

## **Mid-Southern California Delegate Area 09**

Area Service Committee

Sunday June 8, 2008

Meeting was called to order by Chair Jason S. at 10:00am with the Declaration of Unity.

**Readings: Declaration of Unity, Michael F. Dist. 1, Benigno M. Dist. 25 A.S.C. Statement of Purpose and Membership, Russ S. Dist 19, Angela Ar. Dist. 20 Tradition 6, Mary Ann M. Dist. 6, Chepy C. Dist. 24 Concept 6, Yvonne B. Dist. 6, Marvin C. Dist.**

### **Approval of 2008 February and March ASC minutes**

Motion to accept February minutes by Alex N. Approved with corrections. To remove all last names from minutes.

Motion to accept March minutes by Gil. Approved.

### **Delegate's Report– Joe B.**

- There will be multiple vacancies for non-trustee directors on AA World Services Board in 2009. Resumes must be submitted by July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008
- There is a vacancy for non-trustee Director of AA Grapevine. Resumes must be submitted by July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008
- There is a vacancy for Class A Trustee of the General Service Board. Resumes must be submitted by July 18<sup>th</sup> 2008.
- There is a vacancy for Class B Trustee at Large/US. Our Areas candidate's resume must be turned in to GSO before January 1<sup>st</sup> 2009.
- There is a continuing need for AA members to correspond with the still suffering alcoholic behind the walls.
- Pertaining to a letter from Rick W. please be aware of International Convention and Regional Forum dates when planning local conventions and round-ups.
- Pertaining to a letter for Warren S.: GSO is seeking experiences regarding carrying the message to Treatment Facilities, where out-patient care is one approach used to assist the still suffering alcoholic.
- Pertaining to a letter from Irene K. thanks MSCA for submitting a request for an agenda item asking the conference committee on PI to review the policies concerning the creation of new TV PSA's and the automatic retirement of the oldest PSA's.
- Mike and I will continue giving our delegates reports to the Districts over the next few weeks, so far we have given reports to the District's 9, 10 & 15. We are scheduled to give reports to Districts 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14, 17, 18 & 20 soon. If you have not scheduled a report back with me as of this time, please see me and let's get one scheduled for your district.

### **Officers' Report:**

#### **Alt. Delegate: Mike M.**

Today I stand where my journey in general service began 8 years ago, in District 1. All the lessons I've learned as a GSR and since have led me to this point. I wish I was as excited about

General Service now as I was then. My heart lifts when I see a new GSR or a new face here at the area. One of the first things I learned in General Service was compromise. *Joe has graciously asked me to fill in for him which has been my pleasure.* He has also asked me to come with him as he makes his reports to the districts for the 58<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference. We as Officers try to work together to ensure the hand of AA is there for those many lucky enough to find AA. I along with the other area officers hope that this panel can put to use what we've learned as we all strive to do our jobs better. Thank you for the privilege of serving you and the groups of Mid-Southern California. I look forward to visiting many more Districts and working with Committees.

**Treasurer: Linda H.**

Each time I open a contribution envelope, I get reminded that "We have to give this away to keep it" and that includes our Group contributions which support Mid Southern California Area 09.

When I took this position in January, we had \$16,582.97 now we have \$11,734.67 and after today, I will be paying expenses and receiving money from the food kitty and groups.

The post office has been visited about four times. I am mindful that at our January Assembly, we approved a budget! As your Mid-Southern California Area 09 Treasurer, please keep in mind that we need to be prudent in spending the Group's 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions. Possible solutions: combining committees that overlap, doing away with committees who are inactive, reducing money spent on food and doughnuts, (remember this is an Area Service Meeting/Assembly) also have the Newsletter bi-monthly except for agenda and maps. We need to take time on minutes and proposals. Some of General Service Representatives and District Officers are confused because of the hurried way we have motion, second, vote.

As your Treasurer, it would be preferable to phone me @ 310-373-2947 or email me rather than going to the Finance Committee Chair. I have the checkbook and sign checks that do not require an override which must go to the Area Assembly.

Those Chairs that are fortunate enough to have Spanish Co-Chairs, please remember the budget is split 50/50. Please remember that when you meet with your Co-Chair.

**Registrar: Cesar F.**

GSO has been contacted and the Western Directory will be sent to the printers. All changes that were made to the database will be reflected in the new Western Directory. Please continue to send any updates as that is on going. If the DCMC's or DCM have not received their Packets from New York, please let me know and I will make sure you get your package from GSO.

**Secretary: Ruth D.**

None of sign in sheets distributed last month were ever handed in. Please make sure you hand in your districts sheets this month. All minutes submitted by committees and DCMC's will be put into the minutes for permanent record, please be concise. You can e-mail your report. FYI: After I type up the minutes they are distributed and approved by our area chairperson Jason S. or our delegate Joe B. After they are approved by one of them, they are brought to the ASC/Assembly for approval by the Area 09 body. They are then sent to the web master to post on the website (per the guidelines).

**Area Chair: Jason S.**

**Old Business**

Ad Hoc Committee Report – 6/8/08  
(Submitted by Patrick S. to Area 9 @ ASC in Redondo Beach)

I was asked to be a part of this Ad Hoc committee in Jan. '08 and at that time was told the purpose of the committee was to determine what to do with our former Delegates. I was also told that we were going to review the Area Guidelines and additionally determine some way to help audit the Finance Committee &/or Treasurer.

I was told that the Committee Chair did not have a computer with email, but that somebody showed her how to use a web-based email account. I use that same program, so I offered to meet with the Chair and show her what I know about the program. I was also told that most of the communication amongst the Committee would be via email.

Approx. March 1, I was told that we needed to review the Panel 56 Area Minutes and determine what changes/ updates need to be implemented. I discovered on the Area web site that there were a couple of months where there were no Minutes published. Shortly afterwards, I was informed by the current Area Secretary that the missing Minutes were uploaded so I read all of the 2006 and 2007 Area Minutes. I discovered that the word "guideline" appeared 56 times, but that only 16 of these were directly pertinent to the Area Guidelines and issues that should be addressed.

My personal feeling is that there were several important issues which should be addressed:

- 1) Timely availability of Minutes. Other Areas make their Minutes available (either printed or thru the web) within 2-10 days.
- 2) Changing the Servathon to only be held in fall of even numbered years.
- 3) Area Inventory: I could not find any Minutes or Notes for the Area Inventory conducted in 2005; I could only find the Agenda. (After I gave this report, I was told that the Area conducted a more recent Area Inventory, but do not know if there are Minutes or what the results of that Inventory were.)
- 4) Other pertinent issues brought up by previous outgoing Delegate:
  - A) Making Pre-Conference workshop a 2-day event
  - B) Limiting Chairs from serving on more than 1 committee (consecutively), unless nobody else is willing to serve
  - C) Change GSR School to GSR Orientation, stop holding it at every Area meeting and have it only @ Area Assemblies & have it facilitated by the Area Officer on a rotating basis
  - D) Eliminate DCM School

I sent this message to everyone on the committee but got no response. Recently, I received an email from the Chair indicating that she had been doing a lot of traveling, but that she was ready to get busy doing some of the work. She also informed me that she recently tried to send me an email, but accidentally hit the SPAM button instead of the SEND button, so the email she meant to send me did not come thru and I am now flagged as a spammer on her end. One of the other people on the committee also just sent out an email indicating how busy she is and my impression is that she probably should not have taken on the commitment since she is not able to be of service.

### New Business

Renaldo from District 23 is proposing that the GSR Preamble be presented to the General Service Conference for submittal in the Service Manual as part of the General Service Structure.

The Chairperson Jason S. put forth to the Area 09 Body to make the decision a request to present a sense of the direction the body would like to see the officers act on a decision to either;

1. Vote to allow the Area Officers make the decision to determine that money spent on replacement of display material and Literature (separate from the allotted budget) would qualify as an “emergency purchase” under the Policies and Procedures and historical precedent of action taken by the officers when similar situations arose.
2. Declare the ASC a defacto assembly to vote on the reimbursement issue (as this was a time sensitive issue).
3. Take no action at the present time, thereby depriving the Convention Liaison Committee the funds it needs to operate until the September Assembly.  
(The request was made for supplies needed by the Convention Liaison Committee that are required in order for their responsibilities to be met as a committee. Due to unforeseen circumstances the previous set of supplies had been destroyed in storage, which was not known at the time the 2009 Budget was approved.)

The Area 09 Body expressed its wish to allow the Area 09 Officers to take action number 1. By substantial unanimity

## *Standing Committee Reports*

Archives – Joseph: Committee Highlights - I attended PRASSA 2008 and the main topic was about Communications and Sharing Archival information. The Archives 2008 Open House was a great success with the GSO Archivist, Amy F., attending. The Area Archives was present at the Newcomer’s Inland Empire Round-up. Rotating the Archives displays in the main display room. Pete B. attending and presenting the Area Archives at the Seniors in Sobriety Conference (May 20 – 23, 2008). Yvonne B. has started planning for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Day (Oct 11, 08). Movie Night at Archives starting on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Saturday night at 8:30 PM. Movie schedule posted to the Area Web-site. The Collections Sub-committee has developed a Traveling Archives Display Board, and the Archives Committee will develop a total of 3 different traveling archives displays for Archives presentations. Next scheduled meeting is July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 11 AM.

### Communication Committee—Linda C.

1. Draft of Committee Guidelines has been submitted to Area Officers for their review and comments. If there are no conflicts with Area Guidelines, the guidelines could be submitted to the Area Assembly for approval in September.
2. Newsletter Sub Committee: New Newsletter Chair/Editor: Steve S.  
Reminder: we need articles for newsletter every month. Thanks to Nancy R., layout editor, and all contributors.

3. Translation Sub Committee: Chair Jorge M. with the assistance of Jesus O. continues to provide excellent written Spanish translation for the Area including agendas, minutes, newsletters, announcements, flyers, and other documents needed by the Area.
4. Electronic Media Sub Committee: Chair, Henry B., and webservant, Becky B., continue to update, improve and oversee the Area website [www.msca09aa.org](http://www.msca09aa.org)). Both current information and archival information are available, including newsletters, agendas, approved minutes, committee information, notification of upcoming events, ongoing forum topics, and much more.
5. Communications Equipment Sub Committee: This subcommittee needs members who are willing to participate in the process of working with the Finance Committee to assemble an accurate and ongoing inventory of all Area-owned communications related equipment. Please contact Linda C., at [Linda@lje.com](mailto:Linda@lje.com) if interested in serving on this sub-committee.

#### **Cooperation with the Elder Community Committee – Rick H. No Report**

#### **Cooperation with the Professional Community –Michael M.**

The Area 09 CPC made presentations to District 20 and District 24. At the District 20 presentation, a GSR volunteered to be Chair of the District 20 CPC committee and another GSR volunteered to be alternate chair.

A third Committees in Partnership Workshop (CIP) was approved by CPC and PI, to be held on September 27, 2008 at the First Evangelical Free Church in Fullerton on Harbor Blvd. The venue has already been reserved. The area 09 PI Committee has offered to assist with the planning and implementation of the 3rd CIP workshop and has already recruited a speaker. GSO has asked CPC to staff a booth at the 2009 General Convention of the Episcopal Church beginning July 7, 2008 through July 16, 2009.

CPC had an in-between meeting on May 26, 2008 in Riverside with seven attendees including the PI Chair.

CPC has voted to make every attempt to have two meetings per month.

CPC will staff a table at the upcoming Foro

#### **Cooperation with the Professional Community- Santiago**

Planning on having a workshop in September. We will invite professionals and are working on expanding the committee to include more GSR's. Santiago will be giving a presentation at the school where he attends.

#### **Convention Liaison—Michael Mc.**

The CLC attended the "Fellowship of the Spirit West" convention in Big Bear on May 2,3 and 4th. The committee was given a workshop slot in the event and we were able to give an hour long presentation on the general service structure and the importance of participation and unity in the fellowship. The workshop was well attended. This committee also attended a Spanish speaking event and Jose will fill you in on the details of that event during his report.

As discussed earlier we have requested a budget override from the Executive committee and we

are proceeding with that process. Assuming that the funding is available as it sounds like it will be, we are planning on attending the Pow Wow next week.

**Convention Liaison Spanish** – I was present on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of may at the state convention of the Hispanic. There are two events coming up one in Orange County and in August in the Bay Area.

**Corrections** – No Report

**DCM School** – Scott R.

We had about 20 in attendance. We talked about what it means to uphold the traditions and we had an extensive talk on the pros and cons on chanting in meetings and peoples views is it a help or a hindrance? We also talked a little about the topic of higher powers and peoples views on doing the lords prayer in meetings and how we are viewed as religion or cult. I have just been asked to come to dist 7. I am available to any district that needs me.

**Finance** - Joseph M.

Committee has not met since March. Bank statements for April and may received. No data regarding income and expense received since April 21<sup>st</sup> which was a partial month. Cooperation with the treasurer will be discussed at today's meeting. We have no information on spending to date by the area.

**Grapevine** – Kimberli A.

Set up display at the Seniors in Sobriety Conference on Queen Mary. All reports were that it was well received. Subscribe, subscribe, subscribe. Please bring your old grapevine issues for exchange on the grapevine table display. So that it is an exchange and no just a take-take situation.

**La Viña** –Angela R.

Angela has been encouraging subscriptions. She also attended the 33<sup>rd</sup> state convention to be able to converse with Jorge from GSO. With the support from my groups I have been able to send the La Vina to El Salvador and Mexico.

**GSR School** – John H.

The meeting was absorbed into the DCM school.

**GSR School SPANISH** – Paco G.

We were studying concept VI there were a lot of questions. We were very lucky to have members with a lot of knowledge and answers to all the questions there were asked. We welcomed 6 new GSR's and had 3 visitors.

**Literature** - Ernesto

In updating the "What's it All About" pamphlet we are keeping track of all the changes. We will be including the Mid-Southern California Delegate Area 09 contribution report.

**Literature Spanish** – Antonio

We are working with the “What’s it All About” pamphlet. It is difficult without the proper software to make the necessary changes. That is on its way, as it has been ordered. As for the soon to be added contribution report, there are some groups are not active or have a Spanish speaking meetings, and we will need to add these. We are open to suggestions and direction.

#### **Public Information – Kay M.**

Flyers were made and handed out at the last assembly in May 08 regarding the young peoples video project. Jason S. chair would like to get 25 submissions from area 09 and members are encouraged to continue announcing this information. Mark R. of H&I health and Safety Fair on Wednesday June 25<sup>th</sup> in Anaheim needs two volunteers to help at this event. Kay M. (P.I.Chair) has the equipment for this event along with all the info. P.I. and C.P.C. are going to work cooperatively in putting on a workshop in cooperation with the professional community and we will meet today to begin planning.

#### **Public Information Spanish – Francisco D.**

We attended the inter district meeting. We also had a meeting with the CPC meeting in cooperation with the PI committee regarding the health fair in Anaheim, I would like to invite districts 24 or 20 to come and join us at this event.

**Registration – David T.** No Report.

**Special Needs - Open**

**Treatment Facilities – Al F.** No Report.

## ***Districts Roll Call***

#### **District 1:**

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service hosting this ASC. General Service Conference report for districts 1 and 2 are on our agenda for approval to take place on July 10<sup>th</sup> in Hermosa Beach Kiwanis club.

#### **District 2:**

Two new GSR’s, vacated the district PI chair. Agreed to fund ¼ of the district 1,2,3, and 4 delegate report back.

#### **District 4:**

One new GSR, Alex gave a report that his district sent to find out what he could, and he is learning all the he can at this time.

#### **District 5:**

Our PI committee staffed a booth yesterday at the Cops Expo at the Block of Orange. Nearly 5000 in attendance. One group issue, an issue concerning singleness of purpose at a group with a new GSR who wasn’t sure what to do. We directed her to the “Problems Other Than Alcohol” pamphlet. Our delegate report back is on Thursday with 3 other districts.

#### **District 6:**

Seven in attendance today. Our meeting moved to 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday. Scott R. is planning a traditions workshop to be held at Newport Club (date to be announced). District will meet along with districts 5, 7, & 18 on June 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday night at 6:30 for delegate’s feedback at the Tustin Church of the Foothills.

### **District 7:**

We had two in attendance today. We will have our report back on Tuesday. We are working towards more participation in our district.

### **District 8 -:**

Our district has started a public information project to supply local libraries with AA literature. We will be hosting a 4 District Delegate report back this June 18 at 7pm - at our regular district 8 meeting place: The Grand Terrace Community Center, in Grand Terrace off Barton Rd. Other Districts included will be 11, 14, & 17.

### **District 9:**

We had Joe our delegate come out and give his report last Sunday. We had 30 GSR's and officers in attendance. We all enjoyed his reports and many were glad to get to know him better. Thanks Joe, they all loved you.

Last month we elected a much needed new treasurer, Paul.

Our District is hosting the Unity Day Picnic Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am-3pm at Turkey Creek across from Lake Hemet. Tickets are \$6.

### **District 12:**

Successful Memorial Day picnic about 450 people attended. Moving to a new location for meetings. Our old location is being torn down for 55 and over living. We plan on inviting our delegate out to share his experience in new year.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in November we will have a Tradition Day play and lunch.

### **District 14 -**

We have two open positions, Registrar and Secretary. We are taking and sending the flyer our District composed to groups to encourage contributions. Also we are looking into various workshops such as, Traditions and Secretary, these are down the road for us. A DCM meeting is in store to get members on the same page.

### **District 15**

Like to thank our Delegate Joe B. and Mike M. for their reports. Our district is working on a meeting place for September Assembly which we will be hosting.

### **District 17**

We have a couple positions we are trying to fill.

### **District 18 -**

Former Delegate Nancy J. attended our last District meeting and gave a great felt board presentation on the AA Service Structure. We have had regular scheduled day and time logistic challenges for our monthly meeting with out Host due to their internal workings but we will be returning to our regular scheduled day 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6650 Alton in Irvine. Our Group expressed concerns that in the Orange County meeting directory the Intergroup states District contributions are optional. Still working on Oct. Heritage Day Facility - co-hosting with other Districts. Preparations are on track for ASC in December. Discussed revision of Dist. 18 guidelines - not done since 2000.

### **District 20 -**

We had 20 in attendance today. We hold our business meeting every Monday without any excuse. In the same manner we also visit the groups with information on methods to follow in regards to the community and self support. Reports are also given on the past conference using the delegates report and box 4-5-9. We are grateful to be hosting the Area Committee in May.

### **District 21 -**

We are working on reporting to the groups. Information from the delegate and area officers is given to the groups. Conference information is relayed to the groups. All are invited on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to Catalina Island. We have about 6 GSR's that will be attending the Regional Forum.

### **District 22-**

We have 6 in attendance today. Our meetings are held every Tuesday and our next meeting is a six day meeting. We continue to visit two groups a week, thanking the groups for their contributions and for their support. We have a twelve step committee and also La Vina. We also have a committee on Veterans, in our area we celebrate Veterans that have more than 20 years in the program. We formed a committee to visit district 9 in Palm Springs. We will start working with out Intergroup in our area which will be the first week of August in Cathedral City. We also have a committee to work with the forum and district 30. We have a new group called the "Fan the Windmill" in Palm Springs.

### **District 23 –**

Our district is working at visiting the groups to encourage them to participate in General Service. We visit two groups a week. We have a new group in Corona called Serenity. District 23 has guidelines that have a change to them. It is concerning participation which states, "each participate in district 23 will have the opportunity to express his/her idea twice and not to exceed 2-3 minutes. We will also be purchasing a new copier with help from Intergroup. The delegate's reports are being shared with the groups. We make copies and gave them to the GSR's. We also gave the reports on the young peoples video. The district will be celebrating their 18th

### **District 24 –**

We have our business meetings every Tuesday. We are continuing visitations to the groups and encouraging General Service participation and self-support. Our district approved the guidelines. We now have an alternate DCM. We will be celebrating our 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary in June. We continue to work in our district even though the area coffee maker has visited and caused much friction. This same person has become physical and refused to pay for the damages incurred by him. We are letting you know this information because maybe someone here can sponsor him. We have 15 in attendance. Our committee La Vina is working very hard and also the PI and registration committees.

### **District 25 –**

We continue to work in the same manner. We have our meetings every Monday, four Mondays out of every month. The first Mondays the GSR's give their reports, the second Monday they have the opportunity to share, the third is for business matters to be discussed and the fourth Monday is a step study where the service Manuel is studied. We also are studying the district guidelines. We visit two groups a week and visit when invited to celebrate the anniversaries of the groups. In May we had the Intergroup rep visit our district. We also had a visitor explain the structure of the conference.

### **District 30 –**

Carlos V the Alternate DCMC gave the district 30 report and invited all members to attend the FORO in Desert Hot Springs on July 13 at 66700 Pierson Blvd. Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240.

**Recap of actions.**

Feb minutes were approved with the acceptance of omitting the last names. March minutes were approved with no acceptations.

Alex will temporarily serve as acting Corrections Chair.

Patrick will chair the ad hoc committee.

Area Officers approved reimbursement for Convention Liaison Committee.

**BIRTHDAYS**

Mary Ann 30yrs, Francisco 23yrs, Don 6yrs, Gill 29 yrs, Annie 3 yrs, Alex 19 yrs. Alex 3yrs, Ben 25 yrs.

Years of Sobriety Celebrated 138

The ASC was adjourned by the Chair at 1:46pm

“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.”

Minutes Submitted by

Panel 58 Secretary –Ruth D.