

The Mid-Southern California Area 9 Newsletter

The Monthly General Service Newsletter for Area 9 of the General Service Conference
P.O.Box 51446, Irvine, CA 92619-1446 www.msca09aa.org

MSCA Area 9 includes all AA groups in the counties of Los Angeles (South of Rosecrans Ave.), San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange.

February 2006

What it is like being Area Secretary

by Melissa B

So far, it has been an absolute blast! The people on the Area Officers Committee are really nice, even though they are all guys. Hee Hee. The folks that had only their names and phone numbers submitted for the Area Roster were great to call me back and recited their information really slowly and at least twice so I could get it right. Some of you were home and we got to talk and had a great conversation! I am still learning how to politely end a conversation and say good-bye. The roughest part so far is knowing that I am behind and need to hurry up and get the minutes to the Ad Hoc Translation Committee so the Spanish speaking and reading community will be on the same page when we meet in February, oh, two weeks from now.

I am still looking for the November Area Inventory roundtable report back slips and will probably need to contact the Archives committee for the tapes of the meeting to get all the nitty-gritty details. I will also be accepting your District, YPAA, EPAA and Intergroup meeting minutes and Committee information as well as the Area Standing Committee minutes and Area officer reports – hand written or e-mailed - so we can get all the information in the whole, wide world out to all you inquiring minds. It would be fun this panel to be able to attend all the events in the area because they do not conflict on the schedule! Oh, do not forget to get your carpool location and time listed on the Area's Website: www.msca09aa.org

The best part about being secretary is that I do not have to reinvent the wheel. Service has taught me that those who have come before has great knowledge and experience to give if I just ask. AA has taught me that I can put any spin on that knowledge and experience I want to as long as it does not harm the Area, your District, your Committee, your Home Group or AA as a whole. Just like you, AA has given me a life I never knew could exist for me if I'd just not pick up that first drink and think of you a little more often than I would think of myself.

Lastly, I'd like to challenge all the DCM(C)s and MCDs to call the registered groups in the Western Regional Directory, especially those in your Districts when you host the area events, to invite them to participate with at least the Standing Committees that meet at 10:15 a.m. every Area meeting. I'd like to invite all you new GSRs to bring someone with you next time you come back so they can find their place in the whole of AA – see Tradition 12 then 1. Ellery said you could not understand Tradition 1 until you have worked 2 - 11. See you all in Sun City, especially you Keith, my Home Group's GSR.

Please let me know if there is anyway I can do my job to better serve your Home Group and District.

In His warmest Love and Service,
Melissa, Privileged to serve as your Panel 56 Secretary.

Tradition 2 (long form)

Our A.A. experience has taught us that:
For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.

“Passing it On in a Changing World”

One of the 2006 Workshop topics will be on “Passing it On in a Changing World”.

Concept 2 (long form)

When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference – excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter – the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.

Pacific Regional Forum

June 23-25, 2006

There will be a Pacific Regional Forum June 23-25, 2006 in Seattle, Washington, and all AAs are welcome to attend.

Regional Forums are weekend sharing sessions, designed to improve communications among AA members, the General Service Board, and the GSO/Grapevine staffs.

Forums provide unique opportunities to share experience, strength and hope, to ask questions and spark new ideas. Many cite their experience at a Regional Forum as the reason for their involvement in general service work.

The Forum will be held at the Doubletree Airport Hotel, 18740 Pacific Highway South, Seattle, WA 98188. If you wish to reserve a room at this hotel, you can call them at 206-246-8600, and advise the reservation desk (by June 2) that you are attending the Pacific Regional Forum for a special room rate of \$89.00 (plus tax).

This forum will be hosted by Area 72 (Western Washington), and coordinated by the US/Canada General Service board. You can visit www.aa.org for more information. There is no fee for registration, and you can register over the internet at the AA.org website. (Just go to www.aa.org, then click on "Services for Members", then click on "Regional and Special Forums", then scroll to the bottom of that page and click on "Online Forum Registration". Then fill out the information requested. Online registrations must be received before **Monday, June 19, 2006** in order to be processed. If you miss the deadline the General Service Office welcomes on-site registration. It is not necessary to call G.S.O. to pre-register; advance registration simply helps their planning.

The location of the forum (and information for reserving a room at the hotel at which the forum will be held) follow:

Doubletree Airport Hotel, 18740 Pacific Highway South
Seattle, Washington 98188, 206-246-8600
If you call for hotel reservations, please advise
reservation desk by June 2, 2006 that you are attending
the Pacific Regional Forum for special room rate of
\$89.00 (plus tax).

Registration will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 23, 2006. The opening session will start at 7:00 p.m. Friday and the Forum will close at 12:00 noon on Sunday, June 25, 2006.

Questions each GSR should discuss with his/her group* on the topic "Passing it on in a Changing World"

1. How does a changing world affect what your group is doing today to carry the AA message to newcomers?
2. Bill W. originally called the Traditions "Twelve Points to Assure Our Future." How are the Traditions fulfilling that purpose 60 years later?
3. How does your group convey that the responsibility for self-support includes giving of effort and time in addition to money?
4. What current issues do you feel affect AA that need to be talked about? Why do you feel they are important? What changes would you like to see as a result of these discussions?

* Bring your groups opinions, ideas, concerns to the Delegate's Sharing Session at 9:30 am before each ASC and Assembly from now through April, 2006. Also, bring your group's opinions, ideas and concerns to the Pre-Conference Workshop on April 9 so that our Delegate can bring our Area-9 Groups' "Group Consciences" to the General Service Conference.

PRAASA 2006

PRAASA (Pacific Region AA Service Assembly) is attended by GSRs and other AAs from the 9 most western states in the U.S. At this Assembly, we share experience, strength and hope about being a GSR, providing General Service, etc. We strongly encourage all GSRs to attend.

This year, PRAASA will be held on March 3, 4 and 5, 2006 at the Warner Center Marriot, 21850 Oxnard Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. More information can be found on the praasa.org website (note that the mention of the praasa.org website in this newsletter does not imply any endorsement, approval or oversight of the site by the MSCA. This information is provided only as information to our readers.).

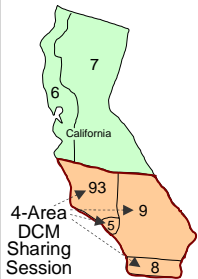
PRAASA link & reg. form online

AA members can now download the PRAASA registration form from our MSCA website. In addition, AA members can now be linked to the PRAASA.org website from the MSCA website.

4-Area DCM Sharing Session

Feb. 11, 2006

4658 Woodruff Ave, Lakewood, CA 90713-2500



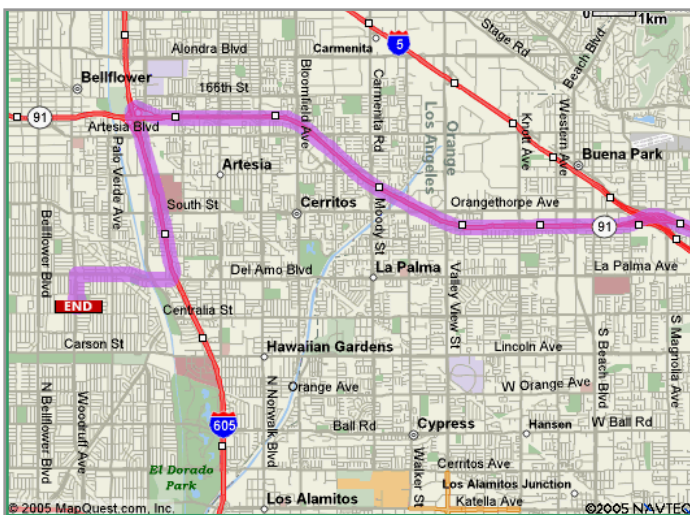
The purpose of this Sharing Session is to fill a need for improved communication among Area Committees, Districts, and Groups, thereby strengthening services in AA through cooperation. These sessions are called for a specific purpose requiring shared experience and ideas, in order to best serve AA. Sharing Sessions are not designed to reach a conclusion as, say, at a regular AA business meeting. They are usually held where a problem has reached difficult proportions at the service level involved, and options to surmount the challenge need to be thought about.

Agenda

- 9:30-10 Registration
- 10-10:15 Opening Remarks, "Welcome from Area 5"
- 10:15-11 Roundtable Session 1
- 11-11:45 Roundtable Session 2
- 11:45-12:45 Lunch
- 12:45-1:15 "Why We Have General Service", Charlie W., Alt. Delegate, Area 5
- 1:15-2 Roundtable Session 3
- 2-2:45 Roundtable Session 4
- 2:45-3 Breaks & Treats
- 3-3:40 Report Backs
- 3:40-4 Questions & Closing Remarks

Table Topics

1. What are the misconceptions of general service and how do we overcome them?
2. What is the relationship between general service and central office/intergroup?
3. How to attract new GSRs and keep them active.
4. What is a group conscience and how do you take one?
5. How to use our literature as a tool in general service.
6. Are groups supporting local, district, area, and GSO services? If not, why not?
7. How to have fun in general service
8. Why are committees important?



Directions from the East: Take CA-91 W from the 5 Freeway. Merge onto I-605 S. (2.7 miles). Take the DEL AMO BLVD exit toward LAKEWOOD. (0.2 miles). Turn RIGHT onto DEL AMO BLVD. (1.2 miles). Turn LEFT onto WOODRUFF AVE. (0.4 miles). Turn LEFT onto HENRILEE ST. (<0.1 miles). Turn LEFT onto WOODRUFF AVE. (<0.1 miles). End at **4658 Woodruff Ave**, Lakewood, CA 90713-2500, US.

Feb. 12, 2006, MSCA ASC Meeting

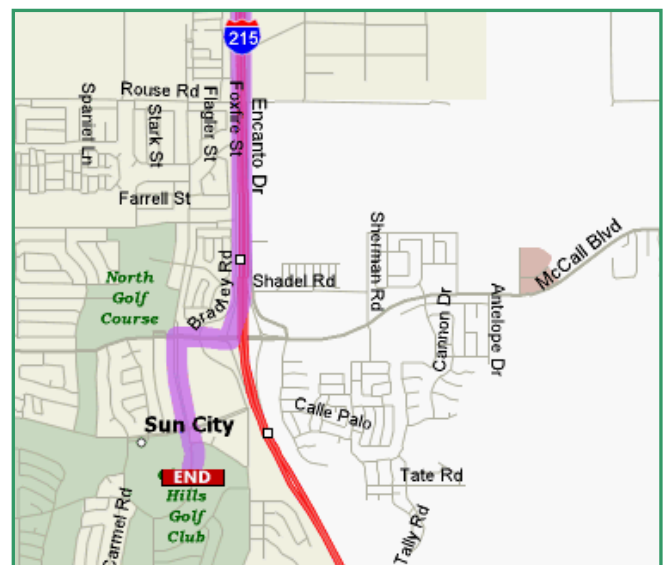
26850 Sun City Blvd., Sun City, CA 92586-2948

What's the Purpose of an ASC?

1. Identifying, defining, and discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues.
2. Obtaining the consensus of each District and its Groups.
3. Acting as an advisory Committee to the Assembly, Executive Committee and Delegate.
4. Establishing The agenda for the next assembly

Who are the ASC Members?

The MSCA ASC is made up of Area Officers, DCMC's, past Delegates, alternate DCMC's, DCM's, other District Officer's, Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs.



Directions: From Orange County: Take CA-60 E toward Pomona/ Riverside. Take I-215 S toward San Diego/Eastridge Ave./Eucalyptus Ave and drive 17.4 miles. Take the McCall Blvd exit toward Sun City. Drive .3 mi. Turn right onto McCall Blvd. Drive .2 mi. Turn left onto Sun City Blvd. Drive half a mile

New Site Map on aa.org

There is now a site map on the www.aa.org website, showing at one glance an overview of everything now on that website. You can click on anything on the site map and it will take you directly to that portion of the website. To get to the site map, go to www.aa.org, then click on "• site map" near the bottom of the screen.

If you would like to receive this monthly MSCA newsletter by email in the future, and do not already receive it that way, just send your request, name and email address (and the district or other AA entity you are part of) and a phone number where you can be reached to webservant@msca09aa.org.

If you would like to be notified by email whenever we add something new to the MSCA website in the future, and do not already receive such updates, just send your request, name and email address (and the district or other AA entity you are part of) and a phone number where you can be reached to webservant@msca09aa.org.

The MSCA Assembly includes permanent committees responsible for conducting much of the AA business activity in the Area. We have Standing and Coordinate Committees. Chairs and cochairs of the Standing committees are listed below.

Panel 56 Area Standing Committee Chairs, Cochairs, et al.

Archives Chair...Pete B	Literature Chair...Patrick C
CEC...Michael M	Literature Cochair, Spanish
CPC...Ernesto M	...Cesar
CPC Cochair, Spanish...tbd	Newsletter Chair...Russ D
Convention Liaison...Gary	Newsletter Cochair,
Convention Liaison,	Spanish...tbd
Spanish...tbd	Public Information
Corrections Chair...Alex N	Chair...Linda H
DCM School...Jim B	Public Information,
DCM School Spanish	Spanish...tbd
Cochair.....Francisco	Registration...Ray S
Electronic Media...Nick M	Special Needs Chair...Rich
Finance Chair...Deidri	W
Grapevine Chair...Linda C	Special Needs Cochair,
La Vina Chair...tbd	Spanish...vacant
GSR School...Scott R	Treatment Facilities
GSR School, Spanish	Chair...Phil L
.....Jesus O	Webservant....Nancy R

Archivist...Charles K

Audio Equipment...Joseph M

Panel 56 Area Officers

Chairperson: Craig S,
Delegate: Bruce H,
Alt. Delegate: Joe B,
Secretary: Melissa B,
Treasurer: Mike M,
Registrar: Jason S

Upcoming Events

Feb. 11 (Sat.), 4-Area DCM Sharing Session, Youth Center Activity Room, 4658 Woodruff Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90713, from 9 am until 4 pm

Feb. 12 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Hosted by District 17), 26850 Sun City Blvd, Sun City, CA

Mar. 3, 4, and 5...PRAASA 2006, 21850 Oxnard St., Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Mar. 12 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Dist 21), Silverado Park, 1545 W. 31st St., Long Beach, CA 90810

Apr. 2 (Sun.) Archives Open House

Apr. 9 (Sun.) **Pre-Conference Workshop (GSRs vote)**
their group consciences on the Conference issues) (Dist 10)

May 14 (Sun.) **Assembly (GSRs vote)** (Dist. 18)

June 11 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Dist.22)

July 9 (Sun.) Foro do MSCA (Dists 5 & 20)

July 23-25 Pacific Regional Forum, Seattle, Washington

Aug. 13 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Dist 7)

Sept. 10 (Sun.) **Assembly (GSRs vote)** (Dist. 4)

Oct. 8 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Dist. 24)

Oct. 15 (Sun.) Heritage Day

Nov. 11 (Sat.) Servathon (Dist 30)

Dec.10 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Dist 1)

Schedule for most MSCA Assemblies/ASCs

9:30 am....GSR School

9:30 am....Delegate's Sharing Session

10:15 am....Committees meet

11:30 am.....Lunch

Noon... **Main Meeting** (which normally includes introductions of new GSRs, Area officers' reports, presentation/ discussion/ voting on proposals, committee reports, other reports)

3:30...Adjournment