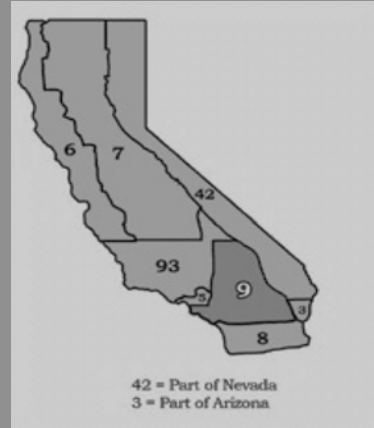


Mid-Southern California Area 09 Newsletter

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

Meet Our New Delegate:

My name is Cesar and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is January 6, 1996 and my Home Group is the Libertad/Freedom Group in Santa Ana.

I have served this Area for the last fifteen years and eight of them have been as an Area Officer. Every time I have taken a new position, I have had the fear that I will not measure up, but then I have been inspired by the gratitude and love that I have for Alcoholics Anonymous.

I started service in my home group, then in District 20, and then with the Area Standing Committees, including Area coffee, and now as outgoing Area Chair. General Service certainly has been a part of my daily life for many, many years.

At the election assembly in Oct., 2013, my name came out of the hat and I was elected to represent Area 09 as Panel 64 Delegate. I believe that God, as I understand Him, had His hand in the matter through the collective conscience of the area and gave me this great opportunity. I have been told that this will be an experience that will impact in my life, and I want you to know they were right, even this early.

Continued on page 2

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CALENDAR APPROVAL AT JANUARY ASSEMBLY
(more on page 6)

January 12—Sunday

Area Assembly
Kaiser Permanente
6640 Alton Parkway, Irvine
Hosted by District 18

February 9—Sunday

Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 23

March 16—Sunday

Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 1

April 13—Sunday

Pre-Conference Workshop
Hosted by District 6

May 18—Sunday

Conference Report Back & Assembly
Hosted by District 20

June 8—Sunday

Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 10

July 13—Sunday

MSCA Foro
Hosted by Districts 22/09



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.*

(Nov and Dec: no movie night)

Bill W. Documentary
To be announced
To be announced

Sat, Jan 18
Sat, Feb 15
Sat, Mar 15

Movies about alcoholism in Spanish??

Does anyone know of a source for appropriate movies about alcoholism in the Spanish language with English subtitles?

If so, please contact the Archives Committee at

ArchivesChair@msca09aa.org

Delegate's Corner: Continued from page 1

We also, of course, elected all the other Area Officers for Panel 64 and I'm very happy and grateful to be a part of this panel. They reflect much love and motivation, and especially much responsibility in each of their respective elected positions.

I have worked enthusiastically in all my past service positions and I intend to do my best to make it possible to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers through my work in General Service. I will represent this area the best way I know how. I realize that it is a great responsibility, but I believe I've grown a lot in the past few years as a person. I am a good listener and I will take your suggestions very seriously, but I am also capable of using the right of decision when it's necessary.

Finally, I want to thank all the trusted servants in Area 09 who will be rotating out. A special thanks to those who make this publication of the Area Newsletter possible (English and Spanish)... this is an important way for us to stay in contact with each other.

I want to close by wishing you all the best in the next two years with great respect and gratitude. We shall meet on this road called General Service.

Service is a Legacy of Love,

Cesar F.

Panel 64 Area 09 Delegate



“You don’t have to be afraid; A.A. is in good hands.”

I began my general service in 1982 as a GSR from the *Living Sober* group in Corona del Mar. I was not a well-informed GSR as I didn’t have any idea what General Service was about or what I was supposed to report on. I didn’t know how to ask for a “group conscience” or “protect the Traditions”. I listened to the Concepts, but couldn’t make heads or tails of what they meant or how I might apply or understand them. At my first area meeting there was a disagreement between several members who were not happy with something in the Area Newsletter, which resulted in a physical skirmish...some pushing and shoving and perhaps a punch thrown or taken. I looked on, horrified, and wondered what I had gotten myself into. And even more astonishing, and perplexing at the time, all of those involved in the little “shoving match” went amicably out to coffee together after the meeting.

Later that month I heard a talk by our then current delegate, Dyanne G. She said, *“You don’t have to be afraid. A.A. is in good hands.”*

I had been developing a fear for A.A....I had been hearing a lot of anxiety from some members of our home group and others that the “druggies” were taking over and I wondered how I would stay sober if A.A. should somehow collapse or lose its focus or singleness of purpose. It wasn’t only that Dyanne had made the statement that we needn’t be afraid, it was how she said it: with conviction, a genuine humility, and a quiet passion. I heard what she said, but more importantly, I heard how she said it. I *believed* her. I had no doubt that she, and the others who reinforced her assertion in word and manner knew what they were talking about.

For over thirty years in General Service I have witnessed sacrifice, consideration, kindness, strength, awareness, wisdom, and love for A.A. and for its members. I have witnessed people finding ways to address disagreements in an agreeable and loving way. I have witnessed people who knew how to explain their positions and to cheerfully move forward when they didn’t “get their way”. I witnessed people who believed in the inherent wisdom of the process and didn’t get angry, vindictive

or vengeful when things didn’t turn out the way they thought was best.

Warranty Five of our Twelfth Concept states: *“That no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy.”* Our Mid-Southern California Area 09 has always, in my experience and observation, tried to apply the principles described and discussed in Bill’s essays on the Concepts, as well as the Traditions and Steps. In my opinion, the individual members of the Area Assembly, as well as the body itself, should also never take action that is personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy.

I have been overwhelmed with the amazing love and service I have observed from the vast majority of those with whom I have served. I have seen examples of self-sacrifice that, although not generally publicized and promoted, would inspire awe in anyone and certainly has in me. I have seen dignity in the face of humiliation, leadership in the face of personal attack. I have seen cherished plans and dreams discarded for those that turned out to be better, or at least more popular at the moment.

The most important thing I have learned so far (although I have *certainly* not mastered it myself) is that it is not *what* we think that matters; what matters is the manner in which we express it.

Can we be respectful? Kind? Courteous? Mindful of others’ rights and feelings? Fully informed before we speak? Patient with those who have not yet learned how to be eloquent or respectful or kind?

Fear is toxic. *“Sometimes we think that fear ought to be classed with stealing. It seems to cause more trouble.”*

I believe what Dyanne said and how she said it: *“You don’t need to be afraid. A.A. is in good hands.”* ... and those hands are yours and mine. Let us take each others’ hands and work together ... unafraid ... with love and service, respectful and caring of one another ... even when we disagree ... or, perhaps, *especially* when we disagree.

Linda C.
Panel 60





Communicating our Legacies – Vital in a Changing World March 7-9, 2014

The purpose of PRAASA is to:

- Develop greater unity among the members, groups, and areas of the Pacific Region;
- Encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences;
- Provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Assembly and the PRAASA Committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity and Service legacies of Alcoholics Anonymous.

www.2014.praasa.org

The **Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly** is an annual assembly hosted by one of the 15 areas in the Pacific Region of Alcoholics Anonymous each year and it therefore moves around the region.

This year the **San Diego - Imperial Area Assembly** is excited to host PRAASA. The last time PRAASA was here was in 1997 at the Red Lion Hotel in Hazard Center.

This year we will be just a mile west, across Interstate 163, at the *Town and Country Resort and Convention Center*.

Many of you in the Region will remember this hotel as the San Diego site of the Southern California AA Convention. They have plenty of rooms for PRAASA's plethora of breakout roundtables.

It will be a great place for our areas to focus on the theme of the 2014 General Service Conference, **"Communicating Our Legacies - Vital in a Changing World."** And what a wonderful topic of our time this theme is as we see many of our conference areas struggle with the right balance of flexibility and rigidity in our effort to remain relevant and inviting to the suffering alcoholic looking for a solution. This will be a joyful time of sharing with our service buddies from around the Region, the Continent, and even the World. We can't wait to see you all!

2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 2 - 5, 2015 Atlanta, Georgia

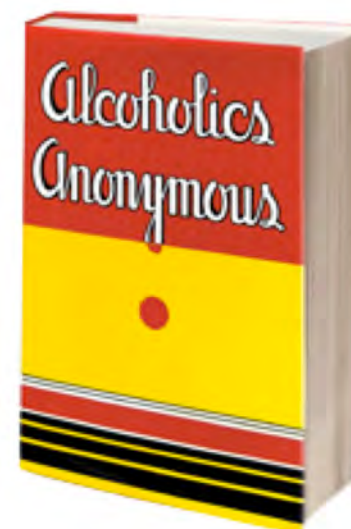
The 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2 - 5, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia with the theme "80 Years - Happy, Joyous and Free." A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 80th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night 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!!



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)**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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Kaiser Permanente
6640 Alton Parkway-Irvine
Hosted by District 18

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Hosted by District 6

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Hosted by District 20

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Hosted by District 10

July 13—Sunday
MSCA Foro
Hosted by Districts 22 and 9

August 10—Sunday
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 5

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

Panel 64 Officers/Directors

Delegate: Cesar F.
Alt. Delegate: Joe C.
Chairperson: Sharon K.
Secretary: Barbara D.
Treasurer: Rozanne T.
Registrar: Jesus O.

**Committee
Chairs, Co-Chairs**
and other Area Service Positions

**ALL COMMITTEE
CHAIRS AND OTHER
POSITIONS TO BE
CONFIRMED AND/OR
ELECTED AT THE
JANUARY 2014
ASSEMBLY**



Area Newsletter Editor

Needed!

2014-2015

aka Chair of the Newsletter
Sub-Committee

General Service and publishing experi-
ence helpful...contact
Area Communications Committee Chair
at

CommCommChair@msca09aa.org

if interested in this service and partici-
pation in your sobriety.

**(Can be prepared in English or Span-
ish and translated to the other
language)**