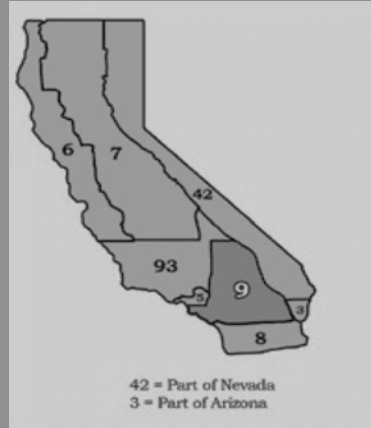


Mid-Southern California Area 09 Newsletter

Mid-Southern California Area 09 includes approximately 2,000 A.A. Groups in the counties of Los Angeles (south of Rosecrans), San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange



DELEGATE'S CORNER

Swan Song

It is funny that after all that I have experienced in the two years of being Delegate for the MSCA09, I will be relegated to trying to communicate to the members through typing an article for the newsletter. It seems that the last meeting I will be attending as Delegate will be in the friendly confines of Indio, California. Yes, just a mere 122 miles from my home, 144 miles from District 3 and 1, and only 133 miles from District 21. With no traffic or accidents, that will only be a 2 ½ hour trip one way. So I imagine the attendance will not be close to that Delegate Shareback last year in Torrance. Remember about 250 trusted servants attended and participated in a very encouraging meeting. What happened?

Well, for those who read this, I want you to know that I thank you for the opportunity to be of service to God, AA, society and to each of you, over the past two years. I can honestly say, "I did the best I could," and I am proud to have that be my truth. I stayed busy, active, available, and as much as I could, out of the way. Our Districts came to life, our Area spoke its word, and our members had their voice heard. Thank you all for that experience.

Continued on page 2

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

(more on page 8)

December 8—Sunday
Area Service Committee (ASC)
ABC Recovery Center
44-359 Palm St., Indio
Hosted by District 9

January 12—Sunday
Area Assembly
Hosted by District 18

February 9—Sunday (subject to approval)
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 23

March 16—Sunday (subject to approval)
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 23



2014 ONE DAY AT A TIME | Un día a la vez | Un jour à la fois



(Nov and Dec: no movie night)

Bill W. Documentary	Sat, Jan 18
To be announced	Sat, Feb 15
To be announced	Sat, Mar 15

7111 Arlington Ave., Suite B
 Riverside
 (951) 785-0845
 (Next to the Airport in the Riverside Air Park)

Show Time: Doors open at 7:00
 The movie starts at 7:30.
 Stay after the show and tour the Archives

+ Cartoon

Cost: Free!

*Bring your lawn chairs or chaise longue
 and enjoy classic Hollywood movies
 about AA in our own unique theater.
 Refreshments available.*

Delegate's Corner—continued from page 1

While remaining a daily member at my Home Group, I have had the good fortune to participate in some amazing events and happenings. Here are many of them (By the way, this is just this year):

La Vina Convention, Southern California Convention, Inland Empire Convention, SOCALYPAA Convention, Redwood Roundup, Torrance Roundup, Mammoth White Christmas, OC Convention, Spanish Convention, Ottawa Convention, High Desert Convention, Area 08 Election Assembly, Area 05's Pre Conference Workshop, Area 8's Pre Conference Workshop, Concepts (in OC Intergroup, Corona, Arcadia, Mammoth, District 6,), Transitional Youth Conference, High Desert Intergroup, Registration Workshop in Torrance, Finance Workshop in Costa Mesa, Hispanic Interdistrict Meetings, District 20-2-10-12-15-25-5 for Pre Conference information, H&I Conference, OC Fair Literature Booth, District 20-21-11-25-6,18,5,7 combined-1-14-30-24-23-2-10,15-17-8-9-22-12-4-7-3-19 and AYOCYPAA doing Delegate Sharebacks, 4 Area DCM Sharing Session, Trilogy Day Temecula.

My speaking engagements include the cities of: Arcadia, Corona, Temecula, High Desert, Apple Valley, Lucerne, Torrance, Bellflower, Downey, Long Beach, Mission Viejo, Santa Ana, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Newport Beach, Costa Mesa, Lakewood, San Diego, Mammoth, Arcata, Ottawa, Pomona, Lomita, El Segundo, San Bernardino, Laguna Niguel, Redondo Beach. Many of these I got to speak in more than once.

I participated in the elections in Districts 24,4,25,7,2,15,18,21,23, 6, 1,19,14. I have also visited every District at least 3 times, and many as high as 7 over my term of office. I have facilitated a Concept Study, Treasurer's Workshop and a Finance Workshop for 4 weeks, Jeopardy games, District events and celebrations.

I studied the Conference material until I knew my Committee's, "Report and Charter," material backward and forward, as well as the rest of the material well enough to discuss and have an informed opinion on the topics. I answered and/or researched all questions, dilemmas, challenges, misinformation dispensation, anonymity breaches, and other Group or District issues.

Never missed a board meeting, ASC or Assembly, and attended most every event in our Area whether Area09 was involved or not.

With all that said, it has been the greatest growth period of my recovery, and I have been the one who is most blessed. I have learned quite a bit about Area 09, the Districts, the Groups, myself, and others

Continued on page 3

I love God, AA, Area09 and the opportunity I have been given as a result of stating, "Available," when asked by Rod at our election assembly back in 2011.

Here are some of the things I have learned, and suggest for our continued effectiveness in the future:

1. We need to put forth the effort to apply for a new Delegate Area. In other words, **WE NEED TO SPLIT THE AREA!** We have the resources to support two Areas easily, and should remove the fear and doubt and put forth the effort to figure out how to make this work. (I will talk about this in the coming months.)
2. Our budget is grossly misdirected. Maybe grossly isn't the best word, but it needs overhauling.
3. Our efforts are grossly misdirected. Only a few voices get heard. Seldom, if ever, do we hear the needs of the Groups or Districts, while spending time trying to create credit for an entity that doesn't need credit. (Oh yeah, we already established it when we leased the printer)
4. We need to support and encourage the efforts of Committees. There is not enough encouragement nor finances available. We should fund the committees first, so they do not feel limited in their abilities to put on workshops, or get out to the Districts to do their work.
5. We need to develop Digital Archives, to reduce the 23% of our overall budget or the 74% of the Committee's budgets that the Archives devours. Everything cannot be online, but there is a lot of material that could be utilized by our membership that can and should be made available at our disposal. The storage space we use now is not climate controlled nor available to the members. Digitally, I could have access to valuable information that I can share with members who need it.
6. We need to develop the use of technologically advanced software in our Area. This can save us money with online business meetings, save money in mileage, copies, and put more info at our fingertips.
7. We need to have OPEN MIC participation during our ASC's and Assemblies to hear the voice of the Area. PRAASA is such a great vehicle for voices to be heard. We have all learned so much from the microphone time, and it should be utilized in our Area more.
8. The Finance Committee has been the tail that wags the dog. No one can be on the committee unless invited? Come On...nothing more to be said.
9. We should be careful as we move into the future because AA is not above the law. When we sign corporate papers, there is a commitment to act according to the law. In a 501(c)(3) corporation, there is much to lose when there is marginal abiding of the law. Be Careful!
10. Always be honest, fair, informative, loving, kind, honest, and fair.

I know people may not like that which is being presented here, but this is my "Swan Song" as the Delegate. The next time most of you see me, I won't be the Delegate, and you can honestly tell me that which you may want to say. But, until 11:59pm, December 31st, I will still have the honor, privilege, responsibility and desire to serve you as the Panel 62 Area 09 Delegate. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Jeryl T.

p.s. Please remember that April 10th will be the 75th anniversary of the Big Book. So in honor, at 10:00am P.S.T., we will take 75 seconds of silence followed by reading that portion of Chapter 5 that has become a custom in many Groups around the country. Pass the word about this combined energy experience of our Movement to all our members and let's see how far our message reaches.

LONG-TIME A.A. RECALLS SERVICE HISTORY

I arrived in AA completely defeated for the second time after five years, with no other choice because I tried different ways to drink alcohol moderately and all failed. In fact, I set a goal for myself; to try the program for about three years because I believed I was smart enough to set my own terms.

I started to attend meetings and I became interested and I liked the fact that those people remained sober day in and day out. In those days, almost no literature was available and what we did have was limited to pamphlets and old books. We knew nothing of the traditions and never heard of the 12 concepts. It was a non-written program and we had to follow whatever the old timers suggested but it was up to the new comer to find the information and learn as much as possible. I stayed around for a few years and became a little bored with the whole thing 'the same ol' same ol' and was not attending meeting as often. Finally, at the end of one year they had a special business meeting to elect new trusted servants for the meeting.

They always held the business meeting after the regular meeting but I had never stayed for that. I didn't know what it was for and didn't care either but that day my sponsor was there and he told me I should stay because he knew I didn't like the business stuff.

They began by explaining to me who is really in charge and who is a trusted servant, who is a member of AA and who is a member of the meeting or group and who is not. They spoke about a group conscience and I figured that it was time for me to learn something new and this stuff sounded interesting.

They asked for volunteers to fill the groups service positions and seeing that nobody wanted to serve I raised my hand. However, they told me I was not even a good alcoholic; they hardly saw me at meetings anymore and they said they couldn't trust me. They thought I had a big ego.....and I was not there to call the shots. They asked if I knew my A, B, C's and I said yes.

They told me to start by cleaning ash trays, "brooming" the place and making coffee (AB&C) and if I did that then maybe they'd consider giving me a chance to take on a bigger commitment. In my culture, all these things are done by women so it was such a blow to my ego because I had never done those things at home 'I was too macho'. They told me I should arrive an hour early so that when the new comers came I could be ready for them. They wanted me to start giving back but again that was something totally foreign to me I had always been a taker.

In time, I got a hold of a Service Manual and it said the group conscience was going to guide me and from then on I began to listen. Today I am grateful to those old timers that showed me how to be of service at the group level, intergroup and General Service. It was through my willingness to be of service that I discovered the role of my home group in AA as a whole and how the GSR the link in the line of communication with other Groups and Districts and the General Service Office. I love the opportunity to serve and learn more new things about myself and about AA.

I now know about rotation and I find that concept fascinating because it forces me to get out of my comfort zone and do something different. I can honestly say that service work has kept me sober and I'm grateful to God for all the friends I've made along the way and all the things I've shared with them. I also find that the more I put in the more I get out, what a concept.

Having been a part of panel 62 and serving as Registrar of Area 09 has been a wonderful experience for me. There is some much more work to be done. There are so many meetings that need to be counted and they need our help. I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve God and you. God bless you all.

Raul Ch. Panel 62 Registrar.

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

- Experience shows that the most effective G.S.R.s have been active in group, intergroup, or other service, where they have developed a desire to serve, and encountered situations in which the Twelve Traditions have been called upon to solve problems.
- Usually, prospective G.S.R.s have at least two years of continuous sobriety.
- They have time available for the district meetings, area assemblies and other service functions.
- They have the confidence of the group, and an ability to listen to all points of view.

G.S.R.s attend district and area meetings.

They serve as the mail contact with the General Service Office, and are listed in the AA directories as contacts for the groups. They receive the GSO bulletin *Box 4-5-9*, and keep their groups abreast of AA activities all over the world.

They supply their District Committee Member with up-to-date group information, which is relayed to GSO for inclusion in the directories and for GSO mailings.

They are knowledgeable about material available from GSO—new literature, guidelines, bulletins, videos, tapes, kits, etc.—and they are responsible for passing such information on to the groups.

They learn everything they can about the *Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts* and are familiar with the *A.A. Service Manual*, the books *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* and *A.A. Comes*

of Age, Twelve Concepts for World Service, and the pamphlets “*The A.A. Group*,” “*A.A. Tradition—How it Developed*,” “*The Twelve Traditions Illustrated*,” and “*The Twelve Concepts Illustrated*.”

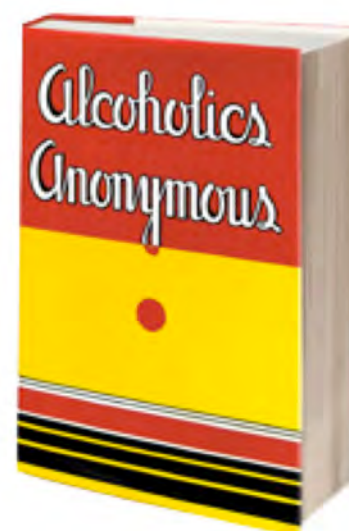
They are encouraged to serve on the group steering committee (or Group Conscience meeting).

They work with group treasurers to develop practical plans for group support of GSO, such as the Regular Contribution Plan and the Birthday Plan. They encourage the group to support the area and district committees and local central offices or intergroups, and they are familiar with the leaflet “*Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix*.”

They participate in district and area service meetings, and often help with planning for area get-togethers and conventions. Following these events, they make reports to their groups for the benefit of those who could not attend.

The General Service Representative has the job of linking his or her group with A.A. as a whole. The GSR represents the voice of the group conscience, reporting the group’s thoughts to the district committee member and to the delegate, who passes them on to the Conference. This communication is a two-way street, making the GSR responsible for bringing back to the group Conference Actions that affect A.A. unity, health, and growth. Only when a GSR keeps the group informed, and communicates the group conscience, can the Conference truly act for A.A. as a whole.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: Current experience indicates that many groups provide financial support for their general service representative to attend service functions.



Announcing the 75th Anniversary Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*

The Book

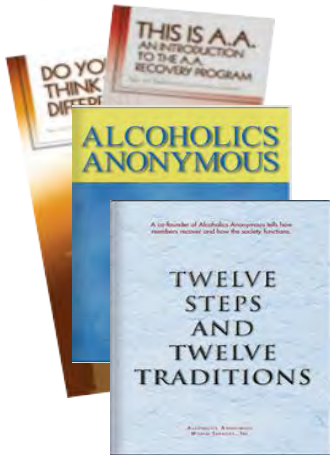
A.A. World Services, Inc. has announced the publication of the only authorized reproduction of the first edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The book is priced at \$12.

The official publication date of the first printing of our Big Book, as noted by the United States Copyright Office, was April 10, 1939. There were 4,730 books printed, with red cloth binding, wide columns, thick paper (which was why it was called the Big Book in the first place), and a red, yellow, black and white dust jacket, which came to be known as the “circus cover.”

Preorders

You may preorder copies of the book (Item B-0) from your Central Office or visit www.aa.org for order information directly from AAWS. Preorders from AAWS will be sent directly to the purchaser and gift orders to address provided in April 2014. **(Preorder period ends on Feb. 28, 2014)**

Inaugural



AREA 09 SPEAKERS AT AREA 93 EVENT!!

Literature Workshop

Saturday, Dec 7th 2013 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Simi Valley Senior Center – 3900 Avenida Simi – Simi Valley

Speakers

Pete B.: *(Past Area 09 Delegate and Current Archivist)*

“History of the Big Book”

Jim C.: *(Past Area 09 Delegate and Past Pacific Regional Trustee)*

“How the 4th ed. Stories were Chosen”

Panelists

Scott B., Lisa P., Marilyn N., Harold Y., Jeff J., Sharon G.

Panel topics include: *Conference approved literature vs. non-conference approved literature * How literature fits into our primary purpose * AA literature in a digital age * Importance of AA literature & literature commitments * and more!*

“Coffee and Carbs” provided!

2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 2 - 5, 2015 Atlanta, Georgia

The 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2 - 5, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia with the theme "80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free." A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 80th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Georgia Dome. Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the Georgia World Congress Center and local hotels.

We know many are excited about the International Convention and eager for detailed information. As the time gets closer, additional information about the Convention and Atlanta, our host city, will be provided.

www.aa.org web site will be updated as more information becomes available. Also, 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 is also posted on the Web site.

Convention registration and housing reservations will open in fall 2014. All necessary information will be included in the registration packet, which will be available in September 2014. This packet will list numbers to call for answers to specific questions about housing, the program, etc. The information will be mailed to A.A. groups, offices and contacts around the world and posted on the Web site.

START SAVING NOW AND WE’LL SEE YOU IN ATLANTA IN 2015!!

PANEL 64 AREA CHAIR: SHARES HER GRATITUDE IN SERVICE

It is Thanksgiving Eve and I can't sleep. The fact that what sounds like a little dog barking in the distance doesn't help either. My dogs are snoring so at least someone is able to get some rest. I haven't written too many articles for the newsletter but am compelled to write one tonight at 3:39am. I have a lot to be thankful for. My family, friends, health, God, and AA.

It wasn't until I moved to Corona that I got involved in General Service. H and I was my thing when I got sober in Long Beach and my sobriety family was very active in Harbor Area H and I. I had a Women's panel as well as the teenage girls ward at Norwalk Metro. Perhaps one of my most memorable panels was when a girl named Raven brought the Satanic Bible to our meeting. She didn't quote from it just felt compelled to bring it.

It wasn't until I got involved in Intergroup that I started learning how the traditions work through the groups. I was the Action and Responsibility chair for Harbor Area. One group needed to be addressed for mentioning the word "addict" in their group preamble. "Only addicts and alcoholics can share". The Chair and I addressed the secretary after the meeting and mentioned their group can do whatever they want but to stay in the AA directory you need to remove the word addict.

I'm glad we have these guidelines for Intergroup and as trusted servants in it's important to help educate about the traditions. Most AA's are only familiar with a handful.

As I reflect on Panel 62 and help transition Joe into Alternate Delegate, I couldn't be more proud of our Area and it's energy. We have a lot of passionate members and I hope the momentum continues.

What I've learned a lot about General Service is to trust the process. As my service sponsor says whenever I call to ask questions out of frustration or confusion "the body will take care of it". I've come to accept this and realize that she is right. I don't always agree with some of the proposals that are passed but have to accept that that is what the Area wanted.

One example of a proposal that passed this panel was to continue the Servathon on election years. It passed pretty overwhelmingly if I recall. Our Servathon in 2012, coming off the heels of this passing was extremely well attended with over 100 people. My question is, where was everyone that voted in favor of this at the 2013 Servathon? We had 40 to 45 people attend. The food kitty collection was \$59. One Roundtable had only the committee chair participating at his table. By the time the second Roundtable came up, committees started to combine. I sat at the Intergroup Roundtable and literature and really learned a lot. The Finance table not only talked about the budget but the economic feasibility of a Servathon on election years. I believe that for those that did show up we had a great time. The traditions play was so much fun and I thank all those who participated. Seeing Revo and Ramon in their acting debut was priceless.

As we go into Panel 64, it is my hope that the energy continues. I look forward to being your Chair.

In love and Service

Sharon K.

PANEL 64 TREASURER: CALLED TO SERVICE

I wasn't going to stand for anything at the area, but I certainly was going to support anybody who wanted to stand. I walked around the room that morning asking people if they were going to stand and for what position, I tried to encourage them. That's what I've been taught to do from the beginning of my sobriety. I've always been amazed to see what people can do once they've taken a position for which they think they are not going to be good. I have seen many instances where people have taken a position they weren't sure what to do and it turned out to be the best thing they had ever done. I see it at General Service Office where the staff rotates every two years. They are brand new to their positions over and over again and they do amazing work.

With all that going on in my mind, when the elections began, something started to make me think. And then right after we did the delegate election, it felt like God was speaking to me directly, telling me to get up, be a part of and say I was available. Why I stood for the position of treasurer I'm still not quite sure but I know that God had a big part in it. Many people have heard in the past few years, "God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called", well he called me loud and clear.

I know the next few years will have a great amount of learning and will most likely be one of the most amazing experiences of my life. And I am up for the challenge. I have the support of a great team (our new board) and I have the support of our current treasurer. Most of all I have the support of a wonderful husband who believes in me.

Don't forget, God is going to walk with me through every step, I can't beat that team.

My desire to serve Area 09 is strong. I love this area and all our members. My life has been blessed being a part of it. I plan on being the best treasurer I can be, because I was voted to do that and because it is my great honor, privilege and blessing to do so.

Rozanne

Faith is an act of courage.

**PANEL 64 ALTERNATE DELEGATE:
EMBARKS ON NEW JOURNEY OF SERVICE**

On Thursday, November 14, I had the opportunity to announce to my home District, District 5 that I had recently been elected the Alternate Delegate for Area 09 Panel 64. Some members already knew, but I was overjoyed with pride when I had the opportunity to tell them that I, one of their own, was going to be a part of a wonderful Panel in a wonderful Area. I am now about to embark upon a journey with Area09 for which I am unable to find words. I am excited, anxious, nervous, and a little afraid. In a word, I am a bit overwhelmed. But, I love Alcoholics Anonymous. I owe it my life. In love and service, I can't go wrong. I am grateful to all of you in Area09 for your trust in me and allowing me to serve.

Joe C.

30 YEARS AGO: 1983

FROM THE MSCA ARCHIVES

Area Newsletter

RIVERSIDE COUNTY • SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY • ORANGE COUNTY • LOS ANGELES COUNTY (South of Rosecrans)

VOL. VII, No. 12

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE OF AA

Nov. - Dec. 1983

HATS SET THE STYLE OF THE DAY

Many suspenseful moments were felt at the October Election Assembly where three out of five positions were filled with names being drawn from the hat. That is certainly a big change from earlier days when we practically had to get down on our knees and beg someone to serve as area officer. Each position had anywhere from eight to sixteen A.A. members willing to serve and the choice was hard to make with so many qualified people available to fill the various offices.

Jerry F., past delegate of MSCA, chaired the election. Assisting him in the various tasks to be performed were Ellery S. and Goldene L., past delegates of Mid-Southern California Area, Greg M. and Manny B., past and present delegates of the Nevada Area and Jim O. and Ralph G., past and present delegates of the Southern California Area. The honor of pulling the names from the hat went to our Pacific Regional Trustee, Natalie S.

The officers chosen to serve us for the next two years are: Frank S. from San Pedro as Delegate, Maxine C. from Anaheim will be our Alternate Delegate. Chairman of the Assembly will be Bill S. from Riverside while Eddie G. from Bellflower will take over handling our finances as Treasurer. Lindy D. from Huntington Beach gets the distinct honor of handling all that paper work while serving as Secretary.

Proof that we cannot sit back and rest on our laurels after we rotate out of a job came with Assembly approval for Dyanne G. to assume the position of Newsletter editor next year. Applications are being taken for a new Grapevine Chairman to begin in January.

Growth in attendance at our Area Assemblies helped us decide to move our Assemblies to a new location for the next two years. Starting with the January Assembly, we will be meeting at the Villa Center in Santa Ana where our recent Servathon was held.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 8—Sunday
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
 ABC Recovery Center
 44-359 Palm St., Indio
 Hosted by District 9

January 12—Sunday
Area Assembly
 Hosted by District 18

February 9—Sunday (subject to approval)
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
 Hosted by District 23

March 16—Sunday (subject to approval)
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
 Hosted by District 23

April 13—Sunday (subject to approval)
Pre-Conference Workshop
 Hosted by District 6

May 18—Sunday (subject to approval)
Conference Report & Assembly
 Hosted by District 20

June 8—Sunday (subject to approval)
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
 Hosted by District 10

July 13—Sunday (subject to approval)
MSCA Foro
 Hosted by Districts 22 and 9

Usual Area Meeting Schedule at most Assemblies and ASCs

9:00 a.m.	Delegate's Sharing
9:00 a.m.	GSR Orientation
9:00 a.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Standing Committee Meetings
10:00 a.m.	DCM Orientation
11:15 a.m.	Lunch
12:00 Noon	Area Meeting

Who's Who

Officers/Directors

Delegate: Jeryl T.
Alt. Delegate: Sharon K.
Chairperson: Cesar F.
Secretary: Jesus O.
Treasurer: Annie D.
Registrar: Raul C.

Committee

Chairs, Co-Chairs

and other Area Service Positions

Archives (Eng)	Matt W.
Archives (Sp)	(open)
CEC	Patricia P.
Communications	Martin J.
<i>Elec. Media</i>	Kris C.
<i>Elec. Equip</i>	(Open)
<i>Translation</i>	Santiago S.
<i>Newsletter</i>	Linda C.
Convention (Eng)	Lois L.
Convention (Sp)	Mauricio T.
Corrections	Julio I.
CPC (Eng)	Catherine
CPC (Sp)	Jose F.
DCM School (Eng)	Nikki N.
DCM School (Sp)	
Finance	Tina B.
<i>Grapevine</i>	Catherine E.
GSR School (Eng)	Marita H.
GSR School (Sp)	Marcelo C.
<i>La Viña</i>	Paco G.
Literature (Eng)	Scott B.
Literature (Sp)	Martin G.
P.I. (Eng)	Bob D.
P.I. (Sp)	Jaime F. to be confirmed
Registration	Kristin F.
Spec. Needs (Eng)	Jennifer C.
Spec. Needs (Sp)	
<i>Archivist</i>	Pete B.
<i>Coffee</i>	Tony M.
<i>Copier</i>	Jim C.
<i>Sound</i>	Jim B.
<i>Web Coordinator</i>	Rainer F.