

Mid-Southern California Delegate Area 09
Area Service Committee Minutes
Sunday, March 16, 2008

Meeting was opened by Area 09 Chairperson Jason S. at 10:37 with declaration of Unity.

Readings:

Concepts, Jesus D21, Susanne D11, A.S.C. Statement of Purpose and Membership Jose D21, Matthew D8

Approval of 2008 February minutes ASC Nancy J. stated that the minutes should not contain opinions and that they contained too many errors. She requested more time to go through them for corrections. The minutes were ultimately not approved when Pete motioned to table minutes until the next ASC (June) so that corrections could be made in the meantime, Jeryl made a 2nd to that motion. All approved.

Delegate's Report– Joe B.

I want to thank the area 09 for sending me to PRAASA., I went with reservations and returned renewed. A full report of my trip there will appear in the next newsletter. My phone number has changed, so please check the roster for my new number. The Grapevine has a article on tradition 3, “Real recovered, grateful” – I am recommending that you read it if possible. Some information on our literature: the 2nd edition of the Spanish edition of the “Big Book” is selling for \$20 a case & “Inmate to inmate” is also on sale for \$5 a case to make room for a new addition. Lastly, GSO is accepting resumes for the General Manager position, see me for a blank copy of the resume

Officers Report :

Alt. Delegate: Mike M.

PRAASA was so great I think I'll spend a fair amount of my report on it. First, thank you for the opportunity to attend this event. It's a chance to see old friends and create new ones. I traveled with Jason or as I'll call him from now on “the Voucher King”. Our 5pm flight out of Long Beach was canceled so we were taken to John Wayne Airport. Six hours later (after the flight to Seattle) we used a “voucher” for a hotel. With three hours sleep it was off to Anchorage. A tip for those going through Airports these days, don't wear lace up boots, they take forever to remove & put back on! In my effort to save the area money I found a great hotel in Alaska for seventy nine dollars and it was a suite! Anchorage was of course breath-taking and after arriving and leaving our bag we walked to the convention center to pick-up our registration and meet people. One of the first from our area I saw was David S. at the bottom of the escalator welcoming us officially to PRAASA 2008. He had volunteered to be of service at PRAASA and typifies the spirit of PRAASA making sure a friendly hand was there for all. In terms of helpfulness, Alaska was very warm. Everyone I saw was cheerful and eager to help in any way

they could; they were perky! I was very tired from all the travel but through the Grace of God I stayed awake. Madeline's opening talk on PRAASA being the "College of Service" reinforced the education PRAASA gives me. There are about 200 groups in area 02 within 663,267 sq. mi.; 80% of the delegate's budget is airfare! Alaska will be celebrating 60 years of general service. WOW, I loved how Madeline said we focus too much on the process rather than the message. Are we building empires rather than working with each other to help others? The Delegate's reports were interesting, the highlights being PRAASA 2009 will be in Oakland (Area 07), PRAASA 2010 in Los Angeles & PRAASA 2011 in Hawaii. Area 03 has 90% participation; am I alone in asking how can we have 90% participation? The 3rd panel on Rotation, Unity and Leadership was great. The main ingredient at PRAASA enthusiasm or as I also heard it described, "God Within". Once again PRAASA reminded me it all starts with one person reaching out their hand. There is a lot more of PRAASA to report so come ask me or call me and let transmit some of that enthusiasm! I've a lot of other things to report so I'll get right to it. District 10 will be hosting our Pre-Conference workshop on April 13 at the La Habra community center. Flyers are available in the back and on our web site in English & Spanish. I've visited Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 21. Just got back from Arroyo Grande in area 93 attending there Pre-Conference with Linda and Bruce. I'll be attending Area 05's Pre-Conference Workshop in Pomona. I learned a lot at PRAASA and hope that this Panel can put to use what I've learned as well as 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.

Thank you so much for sending me to PRAASA. I'm going to give a few highlights and then the treasurer's report:

Rekindling old friendships and making new ones is always great! Although I was prepared for sleet, we really had some nice weather. All the delegates gave their area highlights and it was really interesting how far some had to travel just to get to an area meeting. For me the real highlight was the treasurer's roundtable; about 25 area treasurers were present and some district treasurer's and an Area committee chair who was part of his area structure as treasurer for that committee.

Six topics were picked as follows:

1. Separate accounts-area treasurer and committee chair treasurer.
2. Rebuilding finances.
3. District checking accounts.
4. How each area structures funding for people attending PRAASA.
5. Reporting financial status of H & I, Archives and other committees who have a treasurer.
6. 501@ structure.

All area treasurers had a finance committee with a finance chair who facilitated the meeting and did the agenda usually 10-15 days ahead of time and the finance chair only voted in case of a tie and helped the area treasurer when asked.

Idaho "in order to prudently manage the area's funds", adopts an annual budget at each spring assembly. The budget is valid for 1 year beginning July 1st (immediately following its adoption) and ending on June 30 of the following year.

The majority of treasurer's used Quick Books because they stated you can easily do forms 990 and 1099's and reconcile quickly. My friend Barry who was a guest of the panel 56 Idaho delegate last year was the facilitator and did a great job getting all 30 Treasurers involved. It was really awesome to see the similarities and the differences in our 15 Pacific Region Area Treasurers.

Great news! 2007 ended with 51% over 28% to general service board 6.38 per year per member to GSO and we would be fully self-supporting and that would be super.

Registrar: Cesar F.

19 guests/visitors, 31 GSRs, 93 DCMCs, committees chairs and officers. I am working diligently on updating the group forms & has distributed most of the groups update sheets. There are 136 groups active & 173 merged groups; 347 groups unknown & 11 pending still in Area 09. There are a total of 1,966 Group in Mid. So. California.

I was able to attend the 4 area DCM sharing session for the purpose to find some other area registrars and I couldn't find anyone, but I shared my experience strength and hope on some round tables.

I made contact with most DCMC's in regard to the Group update forms. It took me a little while because I had to download myself from the new version fellowship database and print the entire groups forms. I want to thank Linda and mike for helping me with Districts 1, 2, 3 & 4. Also thank Joe for being with me on making contact with Districts 5, 6, 7, 10 & 12. Lastly I would like to thank David T., Standing Committee Registration Chair for all of his help too. The rest of the Districts excluding District 15 have been contacted. Any of the ones missed will have an extended deadline,

The 1990 General Service Conference recommended that the General Service Office delay processing new A.A. group information forms for 30 days in order to allow the local A.A. Structure to participate in the process. Since January 1st, 2008 we have 28 new groups registered at GSO, some of these groups are still in the process of being officially registered.

DCMC's and Standing Committee Chairs: when I registered your name into the NVF, Fellowship New Vision database your service position was assigned with a service number if you want to know your number please see me after my report or after the meeting.

Thank you all for letting me be of service.

Secretary: Ruth D.

Area Chair: Jason S.

Attended PRAASA. Jason stated we have the best archives in the Pacific Region. DCMC orientation will be March 29th at the archives at 10 am.

PRAASA Reports.

A number of DCMC's and alt DCMC's had opportunity to share their experience in Alaska and at PRAASA.

Standing Committee Reports

Archives – Joseph

1. Joseph H. area archives chair attended PRAASA 2008 and had a great time at the archives roundtables.
2. Charles K Area Archivist presented Presentation at the High Desert, Victorville A.A. convention march 7-9th. 3
3. Proposed Guidelines for spending archive funds by the archives committee treasurer.
4. Two items from PRAASA 2009 to be housed at the area archives (signed PRAASA 08 program by the Russian AAer and Alaska 60th A.A. birthday cup).

Upcoming

1. April 5th-6th GSO archivist, Amy Filiatreau to attend MSCA 09 Archive open house.
2. April 19th Archive presentation at the newcomer's roundup with General Service .
3. March 29th I'll be hosting the DCMC Orientation at the archive repository.

Communication Committee—Linda C.

The Area Communications Committee came into being in January 2008 per Area Assembly action in 2007 as an umbrella committee incorporating four sub-committees: translations, equipment, newsletter, and electronic media. The members of the committee have been meeting almost daily via email communication and have met once face-to-face following the February ASC. The committee chair made contact with the chair of the Area 69(Utah) Communications Committee at PRAASA who has offered to be a resource of experience, strength and hope as they have one and a half years of experience under their belt.

The Area Chair asked the ACC to make a recommendation concerning the sound equipment purchased in January. After thorough review and research, the committee submitted its recommendation to the area board in February to retain the equipment.

The Newsletter Sub-committee is in need of a chair/coordinator to have the monthly newsletter printed and assembled for distribution at the area events. Nancy R. will serve as the Layout/editor. Thank you to Russ D. for making certain that the newsletter was printed and available for distribution.

The Translations Sub-committee will need volunteer translators to serve as an associate member of the sub-committee. Thank you to Cesar who has made sure that all materials have been translated since the middle of January.

The Equipment Sub-committee needs a chairperson who will, among other duties, survey the current inventory of all equipment owned by the area and help maintain a current inventory of the equipment. Other duties will be reviewed during guidelines discussion this afternoon.

The Electronic media sub committee has been busy: the new web servant, Becky, has made several changes on the website to better served the area. Among the changes are a new search engine to find things on the MSCA site; new color blend and font clean up; an Area and District guideline page. The Workbook is posted in a PDF file and Minutes and Agenda Archives are easy to find. In addition, she has made certain that numerous requests for service have been answered with professional and courteous response. The forum topics and comments have been posted in a timely way, as have the newsletter, agendas, and notices of coming events. She is working on email lists to shield members from personal spam problems and has communicated with the Web Server what are possible improvements and/or changes.

The ACC chair thanks each and every member of the ACC committee for his and her extraordinary service during these first few weeks of the committee's existence. The committee

members have been challenged to work quickly, carefully and cooperatively; they have done so with courtesy, humor and devotion.

Cooperation with the Elder Community Committee – Rick H.

Cooperation with the Professional Community –Michael M.

We will begin giving district presentations this month, several districts have asked. We plan to meet with AOCYPAA and ICYPAA to brainstorm and develop panels to go into schools. At PRAASA I learned about a mandate requiring a newly released inmate to attend a monthly panel of professionals of which CPC was invited to be a part of . We will follow up to determine if this exists or can exist in So. Cal. (pact).

Convention Liaison—Michael Mc.

Convention Liaison Spanish – Open

Corrections -

DCM School – Scott R.

Finance - Joseph M.

We plan to discuss finance guidelines & cooperation between the FC and the Treasurer. Possible recommendations regarding budget adjustments for the following: translator's contract rate and mileage, non-emergency equipment purchase additional funding for registrar. Other matters will include the progress for the arranging of the annual audit & background material for GSO finance agendas.

Grapevine – Kimberli A.

I received background info on Grapevine topics/agenda items for pre-conference workshop. The Grapevine committee will be previewing roundtable discussion items per background info. In meeting today I will ask of any reports from Grapevine Reps that attended PRAASA 2008 in Alaska. Past Grapevine chair Linda C. passed to me archival issue of grapevine and a current issue of "Ratkaisu" the Finnish version for the grapevine (the solution). Thank you very much Linda!!! Upcoming: we have been invited by CEC Committee to set up a display at the Seniors in Sobriety Conference on the Queen Mary May 20-23, thanks for the invite. Still reminding everyone to "sponsor a subscription of the grapevine for a newcomer, group or your health care professionals office." Subscribe! Subscribe! Subscribe!

La Viña –Ángela R.

GSR School – John H.

GSR School SPANISH – Paco G.

Literature - Ernesto

Literature Spanish –

Newsletter –

Newsletter Spanish

Public Information – Kay M.

Public Information Spanish – Francisco D.

Registration – David T. Meeting opened at 2:30 p.m. We had 7 in attendance.

Jason S. and Cesar F. showed joined the roundtable later on. Dave went to DCM school this morning and invited the DCMs to show up at the Registration Roundtable. Announced we can

mail group updates directly to GSO as well as sheets without updates need not be sent. Dave asked Bill W. (Dist. 7) about past updates. Bill explained the new format is much better. Also stated Serenity Hall has moved locations from Dist. 10 to Dist. 7. Juan F. (Dist. 20) has received info on 22 groups and only needs to complete few more. Dave announced the deadline to complete updates is April 15th. Updates to be post marked by March 30th if DCMs are going to mail them. Gave examples on how to make changes on updates sheets. GSO Database wants to know if the meeting is open or closed. Anthony B. (Dist. 1) gave a brief report on his progress and expressed time limit is too short and was asking for help from fellow AAs. Jason S. informed us the success rate of group updates is about 20%. Updates received by May 15th will be processed in the Regional Directory and all others received after that date will be processed in the New Visions Database. Jason reassured us all that this is and will be an ongoing process.

Special Needs - Open

Treatment Facilities – AI F.

Districts Call

District 5 – Considered opening up a CEC committee and the district voted not to do that at this time. No meetings since last assembly. We are grateful to have been hosts of the January Assembly; we understand in the future a larger facility is necessary or one with no tables. 13 of 19 service positions filled although we may lose our CPC chair. 4 of 12 DCM's filled. We look forward to a visit by area 09 Delegate Joe B. in April for a Pre-Conference Pep-Talk.

District 6 –.

We had 4 new GSR's at our district meeting, participation at DCM Sharing Session and PRASSA as well as workshops in the district. DCM positions are filled as well as 80% of committee, an intense focus on service sponsorship has yielded a greater follow-through n commitments. We are working with Intergroup to enrich a flagging relationship and better serve the alcoholic both entities set out to serve, through communication and workshop. Upcoming/future events; past delegate/trustee Q&A april 1; secretary workshop march 29th. Traditions workshop April 19th. Archives presentation and traditions play to be scheduled.

District 11 –

NO quorum, held a question and answer period for the GSR's.

District 12 –

Before each meeting a traditions and concept workshop is held between 6:30-7:30. Our district sent two people to PRAASA; Secretary and Treasurer, both 1st timers. We have two positions open, Alternate DCMC and 2009 MSCA coordinator. Our website is up and running again, our Webmaster had health issues but is back now. A Memorial day picnic is coming and we will have flyers very soon.

District 14 –

We would like to develop a GSR orientation for our District. Also district 14 is in the process of developing a district website.

Recap of actions.

Ad hoc committee for 50th year of area 09 celebration.

Tabled Feb. minutes until June.

BIRTHDAYS

Rich W. 4yrs., Keith S. 4yrs. Bill C. 33yrs. Joseph M. 17yrs. Leandro C. 13yrs. Ernesto. M. 23yrs.

94 Years of Sobriety were celebrated.

THE ASC ADJOURNED at 1:20pm

“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.”

Panel 58 Secretary –Ruth D.