

SCAAN

SCAAN Winter Issue - January 20, 2024



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.

Welcome to the first Area Assembly of 2024, the second year of Panel 73. Last year was a very active and productive year for our committees and districts. I'm proud of the work you're doing to help "*Carry the Message*" of hope and recovery to still suffering alcoholics and their families. Continue to use the resources provided us by the General Service Office (GSO) to further your projects and bolster your activities.

In just a few short months I will attend the 74th General Service Conference (GSC) April 14-20. It's time to begin our preparation. Members of your group may ask, "*Why do we need a Conference?*" The following paragraphs help answer that question, and taken from the A.A. Service Manual, Page 40, Chapter 6:

Why Do We Need a Conference?

The late Bernard B. Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairperson of the board of trustees, and one of the architects of the Conference structure, answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting: "We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life.

"We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing over integration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services.

"We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is."

The General Service Board (GSB) will meet later this month to finalize the agenda items that will be discussed at the Conference. You should have received the preliminary list of agenda items that I sent via email January 3rd. Please review the list to get an idea of what's coming. The final list of agenda items should be available early February. We will forward those to you as soon as we get notice they're posted to the Conference dashboard.

<u>PRAASA:</u> I hope many of you are planning to attend the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA) in San Francisco, CA, March 1-3, 2024. Registration is open, so please register, sign up for the various banquet options,

reserve your hotel rooms at <u>https://praasa.org/</u> and plan your travel. Whether carpooling with friends or making other travel arrangements, be prepared for an exciting service filled PRAASA weekend!

The PRAASA Program Chair needs participants from our Area to be Panel Presenters, Moderators, Timers, and Round Table Moderators. I will provide a list of people for them to choose. Keep in mind you must have registered for PRAASA by the time they make their selection. I hope many of you volunteer to participate. If chosen by the committee, they will contact you directly.

Your Alternate Delegate, Nikki U., and I are finalizing plans for this year's Pre-Conference Workshop. The Pre-Conference Workshop is a two-day assembly held in the Spring before the Conference. This year's dates will be March 23rd & 24^{th.} The Pre-Conference is designed by the Alternate Delegate, with consultation of the Delegate, to address topics from the 74th General Service Conference. The event will assist our Delegate (that's me!) in making informed decisions at the Conference. We're doing our utmost to ensure each District is well prepared to engage GSRs, groups and members in the Conference process. Online surveys will continue to be an integral part of the process and we need every one of you to participate, whether online or in-person.

For the second year, we will receive agenda background materials in all three languages of our U.S. and Canada Conference (English, French and Spanish) at the same time. This affects "*when*" we receive the materials. We expect to receive background material from the GSO around February 16-20. The materials will be posted to the Area 5 website soon afterward on a password protected page. We need to hear from your group what <u>THEY</u> think about the business items that affect Alcoholics Anonymous!

I want to personally thank our Committee Chairs for their active service helping carry the message in their respective committee, the DCMs/DCMCs for your leadership role in your respective districts, our Officers for their behind-the-scenes work enabling Area 5 to function, and our CFO & Audit Subcommittee for watching over our finances.

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 being with you at our Winter Assembly on Saturday, January 20th.

I am honored to represent Area 5 and all of you!

Respectfully,

Doug S.

Delegate, Southern California Area 05, Panel 73



IN THIS ISSUE							
PAG	E <u>TITLE</u>						
2	Delegate's Report						
3							
4	Area 05 Committees						
4	A.A. Websites						
5	2024 Area 05 Calendar						
6	3rd Step Autumn Drive						
7	CPC Committee Flyer						
8	Area 05 Roster						
10	Area 05 Maps						
11	Area 05 Fall 2023 ACM Minutes						
18	Corrections Committee Flyer						
19	SCAAN Committee Flyer						
20	How I Got Into AA						
21	Treatments Committee Flyer						
22	Area 05 Fall 2023 Assembly Minutes						
32	Russian Roulette						
33	Grapevine Committee Flyer						
34	ACYPAA Letter of Support						
35	Area 05 Winter 2024 Assembly Agenda						

AREA 05 COMMITTEES

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- 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)

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

aagrapevine.org - 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)

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					Southern California Area Assembly area05aa.org updated 10/15/23

2024 SCAA CALENDAR APPROVED



3rd Step Autumn Drive (a Big Book recollection)

One fall day many years ago in Ohio, I went on a drive that I will never forget! At the time, my first sponsee and I were working on Step 3. I did not feel confident with my 3rd step skills to go at it alone with my sponsee, so I asked for help from some trudging buddies. We got some coffees to go, packed in one of their cars

and took a drive along the Valley Parkway that follows the Rocky River. A sober buddy drove, I rode shotgun and my sponsee sat in the hot seat in the back, sandwiched between two fellow AA members.

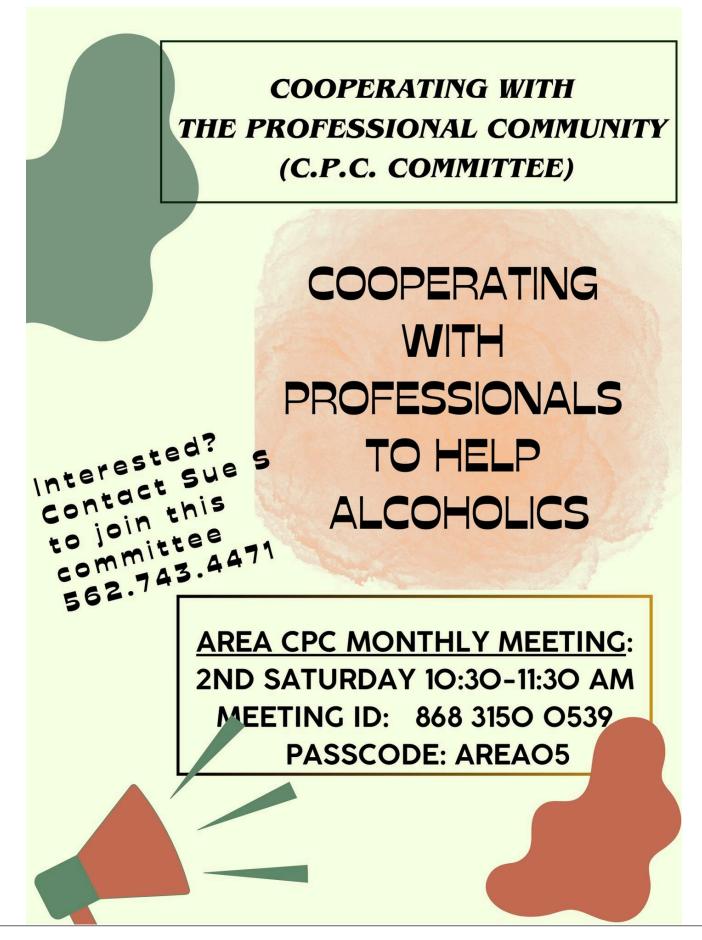
We drove for miles sharing our 3rd step experiences with my sponsee, listening and laughing while enjoying the autumn leaves on the trees and drinking our coffees. Eventually, we got through our shares and answered my sponsee's questions. At that point, I thought it would be a good idea to do the 3rd step prayer, just like I did with my sponsor. Unfortunately, I had not memorized the prayer and did not have my Big Book. I asked the guys if anybody knew the 3rd step prayer or had a Big Book. My buddy that was driving thought he might have a Big Book in the trunk.

We drove the car over to one of the picnic areas to check the trunk and pulled into a parking spot. As we were pulling in, I saw a book lying in the mud and jokingly said, "Hey guys, a Big Book!" We got out of the car and saw that it was indeed a 3rd edition Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous with a torn cover, waterlogged, and a bit worse for wear. I looked at the guys flabbergasted. They were speechless. My sponsee's eyes were wide open and his jaw dropped to the floor. I felt an energy of comfort that I cannot explain to this day.

The next moment, we fumbled through the pages of the Big Book and finally found the 3rd step prayer on page 63. We all got on our knees, held hands, and read aloud the 3rd step prayer together, next to the car in the mud.

This was an experience that I will never forget! Not only did my sponsee work on his 3rd step, everybody in the car did! And we were all able to stay sober together one more day.

-Mike D. Glendale, CA



AREA 05 CONTACTS

JAN 2024

	OFFICE	RS	
Delegate	delegate@a	rea05aa.org	Doug S
Alternate Delegate		Parea05aa.org	Nikki U
Area Chair	chairperson(@area05aa.org	Gola R
Secretary	secretary@a	rea05aa.org	Shawn A
Accounts Treasurer	acctstreasur	er@area05aa.org	Amy O
Contributions Treasurer	conttreasure	er@area05aa.org	Brian P
Registrar	registrar@ar	rea05aa.org	Jen C
	PAST DELE	CATES	
To email all past delegates, use: pastdelegates@area05a		GATES	
*Panel 49	panel49@ar	ea05aa.org	Marita H
Panel 51	panel51@ar	ea05aa.org	Mary T
Panel 53	panel53@ar	ea05aa.org	Jim I
Panel 55	panel55@ar	ea05aa.org	Jim W
*Panel 57	panel57@ar	ea05aa.org	Gustavo T
Panel 59	panel59@ar	ea05aa.org	Mike P
Panel 61	panel61@ar	•	Marcus F
Panel 63	panel63@ar	ea05aa.org	Juan M
Panel 65	panel65@ar	•	Scott M
Panel 67	panel67@ar		Thomas B
Panel 69	panel69@ar	-	Thomas S
Panel 71	panel71@ar	ea05aa.org	Lauren A
* If delegates live elsewhere and participate in another area, the			
	COMMIT	TEES	
Archives	Chair	archives@area05aa.org	Mary T
	Alt Chair	altarchives@area05aa.org	Open
Audio Visual (AV)	Chair	av@area05aa.org	Victor M
	Alt Chair	altav@area05aa.org	Tate D
Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC)	Chair	cec@area05aa.org	Antonio A
	Alt Chair	altcec@area05aa.org	Open
Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	Chair	cpc@area05aa.org	Sue S
	Alt Chair	altcpc@area05aa.org	Lisa K
Corrections	Chair	corrections@area05aa.org	Paul D
	Alt Chair	altcorrections@area05aa.org	Sage G
Finance	Chair	finance@area05aa.org	Arnulfo G
	Alt Chair	altfinance@area05aa.org	Sandra C
Grapevine & La Viña	Chair	gvlv@area05aa.org	Andrea D
	Alt Chair	altgvlv@area05aa.org	Open
Guidelines & Policies	Chair	gap@area05aa.org	Jim A
	Alt Chair	altgap@area05aa.org	Patrick C
Literature	Chair	literature@area05aa.org	Alex H
	Alt Chair	altliterature@area05aa.org	Open
Public Information (PI)	Chair	pi@area05aa.org	Jenny P
	Alt Chair	altpi@area05aa.org	Open
Registration	Chair	registration@area05aa.org	Kristy L
	Alt Chair	altregistration@area05aa.org	Miguel M
SCAAN	Chair	scaan@area05aa.org	Jo S
	Alt Chair	altscaan@area05aa.org	Mandy D
Translation	Chair	translation@area05aa.org	Jacobo M
	Alt Chair	alttranslation@area05aa.org	Open
Treatment Facilities	Chair	tfc@area05aa.org	Mark S
	Alt Chair	alttrf@area05aa.org	Nikki P
Website	Chair	webchair@area05aa.org	Claude D
	Alt Chair	altwebchair@area05aa.org	Open
Accessibilities/Interpretation (Ad-hoc)	Chair	accessibilities@area05aa.org	Zoraida R
	Alt Chair	altaccessibilities@area05aa.org	Marilyn C
Cooperation wih the Young Community (Ad-hoc)	Chair	cyc@area05aa.org	Kiko P
	Alt Chair	altcyc@area05aa.org	K'imani D

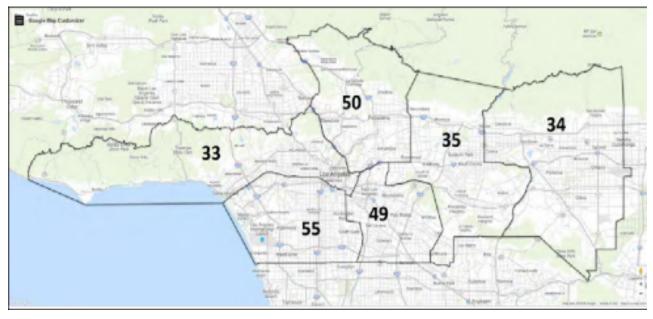
DISTRICT CONTACTS JAN 2024

COMBINED DISTRICTS (DCMC = District Committee Member Chair)			
Comite Interdistrital Hispanos	DCMC	cih@area05aa.org	Juan Antonio M
(Districts 33, 34, 35, 49, 50, 55)	Alt DCMC	altcih@area05aa.org	Julio B
Hollywood-Wilshire-Downtown Combined Districts (Districts 9, 10, 26, 56, 58)	DCMC Alt DCMC	chd@area05aa.org altchd@area05aa.org	Monk H Peyton V
Westside Combined Districts	DCMC	wcd@area05aa.org	Joe C
(Districts 5, 6, 8, 15, 19, 25, 36, 37/38, 39/40, 41, 43, 45, 46)	Alt DCMC	altwcd@area05aa.org	Sean C
DISTRICTS (DCM = District Committee Member)			
District 2: La Cañada, La Crescenta, Montrose, Sunland	DCM	district2@area05aa.org	Peter C
	Alt DCM	altdistrict2@area05aa.org	Open
District 3: Altadena, Highland Park, Pasadena, S. Pasadena, San Marino	DCM	district3@area05aa.org	Aidan S
District 4: Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina, Glendora, La Puente, West Covina	Alt DCM DCM	altdistrict3@area05aa.org district4@area05aa.org	Gina K JoyAnna H
District 4. Azusa, baldwin Park, Covina, Ciendora, La Puente, West Covina	Alt DCM	altdistrict4@area05aa.org	Matt W
District 5: Culver City, West LA	DCM	district5@area05aa.org	Joe F
	Alt DCM	altdistrict5@area05aa.org	Cara B
District 6: Brentwood, West LA	DCM	district6@area05aa.org	Jeremy B
	Alt DCM	altdistrict6@area05aa.org	Open
District 7: Hollywood, West Hollywood	DCM	district7@area05aa.org	Joe T
District 9: Boyorky Hills, Contury City	Alt DCM DCM	altdistrict7@area05aa.org	Barnaby S
District 8: Beverly Hills, Century City	Alt DCM	district8@area05aa.org altdistrict8@area05aa.org	Lee A Open
District 9: Downtown LA, Echo Park, Silverlake	DCM	district9@area05aa.org	Braden H
	Alt DCM	altdistrict9@area05aa.org	Open
District 10: LA - Wilshire Corridor	DCM	district10@area05aa.org	Mike R
	Alt DCM	altdistrict10@area05aa.org	Open
District 13: Alhambra, Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, El Monte, Monrovia, Monterey Park,	DCM	district13@area05aa.org	Mandy D
Rosemead, San Gabriel, South El Monte, Sierra Madre, Temple City	Alt DCM	altdistrict13@area05aa.org	Open
District 14: Downey, Bell Gardens, Montebello, Paramount, Pico Rivera	DCM	district14@area05aa.org	Stacy J
District 15: Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Westchester, Crenshaw	Alt DCM DCM	altdistrict14@area05aa.org district15@area05aa.org	Nancy M Lester J
District 15. Inglewood, Hawthome, Er Segundo, Westchester, creisnaw	Alt DCM	altdistrict15@area05aa.org	Flavio O
District 17: South Gate, Watts, Huntington Park	DCM	district17@area05aa.org	Open
	Alt DCM	altdistrict17@area05aa.org	Open
District 18: Whittier, La Habra, La Mirada, Hacienda Heights	DCM	district18@area05aa.org	Scott N
	Alt DCM	altdistrict18@area05aa.org	Valerie G
District 19: Compton, LA - South/Central	DCM	district19@area05aa.org	Denise E
	Alt DCM	altdistrict19@area05aa.org	David R
District 25: Culver City, West LA, Marina Center	DCM Alt DCM	district25@area05aa.org	Joan R
District 26: Eagle Rock, Glassell Park, Highland Park, Mount Washington, Silver Lake, Echo		altdistrict25@area05aa.org district26@area05aa.org	John J Open
Park, Elysian Park, Chinatown, Lincoln Heights, Montecito Heights, El Sereno, Boyle	Alt DCM	altdistrict26@area05aa.org	Open
District 30: Ontario, Upland, Pomona, Claremont, La Verne, Alta Loma, Rancho	DCM	district30@area05aa.org	Ron H
Cucamonga, Chino, Diamond Bar	Alt DCM	altdistrict30@area05aa.org	Open
District 33: (Spanish-Speaking) Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Glendale	DCM	district33@area05aa.org	Carlos Ernesto C
	Alt DCM	altdistrict33@area05aa.org	Open
District 34: (Spanish-Speaking) San Dimas, Pomona, La Verne, Glendora, Ontario,	DCM	district34@area05aa.org	Juan A
Montclaire, Claremont, Chino	Alt DCM	altdistrict34@area05aa.org	Jose Miguel H
District 35: (Spanish-Speaking) San Gabriel East, Azusa, Baldwin Park, El Monte, Pomona, Whittier	DCM Alt DCM	district35@area05aa.org altdistrict35@area05aa.org	Felipe de Jesus B Carlos d
District 36: West LA, Ohio Ave.	DCM	district36@area05aa.org	Rachel K
······································	Alt DCM	altdistrict36@area05aa.org	Kerry O
District 37/38: West LA, Pico Boulevard, Bel Air, Westwood	DCM	district37-38@area05aa.org	Daniel A
	Alt DCM	altdistrict37-38@area05aa.org	Marco L
District 39/40: Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica	DCM	district39-40@area05aa.org	Steve R
	Alt DCM	altdistrict39-40@area05aa.org	Nidra W
District 41: West LA, Palms, Rancho Park, Culver City		district41@area05aa.org	Nicole B
District 43: West Hollywood, Fairfax, Beverly Hills	Alt DCM DCM	altdistrict41@area05aa.org district43@area05aa.org	Open Al T
District 43. West Hollywood, Fallian, Develiy Fills	Alt DCM	altdistrict43@area05aa.org	Open
District 45: Marina del Rey, Westchester, Playa del Rey, Venice, Santa Monica	DCM	district45@area05aa.org	Becca S
	Alt DCM	altdistrict45@area05aa.org	Lisa K
District 46: Santa Monica	DCM	district46@area05aa.org	Emily J
	Alt DCM	altdistrict46@area05aa.org	Open
District 49: (Spanish-Speaking) LA East, Lincoln Heights, Bell/Cudahy, Montebello, Pico	DCM	district49@area05aa.org	Ruben C
Rivera District EQ. (Securich Seculing) Clandelo Altedono Decedono Fagle Deck, Highland Deck	Alt DCM	altdistrict49@area05aa.org	Open
District 50: (Spanish-Speaking) Glendale, Altadena, Pasadena, Eagle Rock, Highland Park,	DCM Alt DCM	district50@area05aa.org altdistrict50@area05aa.org	Adrian E Open
Lincolhn Heights, El Sereno District 55: (Spanish-Speaking) LA South/Central, Lynwood, Inglewood, Culver City, Santa	DCM	district55@area05aa.org	Leo Marias B
Monica	Alt DCM	altdistrict55@area05aa.org	Sandra M
		district56@area05aa.org	Open
District 56: Hollywood, Los Feliz	DCM		
	Alt DCM	altdistrict56@area05aa.org	Open

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Area 05 Maps





AREA MAP (Spanish-Speaking Districts)

A.A. AREA 05 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA Area Committee Meeting Saturday – November 18th, 2023 Downey Elks Lodge #2020 11263 Woodruff Ave. Downey Ca. 90241 Host: District 14

The Area Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM on Sunday, August 20th, 2023, 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 June 25th to August 20th, 2023, were recognized and serenaded with the birthday song.

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

Jen C. Area 05 Registrar: Jen took attendance by having everyone announce themselves and their Area position.

Gola R. Area 05 Chairperson: Made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded. Asked if there was any discussion. No discussion. Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Shawn A. Area 05 Secretary: Made a motion to approve the Minutes from the August 20, 2023, Area Committee Meeting. Motion was seconded. Asked if there was any discussion. No discussion. Motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

Delegate Report.

Doug S. Area 05 Panel 73 Delegate.

<u>General Service Conference Process</u>: While the annual Conference is held in April or May each year, the Conference process is a year-round effort to implement changes approved at the 73rd GSC and prepare for next year's 74th GSC.

The most recent GSB weekend was held October 27-30, 2023. A partial report will follow later today. The report we received from Reilly K., Pacific Region Trustee, was translated into Spanish & will be emailed to the Area distribution list in the next day or 2.

Delegate Report Back @ Districts: I have completed all the Report Back sessions for this year. If you'd like me to visit your district or group let me know & I'll be happy to make a visit. Topics discussed can be anything of your choice.

Delegate Activities

District/Committee Visits & Area Events:

<u>10/22/23:</u> I attended the Grapevine / La Vina writing workshop held @ CIH. Then drove to Covina to attend District 4's "*Open House*" event. Both were very well attended & enthusiasm for General Service in AA is alive & well! Thanks to the GV/LV Committees @ the Area & CIH, and D4 DCM JoyAnna H. You're all doing a great job!

<u>10/28/23:</u> I attended the Westside Combined District's "Love & Service Festival." Good food, Fellowship, speakers & music entertained the crowd. Thanks to our DCMC, Joe C., and other WCD volunteers for putting on an amazing event!

<u>10/29/23</u>: I attended the Archives anniversary event hosted by CIH out in Montclair. I was able to fill-in for our Archives Chair, Mary T., where we played a video in Spanish and read a short presentation on the importance of A.A. History and Archives Committee work. As usual, there was excellent food, Archives displays & speakers.

<u>11/11/23:</u> I visited District 36 to provide an update on finances, GV/LV and various other committees following the GSB Board weekend and met multiple GSRs from the district. Thank you, Rachel K., for your hard work & enthusiasm.

<u>11/12/23:</u> I participated in the 44th Hispanic Forum held in Rosemead and hosted by District 35. There were close to 300 people in attendance. The room was full & participation was electric! Thanks to all those that attended and worked hard to plan the Foro Hispano.

Upcoming Events

<u>11/19/23:</u> I will attend the 3 Committees Event tomorrow @ CIH for a brief while. I was asked to give a short presentation on Tradition 5 & Concept I.

<u>11/25/23</u>: District 33 is celebrating their 45 Anniversary downtown LA from 4-7 pm. They're inviting the entire Area to attend & help them celebrate. It will be hybrid with translation provided. District 33 is the 1st linguistic district in Area 5 founded in November 1978!

<u>12/2/23:</u> I have been asked to participate in D14's Fall Festival, December 2, 2023, in Downey. Later that same day I will visit D55 at Leo B.'s (DCM) request. I look forward to spending time with everyone! <u>12/3/23:</u> Inter-Area Remote Communities Forum will be held Sunday, December 3, 2023, online. There will be 3 topics & 9 speakers. Language, culture and geography. Ask Zoraida, Accessibilities ad hoc Committee Chair, for more details. She emailed the flier to the Area October 25, 2023. 12/20/23: District 30 is planning a "Open House" event on December 20th. I look forward to supporting our eastern friends just before the Christmas holiday.

Monthly Delegates Meeting: The Pacific Region Delegates meet the first Thursday of every month to discuss activities across the region and share ideas. This past meeting our guest was Reilly K., Pacific Region Trustee on Archives, Nominating, CPC, POG in GS, Finance, Retirement, Compensation, Publishing and Internal Audit. She gave us an update on Board weekend. More information later in my report. Next month we will welcome Panel 74 Delegates to our monthly meeting & say Farewell to the 72's! Change is inevitable. I'll rotate on in a little more than 13 months from today! Crazy!

Elections: Half of our Areas in the North American Conference (US & Canada) have held elections for Panel 74 officers. Southern CA has 4 Areas: 5 (our Area) & 93 (our brothers to the north) are on the same cadence – we elect new officers in the even years (so next October). Area 8 (San Diego Imperial County) and Area 9 (known as Mid-Southern CA) just held their elections.

- Area 8: Delegate is Richard O. & his Alternate is Adrian O.
- Area 9: Delegate is Alex W. and her Alternate is Manya W.

They will begin serving next January for 2024/2025.

Items to Discuss:

<u>Accurate District Information</u>: DCM's should ask the Registrar, Jen C., for a report (or list) of GSRs and Groups in their District & review for accuracy. In addition, you have access to Fellowship Connection, which is our interface into the GSO group services database.

2024 Calendar: Please take the calendar you received from our Secretary, Shawn A., and put those dates into your personal calendars. The dates are important for you, your GSRs, the Area & me as **YOU** prepare **ME** for the 74th GSC in April 2024. It's essential GSRs attend the Assemblies & Pre-Conference Workshop in March 2024.

74th General Service Conference: Let's talk a little about next year's conference. The 74th GSC will be held in New York April 14-20, 2024. Nikki & I will be working closely to plan & prepare the DCMs, DCMCs, Districts and GSRs to actively participate in next year's conference. We will have online surveys again leveraging the summaries from each agenda item we plan to cover. More details will be made available as we inch closer to the 74th GSC.

Presentation during the 74th **GSC:** I was invited to give a presentation during the 74th General Service Conference on the topic, "Safety Throughout the Structure in Our Fellowship. I have until February 1, 2024, to submit my presentation. I'm accepting any & all suggestions to help prepare my report to the Conference. Send anything you can to my email: delegate@area05aa.org

Pre-Conference Workshop: We had a long conversation during the August ACM & decided to move the 2024 Pre-Conference Workshop to March 23 & 24, 2024. The SCAA 2024 Calendar was approved at the October Assembly. Our Secretary, Shawn A., emailed the 2024 Calendars to the Area, October 15, 2023, following the assembly.

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

DCMC/DCM Reports:

DCMC Combined Hispanic Districts: **Juan M.** The CIH continues to communicate with and support the Districts and Groups. There are 9 Committees and each one is working on their projects and internal meetings. Recently District 35 hosted the 44th FORO. Work is underway for the 2024 Two Area Forum.

DCMC Combined Hollywood Districts: Monk H. We have had an increase in G.S.R. participation from Districts 9 & 10. Districts 56 & 58 are still inactive. We have planned a pancake buffet and meeting on Saturday February 3rd, 2024. The location is Hollywood Lutheran Church, 1733 N. New Hampshire Ave. Los Angeles, 90027. We will announce the time later.

DCMC Westside Combined Districts: Joe C. We meet the second Sunday of every month on Zoom from 9AM to 11AM. We have General Service Representative orientation thirty minutes prior to the meeting. We have an Agenda setting meeting the first Sunday of the month from 9AM to 10AM. In October we held the Love & Service Festival. I want to thank all the committees that attended.

District 2: Peter C. Our monthly meeting was held as scheduled on the first Tuesday of November. Live and on Zoom. We have a new General Service Representative that we need to get registered with the Area. I have joined the Area Literature Committee. I attended the Four Area District Committee Member Sharing Session on October 22nd. It was a wonderful event. Our District will continue working on the Data Integrity Project.

District 3: Aidan S. We are doing well. We continue working on the Data Integrity Project. We created a District Calendar that the G.S.R.'s can access. We are working on having in person District meetings next year.

District 4: JoyAnna H. No Show. No report.

District 5: Joe F. At the last District Meeting we welcomed a new G.S.R. We worked on a strategy for the Data Integrity Project.

District 6: Paul B. No Show. No report.

District 7: Joe T. We meet on the First Monday of the Month. We average 6-7 G.S.R.'s. We discuss one concept every month.

District 8: Terry A. Currently, we have 3 active GSRs. The AA meeting app lists 7 meetings while the Fellowship Connection lists 9. I'll be checking the discrepancy and getting the group change form to the secretaries for updates. One of our GSRs will be presenting the CPC Talk to Your Doctor project to his meeting this week

District 9: Liz M. No Show. No report.

District 10: No Show. No report.

District 13: Mandy D. We meet on the second Thursday of the month on Zoom at 7pm.

Our district has nine GSRs, two alternates, a treasurer and three of the GSRs are on committees. This year we have been visited twice by our delegate, before and after the conference. We have also had visits from committee chairs and most recently Jen C., our registrar, paid us a visit and informed the group of her role and answered questions. We are beginning a discussion regarding hosting either an area assembly or area committee meeting next year and/or having a service event.

Our district is actively using the 'Talk to your doctor' project, I have packets available.

I have been distributing the conference final report to the GSRs by mail or by hand visiting meetings. All general service emails are forwarded to GSRs after reading with an acknowledgement that I read it too.

District 14: Stacie J. Our District is very active. Our District Registrar has made a District Meeting list showing In-Person, Hybrid & Online Only meetings. Our District Pi/CPC Committee continues to make Talk to the Doctor packets. They are now reaching out to Faith Leaders, Churches and Synagogues in our District. We will host a Sobriety Through Service event on December 2nd from Noon – Three.

District 15: Lester J. No Show. No report.

District 17: No Show. No report.

District 18: Scott N. No Show. No Report

District 19: Denise E. No Show. No report.

District 25: Joan R. No Show. No report.

District 26: No DCM. Inactive

District 30: Ron H. We meet in person on the Third Wednesday of every month. We will have an Open House on December 20th starting at 6:30pm. We will have a presentation from The Area CPC Committee. District 30 will be hosting the Winter Assembly in January.

District 33: Carlos C. We have 22 Groups. We have 9 GSRs. The District Officers visit Groups on Tuesday and Wednesday every week. Every 15 days we have a study meeting and every two weeks we have an internal meeting. Every two weeks we have a GSR. Meeting. The last Sunday of every month we have a meeting at the CIH. We invite you to District 33's 45th Anniversary on November 25th.

District 34: Juan A. We have 13 Groups. We have 10 GSRs. We meet on the First and Third Monday of every month. The District Officers visit Groups on Wednesdays. District 34 was present at the 44th FORO.

District 35: Carlos All of our District Officer positions are filled. We have 15 GSRs. We visit two groups per week. Most of our District Committees are active. Our District makes seventh tradition contributions to the CIH, Area 05 & the General Service Office. We hosted the 44th FORO. Our District celebrated 39 years on November 16th.

District 36: Rachel K. We are always working to support our GSRs. We are working on stimulating interest in Groups that currently have no GSR. We are working on the Data Integrity Project.

District 37/38: Daniel A. No Show. No report.

District 39/40: Steve R. No Show. No report.

District 41: Nicole. Not much participation from groups in the district. I am working on that along with the Data Integrity Project.

District 43: Al T. We are making sure that our GSRs are updated on the basics. We are working on the Data Integrity Project.

District 45: Becca S. No Show. No Report.

District 46: No Show. No Report.

District 49: Ruben C. We have 29 Groups in our District. We have 14 GSRs. We keep them informed about the events throughout the year and with information from the General Service Office.

District 50: Adrian E. No Show. No Report.

District 55: Leo B. No Show. No Report.

District 56: No DCM. Inactive.

District 58: No DCM. Inactive.

Officer Reports

<u>Alternate Delegate:</u> Nikki U. The next G.S.R. Orientation will be held Wednesday January 17th. I attended an Archives event on October 29th at the CIH. I also attended the 44th Spanish FORO. The 3rd Quarter Financial Reports match. Tremendous from both our treasurers to get that done.

Secretary: 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. I want to thank all the Spanish Speaking DCM's and DCMC's for providing copies of their reports. This is helpful in case the audio file is incomprehensible.

Accounts Treasurer: Amy O. We have returned \$17,500.00 in contributions to a member that set up a recurring monthly contribution. This was the amount that exceeded the annual \$5,000.00 that the General Service office allows and Area 05 follows that same yearly contribution amount. While the Area is doing well financially, the Committee Chairs need to remember to stay within their budget.

<u>Contributions Treasurer:</u> Brian P. As a treasurer I participate on the Finance Committee. We are working on the 2024 Budget. So, make sure to turn in your budget request forms and participate in the

Budget Meeting. The area is doing really well with contributions and we should meet or exceed what we had budgeted for 2023.

<u>Registrar:</u> Jen C. Did a PowerPoint presentation on the Data Integrity Project for her report. She reminded DCM's to send her new GSR registration forms so she can update the Area Database.

Chairperson: Gola R. Part of my responsibility is to compose and coordinate the Agenda for the Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings. If you have a motion you want to present to the area, let me know and I will add it to the agenda. I want to talk about hosting. If you want to host an assembly or area committee meeting in 2024, let me know. We have several open hosting opportunities.

Multi Language Meeting Finder Presentation – Zoraida R. Accessiblities & Translation Chair

How & why we decided to create this tool...talk about Chinese meetings...learned that people find it hard to communicate with Chinese speakers with court cards sitting in meetings? How do we help reach the still suffering alcoholic who doesn't speak English and is looking for help? How do we help them find a meeting where they can understand our Message and find a sponsor?

We came up with the <u>Multi-Language Meeting Finder Methodology</u>: No one in our committee speaks Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Farsi, or Armenian

We did not want to just use Computer Programs to translate the wording for us.

We wanted to make sure the translation was accurate, so People know we care and are here to help We had to look for members in our fellowship who were:

- literate in the various languages
- could help us translate.
- get their input on how the wording flows... CAN it reach someone looking for help?

This took some time, but we were able to find members.

We simplified the QR codes, so they were easy to scan.

WE'RE HOPING to put the Multi-Language Meeting Finder in the hands of DCMS, GSR's, Meeting Chairs, Doctors, Judges, Policemen, school counselors, rehabilitation centers, consulates, hospitals, markets, Driving Schools.....

We are hoping this could be a useful tool for outreach in other committees like PI, CPC, CEC, CYC, Corrections, and more.

Members in other areas are interested in this and have asked for the template for their areas It is helping other areas redefine what they consider a remote community.

Unfinished Business:

Area 05 Letter of Support for LACYPAA's ACYPAA 2025 Bid - **Kiko P.** Read the letter that the Committee will send for their bid to host the 2025 ACYPAA. A motion was made for Area 05 to support LACYPAA's bid to host the 2025 ACYPAA. Motion was seconded. The Chairperson asked if there was any discussion. There was a question to clarify if Area 05 was Sponsoring or Hosting the event. It was explained that Area 05 was only putting their support behind the Bid as we always do. Moved to a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Allow Alternate Committee Chairs to Vote - **Sam P.** Read the motion to change the Area 05 Guidelines to allow Alternate Committee Chairs to vote even when the Committee Chair is present. Motion was made and seconded. Chairperson asked for discussion. After twenty-five minutes of discussion the motion went to a vote. The Chairperson made the announcement that there were 41 eligible voters in attendance today. There were 10 votes for the amendment. 29 votes against the amendment. 2/3rds would be 26 votes. Therefore the motion did not pass.

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 Winter Assembly on Saturday January 20th.

Published as Submitted



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:

• **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 <u>area05corrections@gmail.com</u> or text 619-946-8622

• **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: <u>area05corrections@gmail.com</u>or text 619-946-8622

REMEMBER: MEN CONTACT MEN AND WOMEN CONTACT WOMEN!

• **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

• ____ANY AA MEMBER CAN JOIN AND SERVE ON OUR AREA 05 CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE. WE MEET 1 PM, THE LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH ON Meeting ID: 820 9490 1678 Passcode: area05.

 ____PLEASE COMPLETE OUR <u>COMMITTEE SURVEY</u> TO GET STARTED.<u>area05corrections@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)





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: are	ea05			
SUBMISSIONS:	500 words or less					
CONTACT:	<u>SCAAN@area05aa.org</u>					
	Jo S. Area 05 - Panel 73	, SCAAN Chair	213-766-8060			

How I Got to AA

I didn't start drinking alcoholically until my sixties. After 40+ years of drinking like a gentleman, I started to drink daily, then way too much daily. One night I came home loaded. My wife said to me, "I think you've become an alcoholic." The powers of denial were so strong that I insisted that I was not drunk, much less an alcoholic.

The next day I stewed on my spouse's accusation and decided to prove her wrong. I went into a bar at noon – I did pretty much all my drinking in bars – and ordered a drink. My intent was to have one drink and leave since I believed an alcoholic couldn't have only one drink and stop. Three hours later I was in the emergency room with nine staples in my head and a BAC of 0.16. After only an hour of drinking, I had passed/blacked out on the bar stool, fallen off, and hit my head on a table on my way to the floor.

The ER staff finally let me leave and I got home at 9 pm. My wife looked at me and said, "why are you in such a good mood?" It was true; I was in a great mood. I replied, "...because I just proved that I am an alcoholic. Now I just have to go to AA and deal with it."

I went online to look for a meeting. I wanted one early enough to get to work by 8 am and for it to be not more than 5 miles away. Fortunately I live in SoCal; I had five options that met those criteria. I went to the closest one: 6:15 am at the 185.

The next morning I found myself in a small meeting room with about 20 people. Obviously, I was spotted as a newcomer. I didn't know what to expect in AA. My imagination came up with a room where one-half the people would be dressed as self-flagellation monks of the 14th century and the other half would be weeping into elaborately crocheted handkerchiefs from 1935. That's not precisely what I found. I was asked to explain why I was there and I told the story about ordering one drink to prove myself a non-alcoholic and ending up in the ER. The whole room burst out laughing. I understood instantly that they were neither laughing at me nor with me; they were laughing in self-recognition of our shared insanity. Someone from behind me said, "yeah, you're in the right place." I just knew I was.

After the meeting several people came up to me to ask how it had gone and what I thought. I said,

"there sure seems to be a lot of God references around here." One fellow replied, "think of it as, good orderly direction." Another said, "no, it's group of drunks." I could relate to that one. I stopped drinking. That was six years ago. I have now been sober longer than I drank alcoholically.

-Jon H. Los Angeles, CA





A.A. AREA 05 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA

FALL AREA 05 ASSEMBLY MINUTES SATURDAY – October 15, 2023 Rosemead Community Center 3936 Muscatel Ave. Rosemead, CA 1770 Host: District 35

Gola R. Area Chairperson, opened the meeting with a welcoming statement and opening comments at 9:00 a.m. Two-minute silent meditation followed by the Serenity Prayer and Birthdays (July 23rd – October 15th). The Twelve Concepts were read in English and Spanish.

Introduction of new General Serve Representatives and Alternates

ROLL CALL: Jen C. Area 05 Registrar conducted the Roll Call

Potent	tial	Present	8 B		Potential		Present	1		Total Present		In Person	
Area Officers	7	7	8 (J	3	Past Delegate	13	5			Voting Member	5 75	49	2
DCMs	27	17	0 0	Co	mmittee Chair	20	13		Non	Voting & Visitor		24	2
Alt DCMs	25	3	8 8		Alt Chairs	6	0			Tot	al 117	73	1.04
GSRs	277	30	1		DCMCs	3	1]	-				
Alt GSRs	38		8 9		Alt DCMCs	3	2		Servin	in Multiple Po			
Total	374	61	8 N		Total	45	21	1		Individual	s 18		
	DCMC/ALT	DCMC Pane	173		1	2	Area Of	ficers: 2023 - 20	24 Pane	173	12 8	1	
	CIH	CHD	WCD	Area 05	1	Delegate	1	Secretary	1	Registrar	1		
DCMC	0	0	1	1		Alt Delegate	1	Accts Treasurer	1	S Charlos	Sec. 1		
ALT DCMC	1	0	1	2		Chairperson	1	Cont Treasurer	1	Total	7		
District	02	03	04	05	06	07	80	09	10	13	14	6	
DCM	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1		
ALT DCM	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
GSR	0	3	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	3	4		
ALT GSR	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total	1	4	.4	2	1	1	3	1	0	3	5		
District	15	17	18	19	25	26	30	33	34	35	36		
DCM	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1		
ALT DCM	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1		
GSR	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2		
ALT GSR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
Total	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	1	5	5		
											_		
District	37-38	39-40	41	43	45	46	49	50	55	56	58		
DCM	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0		
ALT DCM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
GSR	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	1	2	0	0		
ALT GSR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total	0	2	1	2	3	0	0	2	3	0	0		
CALIFORNIA CONTRACTOR AND	Unknown												
GSR	0												

Gola R. Area 05 Chairperson presented the Assembly Agenda. Motion to approve was made and seconded. No discussion. Voted on and passed unanimously.

Approval of July 22, 2023, Assembly Minutes

The Secretary presented the Summer 2023 Assembly Minutes as printed in the SCAAN. Motion to approve was made and seconded. No Discussion. Voted on with one No vote. Minority opinion decided to remain silent. Motion passed.

Delegates Report:

Doug S. Panel 73, Area 05 Delegate

Introductions & welcome: I am excited to welcome you to our fourth Area Assembly of Panel 73. It is hard to believe we're about to wrap up our final assembly of 2023! Time is flying by. Thank you, especially to our GSRs, DCMs/DCMCs, Committee Chairs, and Alternates, for fulfilling your commitment. You are a vital link in the communication chain of general service in AA.

Please don't hesitate to contact me, especially, if we have not met face-to-face yet. I'm happy to visit your District and any group that would like me to visit. Theme – Participation: I'd like to reiterate the theme I chose for this Panel: "Participation" since it's all about being present. Showing up. Communication. You are the conduit between your GSR's & the Area. Sharing information you hear here, receive in the emails sent by me, other Officers, Committee Chairs, General Service Office, Grapevine & La Vina, and other parts of A.A.

Service Manual, Appendix V: (page 165) STIMULATING INTEREST IN GENERAL SERVICE

Most A.A. members are primarily interested in their groups, in their own sobriety, and in helping other drunks one-on-one. And that is as it should be. While the work of general service has precisely the same objective — carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers — the connection is not always direct or obvious. Some stimulators are usually needed to get the attention of A.A. members — to show them that service can add a rich dimension to their sober lives and Twelfth Step work, and that their participation is vital to the future of A.A.

Good communication is of vital importance. In personal Twelfth Step work, there is no end to communication. The sponsor talks with the drunk; speakers share their experience; we share with each other. But when it comes to general service work, communication has a tendency to break down. It can take hard work to get the attention of alcoholics, but with a creative approach, they can be encouraged to take time out from the nuts and bolts of recovery to think about another phase of their new lives. Once A.A. members are well informed about service, they often want to become involved and to take on their own service responsibilities.

(From Chapter 1 of the A.A. Service Manual, page 7):

THE GROUP AND ITS GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE So what is the role of a GSR? The GSR is the link between the group and "A.A. as a whole." This link becomes a channel through which news, information, opinions and ideas can flow back and forth. Importantly, this also gives the group a voice in the affairs of the Fellowship.

The GSR is that voice.

- When the GSR is present at assemblies, the group's voice is heard.
- When the GSR participates, the group's voice is heard.
- When the GSR votes, the group's voice is heard.

So, it boils down to communication & participation! GSR's, DCMs/DCMCs: I'd like to encourage you to read the A.A. Service Manual for your respective positions. There are only a few pages for each position. Please take the time to review those pages. It'll help you better understand your job.

Our job in General Service is to enable 12th Step work – if the drunk gets to us, we can help them! 73rd General Service Conference: As you know, I attended the 73rd General Service Conference the week of April 23-29, 2023, in Brooklyn, New York. The theme was "A.A.'s Three Legacies of Service – Our Common Solution."

After the Conference, staff members, board members, publishing, and other parts of GSO & GV/LV service entities began implementing items approved during the Conference. Those are the Advisory Actions I've shared during the Report Backs.

<u>Final Reports</u>: The General Service Conference Final Report is here! I received them in early September. Some of the Districts picked up reports before my vacation. For those that did not, please come see me during lunch to get your copies. I have them at the front table. I want to be certain all Districts receive their copies before I distribute extras to those Districts wanting more.

Please review the Table of Contents with your GSRs so they become familiar with the document and then use the report in their Group reports. Thank you!

There was an error in the printed version of the final report. Letter from GSO on September 18, 2023. A typographical error appeared in the print version of the 2023 General Service Conference Final Report that produced the wrong address line information for Panel 73 delegates in the listing of delegates in the section on Conference Members (pages 152-153). When the file for this listing was formatted in production, while delegate names were updated correctly for Panel 73, the address line information reflected the town/state addresses of the prior Panel 71 delegates.

We deeply regret this typographical error and have corrected the address line information in the English, French and Spanish anonymity-protected versions that appear online (aa.org). With gratitude and apologies, Ames S., Executive Editor GSO

In addition, the anonymity-protected version of the 2023 Final Report is available on www.aa.org per a 2023 Advisory Action:

- https://www.aa.org/2023-general-service-conference-final-report
- https://www.aa.org/es/informe-final-de-la-conferencia-de-servicios generales-de-2023

<u>Delegate Report Back @ Districts</u>: I have completed the following: D13, D14, Combined Hollywood Districts, D35, D33, D30 & CIH in June. I visited the following Districts in July: D18 (6th), D49 (8th), Westside Combined Districts (July 9th), D7 (10th) & D34 (17th). I visited D50 August 19th & D3 (9/7). District 4's report back will be next Sunday, October 15th, during their special event. I'm sure the DCM for D4 will mention that during the Good & Welfare part of our agenda later today.

Note: Each report I've given has taken longer than time allotted. The Conference business was covered over the course of seven very long days, and there's a lot of information to share! It's extremely difficult to consolidate the information into an hour or even less time than that.

Delegate Activities:

Monthly Delegates Meeting: The Pacific Region Delegates meet the first Thursday of every month to discuss activities across the region and share ideas.

Elections: Half of our Areas in the North American Conference (US & Canada) are holding elections for Panel 74 officers. Southern CA has 4 Areas: 5 (our Area) & 93 (our brothers to the north) are on the same cadence – we elect new officers in the even years (so next October). Area 8 (San Diego Imperial County) and Area 9 (known as Mid-Southern CA) just held their elections.

• Area 8: Delegate is Richard O. & his Alternate is Adrian O.

• Area 9: Delegate is Alex W. and her Alternate is Manya W.

They will begin serving next January for 2024/2025.

Items to Share

News from G.S.O., Box 4.5.9., GV & LV, and other A.A. sources: Recent emails I've forwarded to the Area 5 distribution list: Grapevine and La Vina News (emailed 10/10/23): This is the monthly or bi monthly newsletters from GV/LV. Please share with your Grapevine/La Vina committees and group reps (GVRs). A lot of good information is included about the GV/LV apps, an FAQ for the apps & licensing, Carry the Message project, Podcast, YouTube Channel, Instagram, how to submit stories for upcoming issues, such as Favorite Big Book Stories (due Oct. 15th) & Happy Birthday Grapevine! (80 years). Help us celebrate, submit your story, "Why do you love GV? (due Dec. 15th), and La Vina current events, monthly workshop (last Friday of every month), call for stories for January/February Edition (Newcomers). You can also put your events in the GV & LV calendars.

Data Integrity Project: As you know, our Registrar is working with the General Service Office, specifically, Member Services, to clean up group information in the Fellowship Connection system. Jen has sent emails to DCMs/DCMCs (as a courtesy) to review their respective groups and meeting/contact information and send updates or corrections so Jen can update the groups as necessary. How many of DCMs received that email? How many of you responded to Jen? Please do your best to respond in a timely manner. Thank you! I know Jen will report on that later today.

74th General Service Conference: Let's talk a little about next year's conference. The 74th GSC will be held in New York April 14-20, 2024. Nikki & I will be working closely to plan & prepare the DCMs, DCMCs, Districts and GSRs to actively participate in next year's conference. We will have online surveys again leveraging the summaries from each agenda item we plan to cover. More details will be made available as we inch closer to the 74th GSC.

Proposed Agenda Items:

The list of submitted proposed agenda items have been posted to the new GSC dashboard. All Delegates have attended a brief training session to introduce us to the new dashboard. The PAIs are being assigned to Trustee Committees. The Treatment & Accessibilities Committee will meet in the next couple weeks to discuss the PAIs & recommend items to be forwarded. There were 117 submitted. I'll report on that when more is known. Probably by the November ACM hosted by District 14.

Keep In Mind: We can submit a proposed agenda item at any time. There's a deadline each year of September 15th, but that doesn't mean we can't submit PAIs before the next deadline! Background Materials for the GSC: Our webmaster has added the 71st & 72nd GSC background files & drop-down menu items back on our website. This was completed following a request before the August ACM. Thank you, Scott!

District Quarterly Contributions Statements: The finance department has resumed the quarterly contribution report by District. It's only in English so I'm not going to send out the report until we have it translated. I'll ask our Translation committee to do that this coming week. Thanks to Jacobo M. in advance.

Grapevine and La Vina App News: As most of you know, the launch date for the highly anticipated app was September 1, 2023! The App roll out took place at ICYPAA (San Francisco, CA) and the US and Canada Hispanic Convention (Seattle, WA) both on Sept, 1–4, 2023. The La Vina editor and AAGV Board Chair attended the conferences to participate in the rollout. The downloads & digital subscriptions beat their projections. I don't have official numbers but should get those before the November ACM. I'll report when those figures are released.

• GRAPEVINE DIGITAL Subscription: Includes the app and full access to the Grapevine website for only \$2.99 per month & \$29.99 annual

• GRAPEVINE PRINT Subscription: Paper magazine is only \$28.97 annual

• GRAPEVINE COMPLETE Subscription: Includes the app, full access to the Grapevine website and paper magazine \$49.97 annual. There are multi-year subscription discounts as well.

• LA VINA DIGITAL Subscription: Includes the app and full access to the LA VINA website for only \$2.99 bimonthly & \$14.45 annual

• LA VINA PRINT Subscription: Paper magazine only \$14.45 annual

• LA VINA COMPLETE Subscription: Includes the app, full access to the LA VINA website and paper magazine \$24.49 annual. There are multi-year subscription discounts as well.

8th Hispanic Women's Workshop Flyers (emailed 6/15/23 & 8/24/23): Area 5 is honored to host this year's H.W.W.! Please share the fliers with your groups, GSRs, and members to ensure we get the word out! The flier is posted on our website as well. Thank you, Scott!

Grapevine Podcast: Have any of you listened to the GV podcast? Have any of you listened to episode Season 5, episode 12, titled, "ICY, ICY, ICY – PAA, PAA, PAA!"? They also mentioned the Grapevine & La Vina App launches. Or how about, "Second Anniversary Special" (Season 5, episode 14)?

Redesigned/Updated Pamphlets: We are delighted to announce that the new revised and redesigned pamphlet "Young People in A.A." is now available for ordering. This revised item of General Service Conference-approved literature features new stories by seven young A.A. members, and we follow their experience, strength and hope as they share: how it was, what happened, and what it is like now on their sober journeys as members of our Fellowship. With input and feedback from young A.A. members attending recent YPAAs, this beautifully redesigned pamphlet includes colorful illustrations crafted by one of our most beloved Grapevine illustrators and debuts with much enthusiasm from all who helped to contemporize its presentation of A.A. 's message of hope – and deliver it to the Fellowship. Now available in English and Spanish, with a French edition coming off press soon, the revised pamphlet has Item number P-4 and has a list price of \$.40

Story Solicitation:

1) The trustees' Literature Committee has opened a call for recovery stories in response to the 2021 General Service Conference advisory action regarding the pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic," stating that the pamphlet be updated to include current stories of recovery and a new title that is respectful and inclusive. The committee is seeking stories of recovery from all Indigenous communities in the A.A. structure in the United States and Canada. The deadline to submit stories is December 31, 2023. There are instructions for submitting the manuscript in the email I will forward. Please share with your groups so that any member wishing to submit their stories can be considered for inclusion in the updated pamphlet.

2) The trustees Literature Committee is seeking stories from AA members with diverse backgrounds. This is in response to the 2022 Conference Advisory Action that the trustees' Literature Committee revised the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?" to update the stories to represent greater diversity. Deadline for submissions: April 30, 2024.

The Trustees' Literature Committee requested that consideration be given to stories from multicultural populations, stories from A.A. members whose experience reflects multiple factors, and from diverse

populations not addressed in other current A.A. literature.

Please encourage members in your area to write their personal stories for possible inclusion in the revised pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different." Stories should reflect, "in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now.". More details in the email I will forward to you.

<u>Staff Assignment Sheet (10/6/2023)</u>: GSO staff has been assigned to new positions. They rotate every two years, just like we do in our Area. There's a new Staff Coordinator to replace Jeff W., who is retiring today! We have a new Treatment & Accessibilities, Remote Communities staff member. Her name is: Kelly C. She's replacing Misha Q., who is now covering Public Information. Let me know if you did not receive the email & attachment.

<u>Themes and Topics for the 75th GSC</u>: Would you like to participate in suggesting a Conference theme or topic for the 75th GSC? If so, let me know & I'll forward the email to you. The 2024 Conference Committee on Agenda will consider suggestions for a theme, presentation, and workshop topics for the 75th General Service Conference in 2025.

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. 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.

New Tax Consultant: Area 5 will be using a new tax consultant for the 202 tax year and beyond. The consultant we have been using retired and forced us to find another. Mary T., Past Delegate Panel 51, has been our tax liaison for many years. She will transition out of that role shortly.

PRAASA Ad Hoc Committee for Website: Lastly, I've been asked to participate on the PRAASA ad hoc Committee on Website. We're working to develop guidelines for the PRAASA website, which, in the past, has not been running in between PRAASA events, rebuilt multiple times using different platforms, and PRAASA wants to improve this part of our business. That's it for me! Thanks for letting me be of service.

Coffee break and morning stretch

Presentation of Draft 2024 Area 05 Budget:

Arnulfo G. Finance Committee Chair

I was supposed to present the draft 2024 budget today. Unfortunately, it is not ready. So, instead I will be doing my Budget Request presentation again. It's important for the Officers and Committee Chairs to complete the Budget Request Form. This is how we get the dollar amounts to enter into the Budget Worksheet. There are still many that have not turned in their budget requests. Today will be the last day to get those completed.

Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Meetings

Committee Chairs hosted their Committee Meetings.

Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Reports: Reports from all Committees:

Archives Committee

Mary T. A couple of our members will be doing a history of District 14. L.A. Central Office is doing a project on the history of LGBTQ meetings in Los Angeles. Some of the members of our committee will be helping with that. Some Spanish Language Districts are doing oral histories of some of their older members. One of our members will be working on a history of the SoCal Convention.

Audio Visual Committee

Victor M. AV Chair: Most of our current Audio-Visual equipment is outdated. I will be looking into purchasing new equipment. I will submit that as part of the 2024 budget. One member came and inquired how the equipment worked. I will be providing A.V. support at the FORO on November 12th. The Audio Visual Committee is available for any meetings or events within the Area.

Cooperation with the Elderly Committee (CEC)

Susie P. No Show. No Report

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

Sue S. Today at the Assembly, we had 5 people (2 new CPC members) in attendance, and 2 online for a total of 7 persons. Vincent J. reported that he is the new CPC Chair of District 18 and was given a \$200 budget. He will be making 25 Packets for Healthcare Professionals in his district. Discussion occurred about the new CPC Committee page on the Area 05 website. We are excited to share the 'Talk to the Doctor' project to every district in Area 05. This project can be tailored to however the district envisions. Other Professions, such as Faith Leaders, can also be reached through this project. The Committee is grateful to Area 05 for voting in the money for the Small and Large Information Cards to be printed. These cards have a QR code for the Meeting Guide App, as well as the local 24/7 phone number for any alcoholic. Districts can fill out a Request Form and email to the chair for the cards. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Cooperation with the Young Community Committee

Kimani D. Alternate Chair. We had seven members in attendance today. We have a panel the second Monday of every month where we bring people to a treatment center to share their story. Last month we had a writing workshop for our 'zine. We hope to have the 'zine available at the next Assembly. If anyone wants to join this committee, we meet the third Saturday of every month on Zoom.

Corrections Committee

Sage G. Alt Chair. We had three members in attendance. L.A. H & I is ordering 100 each of four pamphlets to target persons in custody to include in panel literature going into jails. (P-9, F-73, F-163, P-33). Our committee's 2024 budget has been sent to the Finance Committee Chair. Contact upon release program update: Stacy, Rema & Sage to FaceTime on how to access databases and send emails connecting persons in custody with AA volunteers.

Finance Committee

Arnulfo G. We had nine members in attendance today. I will be scheduling a Budget Meeting on Zoom. I will be sending that information out soon. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Grapevine La Viña Committee

Andrea D. We had two members in attendance today. We will be having a writing session on October 22nd from 8:00AM to 2:30PM. We will provide breakfast and lunch. We will have a couple of speakers. We will discuss moving the Grapevine and La Viña. We will discuss the importance of Grapevine and La Viña at

the district level. It will be held at 5207 E. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles. It will also be on Zoom.

Guidelines and Policies Committee (G&P)

Patrick. Alternate Chair We meet the first Sunday of every month on Zoom. We had four members in attendance today. Over the last few months, we have gone through the guidelines and policies and taken notes on changes that are required. Just minor changes like the area email addresses.

Literature Committee

Alex H. We had eight members in attendance today. We are still working on our literature survey. Our main concern is trying to find out which groups feel they are underrepresented in our literature. The other is what concerns are being raised by the groups about our literature. We will have a survey ready sometime this quarter.

Public Information Committee

Jenny P. We had an agenda of ten items and got through four or six of them. We had eleven members in attendance today. We will be adapting a Canadian flier for Area 05. We will only be focusing on L.A. County.

Registration Committee

Kristy L. We had nine members in attendance today. One of the things we discovered is that not everyone understands how to register as a General Service Representative with the Area. We will be having a registration workshop at the beginning of next year. We will be doing a registration presentation next week for District 4. The 21st of October we will be doing a presentation at District 33.

SCAAN Committee

Jo S. We now have a bi-Lingual member on the committee. Deadline for submissions to the Winter Edition of the SCAAN is January 1st, 2024. Stories must be 500 words or less.

Translation Committee

Jose Louis. Alternate Chair We continue to translate everything from all the committees and officers in the area. A lot of the committee chairs are doing their own translation, so it makes it easier for us.

Treatment Facilities Committee

Mark S. We had four members in attendance today. We discussed what we've done to create a "Bridging the Gap" program. We have a committee meeting the first Saturday of every month at 10:00AM. I attended the Bridging the Gap Conference in September.

Website Committee

Claude D. We had three members in attendance today. We continue to investigate the issues with some of the email aliases. We are working with the Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee on creating their own webpage as a part of the Area 05 website.

Accessibilities & Interpretation Ad-hoc Committee

Zoraida R. We had six members in attendance today. We are passionate about carrying the message and finding ways to help the still suffering alcoholic.

Lunch Break

Officer Reports:

• Alternate Delegate: Nikki U. As the Alternate Delegate I also serve as the Chief Financial Officer for the

Non-Profit Corporation. I also conduct the General Service Representative Orientation. If any District Committee Members would like me to do an orientation at their district, contact me, I would be happy to do that. I am also the Liaison to the L.A. Central Office. The L.A. Central Office will be moving on November 1st. They are moving to 3333 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles.

 Secretary: Shawn A. Remember that we are a two-language area. Everything you say into the microphone is translated by someone. The faster you speak the faster they must try and translate. Please be respectful to the translators. Motion was made to approve the Draft 2024 Calendar that was approved at the Summer Area Committee Meeting. Motion was seconded. Discussion ensued. A friendly amendment was made to include the date of the 2024 Southern California Convention on November 1st to the 3rd. Amendment accepted. Another friendly amendment was made to include a color legend for the two colors on the calendar. Friendly amendment was not accepted. Vote was held. There were three no votes. One minority opinion was that a document with color coded cells, but no legend is an unusable document. No other minority opinions chose to speak. Chairperson asked if anyone from the prevailing side, after hearing the minority opinion, wanted to change their vote. No one did, motion passed. • Contributions Treasurer: Brian P. Apologies for not having a Q3 report to present. The Q3 Financial Report and Q3 Contributions Report have been prepared, but we are working on reconciling them with each other. Many thanks to Nikki, for her help. Thanks to everyone for their contributions. Contributions from groups, individuals, and districts are our only source of money. I participate on the Finance Committee and right now our focus is the 2024 budget. It is very important that all committee chairs and officers participate in the process. To help with the budgeting process, here are some historical figures for contributions, as well as a projection for 2023.

2016 Contributions: \$42K total, \$53K adjusted for inflation, 24% in 4th Qtr.

2017 Contributions: \$42K total, \$52K adjusted for inflation, 24% in 4th Qtr.

2018 Contributions: \$43K total, \$53K adjusted for inflation, 24% in 4th Qtr.

2019 Contributions: \$53K total, \$63K adjusted for inflation, 24% in 4th Qtr.

2020 Contributions: \$43K total, \$51K adjusted for inflation, 29% in 4th Qtr.

2021 Contributions: \$43K total, \$48K adjusted for inflation, 29% in 4th Qtr.

2022 Contributions: \$52K total (after subtracting \$5K in contributions returned in 2023), \$51K adjusted for inflation, 27% in 4th Qtr.

2023 Projected Contributions (based on 24% - 29% contributions expected to be received in Q4): \$56K - \$60K.

•Accounts Treasurer: **Amy O.** The area finances are doing well. We do need to streamline some of our processes which would make reporting easier.

• Registrar: **Jen C.** Presented a slide show pertaining to the Data Integrity Project. It's a multi-phase project. Registration has begun with focusing on the unknown groups. Those are groups without a general service representative, or a mailing address listed with the General Service office.

• Chairperson: **Gola R.** One of my responsibilities as Area Chairperson is to ensure that the area is properly running and organized by coordinating our Assemblies, Area Committee Meetings and Steering Committee Meetings. Creating Agendas and doing my best to help facilitate your service work. The Area 05 Officers have met three times since the Summer Area Committee Meeting. First, to discuss a series of fraudulent online contributions to the area. Second, to discuss an individual members' recurring monthly electronic contributions that exceed the General Service Office annual individual contribution amount. Third, to discuss how to proceed with the Summer Area Committee Meeting amid a Tropical Storm.

4 Area DCM Sharing Session Report Back

Joe C. DCMC Westside Combined Districts: This event takes place once a year. Rotating through Areas 05, 08, 09 and 93. The event is focused towards District Committee Members and District Committee Member Chairs but, members are welcome and encouraged to attend. This year we had three speakers. Trish L., Trustee at Large Canada, Olga M. from Area 05 and Kerry, a District Committee Member from Oregon Area 58.

Multi-Language Meeting Finder Presentation:

Zoraida R. Accessibilities/Interpretation Ad-Hoc Committee Chair We have created a form with QR Codes that will direct a member to the L.A. Central Office Website to help them locate a meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Update on the Hispanic Women's Workshop by **Olga M.** The workshop will be held on December 9th. We have two months left and we are almost ready. We are going to have 12 speakers and Round Tables. Update on the Hispanic FORO by **Marisol G.** The FORO will be held on November 12th, at Rosemead Community Center. We are almost reaching the day of the event and as a committee we have worked and motivated with a lot of enthusiasm. We are so grateful for the support of Area 05 and Districts 33, 34, 35, 49,55, and CIH.

New Business:

Presentation of Area 05 Letter of Support for LACYPAA ACYPAA 2025 Bid: Kimani D. Alternate CYC Committee Chair

Unbudgeted Expense Request: **Paul D. Corrections Committee Chair** Motion was made for \$939.44 to be used to attend the National Corrections Conference in Oklahoma City, OK on November 10th to 12th 2023. Seconded by the finance committee. Accounts Treasurer confirmed the funds are available. Discussion and questions. A friendly amendment was made to round up the amount to \$1,000.00. Amendment was accepted. Seconded by the finance committee. Accounts Treasurer confirmed the funds are available. Motion passed unanimously.

Presentation of Motion to allow Alternate Committee Chairs voting ability: Sam P. GSR District 14

Area 05 CPC Committee "Talk to the Doctor" Project: **Sue S. CPC Committee Chair** We. Have created a packet that can be given to your doctor. We have had members give them to health care professionals and have received good feedback. It can also be modified for any professional you may come in contact with, Clergy, Judges, Law Enforcement. The next Area meeting, Area Committee Meeting (ACM), will be held November 18th, 2023. Hosted by? **Good and Welfare Announcements**

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting, closing with the Responsibility Pledge in Spanish and English.

Published as Submitted

Russian Roulette

I am a procrastinator. I always choose short term pleasure for long term pain. A little bit of pleasure up front in exchange for a life of pain.

I never thought I was an alcoholic because I never drank every day except Spring Break or some other obvious excuse to be a total heathen. Seven out of ten times I could drink like a gentleman; half a bottle of wine with a girlfriend or cocktails with my parents. I could act responsibly and be the charming life of the party. Other times I was playing Russian Roulette with my mind and my life. I would be the angry blackout drunk that drove 30 miles closing one eye so that the lanes stopped multiplying in my vision, only remembering snap shots of

the drive home, waking up in a puddle of my own vomit the next day. But no, I'm not an alke like you!

My sobriety journey began when my little sister attended rehab. In solidarity with her, I decided to be clean and sober while she was in treatment in Los Angeles, where I lived. Within a month of not drinking, I started to have panic attacks. They got so bad I had to quit my job and attend intensive therapy. My therapist suggested that I begin attending AI Anon meetings, which lead me to Adult Children of Alcoholics. At the time, I had no idea I was an alcoholic, although I was lying to my therapist about the quantities and intervals of the drugs and alcohol I was consuming. My life wasn't improving as I was barely employed and my friendships were troubled. Drugs and alcohol were the way I processed the world. I didn't drink and use <u>every</u> day, so I didn't think it was a problem. I thought I was killing it in life!

I had finally met my match in a girlfriend who partied harder than me. In our first six months we went to Burning Man. I had just enough money for a trip to the desert to blow out my mind and limp back to reality. On the way home I turned 40. I didn't drink or use that day. It was the worst day of my life. I was hung over with no job and no future. I was broken. I knew that my time had come to get sober.

On January 1, 2017, I informed my girlfriend that we were both getting sober, because *SHE* had the problem and I just wanted to quit. Someone suggested going to an AA meeting. In an AA meeting for *HER*, I heard the phrase "restless, irritable and discontent" and I knew they were talking about me. I was home. I had been that way my whole life when I wasn't drinking and using. In fact, I was crawling out of my skin with anxiety and dread when I didn't have my chemical tools. I am an addict and alcoholic, but nothing brought me closer to death and total life destruction than my drinking, so I have stayed in Alcoholics Anonymous.

I learned that my drinking is a disease of the mind and body and that I'm spiritually sick. It is a disease of perception. I viewed the world through a sick lens of selfishness and self-centeredness that only led to isolation, desperation, and self-destruction. I need the steps, the fellowship, and meetings to unwind my sick thinking. Each day I must renew a personal connection with my higher power in a way that is meaningful to me, so that I can experience the joy and beauty of life and not live in a state of perpetual fear. My pain and suffering are no longer meaningless. The only way that I can access this wisdom is through a spiritual experience. I have tools and teachers, all gifted to me through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. One day at a time, one step at a time, I find myself and the true direction that my life was meant to take. In AA, on my best days I don't struggle against the flow of life, it always takes me in the right direction.

-Ricardo HF Los Angeles, CA



To the ACYPAA Advisory Board,

The Southern California Area Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous (Area 05) would like to offer its support to the Los Angeles County Young People's (LACYPAA) bid to host the 2025 ACYPAA Convention in Los Angeles. LACYPAA has been an outstanding service committee in Southern California since 1997, and their dedicated service has extended far beyond the YPAA community in Area 05.

It has been a pleasure to watch the evolution of LACYPAA as a YPAA committee and their efforts to connect and inspire young people across Los Angeles County. Their dedication to service in the young people's community of Alcoholics Anonymous is unwavering.

We are confident that the Los Angeles County Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous committee would be an outstanding host for the ACYPAA convention in 2025. Their hard work, passion, and expertise would undoubtedly make the convention an unforgettable and transformative experience for all attendees.

We support LACYPAA's bid to host the 2025 ACYPAA Convention, and we recommend them as an exceptional choice for this important responsibility.

In love and service,

WINTER ASSEMBLY AGENDA Saturday, January 20th, 2024 First Presbyterian Church 869 N Euclid Ave - Upland, CA 91786 Zoom Meeting ID: 891 0086 2280 Passcode: area05

8:00	Registration & Fellowship (Zoom & In-Person)
9:00	2 Minutes Silent Meditation & Serenity Prayer
	Call-to-Order
	Welcome and Opening Comments
	AA Birthdays (October 16th – January 20th)
0.45	The Twelve Concepts (Short Form) - Spanish and English
9:15	Introduction of New General Service Representatives and Alternates
9:25	Roll Call (Registrar, Jennifer C.)
9:35	Approval of January 20th Assembly Agenda (Chair, Gola R.)
	Approval of October 15th Assembly Minutes (Secretary, Shawn A.)
9:45	Delegate's Report (Doug S.)
11:00	Coffee Break and Morning Stretch
11:15	Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Meetings
12:00	Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Reports – 2-to-3-minute summary
12:45	General Service Conference Process & Pre-Conference Workshop Presentation (<i>Nikki U., Alternate Delegate</i>)
1:00	Roundtables (Experience, Strength, & Hope - Getting To An Informed Group Conscience)
1:30	Lunch Break
2:15	Officer Reports:
	Alternate Delegate (Nikki U.)
	Secretary (Shawn A.)
	Contributions Treasurer, incl. presentation of 2023 3rd & 4th Quarter Contributions Reports (Brian P.)
	Accounts Treasurer, including presentation of 2023 3rd & 4th Quarter Financial Reports (<i>Amy O.</i>)
	Registrar (Jennifer C.) Chairperson (Gola R.)
2:45	Pacific Region AA Service Assembly (PRAASA) 2024 Presentation (<i>Lauren A., Past Delegate Panel 71</i>)
3:00	Report back from Hispanic Women's Workshop (<i>Olga M., Hispanic Women's Workshop Chair</i>)
3:10	Report back from Hispanic Foro (Marisol, Area 05 Foro Chair)
3:20	Report back from "Bridging The Gap" Workshop (Mark S., Treatment Facilities Committee Chair)
3:30	Report back from 7th Annual National AA Corrections Conference (Paul D., Corrections Committee Chair)
3:40	Unfinished Business:
	Area 05 Letter of Support for LACYPAA's ACYPAA 2025 Bid (<i>Kiko P., CYC Committee Chair</i>)
3:50	New Business:
	Presentation of 2024 Area 05 Budget (Arnulfo G., Finance Committee Chair)
3:55	Good & Welfare
1.00	Closing: Moment of Silence & Responsibility Statement (Spanish & English)
4:00	