs.

Q (Heather, GSR): What is an advisory action?

A: From the service manual, page 58: a recommendation that is approved by substantial unanimity (2/3 majority) is an advisory action, while a suggestion is a recommendation receiving only a simple majority. They are the things they voted on.

Q: Could you expand on what adding the God Word refers to regarding a pamphlet to teenagers?

A: The God Word is a pamphlet, and it was brought up during the discussions about revising "Speaking at Non-AA Meetings" or "A Message to Teenagers" but was not an advisory action or committee consideration

Q (Heather, GSR): Are we able to submit reconsiderations for items that were passed this year 2021?

A: Yes, it would be a new agenda item. You could bring it to the district or to the area and send it on.

Q (Thomas, Past Delegate): Lauren mentioned she did not know how the literature committee got through as many items as they did, and further, she stated the Conference's desire to spread the workload. Were any of the literature committee's agenda items referred to other committees, and overall, how was the conference workload evened out?

A: Evening out the workload was a recommendation for next year, so nothing happened this year. The literature committee went through items A-O and deferred the rest. They would be trying to even out the workload the next 3 years on a trial basis and she did not know that would be implemented.

Q (Garry, GSR): Are they soliciting stories for the 5th edition Big Book?

A: Not that she had heard of. If they do, she will pass on to area ASAP.

Q (David W, DCMC): What were the major literature items kicked forward to 2022?

A: Reviews of the draft pamphlets "Too Young", "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship", "AA's Three Legacies."

Q (Marcus F, Past Delegate): This Conference changed what Bill W. wrote. What was discussed regarding the potential reaction of a portion of the fellowship to changing any of Bill's writings?

A: They did not think anything big was changed, such as the first 164 pages of the big book. They changed like the Preamble from the Grapevine were just for inclusivity. They stepped out in faith. There was very little blowback and hardly any discussion. People are ready for reactions. Changes to the 12x12 will come with footnotes to explain them.

Comment: (unclear) Some people voted that greater clarity and transparency from the board of trustees was not necessary.

A: There was a motion to censure the board by a few delegates. It was considered by everyone. It was not about them hiding or withholding anything. It was a call for them to be more communicative with the delegates. They wanted to have a quarterly meeting with all the delegates, and it was also recommended to do some "video things like that big book video that Michelle G put out."

Q (David W, DCMC): Is Lauren saying that they are going to stop printing the national directory of AA meetings like I've seen in our Central Office?

A: The international meeting directory will still be there. It was just Canada and the Eastern United States. The Western United States was not discussed.

Q: Can you repeat the dates of free access for Grapevine and La Viña?

A: 5/26/21 – 6/10/21

Comment (Heather, GSR): They could have removed "of the opposite sex" and just kept "mate" from the original text.

Q (Thomas, Past Delegate): There is a difference between groups and meetings. The online reference in Policy and Admissions states only groups making their approval unclear.

A: She was sure it was meant to include both online groups and online meetings interchangeably.

Q: Do you think the GSC should be held virtually or returned to NY?

A: She had never experienced it in person and wanted to experience being with people, shaking their hands, talking to them face to face in the back of the room, asking them about themselves. People talked about doing it in-person every other year, but it was not a major discussion. She thought it was extremely focused and efficient, but there were also efficiencies with being together in person. She would be able to answer after next year.

Q (Ann H, GSR): Can you clarify the literature advisory actions – that there was to be a 5th edition big book, and a plain-language translation of the 4th edition big book?

A: Yes, those both passed, as well as the development of a 4th edition Spanish Big Book

Q (from multiple people): From the floor actions, what is the proposed new language for the Preamble? Do we have more than one version? What should we take back to our groups?

A: All the floor actions passed, there should have been a motion to rescind the first one, but since there was not the board will need to figure out what to do. She did not have an answer yet, but any group can revise the preamble to say what they want it to say.

Q (Valerie): Was the visitor from India an AA member? Was it the previous GSC? Can you explain that?

A: He was an AA member and the Chair of the GSC in India. He had to request the ability to observe the Conference, but he did not participate or vote. It was very early in the morning or in the middle of the night for him, so she only saw him a few times. Policy & Admissions was trying to make it their committee's job to approve instead of having to make advisory actions each time people requested to visit.

Comment (Thomas S., Past Delegate): The North American conference is the senior conference and there are many other countries around the world that routinely ask to come and observe to learn how to do their own. We find that also at PRAASA.

Q: How soon do you think these new books – 5th edition big book, 4th edition Spanish, simplified, 12x12, etc. – will be available for purchase? What is the process and how long does it take?

A: The Spanish big book will need new stories, so it will take a while. The 5th edition big book will take years.

Q: When do you think the next version of the service manual will be available?

A: That should be pretty soon because it was for 2021-2023. She had seen it online and it was very cool, modern, and she thinks everyone will like it.

Comment (Dean B., Past Delegate): Regarding online meetings, they mentioned “listing” but not “registering”.

A: From discussions, it was clear that they meant registering the groups, giving them a group number, etc. She would ask a delegate who was on that committee to follow up.

Q (Jon H., GSR): He represents a virtual meeting that has a number from New York, but he does not have the right to vote in any meetings. Is this a change that would allow him to vote in Area 05?

A: There are a lot of gray and unclear areas. For existing online meetings, they did not know if districts/areas would be assigned based on the primary contact's location. What if it was someone in Italy? She believed there needed to be a lot more clarification and that there would be more discussion next year

Comment (Dean B., Past Delegate): In his experience, this was why these were advisory actions because it was up to the board to carry out.

Q (Jon H., GSR): Was there a discussion of having a 94th area that all online groups could participate in so that there would not be geographical issues?

A: No, there was no discussion about that.

Q (Ann H., GSR): Does the committee consideration to have the GSB form a committee to explore the participation of online groups cover some of this?

A: Yes, now that we had decided online groups could be listed and recognized, they would need to figure out how they could participate in General Service.

Q (David W, DCMC): Is the new service manual going to contain the changes regarding the 11th concept essay and putting stuff at the end?

A: I believe so

Comment (David W, DCMC): Thanked Lauren for excellent verbal, visual, and written presentation. He attends a meeting where the group already changed the Preamble for themselves.

Comment (Tori, GSR): She already lived in two states and represented a group in Los Angeles. Maybe it was just a matter of assigning an address to the group and not using the location of the individual who was a GSR.

Q (Aidan, Alt DCM): How did the Conference justify PSAs with the 11th tradition?

A: They were just public service announcement like many we had over the years. There was nothing different about them other than that they were new and modern. There was a 1995 advisory action to use full-faced actors.

Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate, Doug S., reported the following:

He had been busy since last assembly. He held a new General Service Representative (GSR) Orientation with 25 people in attendance. He thanked the translation committee who did interpretation. The next orientation would likely be July 17th, the Saturday before the next assembly. He attended PRAASA and thanked everyone who contributed to the Pre-Conference Workshop. They had well over 125 attendees both days.

He served as the liaison between Area 05 and the Los Angeles Central Office (LACO), Southern California Hospitals & Institutions Committee (SoCal H&I), and the Foothill Round-Up (FRU). He was attending LACO's monthly meetings. They finally hired a new office manager, Phylo H. They were planning to remodel their office to better utilize space and were cleaning up their meeting directory. They were not listing in-person meetings yet because the county was not allowing some of them to occur. They asked that meetings update their info on their website so that they could post them as soon as they were ready to post in-person meetings.

He also serves as the Chief Financial Officer for our nonprofit corporation, and we have an Audit Subcommittee to make sure we are closely watching our books.

He attended the Grapevine / La Viña and Corrections monthly meetings and would like to attend as many as he could. He asked anyone to let him know if they wanted him to attend their meeting.

Secretary, Brian P. reported the following:

He thanked Lauren for her great reports and for her dedication and hard work on behalf of AA. He said seeing all the GSRs and DCMs at the Pre-Conference workshop was an amazing thing to witness. As Secretary, he prepared minutes for each meeting, which were included in the Southern California Area Assembly Newsletters. He attended PRAASA and was looking forward to next year's which would be in-person in Portland. He thanked the translation committee for their work on the minutes and the tech committee for the meeting recordings. He wrote an article for Area 05 about the Chinese-speaking meetings, Lauren submitted it, and it was included in the Remote Communities Communicator. He was glad we could continue to get the word out to people who need it. He said he was available to visit any meetings and was grateful to be of service.

Contributions Treasurer, Shawn A., reported the following:

He picked up contributions at the post office every two weeks. He presented the 1st Quarter contributions report. He asked that people put their group number on contributions when making them by mail or online because it helped him immensely. They could contact Miguel or GSO to find out what it was if they did not know.

Accounts Treasurer, Zoraida R. reported the following:

She thanked Lauren for her great and detailed report. She presented the 1st Quarter Financial Report, which matched the 1st Quarter Contributions Report. She thanked the Audit Subcommittee for their work. The Chinese-speaking meeting celebrated its one-year anniversary in February and was at about 35 members twice a week and growing. She was very excited that the Spanish-speaking women's pamphlet was approved. That was something that Area 05 put so much love into when submitting the proposal. She announced that her and Brian got married since the last assembly. She thanked everyone for their dedication and for allowing her to be of service, the Tech Committee, and the Interpreters.

Registrar, Miguel M., reported the following:

He thanked Nikki and the Tech Committee for helping him with the roster and registration. He attended Fellowship Connection training in both February and March and a Fellowship Connection sharing session with other area registrars, all of which had been very helpful. There was a feature called Data Stewardship for DCMs that would allow DCMs to search the Fellowship Connection database themselves and do everything he could do as Registrar except for edit. DCMs should have received an email about it from GSO. GSO was currently having an issue with sending out GSR kits so they were being delayed. He was working with Miguel C. and Olga M. to get Spanish-speaking GSRs registered. He asked that people check into area meetings with the name they used when registering with GSO to make things easier for registration. He thanked everyone for allowing him to serve.

Chairperson, Nikki U., reported the following:

She saw at PRAASA and the PCW and popped into Hollywood Combined Districts' meeting the day before. She attended District 14's LA history event. She was working with the PRAASA 2023 committee to get a separate bank account for them. She was talking with the administrator at Westminster Presbyterian Church about when we might be meeting in person again, and they did not know. There were issues like contact tracing and limited occupancy that both they and we were not sure how to deal with. We had paid the church to have our 2020 meetings there and our payment was now a credit for future meetings. She also wanted to know if anyone had the unofficial guidelines that we once had for hosting assemblies in person. It could be helpful as we prepared to meet in-person again.

Delegate, Lauren A., announced:

She would be doing report-backs at the 3rd Legacy Meeting on 5/22, Comité Interdistrital Hispanos on 5/23, Districts 2, 3, 4, and 13 on 6/1, Westside Combined Districts on 6/13, Districts 14, 17, 18, and 30 on 6/16, and Hollywood Combined Districts on the 6/19. She would be sending out the schedule to everyone.

Unfinished Business

Cooperation with The Young Community Committee Status Change

CYC Chair, Gola R., made the following a motion to “Establish a standing Cooperation with the Young Community (CYC) committee to continue efforts to make A.A. available to this population.”

The full proposal and background document was emailed to the Area Committee.

Excerpt from presentation:

“The purpose of the Area 05 CYC committee is to bring the A.A. message to spaces where young people are – and to those who work with them – to help them understand how and why A.A. works, and that they are not “too young” to find recovery in A.A. We meet this aim by liaising with existing Area committees such as Corrections to establish youth-related projects, working with organizations outside A.A. that serve young people, and utilizing the engagement and experience of A.A. members who have gotten sober young (YPAA) as a resource for volunteer efforts and identifying youth-related sober events.”

Nikki U., Chairperson called the question, and Lauren A. seconded. There was no vote to close debate, but we proceeded to vote on the motion.

The motion passed with 98% yes, 2% no. No minority opinions were expressed.

PRAASA 2023 Logo Contest

Mary T., Panel 51 Past Delegate, presented the following:

The PRAASA Logo contest was still underway. Submission instructions and guidelines could be found by going to the area website area05aa.org and clicking on the PRAASA button. They would be voting on the logo at the final assembly of the year. She thanked everyone.

Foro de Servicios Generales Update

Arturo., Chair of the 42nd Foro de Servicios Generales, presented the following:

They started having meetings in January, meeting at all the Spanish-speaking districts' offices including CIH and were getting a lot of support. They have confirmed the event for Nov 7th, and it would be a hybrid event. He had been in contact with Nikki and Zoraida they said they will support with the zoom account and area Website/Technology Committee. They had the location confirmed. He thanked the area for the seed money he received the day before. They were going to have 3 speakers before the beginning of the event. One of them, Paz P, had been confirmed. They were expecting 250 people and would be abiding by pandemic health regulations. They were visiting districts to motivate them to get united for this event and were receiving a lot of support from the groups. He thanked Nikki and the area for their help and support and hoped to see everyone at the event.

4 Area DCM Sharing Session

Alex H., District 30 District Committee Member (DCM) presented the following:

The 4 Area DCM Sharing Session was going to be hosted by Mid-Southern California Area 09 this year. July 31st was then the date after a few postponements. The topics would be those proposed for the 2022 GSC, like “A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service,” “How do A.A.s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify, and Serve?”, “Going Beyond Fear”, and “How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere.” The event was open to anyone who wanted to attend. Primarily, it was a way for DCMs in the southern half of state to discuss issues arising within their districts and how to address things they were facing, especially with Covid and the transition back to normal meetings. He would provide more details as they became available, and he hoped to see everyone there.

New Business / Good and Welfare Announcements

Lauren A., Delegate, presented an idea for Area 05 to have an app.

The full presentation document was emailed to the Area Committee.

Excerpt from presentation:

"This application was created at my request by the website committee. It is designed to help members have easy access to Area05 information and events. This tool will be accessible to any AA member and in continuing to expand our digital access to information will perform as an addition to the area05aa.org website for quick and easy access from your mobile device."

Kyle H., Los Angeles County Young People in AA (LACYPAA) was hosting a Six Flags event on 6/27/21. They would have discounted tickets, a meeting inside the park at the picnic area during lunch, which was included in the ticket price. Tickets were \$55 before June 1st and \$60 afterwards.

Ann H., On the Santa Monica Pier, since the Thursday before daylight savings time, there had been in-person meetings on the pier upstairs outside in the wooden parking lot closed to cars. The meetings took place Monday through Friday at 6pm. The city knew about them and had approved them being there. Masks and social distancing were required.

Aidan S., He had H&I panel speaker opportunities the first Sunday of every month in Sierra Madre, and the third Sunday of each month at Impact Treatment Center. He was always looking for speakers.

Zoraida R., A few weeks ago, she was invited to have a conversation with past trustee Madeleine P. along with a past delegate from Area 06 regarding PRAASA and how to increase diversity at PRAASA. They were planning to have a town hall for anyone interested in that topic. She asked anyone interested to let her know so she could give them more information as it came up.

Thomas S., He wanted to thank the Delegate for her report, and the officers for a well-organized assembly where everything was included and still on time.

Bill L., He said it was a wonderful assembly. In one of the breakout rooms, he heard that an old-timer committed suicide because all meetings were closed. He wanted to invite anyone who needed a meeting to come to a Spanish-speaking meeting, most of which were open. He said they could share for up to two hours, and many members understood English.

Nikki U., Chairperson, adjourned the meeting.

Bill L., District 33 Secretary, led us out with the Responsibility Statement in Spanish.

Miguel M., Registrar, led us out with the Responsibility Statement in English.

The Area Assembly adjourned at 3:48 PM

A.A. AREA 05 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA
SUMMER ASSEMBLY AGENDA
Saturday – July 24, 2021
Zoom Meeting ID: 891 0086 2280 Passcode: area05

- 8:00 Registration & Zoom Room Fellowship
- 9:00 Welcome and Opening Comments
 - Call-to-Order
 - Silent Meditation, Serenity Prayer AA Birthdays (May 16 – July 24)
 - The Twelve Concepts (Short Form) - Spanish and English
- 9:20 Introduction of new General Service Representative and Alternates
- 9:35 Roll Call (*Registrar, Miguel M.*)
- 9:45 Approval of Agenda (*Chair, Nikki U*)
 Approval of May 16th Assembly Minutes (*Secretary, Brian P*)
- 10:00 Delegate Report – Lauren A,
- 10:45 Coffee Break and Morning Stretch
- 11:00 PRAASA 2023 Logo Contest (*Mary T, Past Delegate – Panel 51*)
- 11:15 Preliminary 2022 Budget Presentation (*Finance Committee Chair, Nancy H*)
- 11:45 Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Meetings (*Committee Chairs*)
- 12:30 Lunch Break
- 1:00 Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Reports – 2-to-3-minute summary
- 1:45 Officer Reports:
 - Alternate Delegate, Including Audit Subcommittee Report (*Doug S.*)
 - Secretary (*Brian P.*)
 - Contributions Treasurer, incl. presentation of 2021 2nd Quarter Contributions Report (*Shawn A.*)
 - Accounts Treasurer, including presentation of 2021 2nd Quarter Financial Report (*Zoraida R.*)
 - Registrar (*Miguel M.*)
 - Chairperson (*Nikki U*)
- 2:15 Unfinished Business:
 - Hispanic Women’s Workshop (*Olga M., Area 5 Liaison*)
 - 4 Area DCM Sharing Session (*Alex H, DCM District 30/Arturo F, Alt MCD, Distrito 33*)
 - Hispanic Foro (*Arturo F, Distrito 33*)
 - Presentation and Approval Vote: Area 05 General Service App (*Lauren A, Delegate, Kyle H, Web Chair and Claude D, Alt Web Chair*)
- 2:35 New Business:
- 2:40 GSR Sharing Session – What’s On Your Mind (*Chair will open the virtual assembly floor to provide an opportunity for Area Assembly Members to share helpful ideas, voice suggestions, ask questions, etc.*)
- 3:15 Good and Welfare Announcements
- 3:30 Closing: Moment of Silence & Responsibility Statement (Spanish & English)