

Mid-Southern California Area 9 Assembly Committee Minutes

Irvine, CA Hosted by District #18

January 12, 2014 Assembly Minutes

Meeting was called to order by immediate Past Delegate Jeryl at 9:30am with the thank you to the outgoing Panel #62. The Panel #64 Board-elect was called to stand up and the Serenity Prayer was said. Board members took oath of office, were confirmed by the body, and were seated.

Readings: Declaration of Unity read by Lisa in English/Pedro in Spanish. The Statement of Purpose and Membership read by Glen in English/Rafael in Spanish. GSR Preamble read by Anthony in English/Carlos in Spanish.

Introductions: Past Trustees, Past Delegates, New DCMCs/Alt. DCMCs, New DCMs/Alt. DCMs, New GSRs and Alt. GSRs, Guests, Past and Current Area Officers.

Approval of minutes Motion made to approve October minutes – Archivist Pete B asked to have it noted that our Regional Trustee Rod B. chaired the elections and gave a Trustee Report. Motion to approve minutes as amended made by Rich, and 2nd by Gary and the amended October minutes were passed.

Officers/Directors Reports (following reports are written reports):

Delegate Cesar: Delegate's Report: My name is Cesar and I am an alcoholic, it is my honor and privilege to serve as your Panel 64 Area 09 Delegate. My sobriety date is January 6, 1996 and my home group is Grupo Libertad (Freedom Group) in Santa Ana. At the election on Oct. 2013 my name came out of the hat. I believe that God, as I understand him, had His hand in that matter through the collective conscience of the Area and gave me this great opportunity. I have been told that his will be an experience that will impact my life, and I have been feeling that already! **Communications Kit:** Our next General Service Conference will take place in Rye, New York from April 27-May 3 2014, and the theme is: "**Communicating Our Legacies – Vital in a Changing World**". In late December 2013 I received a Communication Kit, with specific information about the Conference. It had information such a preliminary agenda in English, Spanish and French, hospitality information, travel and my Conference committee assignment. My conference Committee is Public Information! I have all the names of the Delegates in my committee, as well a whole Roster of all the conference members. So far the preliminary information on the Public Information agenda topics looks very interesting. **Deadline for submitting Agenda items for 2014 is January 15, 2014. Final Agenda Items and Background will be sent to committee members on February 13, 2014.** I have been assigned a Conference Buddy, who is Homer M., Panel 63 Area 51 North Carolina, and we have been in contact by email. The 2014 General Service Conference Dashboard has internet access for delegates only to get information on committees, background and other conference materials. GSO has sent me my username and password to log in. It seems that is going to be a great way to get information quickly about the Conference.

Makeup of the 2014 General Service Conference: There are 135 voting members of the 64th General Service Conference. 93 Delegates elected by the service areas of the US and Canada comprise 69 percent of the voting body. The General Service Board of Trustees and Alcoholics Anonymous Word Services, Inc. (AAWS) and Grapevine directors, totaling 26, comprise 19 percent of the voting members. The General Service Office staff and the general manager, and Grapevine office staff and the Grapevine executive editor publisher, totaling 16, comprise the remaining 12 percent of the total. **The Conference Inventory Plan formulated by the Conference Inventory Planning Committee was approved at the 2011 General Service Conference.** For the 2014 inventory at the Conference there will be 15 groups of members from the

Conference, from A, B, C, D, E, through O each participating in a Conference inventory. My group is "A"; nine members were assigned to each group. There are 5 questions for each group, and the "A" group questions are:

Effectiveness of the Conference/Conference Process Overall

1. Reflecting on Concept 4, how effective are we in treating all Conference members as equals (no one regarded as second Class)?
2. Reflecting on Concept 5, how well does the Conference facilitate the hearing and resolution of minority appeals/report? How could it be improved?
3. Does the structure encourage each individual in the Fellowship to feel and act as a member of a "society of alcoholics in action?". If not, how could we improve?
4. Does the year long conference process effectively encourage all conference members to lead (or serve) in the spirit of our upside-down service structure? If not, how can we encourage all Conference members to do so?

Composition of Conference

5 Should regional division be based on membership numbers, the number of areas contained in each region or some other criteria? Please explain.

Announcing the 75th Anniversary Edition of the Big Book: This new edition will be a faithful replica of the original, with the famous "circus cover" dust jacket and bulky paper (which is why it was initially called the Big Book). Order forms are available. **Celebrate Grapevine's 70th Anniversary in 2014:** The Grapevine Board cordially invites you, members and AA historians, to submit stories on what Grapevine has meant to you, or your group, over the years for possible publications in the June Anniversary issue or later in the year. The deadline for contributions for the June Anniversary issue is January 10th, 2014 but if your area or Grapevine Committee would like to participate in the celebration locally, please encourage them to look for the dedicated GV70 information page at www.aagrapevine.org/GV70, beginning January 15, 2014. **Update on A.A.W.S. E-book project:** E-book on iTunes should be available at the end of December 2013, along with the first title in our digital publishing program, Alcoholics Anonymous. Fourth Editions English is now available via Barnes and Nobel and Amazon: Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions will be available from all three vendors very shortly. More information can be found on flyer copies that I brought in both English and Spanish.

New Staff Member at GSO: GSO is pleased to announce that Clement Cann has joined GSO as a Staff member on the Corrections Assignment. Clement's prior work experience includes working as a Manager of a Television Station that broadcasts original programming about the St. Louis public schools and as Substance Abuse Counselor for several non-profit organizations. Clement holds a BA in Visual and Environmental Studies from Harvard University. **PRAASA 2014 March 7th, 8th and 9th** This is going to be my 13th PRAASA. I brought registration forms in English and Spanish, and the website is up in running both languages. 240 people have pre-registered, and the early bird meeting is set for 7pm on Thursday. There are 900 room nights booked of the 1150 secured at the discounted rate. (The hotel has more than enough rooms to cover our needs, but they may adjust the room rate once we reach our contract number). Event parking, including in and out privileges, is \$10.00 per day; or \$5.00 for hotel guests. Finally, I want to welcome all the new Panel 64 trusted servants here today. I am wishing them all the best in the next two years, with great respect and gratitude. We shall all meet on this road called General Service. Service is a Legacy of Love. Cesar F. Panel 64 Area 09 Delegate

Alternate Delegate Joe: I want to send a special welcome to all of the new G.S.R.'s in the room here today. I hope that your journey in General Service is as rewarding for you as it has for me. I would

encourage all of you to be patient, open-minded, courageous, and willing. I want to thank the outgoing Panel #62 and especially the immediate past Alternate Delegate Sharon, who has been very generous with her time and vast knowledge. My responsibility as Alternate Delegate, if not immediate, is staggering. My duties are to serve as the liaison between the Area Service Committee and all of the Coordinate Committees, which include the Central Offices/Intergroups, H&I's, and YPAA's in our Area. I am also to act as liaison to all of the Standing Committees for which we will be having Elections and Confirmations later today. In addition, I am responsible for all of the special functions, such as the Pre-Conference Workshop, FORO, the Servathon, and other miscellaneous functions, such as the New Panel Orientation, which will take place later this month on Saturday, January 25th. I will be contacting all of the DCMC's and Committee Chairs regarding this very exciting event soon. Also, I work with the Spanish interpreters to ensure they are okay. All of these things are a privilege. I have already made a working start and I am anxious for the adventures that the next two years will bring – the people that I will meet and the relationships that will develop. But what really weighs heavily on my mind is that I must be ready, at any time, to step in as Delegate should I be called. The mere thought humbles me. I have a deep and profound respect for the responsibilities that our Delegate has. And lastly, but certainly not least, I am required to serve as Chair if our Chair is not present. I look forward to working with everyone here. Thank you.

Registrar Jesus: I'm all set up with GSO for group changes and updates. Please see me if you have any questions. Please join us at the Registration Workshop on Feb 22nd at the Archives Repository in Riverside. Thank you.

Treasurer Rozanne:

1. Thank you Area 09 for allowing me to serve. I had an amazing spiritual experience the first time I went to the Post Office Box 2 weeks ago. The amount of envelopes was about 5 inches high. The generosity of this Area continues to amaze me! I get chills just thinking about it.

2. Since I am new to this position, please be gentle, I am trying to get everyone's receipts and expenses completed today.

3. Annie has been an amazing assistance to me, she is walking me through the whole process and we are working together on going from File Maker Pro >> Quicken >> QuickBooks.

4. I am planning to take a QuickBooks class too!

5. Please remember to put your Group Numbers on all contributions as it really helps me to find your group quickly and also allows me to credit the correct group.

Thank you. Rozanne

Secretary Barbara: First of all, thank you so much to the Area for putting their trust in me and I promise to uphold the Oath I took to do my very best to serve our Area and this wonderful program of Alcoholics Anonymous, to which I owe my very life. I am trying very hard to figure out what in the world I am supposed to be doing and how best to do it, and am also struggling with the Area Secretary computer, which seems to have picked up some of my alcoholic tendencies, as it is a hot mess. Immediate past Secretary Jesus has been invaluable to me, helping me so much with all of this and I am very grateful to him, and to Chairwoman Sharon, also, for her assistance. If you are a District DCMC or a Standing Committee Chair, please turn in any written reports at the front table in the box, or you may submit them to me via email. Please see me afterwards to discuss this, should you have any questions. Thank you.

Area Chair Sharon: Wow, what a great two years it's been on Panel 62 and I'm looking forward to starting my 7th year in General Service as Chair. As your Chair it is my hope to bring open communication where we can share ideas to help better our groups and our Districts and the Area. I am open to any ideas you may have. When attending PRAASA I always got the most out of the open microphone element and hope with our board's approval we can incorporate a similar format to generate discussion at our Area meetings on topics for you to gain ideas and possible solutions to helping better your group, District etc. I attended the last DCM sharing session planning meeting and am excited to participate in this event. I encourage you to attend on February 15 in Upland. Please see our Area website for more information at <http://www.area09.org>. For those

Districts that are hosting upcoming Area meetings. I would like to be actively involved and help you visit locations, etc. I have a copy of our Areas hosting guidelines to help. Finally, any member is welcome to address the board. Depending on our board agenda, we will allow time for any member to address us before our scheduled board meeting. Just let me know what you would like to present and how much time is required.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

Old Business:

Standing Committee Literature Committee guidelines, revised on September 18th, 2013, passed.

New Business:

Sharon brought up a calendar error for 2014 July – moving the date to avoid conflict Between the FORO and the Regional Forum – FORO will now be held the following week on July 20th. Website calendar to be updated and all members should please take note.

Election and Confirmation of Standing Committee Chairs; Archives Tony, Finance Rich, Communication Kris, CEC Beka, CPC Maryka, CPC Spanish Juan J, Convention Liaison Marilyn, Corrections Steve, DCM School Jim, DCM School Spanish Jose A., Grapevine Ed, Literature Spanish Mauricio, GSR School English Gary, GSR School Spanish Amador, Literature English Bianca, PI English Sandi, PI Spanish Martin, Registration Peri, La Vina Victor, Sound Jim, Treatment Dawn.

2014 Budget was voted on, much loving discussion was had regarding the same. Vote to reconsider made by Tonya/ Alex 2nd, motion to reconsider did not pass, so Budget for 2014 was passed as it stands.

Sound Equipment Guidelines brought to vote, the motion was made to amend verbiage of Sound 'Dude' to a more gender neutral term, made by James/Linda 2nd, much loving discussion was again had by members until Nikki called the question, Katherine 2nd, and eventually the Guidelines were passed as amended with the term 'dude' being changed to 'person' anywhere it appears in the said Guidelines.

Communications Committee proposal made to update their Guidelines to indicate that rather than explicitly state that the Web Coordinator position 'is eligible for re-election for a second two-year term' that it be changed to say merely 'is eligible for re-election'. Vote taken, minority opinion heard, motion to reconsider made by Pat/Maryka 2nd. Once again motion discussed extensively and upon re-vote, motion did not pass. Therefore position was open, and Saturn was elected as the new Web Coordinator.

Saturn from AOCYPAA made a motion to get a letter of recommendation regarding their bid to host the 2015 All California Young People in A.A. Conference. Motion passed, letter to be drafted and forwarded.

Floor motion made by Scott to remove the Panel #64 Delegate for cause, pursuant to the MSCA By-laws Article 7.3c. Jim C made point of order that this motion was out of order, not the type that can be made from the floor, that it must be submitted in advance in writing as stated in Article 4.7e. Bylaws were extensively consulted, Jeryl made a motion to hold a special meeting prior to next ASC on Feb 9th to discuss this issue, Maryka 2nd. Further discussion was had regarding the call for the special meeting, with Rich calling point of order that a vote was not required to hold the a special meeting, that according to the 'special meeting' section of the by-laws, such a meeting should not be voted upon but should be called by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors, or by the Chairperson, or in advance in writing by any member entitled to do so. The bylaws were once again consulted, extensively. There were several questions from the floor, along with many comments, and finally Chairwoman Sharon called for order, repeatedly, and discussion was terminated in accordance with the bylaws.

Standing Committee Reports:

There were no standing committee reports this month, due to elections of new chairs.

Coordinate Committee Reports:

AOCYPAA - No Report

Inland Empire H&I - No Report

Harbor Area Central Office – Report submitted by Jamie and was held the 2nd Weds of each month at 7:30p with approximately 45 persons in attendance. Group contributions are down \$5,000 and there are open positions for committees and for after-hour phone commitments. Upcoming events include Movie Night at MWA in Long Beach on April 10th – tickets are \$10.00 and all are welcome.

District Reports (submitted in writing):

District 1: No Report

District 2: No Report

District 3 Alex: On 12-10-13 at the Wayside Church in Lomita our District had a great pot-luck before the monthly business meeting. Approximately 20 people joined us and we had our open Archives Chair position filled by Steve. We discussed co-hosting the Area meeting with District #1 in March. Our next meeting will be held on 1-14-14.

District 4 James Q: Meeting held on the first Weds of each month at Resurrection Lutheran Church at the corner of Carson & Cherry in Long Beach. GSR School held at 6:30p with the business meeting following at 7p. With approximately 400 meetings in the District, there were approximately 50 people in attendance. The 2014 District budget was approved. Our new DCMC Hiro is leading a Concepts workshop and a Service Manual book study at 8:30p each month, directly following the meeting.

District 5 Ryan: Monthly District meeting held on Jan 9th at 7pm at Church of the Foothills with 34 in attendance. The new committee chairs and district officers were introduced. Completed the district inventory that was begun in October 2013. Sue C stepped up to fulfill our district cake commitment. Evan J will be taking the position of Archives Committee Chair and Susan H will be taking the Literature Committee Chair position. All 3 were elected by unanimous decision and District #5 is looking forward to 2 great years! We will continue to work on filling the vacant DCM positions and recommended that those interested attend the 4 Area DCM Sharing Session in February.

District 6 Ashly: Held on the first Tuesday on Heil in Huntington Beach, with approximately 150 meetings in the District, we had an attendance of about 55. The majority of our January meeting was spent electing our District Committee Chairs – which we are proud to say every position was filled. We distributed at A.A. Guidelines and any relevant pamphlets to each new chair. We also introduced our new monthly "What's Up In The Area" report; which summarizes the previous months Area Meeting as well as alerts the body to upcoming voting issues. This report is not intended to replace attendance at ASCs/Assemblies but rather to encourage participation and further connect our District to the Area. Next month we will be breaking out into committees and each District member will be joining a committee. Preparations for PRAASA attendance will be discussed, along with securing a location for the Pre-Conference Workshop that we are hosting in April.

District 7 Lisa: Monthly meeting held the second Monday of each month at the Garden Grove Alano Club, with approximately 150 registered meetings and 15 in attendance. Meeting highlights were the discussion regarding maintaining participation and gaining new members (new GSRs) and strengthening our foundations and knowledge of duties. We hope to visit more meetings to encourage participation and enrollments and to that end 1-13-14 will be our annual kick off meeting pizza party as a form of encouragement and attraction. Our District Archives 'Sorting Party' is on 1-18-14 and we are planning on participation at PRAASA in March. Tentatively planned are some events to promote awareness of GSR, such as a Spring Fling Social and a Summer Ice Cream Social. In September our District will be hosting the Area Assembly.

District 9 John: Meeting for the District held the third Sunday of the month at 4p at Fellowship Hall. We are still working on billboards. We are also in the process of working with clubs and Alano facilities to register each group and promote each to have a GSR. Our District will be co-hosting the FORO with District #22 in July.

District 11: No Report

District 12 Judy: District meeting held the first Thurs of each month at Geneva Presbyterian Church, and this month there were approximately 80 in attendance. 11 new GSR attended, with a GSR Orientation held prior to the Business Meeting. The Traditions & Concepts workshops were also well attended. District is currently ironing out its budget in a steering committee and hopes to approve it in February. A sponsorship workshop is in the works for this Spring.

District 14: No Report

District 15 Leslie: Our monthly business meeting was held on Thursday 1-2-14 at Christ Lutheran Church in Bear and had 14 in attendance. We conducted our elections for District committee chairs and a decision was made (and committee formed) to co-sponsor a Service Workshop with District #10 on 3-22-14 at Wilshire Church in Fullerton. A decision also made (with committee) formed to host a Soberfest event, in lieu of Oktoberfest, to happen late Spring or early Summer. Voted on a budget for our District to send members to PRAASA. Upcoming events include the Service Workshop on 3-22-14 and the planning of the Soberfest event.

District 17 Mary W: Meeting was held on Tues Dec. 10th at 6:30p at Boston Billies in Sun City, with approximately 30 in attendance. DCM's were elected for 3 of the 4 positions and the 2014 budget was discussed and approved. Committee chairs will be elected and confirmed at the Jan 14, 2014 meeting.

District 18: No Report

District 19 Gary W. Meeting held at the Victor Valley Alano Club on Sun at 3pm with new GSR Orientation at 2:30pm, with 15 in attendance. Elections were held on Nov 17th 2013. We thank our then Delegate Jeryl for facilitating, and also thank Rosanne and BarbaraDee for their assistance in counting. The new Panel 64 Board looks forward to serving District #19!

District 20: No Report

District 21: No Report

District 22: No Report

District 23 Rafael: January 10 2014 Riverside, CA. Dear colleagues, receive a cordial greeting from our district. Please note that we already started Panel #64 with great enthusiasm and love for our service and our Board members hope to be able to serve in our district in the best way possible. We are already prepared for the meeting on February 9 for the Area that will take place at 4810 Pedley Road Riverside, CA. Thank you and we hope you continue enjoying sobriety 'one day at a time'.

District 25 Hugo: We meet 4 Mondays out of the month from 7-9pm at 222 E. Highland Ave. in San Bernardino. We visit 2 meetings every week. On Dec. 16th we elected our standing committee chairs and for CPC we have Victor group '10th of June'. Audio-Video is Rogelio from the 'Oasis' group. New Letter-Ruben from 'The Hand That I Needed Group', Registrar and Archivist-Hugo M. from the 'Victor Valley Latino' group. On Jan. 26th we will be hosting all the Spanish speaking districts at our monthly inter district meeting at district 25 meeting place 8am to Noon. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Alt. DCMC Hugo M.

District 30: No Report

Recap of Actions:

Panel #64 Board took Oath of office and was sat accordingly.

July calendar amended to avoid conflict with the Regional Forum – FORO will now be held the following week on July 20th. Website calendar to be updated and all members should please take note.

Standing committee chairs elected and confirmed – all positions filled.

After much loving discussion, the 2014 Budget was passed.

Sound Equipment Guideline also discussed in much loving detail, and was ultimately passed as amended.

The Communications Committee brought forth an amendment to change the term of office for the position of Web Coordinator, motion did not pass. Pursuant to that, Saturn was elected as Web Coordinator.

AOCYPAA requested letter of recommendation from the Area with regards to their bid to host the ACYPAA Convention in 2015. Matter discussed, voted upon, passed and letter to be drafted.

Floor motion made by Scott to recall Delegate, which after much debate was determined to be out of order. Further consultation of by-laws and extensive discussion resulted in issue being closed until matter is discussed by the Board at the next Board meeting on 1-19-14.

Announcements:

- Rozanne brought up the 4 Area DCM Sharing Session on Sat Feb 15th at Magnolia Recreation Center at 651 West 15th Street in Upland confirmed. 9am registration and coffee with roundtable discussions to follow. Please have everyone who is interested join us and also we need District participation to help with translators and transcribers, so please contact Rozanne or Sharon to get involved.
- Dean Area #8 Delegate and traveling PRAASA representative gave announcement regarding the March event in San Diego. Please plan on going – it is local (relatively speaking) and is a very powerful spiritual experience of Service. Please see PRAASA.org website for information and to register – hotel rooms are filling up, so please book that ASAP to get the special PRAASA rate.
- EURYPAA International Convention 2014 being held in Prague August 08, 09, &10th – flyers available.
- Martha R. announced the 11th Annual Barstow Convention in April.
- Revo announced H & I Convention in April – all proceeds to benefit H & I and information is available 'all over', as Revo says. Please contact him with questions.

Birthdays:

Sharon 13, Cathy 2, Pamela 35, Reisha 12, Beka 32, Natalie 4, Joe 7, Karen 17, Bert 3, Cesar 18, Joe 34, Jesus 22, Nikki 16, John 21, Annie 18, Mary 8, Rich 20, Michael 19, Jack 2 & Jim 34.

The Assembly was finally ADJOURNED at approximately 4:00 pm with the Responsibility Statement, in English.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Panel #64 Secretary – Barbara D