

**Mid-Southern California Area 9 Service Committee Minutes
June 14, 2009**

Meeting was called to order by Jason at 12:45pm with the Serenity Prayer.

Readings:

Readings: Declaration of Unity: Jose D21, Don D9, A.S.C. Statement of Purpose and Membership: Jesse , Keith D5, Tradition 6: Carmen D4, Brian D 18 , Concept 6: Leandro D20, Scott D6.

Approval of 2009 March Area Service Committee minutes . Rich motioned to approve minutes, motion carried with one spelling correction.

Officers Report :

Delegate's Report– Joe B.

I have received several Group updates that I have forwarded to our registrar Cesar.

My visits include Districts 23 and 24's anniversary, Officers meeting, Mike and I have given report backs to districts: 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 18, 22, 24, and 25. Thank you for your warm welcome and hospitality. We have scheduled in the next month Districts 8, 11, 19, 20, 21.

GSO cut backs... In addition to the price increase the management at our General Service Office has implemented some cost reduction measures. Employee salary, hiring freeze on permanent positions freeze effective March 2009, Archives expansion/remodel placed on hold, deferred the ceiling and lighting project, sending hard copies of documents only when requested saved a significant amount of money, Box 459, markings and about AA are also available digitally upon request. Box 459 has been reduced to a quarterly publication. A reduction of cost for the AAWS board meeting.

2010 International convention I know many of us are excited about the International Convention and eager for detailed information. As the time gets closer, additional information about the Convention and San Antonio, our host city, will be provided. Watch for articles in Box 4-5-9 that is mailed to the general service representative of every group in the U.S. and Canada listed with G.S.O. and posted on the Web site. www.aa.org. Convention registration and housing reservations will open in Fall 2009. All necessary information will be included in the registration packet which will be available in September 2009. This packet will list numbers to call for answers to specific questions about housing, the program, tours, etc. The information will be mailed to A.A. groups, offices and contacts around the world and posted on the Web site. www.aa.org

Grapevine and La Vina; Let's see if our Area can meet the challenge from the other 93 areas and subscribe to 100 subscriptions of each.

Invited area to share about 7th tradition. Several GSRs went to microphone and shared their ideas.

Alt. Delegate: Mike M.

Joe has graciously asked me to come with him as he makes his reports to the districts from the 59th General Service Conference. I have had the privilege of doing reports with our Delegate in districts 1, 6, 9, 22, 24 and 25. Like any position I have held, the pleasure comes from being of service. 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. We as officers should work together to ensure the hand of AA is there for those who need it. Sadly some only know how to criticize rather than cooperate to find solutions. Now a question has come up on who runs the area. I always thought it was a loving God as expressed through the group conscience. It is that conscience expressed in the 3rd legacy that elected me and my fellow officers. I believe that is the Assembly that should run the Area through the Officers it elects. Others believe that we have a self-electing board that has authority over the officers and the Area. This was not the intent in 1988 when MSCA filed as a nonprofit. We as your elected trusted servants are trying to clear this up for the next panel. In this panel we have wasted too much of our time fighting turf wars over who should do what rather than actually helping alcoholics. Once again I must remember that none of us does this alone and I am just one of many lucky enough to find AA.

Treasurer: Linda H.

Many positive responses to my question on posting the Mid-Southern California Area 09 Budget in PDF form on the Website once approved. Those who contact me were hungry to provide their groups with information on where their contribution goes. Their feelings were quite strong and as their Treasurer, I encouraged them to ask questions via phone or email. It was a breath of fresh air that these General Service Representatives were interested in Financial News that may affect their group. As always I like to thank all who contributed and give them an update. As of 6/10/09 our balance was \$9,402.55 compared to \$12,556.37 on 6/10/08, a deficit of \$3,153.82. I received a note of apology from the Treasurer of a group who had dwindled to 3 to 6 members stating they wished they could give more. I applaud this group for giving. After all every little bit helps and it takes courage to give when you are down – no apology needed. I attended the Area Officers meeting 5/27/09, visited District 3 and District 1 where I got to listen to Joe B., our Panel 58 Delegate's report back and Mike M., our Panel 58 Alternate Delegate give the financial portion of the report back. We have to remember the upside down triangle. Groups, represented by General Service Representatives are at the top of the list. Also, if as a Committee Chair, you have questions regarding your budget, please do not hesitate to email me at lbhenry1@earthlink.net.

Registrar: Cesar F.

My report today is that the Registrar computer went bad or is broken since last month. We are in the process of fixing it or doing something else. I've been forwarding the registration forms to GSO since I'm not using the computer to update information. Thanks to Jesus and Jorge from District 24 for helping me on the registration table this morning. Today we have 42 GSRs, 59 District Officers, Committee Chairs & Area Officers, 7 visitors/guests for a total of 117 in attendance.

Secretary: Sharon K.

I recently emailed an updated roster to the Area DCMs, officers and committee chairs. If you did not receive it please let me know. Also, please turn in your district sign in sheets to me by the end of the meeting so that I can update the roster. If you didn't pick up a district sign-in sheet I have them available up here for districts. Committee Report forms are available up here. If at any time you have changes to your district or committee members feel free to email me at sharonsdogs@aol.com or you can submit the changes to me in writing at the area meeting. In an effort to save money for the area I have sought low cost ways to make copies of the minutes and am happy to say I cut this month's expense nearly in half. I also attended my first area officer meeting.

Area Chair: Jason S. no report

Old Business

Bruce H. Motion has been taken off the table. to Prohibit Finance Chair from changing Assembly Approved Budget until the next assembly meets.

New Business

Presentation: Carrie, District 18 had to requests of the assembly: 1) asked the assembly to request A.A.W.S. to rescind the contract with Amazon to sell the Big Book online for Kindle. 2) Ask A.A.W.S. to request permission from the groups to sell the Big Book for Kindle on Amazon.com in compliance with Tradition 2 and Tradition 9.

Standing Committee Reports

Archives – Joseph H.

May 31, 2009 Archives Open House at the new Area Archives Repository with ribbon cutting ceremony with George S., who celebrated 50 years of sobriety on June 11, 2009. Joe B., Area Delegate, and Pete B., Area Archivist were present. In attendance were about 60 – 70 AA members including Area 05 Archivist and Area 93 Archives Committee. All those attending the open house signed sticky notes to put their day of sobriety, year, and 1st general service position on the 50th MSCA09 Anniversary timeline. Upcoming events include Archives presentation at the 2009 Foro on July 12; Archives presentation at District 5 on July 9th; Archives presentation at District 1. Both Districts 1 and 5 are celebrating 50 years of General Service of MSCA 09.

Communication Committee—Linda C.

The Communications Equipment Sub Committee Chair is Al W. He is available to help area members identify what equipment is available and for repair and replacement of area-owned equipment. All submissions of newsletter articles, website postings, translations and communications equipment requests or questions should be made to the Chair, Linda C., who will make sure that the appropriate sub-committee is informed or contacted. Electronic media subcommittee will be looking for a qualified replacement for the web coordinator for the next panel (experienced in website coding). Also, please submit topics for the online Forum.

Newsletter chair encourages everyone to submit articles and/or news about area committee events, projects and ideas.

Translations: The translations sub-committee is at your disposal for any report or article you'd like to translate. Please contact Linda C., Jorge M. or myself in order to get it done either via telephone or email. We are currently making 20 copies of the Newsletter for each Spanish speaking districts. Please let us know if you need more. Also if you'd like for us to send it via email to save on copying costs we can do that, too. Thank you Jesus O. for Jorge M.

Cooperation with the Elder Community Committee – Rick H. no report

Convention Liaison—Michael Mc. No report

Convention Liaison Spanish – Jose A. I attended the last state wide convention in Visalia, May 22 - 24th., the South Bay Convention (Congreso) Aug. 14 - 16th, 2009 in Rancho Dominguez. Next Convention is in Orange County October 4 - 6.

Corrections – Alex O. No report

DCM School – Scott R. Helped answer questions of new Alt. DCMC from District 18. He wanted to know what his job entailed, and the process of voting. I gave him my number if he had any questions.

Finance - Joseph M. Committee Chair asked Treasurer to submit electronic updates on contributions and expenses as soon as they are completed. Treasurer agreed to do this. Upcoming events: 2010 Budget Process. The process starts in August with budget requests being submitted to committees.

Grapevine – Kimberli A. Please see website: www.aagrapevine.org for address changes for Grapevine. June 2009 issue marks the 65th anniversary of the Grapevine. See this special anniversary issue for special celebratory articles. Subscribe Now! The cost of subscriptions is going up July 2009. Newest book: “Voices of Long Term Sobriety” are stories of old-timers, cost is \$9.95. 2009 Grapevine budget for projected average circulation is 7,000 less than in 2008. Circulation for last 11 years is on the decline. 2009 budget highlight of Grapevine/La Vina. Bill W., District 7 has had some of his photography accepted for publication by the Grapevine. Also, I have the latest catalog with updated prices as of January 2009.

La Viña –Ángela R. We'd like to report that we had 10 people attend. There are also 6 Spanish speaking districts and I have found out that 4 of them are dying out since no longer have La Vina Chairs. We'd also like to report that we have 3 new subscriptions. We continue to encourage the magazine within the two committees that are active in districts 20 and 21. We've exchanged some ideas amongst ourselves. We want to the active La Vina Reps. in the groups. The La Vina Choir of district 20 is working very well and has been able to get 7 new reps. for a total of 8 and they have 15 new subscriptions. And district 21 has 8 new subscriptions.

GSR School – John H. no report

GSR School SPANISH – Paco G. Good morning and thank you for allowing me to serve. We started the meeting with the serenity prayer. We discussed Concept VI with districts attending 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25. We had some questions regarding the literature sale by Amazon.com. We had 25 GSR's and 3 Alternate GSR's and LVR's (La Vina Reps.). We ended the meeting Responsibility Pledge. Thanks to AA, to you and God for giving me the privilege of being being of service.

Literature – Ernesto We are currently working on the conversion of the pamphlet “What’s it all about” from Quark to PDF format. The purpose is to upload it to the Area website and make it available to all interested AA members. We are working with a deadline to have it all done before the next Area’s assembly.

Literature Spanish – Antonio M. no report

Newsletter Spanish no report

Public Information – Miguel S. no report

Public Information Spanish – Francisco D. no report

Registration – David T. nothing to report this month.

Special Needs - Open

Treatment Facilities – Al F.

Sound – mentioned started with 50 units and is down to 40 for translation. Please make sure you return the headsets.

Districts Roll Call

District 1 –. no report

District 2 -. no report

District 3 - no report

District 4 - no report

District 5 – We have strong committee activity at the District level. DCM activity could be better but we have been seeing a steady flow of GSR's at District, including one from the Santa Ana Alano club. Wow! Keeping them interested is another story. Oh well. We don't have much GSR participation at the Area level and given the way the Area has been going, that is okay. Upcoming events: July 9 we will be having an Area Archives presentation at 7pm. Refreshments at 6:30pm. What kind of refreshments? Come and find out.

District 6 –no report

District 7 – no report

District 8 – no report

District 9 – Meeting opened with serenity prayer, intro of attendees. Read and discussed Tradition 6. Delegate Joe gave report on General Service Conference in NY. Reports from all Chairs given, Sheryl L. elected as new Literature Chair. Maggie R. will resign as Secretary. Discussed as new business. 2 new GSR's in attendance. Upcoming events: June 18-21: Desert Pow Wow at Esmerelda Resort, July 5 – Next District 9 meeting, July 12 – Unity Day Picnic – Herkey Creek. Aug 7 – 9 = MADD Dog Daze – Doral Desert Princess

District 10 -. no report

District 11 – no report

District 12 – no report

District 14 – no report

District 15 - no report

District 17 – no report

District 18 – Last most recent meeting approximately 34 GSR's present, 4 were new GSRs. New group from Corona Del Mar/Newport Beach from Oasis to Mariner's Church 7am daily. Daily attendance averages 50 to 80. & birthday meeting 1st Sat. of each month. Over 200 in attendance. District 18 guidelines have not been updated in almost 10 years. We have been diligently working on revising them and expect to approve by next meeting in July. Today nine attended from District 18. Next scheduled monthly meeting guest speaker/presenter will be Scott R. to present duties of DCM's & GSR's.

District 19 – no report

District 20 – June 14, 2009 18 People Attended from our district.

As the district 20 DCMC I want to let you know that our IP committee attended the educational festival given by the city of Santa Ana at Martin Luther King school. At this festival our PI committee presented 300 pamphlets and 50 AA books for community information. We'd also like to report that the La Vina committee of our district will be celebrating its 13th anniversary on July 25th starting at 2pm at the "Back to Life" (Volver a Vivir) Group on 1620 W. 5th. St., Santa Ana, Ca. 93703. On a different note, we would like you to know that we contacted GSO regarding the amazon.com contract and it was a great experience being able to speak with the Literature Committee Chair Eva Sanches. One of 11 alcoholic people that work at GSO. She let us know that our literature is available not only to the groups or the committees; but also to anyone that believes they need it. The Kindle System is exclusive to Amazon. We could not afford the format they have for it is very expensive. Something we can feel good about is that everything has been looked at very closely and if it was necessary for us to rescind the contract we could.

District 21 –Our district is working hard; visiting groups within our geographic area and with support from some of our district committees; We have La Vina, PI which gives information to churches, schools, libraries and other places wherever we are invited to give information to the public. Our steering committee is active doing the district's job attending the different events in AA to give the groups information and to emphasize the importance of their participation in service. As well as the importance of their 7th. Tradition at the group and individual level. In addition, the delegate will be giving his report back on June 24.

District #22: Our district meets every Tuesday with a book study meeting and a business meeting. We visit two groups per week to encourage service work, to hear their concerns, and to thank them for their support and 7th. Tradition. We have a CPC committee with Manolo as chair from the Rebels (Rebeldes) Group. We have a La Vina committee, the Local Forum, and a AA Old-Timers Committee. On the 6 of this month we had the delegate's report back and the alternate delegate Mike also came. We want to thank them. We are also promoting the H & I committee. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve and I love you all. P.S. the La Vina committee has 36 subscriptions to date.

District #23: We have the honor of representing district #23 and having some difficulties for lack of time to visit all the groups and to let them know what A.A. does. We try keep the groups informed and encourage their involvement in the district because this year we have elections in the area and in the district and that way they will know who will be representing them in the future. District 23 wants to thank you for the support you gave our motion to take the GSR Preamble to the the confrence an be added to the service manual by our Delegate Joe B. We know that no action was taken this year at the conference but we are grateful for your love and tolerance. We'd also like you to know that district 23 is going through some difficult financial situations we have a total of 20 groups within the district and of those 20 only 8 or 9 contribute to the 7th. tradition. We know that it is all volutary but it is also very necessary. DCMC Reynaldo A. Alternate Antonio.

District 25 – no report

District 30 – no report

Birthdays: Ben – 26 yrs, Jose – 7 yrs.,

THE ASC ADJOURNED at 304pm “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 respectfully submitted by Panel 58 Secretary –Sharon K.