



A.A.'s Three Legacies – Our Common Solution



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.

FROM THE DELEGATE'S DESK.....

Hello Area 5! I hope everyone is safe and healthy. I'm honored to serve as your Delegate for Panel 73 serving on the Treatment and Accessibilities Committee.

As you know, I recently attended the 73rd General Service Conference, April 23rd through 29th, 2023. The Conference was an amazing experience and I'm privileged to have represented the Southern California Area Assembly (aka Area 5), and all the districts, groups, and members of our Area.

Hopefully, you attended our Spring Assembly on May 21st, where I gave the "Delegate Report Back" to those in attendance. I'm scheduling district report backs, and, by the time you read this article, I will have given several with more on the horizon.

The Conference conducted a lot of business during the week. The days were long, exhausting yet very fulfilling. The Conference members heard reports from the Corporate Boards, AAWS, Grapevine and the General Service Board, completed all our respective committee work, made many recommendations, with multiple committee considerations. The Conference passed twenty-nine (29) Advisory Actions with some significant changes tied to those.

One of the more exciting things that occurred during the week was the opportunity to review the draft of the plain language Big Book translation. The Preface, Forward, Doctor's Opinion, and the first six chapters were available for review. It was exciting to see the message of Alcoholics Anonymous conveyed in simple terms while maintaining the core message of recovery and hope. We had a two-hour sharing session on Friday where all Conference members were given time to share their experience, impression of the draft translation, and provide constructive criticism, too. All comments were recorded and shared with the firm performing the translation.

In addition to each committee providing reports, we spent a significant amount of time discussing the actions of the Board following the resignation of our Chair. The Trustees Committee report and sharing session went more than five hours. Many Delegates, Staff and Board members spoke about the circumstances. While it was emotionally draining to experience, the message was loud and clear, the concern of the Fellowship was heard, and numerous Advisory Actions resulted. There will be improved communication this year in the form of online meetings with conference members, quarterly finance reports, and, with guidance from current seated Delegates, a Board inventory will be conducted prior to the 74th GSC.

I had the pleasure to meet most of the Trustees with the opportunity to speak one-on-one. I have no doubt we all love Alcoholics Anonymous and will work very hard to ensure its continued success.

Our Delegate from Hawaii, Area 17, Tommy G., shared a word that represented our feelings from the Pacific Region: Hoʻoponopono which is a traditional Hawaiian practice of reconciliation and forgiveness.

Please review the document I prepared (*Reference Guide to Results - hyperlink below*) that contains the results from the conference. It contains all the recommendations, whether they became Advisory Actions or not, Committee Considerations and Floor Actions. In addition, I included the vote count so you can easily see how we voted on respective items.

English: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KRxEZdl0AbR3Tl8jCz0eshmmSoGKlhpY/view

Spanish: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GKT2nZ2-IF1zHOzlkmfnPR6RwSFdGO_J/view

In addition, my wife, Sue S., and I had the opportunity to visit Stepping Stones and Bill & Lois' Brooklyn, NY, homes during the trip. What a blessing to have seen where they lived and fostered the beginnings of A.A.!

Lastly, I'm excited to be one of the co-chairs for next year's Remote Communities meeting. That will be a highlight for me at the 74th G.S.C.

I look forward to being with you at the Area Committee Meeting on Saturday, June 24th and the Summer Assembly on Saturday, July 22nd to share more information about the conference. I plan to cover the GSB Finance report, the 2022 Member Survey results, and more details on the Grapevine and La Vina apps that I didn't get to during the May Assembly.

Feel free to contact me at any time via my email address: <u>delegate@area05aa.org</u> or my mobile number listed in the SCAAN.

I look forward to representing the Area!

Respectfully,

Doug S.

Delegate Area 05 Panel 73

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AUDIT RESULTS



- · Completed on schedule
- · Unmodified or "clean" audit opinion
 - · The financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects
- No material weaknesses
- · No significant deficiencies
- 5 recommendations (3 AAWS and 2 GV) compared to 5 in 2021

2022 GSO FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 7th Tradition of Self-Support \$10.55 million down 2.1% from \$10.78 million in 2021
- Operating Expense \$17.82 million up 19.9% from \$14.86 million in 2021
 - Program Service Expense \$7.17 million down 2.7% from \$7.37 million in 2021
 - Supporting Services Expense \$10.65 million up 42.2% from \$7.49 million in 2021
- Self-Support covered 59% of operating expense
- AAWS publishing gross profits \$4.89 million down 22.3% from \$6.29 million in 2021
- Operating deficit of \$1,579,305; operating cash decrease of \$2,064,135

LARGEST CATEGORIES OF GSO CASH EXPENDITURE

Salaries, Employee Benefits, and Payroll Taxes	10,098,410
Shipping and Warehousing Publications	4,069,178
Publications Inventory	3,394,368
Professional Fees	1,779,735
Travel and Meetings	1,315,484
Facility and Equipment	1,260,745
Data, Automation, and Website	583,697
Sales tax remittances	471,767
Printing, Postage, Supplies, and Subscriptions	412,396
Expenditures on behalf of Grapevine	407,599
Equipment and Software	382,804

GSO EXPENSES UNDER BUDGET IN 2022

Under Budget Categories represent 72% of total operating expense

EXPENSE	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Payroll and Benefits	9,701,831	9,849,446	(147,615)
Payroll Taxes	601,997	630,283	(28,286)
Professional Fees	1,756,363	1,868,458	(112,095)
Printing, Postage and Supplies	451,413	565,511	(114,098)
Insurance	69,575	102,339	(32,764)
Total Operating Expense	17,489,639	17,569,432	(79,793)

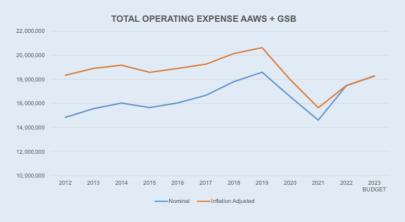
GSO EXPENSES OVER BUDGET IN 2022

Over Budget Categories represent 28% of total operating expense

EXPENSE	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Data, Automation and Website	611,490	582,125	29,365
Facility and Equipment including depreciation (a non-cash expense)	2,442,689	2,238,063	204,626
Facility and Equipment excluding depreciation	1,258,295	1,174,945	83,350
Travel and Meetings	1,854,281	1,733,207	121,074

INFLATION ADJUSTED GSO EXPENSE HISTORY

In 2022, operating expense was lower than inflation adjusted operating expense in 9 of the past 10 years.



2022 GRAPEVINE FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Grapevine paid print subscriptions decreased 6.7% in 2022. Subscriptions for the online and mobile app magazine decreased 27.6%
- 2022 Grapevine results were a gross margin on subscriptions of \$789,246 and a net profit of \$674,515 on other published items. Operating expenses of 1,882,701 resulted in an operating loss of \$404,940 compared to a loss of \$112,618 in 2021.
- General Fund support of La Viña service activity was \$636,604 in 2022, compared to \$388,646 in 2021.
- La Viña magazine circulation increased by 4.3% in 2022 compared to a 12.4% decrease in 2021 after several prior years of pre-pandemic growth.

2023 GSO BUDGET

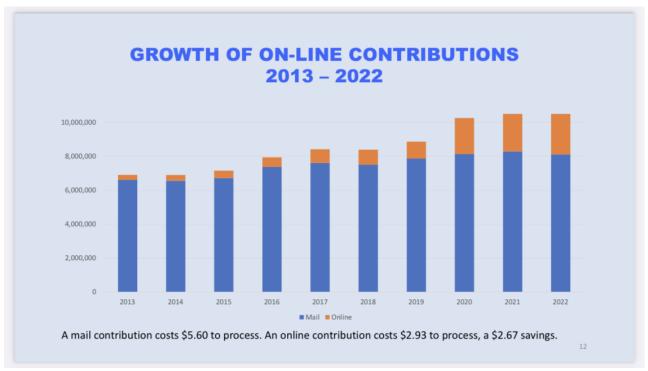
- Operating revenue \$18,791,320 compared to \$15,910,334 in 2022.
 - Contributions \$10,500,000 compared to \$10,548,525 in 2022.
 - Literature gross margin \$7,950,000 compared to \$4,894,113 in 2022.
- Total operating expense \$17,085,479 before \$1.2M depreciation compared to \$17,821,142 in 2022.
- Operating surplus of \$505,841 after depreciation compared to \$1,579,305 deficit in 2022.

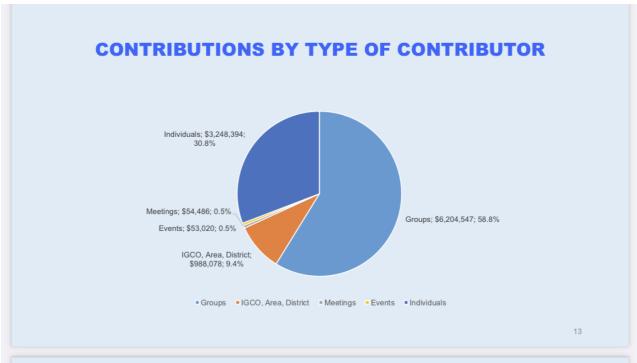
2023 GRAPEVINE BUDGET

- Print magazine circulation to decrease to 47,751 from 52,321 in 2022.
- Online and e-Pub circulation to decrease to 4,719 from 6,492 in 2022.
- 1,500 new app subscribers.
- Gross margin on subscriptions \$547,709 compared to \$789,246 in 2022.
- Grapevine net surplus of \$68,414 compared to a deficit of \$404,940 in 2022.
- La Viña magazine circulation to decrease to 6,415 compared to 6,685 in 2022.
- General Fund La Viña support of \$653,579 compared to \$636,604 in 2022.

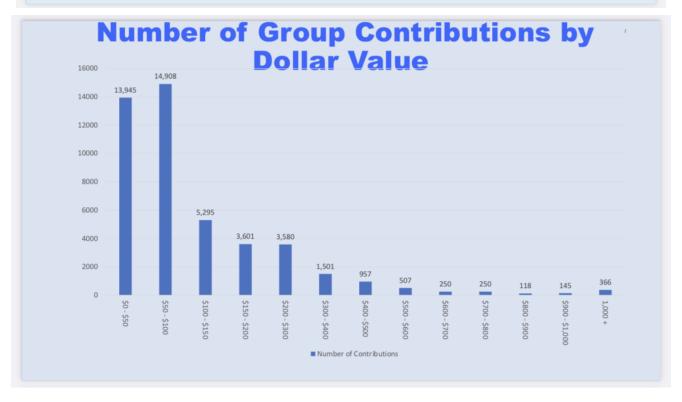


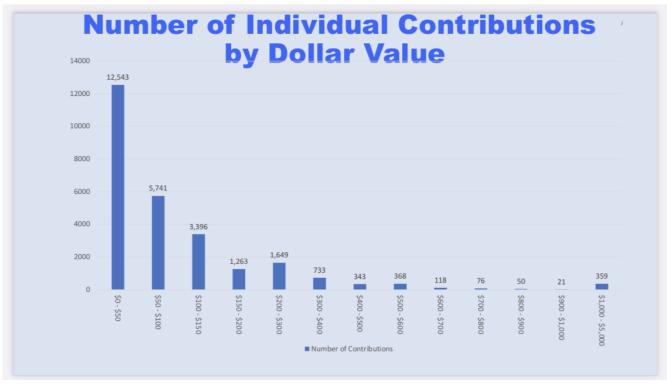






INDIVIDUA	
th Tradition Self-Support Contributions	\$3,248,394
verage Contribution	\$121.79
Most Common Contribution	\$50.00
lumber of Contributions	26,671
GROUPS	
th Tradition Self-Support Contributions	\$6,204,547
lumber of Active Groups	58,455
lumber of Groups Contributing	19,572
Percentage of Groups Contributing	33.48%
verage Contributed by a Group During the Year	\$317.01







G.S.O.'s TWO BASIC FUNCTIONS

Publishing







·Services on Behalf of the G.S.B.

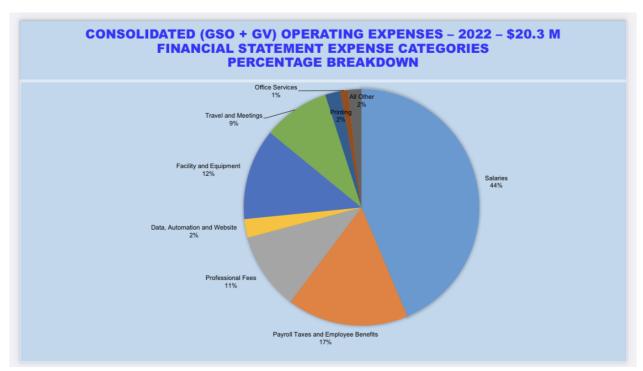


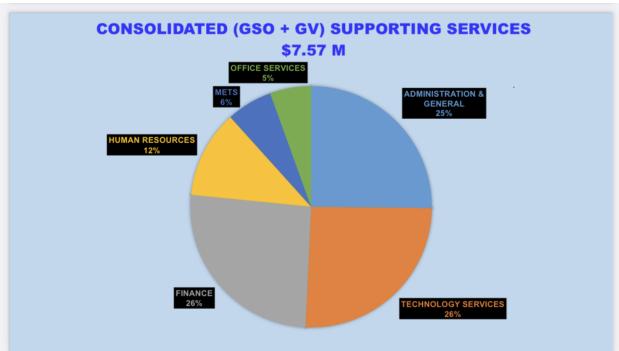




AAWS - PUBLISHING - 2022 ACTUAL vs 2022 BUDGET

	2022 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
Gross Sales – Literature	11,999,441	11,000,000	999,441
Discounts	(479,173)	(550,000)	(70,827)
Shipping Charges	277,893	330,000	(52,107)
Net Sales - Literature	11,795,265	10,780,000	1,015,265
Cost of Literature Sold - Printing	6,901,151	5,390,000	1,511,151
Gross Profit	4,894,113	5,390,000	(495,887)
Gross Profit Percentage	41.5%	50.0%	(8.5%)





eginning Balance January 1, 2022	12,852,286	
Investment Earnings	96,774	
Change in GV subscription liability	200,000	
Drawdowns	(200,000)	
Additions	0	
Ending Balance December 31, 2022	12,949,060	
Composition of Ending Balance		
Cash		2,727,969
Certificates of Deposit (CDARs)		11,444,990
Accrued Interest		19,601
Less Grapevine subscription liability		(1,243,500)
Ending Balance		12,949,060
	Based on 202	2 Based on 2023
Number of Months Expenses Held	expense	
January 1, 2022	8.3	<u> </u>
December 31, 2022	8.3	88 7.35

RESERVE FUND – 2023 Activity

	Gross Reserve Balance	Funding for GV Subscription Liability	GV % of Subscription Liability Funded	Net Reserve Balance
December 31, 2022	14,192,559	(1,243,500)	72%	12,949,059
Grapevine App Funding (A)	(500,000)			(500,000)
Grapevine App Withdrawal (A)	(670,488)			(670,488)
Reduce GV Funding % (A)		670,488	(38%)	670,488
Ending Balance 2/1/23	13,022,071	(573,012)	34%	12,449,059

The Reserve Balance as of 2/1/23 covers just over 7 months of 2023 GSB, AAWS, GV and LaViña Expenses

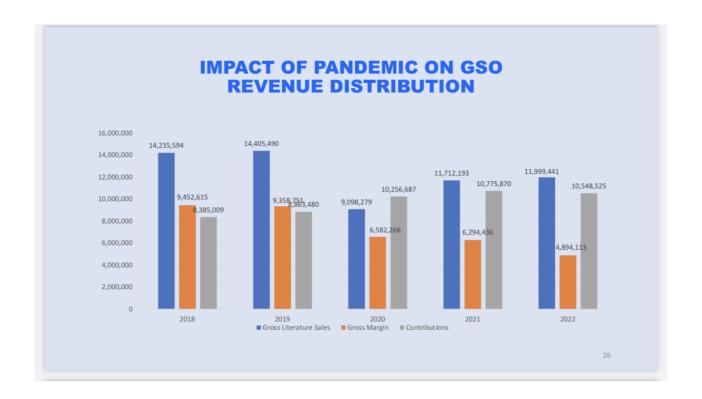
(A) These actions were approved by Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee on January 29, 2023 and the General Service Board on January 30, 2023.

USES OF GSB's RESERVE FUND

- Concept of GSB's Prudent Reserve not same as in your Home Group's reserve
- GSB's Reserve Fund covers much more
- In 1967, the General Service Conference Issued the Advisory Action that "The GSB make use of the Reserve Fund for whatever purpose the Board may authorize".
- Broadly, this could include, whether planned or unplanned:
 - Operating Deficits of AAWS or Grapevine
 - Periodic expenditures such as an office renovation or major technical upgrade
 - Extraordinary expenses outside of "normal" operations

RESERVE FUND POLICY

- 1977 Advisory Action established the upper limit of the reserve fund as 12 months of operating expense of GSB, AAWS, and GV combined
- ❖ A 1981 Advisory Action specified that a lower limit not be provided. However, a 9 month lower limit appears in Conference Finance Committee reports throughout the history of the reserve.
- ❖ Policy adopted by GSB in 2022 includes:
 - ❖ a 9 to 12 month goal range
 - ❖ At least 50% of the portfolio available within one year
 - ❖GSB must authorize transfers into and withdrawals from the Reserve Fund
 - In the event of emergencies such as a bank failure or inability to meet payroll, Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee may authorize a withdrawal. If the Committee is unable to be gathered within the needed timeframe, two officers of the GSB may authorize.



LITERATURE PRICE INCREASE

- ❖Generally 20% on Books
- Generally 30% on Pamphlets
- Generally 20% on Miscellaneous Items
- Some items may have a different % increase due to rounding
- Some items not increased to maintain accessibility
- Applies only to English, French, and Spanish titles

THANK YOU

- ❖ Paul Konigstein, Chief Financial Officer
- Zenaida Medina, Controller
- Diana L, Conference Coordinator, for her patience
- *All of the employees of both A.A.W.S. and Grapevine
- Members of Trustees' Finance and Budgetary Committee, along with members of the Finance Committees of A.A.W.S. and Grapevine and the Conference Finance Committee
- Our Independent Auditors CBIZ Marks Paneth, LLP
- Our outsourced accounting support Your Part-time Controller

Any questions – Please feel free to contact me at – kevin@kevinjprior.com

Link to the Finance slides from our Class A Trustee & Treasurer

• English: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iKA7gQsYcsklcfvXSmY9K5U2FtnhHof0/view?usp=sharing

2023 SCAA CALENDAR

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teering Committee Meeting

Southern California Area Assembly | area05aa.org | updated 10/08/22



AREA 05 COMMITTEES

- Accessibilities
- Area Archives
- Audio Visual
- Cooperation with the Elderly Community (CEC)
- Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
- Cooperation With the Young Community
- Corrections
- Finance

- Grapevine/La Viña
- Guidelines and Policies
- Interpretation
- Literature
- Newsletter (SCAAN)
- Public Information (P.I.)
- Registration
- Translation
- Treatment Facilities
- Website/Tech (AREA05AA.ORG)

USEFUL WEBSITES

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

<u>area05aa.org</u> - Southern California Area Assembly (Area 05)

<u>aagrapevine.org</u> - A.A. Grapevine (A monthly journal of A.A. stories articles of interest.)

aalavina.org - A.A. La Vina (A.A.'s Spanish Language Magazine)

SCAAN



SCAAN Southern California Area Assembly Newsletter

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

DATE: SECOND Tuesday of EVERY MONTH - 2023

TIME: 7 PM

LOCATION: Zoom: 882 4199 7773 Password: area05

CONTACT: SCAAN@area05aa.org

Jo S. Area 05 - Panel 73, SCAAN Chair

213-766-8060

From the SCAAN Chair.....

Greetings!



It is an honor and a pleasure to publish the SCAAN Newsletter for SCAA Area 05, Panel 73. This SCAAN Committee consists of Mandy D., Shlomo A., and myself and we are here for you!

Please enjoy this issue filled with Area 05 Committee information using beautiful graphics and opportunities to be of service!

SCAAN is **YOUR** Newsletter! The content in this issue has been provided by our Area 05 Delegate, Officers, Committees, and other news to take to YOUR meetings to share.

A purpose of the SCAAN Newsletter is to promote **YOUR** Committee's platform or event to all of SCAA AA Area 05 members to inform and promote what **YOUR** committee is doing, meeting times, contact information, and upcoming events.

The SCAAN Committee's goal is to make available Area 05 Committee information to all of Area 05 members by each Committee submitting information to SCAAN for publication in the Summer/July SCAAN issue.

While sitting at the previous Area 05 Spring Assembly when committee reports were presented, comments heard from the in-person attendees (GSRs/AAs) were: "I didn't hear about that, why didn't anyone share anything about that in our meeting?...."

We are making an effort so all committees have the opportunity to publish and promote committee meetings, events, etc. in each issue of SCAAN using pics/graphics, etc.

All Area 05 Committee flyer submissions for the July/Summer Issue are due July 1, 2023.

Feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience if you have any questions or concerns.

SCAAN is **YOUR** Newsletter!

In Service & Gratitude,

Joesun SCAAN Chair Southern California Area 05, Panel 73 Email - SCAAN@area05aa.org

SCAAN

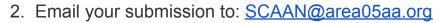
Summer|Verano 2023 Issue Theme



English| Español

Guidelines for SCAAN Submissions





3. Length: No more than 500 words

4. All submissions are accepted and will be considered for publication by the committee; however, it may not be printed if there is no space available.

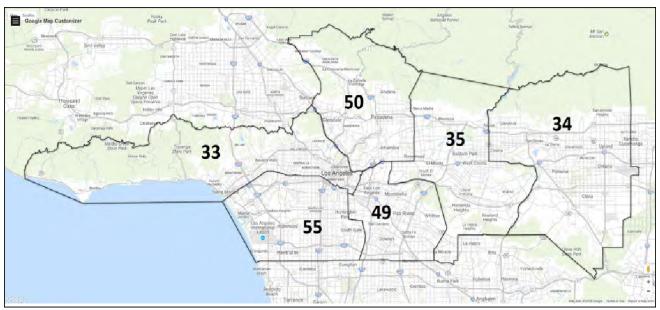




Area 05 Maps



AREA MAP (English-Speaking Districts)



AREA MAP (Spanish-Speaking Districts)



A.A. AREA 05 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA
Area Committee Meeting
Sunday – February 19, 2023
Elks Lodge
506 W. Whittier Blvd.
Montebello, CA 90640
Host: District 14

The Area Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM on Saturday, February 19, 2022, by Gola R. Area 5 Chairperson, with two minutes of silent meditation and the Serenity Prayer.

Welcome and Call-to-Order.

People with A.A. Birthdays (Anniversaries) from January 22 to February 19, 2023, were recognized and serenaded with the birthday song.

A.A.'s Declaration of Unity was read in Spanish & English.

Roll was performed by the Area 5 Registrar

Gola R. Area 5 Chairperson made a motion to amend the agenda. To include Final Approval of the Fourth Quarter 2022 Contribution Report and Fourth Quarter 2022 Financial Report in the Officer Reports. Motion was seconded. Motion was voted on and approved. Area Chair made a motion to approve the February 19, 2023, Area Committee Agenda as amended. Motion was seconded. Motion was voted on and approved.

Shawn A. Area 5 Secretary made a motion to approve the Minutes from the November 19, 2023, Area Committee Meeting. Motion was seconded. Request for discussion was made. No discussion was requested. Motion was voted on and approved.

Delegate Report

Doug S. Area 05 Panel 73 Delegate gave the following report:

News from G.S.O.'s January Board Meeting, Box 4.5.9., Grapevine & La Vina, SoCal H&I & BTGWW: **General Service Board**: The Chair of the GSB resigned at the end of January. A letter has been sent to A.A.

members from the General Service Board regarding the resignation of the Board's Chair. There is nothing more I can share other than that.

<u>Archives</u>: 2023 marks the 70th anniversary of the publication of the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve. Archives created an onsite exhibit on the history of the 12 & 12. On January 14th,

2023, the Archivist attended the opening of a new Heritage Center (Summa Health Akron Campus) in memory of Sister Ignatia and Dr. Bob, who worked with thousands of alcoholics at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron.

<u>Corrections</u>: The committee was asked to gather experience regarding virtual meetings in correctional facilities for addition to the Corrections Workbook. There were only 5 responses which means there's not enough shared experience to create a service piece for inclusion in the Workbook.

<u>Conference</u>: The schedule contains time for Conference members to review the completed drafts of the *Plain and Simple Language translations*. Conference members will have access to a reading room to review six completed chapters. No phones or cameras will be allowed in the reading room.

<u>Translation of Conference Background</u>: During the last General Service Conference, the conference desk was asked to provide translation in all three languages (English, French, Spanish) at the same time when distributing the conference background this year. Mission accomplished!

<u>Contributions Address</u>: A.A.'s CONTRIBUTIONS ADDRESS HAS CHANGED. GSO now has a separate post office box that was established for Seventh Tradition contributions only. This dedicated PO box enables us to process contributions much more efficiently and at a significant savings to the Fellowship. You can make contributions online at www.contribution.aa.org using a major credit card or PayPal, which costs the Fellowship less than physical contributions.

Please send contribution checks payable to "General Service Board" to:

Post Office Box 2407 James A Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407

For more information or assistance, contact our Member Services team at memberservices@aa.org or 212-870-3023.

<u>Cooperation with Professional Community</u>: The working group developing a pamphlet for Mental Health Professionals provided a verbal report on the methodology and status of five professional interviews that has been completed and forwarded to transcribe.

<u>Finance</u>: The annual audit began February 8th. It's a multi-week process.

GSO financial results (unaudited): Gross *literature sales* year for 2022 are \$11,999,441. This exceeds the 2022 budget of \$11,000,000 by nearly \$1,000,000 (8%) and is \$287,249 (2.5%) more than last year. This is the highest annual gross literature sales since 2019. December 2022 gross sales did not have the usual holiday spike. December gross sales were \$732,189 compared to \$1,223,830 in December 2021.

Contributions for 2022 are \$10,557,295. This is 96% of the 2022 budget of \$11,000,000 and is \$218,576 (2%) less than last year. 2022 is the first year since 2018 that contributions did not exceed the previous year. Over the last ten years, contributions have increased in seven of those ten years. 23% of 2022 contributions were received online, which is the same percentage as in 2021.

GSO Quarterly Contribution Report: I emailed the report to our Accounts, Contributions Officers, & Finance Chair for review. There's a contribution breakdown by District. I can share upon request.

<u>Grapevine financial results</u>: Unaudited year end results for the period ending December 31, 2022 - total circulation of the Grapevine magazine was 58,813. This compared with a budget of 60,017 and 2021 actual of 65,053.

Total income for the year was \$1,463,761 which is \$38,538 less than the \$1,502,300 achieved in 2021. Total costs and expenses of the magazine for the year were \$1,882,701, which were \$73,773 more than in 2021. After adding interest earned, there was a deficit for the period ending December 31, 2022, of \$404,940.

<u>Grapevine & La Vina</u>: I emailed newsletters this past week. If you did not get them, contact me & I'll send to you directly. Hired a new staff member for La Viña. There's a vacancy for a Non-Trustee Director and they have received over 20 resumes to date. News appearing monthly on the Meeting Guide App.

<u>Grapevine Podcast</u>: Have any of you listened to the GV podcast? Have any of you listened to this week's episode (#7) titled, "Showing Up"? If so, did you recognize anyone from Area 5 on the episode? Well, I listened the other day & learned our very own Past Delegate, Lauren A., was a guest on that episode! Check it out! <u>Instagram</u>: GV has 8,650 followers, LV 1,064; We need your pictures! Send us your most striking photographs that reflect the joy of living, serenity, and other sobriety themes.

GV/LV Apps: Work has started on Grapevine and La Viña apps.

Update: Hired Spider Insights to assist with market research for the apps; sent RFP to five app development companies. They've selected a vendor to develop the app. We plan to move forward with development following the January Board meeting.

The apps will include all things Grapevine and all things La Viña, including the current magazine, all archived stories, access to the podcast, daily quote, sobriety calculator, meeting guide, and store. Subscribers will be able to personalize the app so it provides a daily sobriety checklist, and a morning pop-up that tells the user their daily count and their favorite meeting of the day. The one-year anniversary of the podcast was in October and downloads has reached 290,000!

Cost Increases: Grapevine has added a \$2.49 increase to all books. The top 10 selling books' prices increased on January 1, 2023, and other books' prices will increase as they go to reprint. Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues (GV/LV):

- 1. (GV) Young & Sober (ICYPAA Celebrates 65 Years!) Did you come into AA at an early age? What was that like? What were the challenges? Do you go to Young People's AA (YPAA) meetings, dances, and Conferences? How did that help you? Share! (Stories due March 15)
- 2. (GV) Mid-Sobriety Challenges Share about some challenges you've had after 8, 10, 20 years sober. Have you ever nearly relapsed? Did you ever stop going to meetings or disconnect from AA? Have you ever been a dry drunk? How did you get back on track? What helped you may help someone else. (stories due April 15, 2023)
- 3. (LV) Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues: May/June: Relapse; We are always looking for stories on individual steps and traditions!

<u>La Viña Workshop:</u> There's a weekly LV informational workshop. They review products, books, suggestions for ongoing presentations, GSO/GVLV updates. New meeting ID: 815 9593 1777

<u>Literature</u>: The literature desk continues work on the draft fifth edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, draft fourth edition of the book Alcoholicos Anónimos, and updates for the pamphlets A.A. for the Black and African American Alcoholic, A.A. for the Native North American and Do You Think You're Different?".

Spanish: Goal is to have the 4th Edition of the Spanish by the 2025 IC (Vancouver, BC)!

 $\underline{\mathbf{5}^{\text{th}}}$ Edition: Over 2600 stories submitted. The committee is reviewing the stories & they need to decide which stories in the 4th Edition will make it to the 5th. Going to be interesting! Everyone has their favorite story. Spanish Big Book is approximately one year ahead of the English 5th Edition.

<u>Price Increases</u>: GSO announced price increases effective April 3, 2023: 20% for books & 30% for pamphlets. Cost of goods has increased which affects our margins (or profit). There's a new price list available - link from the letter I forwarded on Friday (2/17/23). There was a negative impact over \$1.2M the past two years.

Big Book units sold: B1 Jacketed: January 2022 = 25,383 -vs- B1 January 2023 = 34,508. B1A Jacketless 2023 = 7,806

<u>Operations</u>: From November 26, 2022, through January 13, 2023, the Member Services team received and responded to approximately 4,286 email inquiries. A total of 1,049 phone calls were also received; 633 were routed from the Front Desk and 416 were direct calls to the Member Services line. In calendar year 2022, Member Services received and responded to 29,114 unique email inquiries. A total of 8,686 phone calls were received; 4,395 were routed from the Front Desk and 4,291 were direct calls to Member Services. The Receptionist received and routed 14,339 phone calls in 2022. The Member Services team executed 7,025 District/Area/Group updates in NetSuite. During this same time, Area Registrars performed 8,819 District/Area/Group updates via Fellowship Connection. 44% of the updates were therefore managed by our Member Services team. The team reviewed and processed 30,320 literature orders in 2022.

The mailroom team of two people processed approximately 4,985 pieces of incoming mail and 1,110 pieces of outgoing mail from November 27, 2022, through January 13, 2023. In 2022, the team processed a total of 40,708 pieces of incoming mail and 17,284 pieces of outgoing mail.

<u>Public Information</u>: Data collection for the 2022 AA Membership Survey has been completed. PI Service Cards update: they now have a workable digital template that will allow for local committees to input their own contact information and a QR code, if desired. Final review of the PI Service Cards is being performed by the Language Services department to ensure the translations into FR and SP are accurate prior to these being sent to Publishing for production and development into purchasable materials.

<u>Technology/Communication/Services committee</u>: The 2022 fourth quarter reports on Website, Meeting Guide App, YouTube, Google Ads, Online Business Listings and Podcast be forwarded by A.A.W.S. to the trustees' Committee on Public Information.

<u>Treatment & Accessibilities</u>: (My Committee)

Treatment: Review progress report on the pamphlet "For Professionals: Bridging the Gap to Help Alcoholics": a historical recap highlighted the fact that there had been a change in the development of the pamphlet to change the direction from an inner facing pamphlet to an outward facing one. They're looking for guidance from the committee & Fellowship on the target audience.

Accessibilities:

- A) Working Group on the A.A. for the Older Alcoholic pamphlet. There was a discussion of the content of the draft pamphlet and the working group shared their process for evaluating and selecting stories.
- B) There was discussion focused on the need to develop a distribution plan for how the military audio recordings will be used to reach alcoholics effectively.

<u>Participation of Online Groups (aka POG) ad-hoc Committee</u>: The sudden onset of the pandemic in 2020, as we all well know, created a brand new (for most) environment for Alcoholics Anonymous groups around the world – the virtual one. Suddenly unable to meet in a face-to-face setting, the quick pivot to available, inexpensive meeting platforms using internet technology by many groups has led to interesting new challenges and has pointed up the need for new ways of thinking regarding the incorporation of this new platform into A.A. life in a manner that respects our Steps, Traditions and Concepts.

Participation in A.A. life up to 2020 had logically relied on geographic structural organization, particularly for general service work. What new opportunities have arisen? What are we missing? What are the challenges? Virtual reality will be with us long past the pandemic, and we need to be looking to the future.

Two advisory actions were passed directly pertaining to the topic:

- I) The U.S./Canada General Service Structure recognize online groups and encourage their participation, listing those groups who ask to be listed within the group's preferred district and area, with the default option being the location of the group's primary contact. This supersedes the 1997 Advisory Action that designated online groups as "International Correspondence Meetings."
- II) The General Service Board form a committee to explore future possibilities for the participation of online groups in the U.S./Canada General Service structure.

Online groups listed with GSO often have other questions. Common questions heard are: "How do we choose what district to join if we are not tied to a specific geography?" "What do we do if our district or area is unable to accommodate our need to participate online?" "What kind of permission would we need to join a district in another area?" "Are virtual districts accepting groups from outside of their area?" "What if our members are from other countries?" While there are rarely simple answers to these questions a good beginning is to find out what other groups have done.

Centennial Commemoration ad hoc Committee:

- 1. The Centennial Commemoration Ad Hoc Committee will, in anticipation of worldwide acknowledgement of A.A.'s 100th Anniversary, consider the unique opportunities to cooperate with the professional community, public relations, and to be "friendly with our friends" in commemoration of A.A.'s centennial anniversary in 2035.
- 2. Define and explore strategies and recommendations to capture possible international, national and local public relations and media opportunities arising from the Centennial Anniversary.
- 3. Consider ways to seek input and participation from international AA service structures. One objective is to mark AA's centennial anniversary by charting the trajectory of our story with a global focus. **Southern California Hospitals & Institutions:** Their annual Conference will be held May 5-7, 2023, at the

Holiday Inn in La Mirada. See their website: https://www.socalhandi.org/

Bridging The Gap Workshop Weekend (BTGWW): Bridging the Gap is a program through Alcoholics Anonymous to help people leaving a correctional or treatment facility become acquainted with A.A. and attend A.A. meetings in their hometown, after they are released. The BTGWW is a full weekend focused on sharing experiences and developing new ideas. This year's BTGWW will be held in Houston, TX. Area 67 Southeast Texas - September 8-10, 2023.

2025 AA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION: Taking place once every five years, the A.A. International Convention marks the anniversary of Bill W.'s first meeting with Dr. Bob and the birth of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935. A.A. members and their families and friends from around the globe attend the event. At the International Convention people attend meetings, workshops, dances, and events. A highlight is the traditional flag ceremony to celebrate sobriety worldwide. Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around the world for the 2025 International Convention. This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding. The International Convention will take place from July 3 - 6, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place Stadium.

Please check the convention webpage at www.aa.org/international-convention for more information, the latest news, and FAQs. As the Convention approaches, the page will be updated with registration information. Trends in the first quarter 2023 reflect that business travel is continuing to see an uptick with event registrations rising as well.

Virtual Component of the 2025 International Convention: Talley management advised the committee that within the event industry, hybrid events are losing favor due to cost and planning considerations; events with virtual or live streaming options vary by sector.

2035 AA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION: The committee narrowed the host cities to: New Orleans, Toronto, Phoenix & Indianapolis.

That's it for me! Thanks for letting me be of service.

DCMC/DCM Reports:

DCMC Combined Hispanic Districts: **Juan M.** The CIH began the service in panel 73 in action and unity with the Hispanic districts and area 5. We were working at the beginning collecting and updating the information of the new Alternate DCM's with the help and support of the registration committee area 5. Last Sunday, January 29, 2023, we had our first general assembly at the CIH which is formed by the service committees of the CIH and the 6 Hispanic districts that make up 112 Hispanic groups in area 5. In the CIH there are 14 committees, several of them are already working for the moment public information, internet, historical archives, La Vina, 44th Hispanic Forum, Committee for the Third Age and Translation. The event of the 4 committees by agreement of the conscience of the CIH will not be held in this year 2023. We also have the information through the service of links of the State Convention and National Convention to the CIH. In the unit, it is visiting Hispanic districts and inviting a compartment meeting at the CIH once a month. Communication and information are vital and we are managing to motivate the different events of our area 5 and in the same way motivate the support unit in the service

<u>DCMC Combined Hollywood Districts:</u> **Monk H.** We had six new G.S.R.'s register yesterday. We continue to do outreach with our groups. We are going back to in person monthly district meetings.

<u>DCMC Westside Combined Districts:</u> Joe C. We have a full panel of officers for Panel 73. All our district committees are very active. We will be hosting the Spring Area Assembly May 21st. And the Summer Assembly July 22nd.

<u>District 2:</u> Peter C. Alternate DCM gave the report. We have low G.S.R. participation currently. Also, we are not receiving many group contributions. We will be working on both items. We finished the first revision of our district bylaws. This has been a three-year process so far.

<u>District 3:</u> Aidan S. We are doing well. Our participation increased compared to other transitional times. We still have an imbalance of participation. We have more participation from on-line meetings compared to in person meetings. We have approved funding for G.S.R.'s to PRAASA. We approved Grapevine subscriptions

to G.S.R.'s for their groups. We are thinking of giving scholarships to Camp Spiritfire as we have a surplus of contributions.

<u>District 4:</u> **JoyAnna H.** We currently meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month via Zoom. Our participation is low and varies from week to week. We have recently registered five new G.S.R.'s. We currently have no District 4 Secretary. I am encouraging the District 4 G.S.R.'s along with myself to visit other meetings to try and increase participation in General Service.

<u>District 5:</u> Joe F. We welcomed a new G.S.R. at the last meeting of the Westside Combined Districts. The main topic of discussion was gearing up for PRAASA. I wanted to make sure all our general service reps were registered and had commitments. All of them had registered, and all of them had registered for commitments as well.

<u>District 7:</u> Joe T. We average about 6 G.S.R.'s at our District Meeting. We've been meeting on Zoom the last two years. When Panel 72 ended in December, no one wanted to participate in the District Officer elections. So, I am only filling in, hoping that someone will step up.

<u>District 8:</u> Terry A. Our District encompasses Beverly Hills and Century City. I'm looking forward to receiving the DCM Service Packet to help me with this new commitment. Century City is mostly small Zoom meetings. Beverly Hills has larger in person meetings. I'm still investigating the meetings there, and I'm using the Fellowship Connection to reach out to the group contacts so that I can pass on information and get more general service information over to them. We have three G.S.R.'s that attend the monthly Westside Combined District Meeting.

<u>District 10:</u> **Mike R.** District is experiencing low General Service participation. We had eight or nine new G.S.R.'s at our last monthly district meeting.

<u>District 14:</u> Stacy J. We had a huge winter event for our district. We are the Host District for today's Area Committee Meeting. We are getting ready for PRAASA. We have five meetings in our district that are sponsoring their G.S.R.'s to PRAASA. We will be doing outreach for more General Service Representatives.

<u>District 15:</u> Lester J. We are doing outreach for more General Service Representatives.

<u>District 17:</u> Our district meets in La Habra the first Thursday of every month. We meet in person and via zoom. Our website address is aadistrict18.com. We have several events we are planning, a dance, a picnic, a summer beach extravaganza and our famous pancake breakfast.

<u>District 30:</u> Ron H. We had a smooth district officer transition from Panel 71 to Panel 73. We are currently looking for a district treasurer. We have a dozen groups that are very active in our district. We had a Holiday Event that was attended by about 50 people. Our district hosts a quarterly fourth step workshop. Our district will be hosting the next ACM in June

<u>District 35:</u> Felipe B.Our district elected new officers for panel 73. We have 18 groups, 15 G.S.R.'s and 3 alternate G.S.R.'s.

<u>District 45:</u> Report was given by **Mark M.** Panel 71 District 45 DCM. We have six to ten G.S.R.'s that attend the Westside Combined District meeting. We are working on outreach to attract more G.S.R.'s. The audio for the following Districts was incomprehensible. 33, 34, 49 & 55.

Officer Reports

Alternate Delegate: Nikki U. Since the Winter Area Assembly I have attended the L.A. Central Office Meeting; H & I Conference planning committee and the SoCal H&I Meeting. I will be attending the SoCal Convention planning meetings as liaison for Area 05. I attend the National Alternate Delegates Meeting which is held monthly. I have been working on the Area 05 Pre-Conference Workshop.

<u>Secretary:</u> Shawn A. My responsibilities include taking notes for the Area Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings. Getting those notes translated with the help of the Translation Committee and getting them put in the SCAAN. It is recommended that if you give a report or presentation, please provide a copy to the secretary. This is helpful in case the audio file is incomprehensible.

<u>Accounts Treasurer:</u> Amy O. My responsibilities include creating monthly, quarterly and yearly financial reports for Area 05. Accounts Treasure made a motion to accept the 4th Quarter 2022 Financial Report. There was a second from the Finance Committee. The Area Chairperson asked for Questions or Comments. There were none. Moved to vote. Approved unanimously.

<u>Contributions Treasurer:</u> Brian P. I create the Contributions Report that details all the incoming contributions, both physical and online. Contributions Treasurer made a motion to accept the 4th Quarter 2022 Contributions Report. There was a second from the Finance Committee. The Area Chairperson asked for questions or comments. There were none. Moved to vote. Approved unanimously.

Registrar: Jen C. At the Area 05 Winter Assembly there 130 participants, both in person and on zoom. I have received several new G.S.R. forms. As a reminder, I need the actual form. I can not do anything with just a text or email. So, please complete the new G.S.R. forma and send it to me. I participate in the Monthly Registrar Meeting, which includes all Registrars in North America.

<u>Chairperson:</u> Gola R. The upcoming Pre-Conference Workshop will be held in Rosemead. The first day will be hosted by District 33 and the second day will be hosted by District 35. The Area 05 Spring Assembly will be Hosted by the Westside Combined Districts. The Area 05 Spring Area Committee Meeting will be hosted by District 30. The Area 05 Summer Assembly will be hosted by the Westside Combined District. We still need hosts for the remaining meetings this year. The Summer ACM August 20th, Fall Assembly October 15th and the Fall ACM on November 18th. I have been speaking with the Area 09 Alternate Delegate concerning our DCM contributions to the Four Area DCM Sharing Session. It will be the DCMC of the Combined Hispanic Districts and the DCMC of the Westside Combined Districts.

PRAASA Chair Presentation: Thomas B. Area 05 is hosting PRAASA because we swapped with Area 02 Alaska. They were scheduled to host but the Iditarod Race happens the same weekend so there would not be enough hotel space for people attending PRAASA. I would like to encourage all of you to attend PRAASA. **Presentation on accessing General Service Conference Materials: Nikki U.** Alternate Delegate gave a presentation on how to access the General Service Conference Background Materials and Agenda Item Survey on the Area 05 Website.

<u>DCM Roundtables:</u> Topic discussed was "How to best prepare your GSR's for the Pre-Conference Workshop."

Unfinished Business: There was none.

New Business: There was none.

There were Good & Welfare announcements. The meeting was closed with the reading of the Responsibility Statement in Spanish and English. The next meeting is the Area05 Spring Assembly May 21st.

Published as Submitted



OPPORTUNITIES FOR 12 STEP SERVICE AWAIT MEMBERS OF AA!

PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL AA GROUP MEMBERS

OUR GENERAL SERVICE AREA 05-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA ASSEMBLY HAS A SERVICE COMMITTEE CALLED "CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE"

OUR MISSION: TO ENCOURAGE AND GUIDE ALL AA MEMBERS IN OUR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA TO BE OF SERVICE TO THE INCARCERATED STILL-SUFFERING ALCOHOLICS IN ONE OR MORE CAPACITIES:

- 1) H&I JAIL PANEL LEADERS: PLEASE BRING ENOUGH "CONTACT UPON RELEASE FORMS" FOR THE INCARCERATED TO COMPLETE AND THEN BRING BACK TO OUR TABLE AT THE NEXT HnI MONTHLY MEETING OR EMAIL PHOTOS TO areao5corrections@gmail.com or text 619-946-8622
- 2) ANY AA MEMBER WITHOUT JAIL CLEARANCE: ALL ARE INVITED TO WRITE LETTERS TO INCARCERATED MEN AND WOMEN TO ARRANGE TAKING THEM TO THEIR FIRST AA MEETING "UPON RELEASE." WE HAVE A F TO COLLECT YOUR INFORMATION, HAVE LETTER TEMPLATES, AND OTHER RESOURCES TO ASSIST YOU. email: areao5corrections@gmail.com or text 619-946-8622

REMEMBER: MEN CONTACT MEN AND WOMEN CONTACT WOMEN!

- **3)** ANY AA MEMBER: OUR GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE (GSO) IN NEW YORK HAS A SERVICE DESK CALLED "CORRECTIONS CORRESPONDENCE." ANY AA MEMBER MAY SIGN UP HERE AT **aa.org** AND WRITE INCARCERATED
- 4) ANY AA MEMBER CAN JOIN AND SERVE ON OUR AREA of CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE. WE MEET 8AM, THE LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH ON Meeting ID: 820 9490 1678 Passcode: areao5.
- 5) PLEASE COMPLETE OUR <u>COMMITTEE SURVEY</u> TO GET STARTED.<u>areao5corrections@gmail.com</u> or text 619-946-8622

When sharing about corrections service, refer to an excerpt from a letter that our co-founder Bill W. wrote to a prison group in 1949: Every A.A. has been, in a sense, a prisoner. Each of us has walled himself out of society; each has known social stigma. The lot of you folks has been even more difficult: In your case, society has also built a wall around you. But there isn't any real essential difference, a fact that practically all A.A.s now know. Therefore, when you members come into the world of A.A. on the outside, you can be sure that no one will care a fig that you have done time. What you are trying to be—not what you were—is all that counts with us

IN SERVICE, AREA 05 PANEL 73, PAUL D. (CHAIR) AND SAGE G. (ALT. CHAIR)



SOBRIETY THROUGH SERVICE

To reach the still-suffering,

AA Needs You!



Presentors

Sobriety Through Service: The Primary Purpose. -Paul C., Past Class B Trustee

PI & CPC: The Primary Purpose -Tim C., PI & CPC Working Group

Healthcare: Helping Those on the Front Line -Dr. Chris B.

June 28, 2023 - 1.5 hours

with Spanish Interpretation

The primary objective of our public outreach committees is to help the public and professionals better understand alcoholism and AA. Our friends must know who we are to recommend us. These grassroots efforts need AA members and homegroup support to help the still-suffering.



Courts & Parole -Nancy McCarthy, Past Class A Trustee

AA & Al-Anon: Working Together to Reach Those Who Need Help -Larcine G. Al-Anon

Two presentations times to accommodate everyone



7:00 pm Eastern 6:00 pm Central 4:00 pm Pacific 10:00 pm Eastern 9:00 pm Central 7:00 pm Pacific



Digital Outreach: AA and the Internet -Kerri K., Area 46 Alt. Delegate & Past Technology Chair

With Al-Anon Participation: All AA and Al-Anon members welcome

Hosted by:

The PI & CPC Working Group and East Bay Intergroup, San Francisco East Bay, CA

Zoom Link

ID: 861 7898 9075 Passcode: 411



PI & CPC WORKING GROUP WORKSHOP

SOBRIETY THROUGH SERVICE

To reach the still-suffering, AA Needs You!

June 28, 2023 -1.5 hours

with Spanish Interpretation

The primary objective of our public outreach committees is to help the public and professionals better understand alcoholism and AA. Our friends must know who we are to recommend us. These grassroots efforts need AA members and homegroup support to help the still-suffering.

Two presentations times to accommodate everyone

7:00 pm Eastern

10:00 pm Eastern

*

6:00 pm Central

9:00 pm Central

*

4:00 pm Pacific

7:00 pm Pacific

Presenters

Sobriety Through Service: The Primary Purpose.- Paul C., Past Class B Trustee

PI & CPC: The Primary Purpose- Tim C., PI & CPC Working Group

Healthcare: Helping Those on the Front Line- Dr. Chris B. Courts & Parole - Nancy McCarthy, Past Class A Trustee

AA & Al-Anon: Working Together to Reach Those Who Need Help - Larcine G, Al-Anon

Digital Outreach: AA and the Internet- Kerri K., Area 46 Alt. Delegate & Past Technology Chair

With Al-Anon Participation:

All AA and Al-Anon members welcome

Hosted by:

The PI & CPC Working Group and East Bay Intergroup, San Francisco East Bay, CA

Zoom Link

ID: 861 7898 9075 Passcode: 411



Area 05

Public Information Committee

Date: LAST Saturday of EVERY month

Time: 11 AM - 12 PM

Zoom: 489 496 9408

No Password

All Are Welcome!



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AREA 05 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (ACM) AGENDA SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH, 2023

First Presbyterian Church 869 N Euclid Ave - Upland, CA 91786

ZOOM ID: 891 0086 2280 PASSWORD: area05

8:00	Registration / Fellowship (In-Person & Online)
9:00	Welcome & Call to Order
	- 2 Minute Silent Meditation, Serenity Prayer
	- AA Birthdays (February 19th - June 24th)
	- Declaration of Unity (Spanish & English)
	- Roll Call (Jennifer C., Registrar)
	- Approval of June 24th, 2023 ACM Agenda (Gola R., Chairperson)
	- Approval of February 19th, 2023 ACM Minutes (Shawn A., Secretary)
9:30	Delegate's Report (Doug S., Delegate)
10:15	DCM & DCMC Reports (2 - 3 Minutes)
10:45	Officer Reports
	- Alternate Delegate (Nikki U.)
	- Secretary (Shawn A.)
	- Accounts Treasurer (Amy O.)
	- Contributions Treasurer (Brian P.)
	- Registrar (<i>Jennifer C.</i>)
	- Chairperson (Gola R.)
11:15	Roundtable Discussion (Committee & District Statuses / Needs)
12:00	Roundtable Report Backs
12:30	Unfinished Business
12:35	New Business
12:40	Good & Welfare Announcements
12:45	Closing: Moment of Silence & Responsibility Statement (Spanish & English)