



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.area09.org

June 2011

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

Editorial: On Cultivating Tolerance

During nine years in A.A. I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal, not only maintain sobriety, but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well. One of these is tolerance. Tolerance expresses itself in a variety of ways: in kindness and consideration toward the man or woman who is just beginning the march along the spiritual path; in the understanding of those who perhaps have been less fortunate in educational advantages, and in sympathy toward those whose religious ideas may seem to be at great variance with our own. I am reminded in this connection of the picture of a hub with its radiating spokes. We all start at the outer circumference and approach our destination by one of many routes.

To say that one spoke is much better than all the other spokes is true only in the sense of its being best suited to you as an individual. Human nature is such that without some degree of tolerance, each one of us might be inclined to believe that we have found the best or perhaps the shortest spoke. Without some tolerance we might tend to become a bit smug or superior--which of course is not helpful to the person we are trying to help, and may be quite painful or obnoxious to others. No one of us wishes to do anything which might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another--and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.

Tolerance furnishes, as a by-product, a greater freedom from the tendency to cling to preconceived ideas and stubbornly adhered-to opinions. In other words it often promotes an open-mindedness which is vastly important--in fact a prerequisite to the successful termination of any line of search, whether it be scientific or spiritual.

These, then, are a few of the reasons why an attempt to acquire tolerance should be made by each one of us.

Dr. Bob of Akron

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Delegate's Corner

I will have the great pleasure of sharing with many of you during the next couple of months about my experience of and the recommendations from the **61st General Service Conference**, which was held in New York City from May 1st to May 7th. If you would like a copy of my written report, please contact me at delegate@msca09aa.org or you can find it at your area website at www.area09.org. Also, if your group members have questions they would like to discuss, or would like a short version of my report in person, I will be glad to come and meet with them, share what I know and explore ideas they might have.

Speaking of your website, I invite you to share your ideas and thoughts about the advisory actions you find in it on our website interactive **Forum**.

Do you have **ideas** about how our pamphlets or books might be improved? (No, I'm not talking about the first 164 numbered pages of the big book, Dr. Bob's Nightmare, or the Steps or Traditions!) Are there things you have in mind that might help to increase participation in A.A.? Or help make it possible to carry our message more effectively?

Let's be thinking about possible agenda items to submit to the General Service Board for the 62nd conference in 2012.

Remember that Conference **Advisory Actions**, which actually keep Alcoholics Anonymous alive and well, come initially from YOU: A.A. members, Intergroup Committees or Representatives, General Service Representatives, District Committee Members, Area Committee members, Delegates, Trustees, or General Service Office or Grapevine Office Staff.

You can send your idea or suggestion to the Conference Coordinator at the General Service Office who forwards it to the appropriate Trustees' Committee.

....continued on p.2, col. 1

Delegate's Corner ...continued from p.1, col.2

The Trustees' Committee may then forward it to the appropriate Conference Committee (and if they don't, they will make certain that you are informed about their reasons and rationale; you have a right to and will be given an opportunity to respond and dialog with them).

The Conference Committees are made up of first and second year area delegates and meet during the General Service Conference week each year. The committees then make **recommendations**, which are presented in a Committee Report to the whole General Service Conference body (135 members).

If the Conference members approve the recommendation by at least a 2/3 majority, after full floor discussion and debate, it becomes a **Conference Advisory Action**.

And finally, the Advisory Action becomes **binding** when approved by the General Service Board. At that time the General Service Office and Grapevine staffs will **implement the actions** as directed.

It sounds cumbersome, but your idea or suggestion is respected and heard; ours is a body unlike any other in the world, where the members truly have a voice and a representative vote.

YOUR GOOD IDEA is important.

If there is any way that I can assist you in preparing your ideas for submission, please contact me or come and participate in our General Service structure at your district and area meetings.

By the way, have you heard of Alcoholics Alzheimer's Disease? It's when you forget everything except your resentments.

Much love, Linda

Tradition 7, (long form)

Our A.A. experience has taught us that:

The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then, too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

Movie Night At the Archives

Bring your lawn chairs or chaise lounges and enjoy a classic movie about alcoholism.

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

Cost: FREE! *Bring your lawn chairs or chaise lounge and enjoy classic Hollywood movies about AA in our own unique theater. Refreshments will be available.*

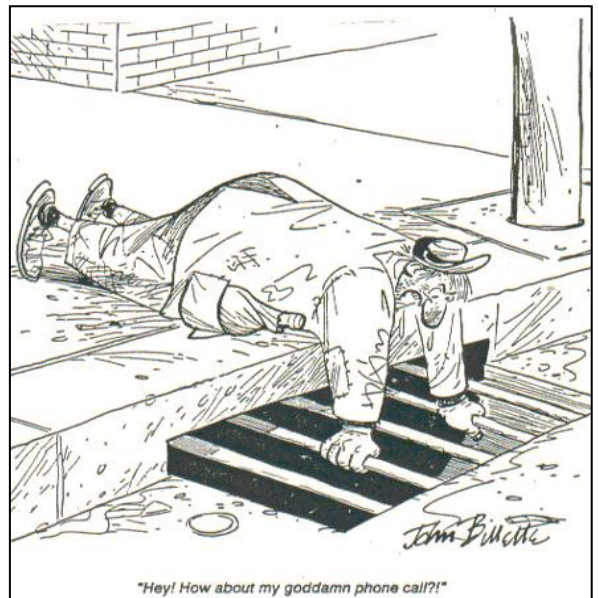
2011 Schedule

One Too Many (1950) Sat.– Jun 18
When A Man Loves A Woman (1994) Sat.– Jul 16
28 Days (2000) Sat.– Aug 20

(All features include cartoons)

**7111 Arlington Ave, Suite B , Riverside CA
951 785-0845**

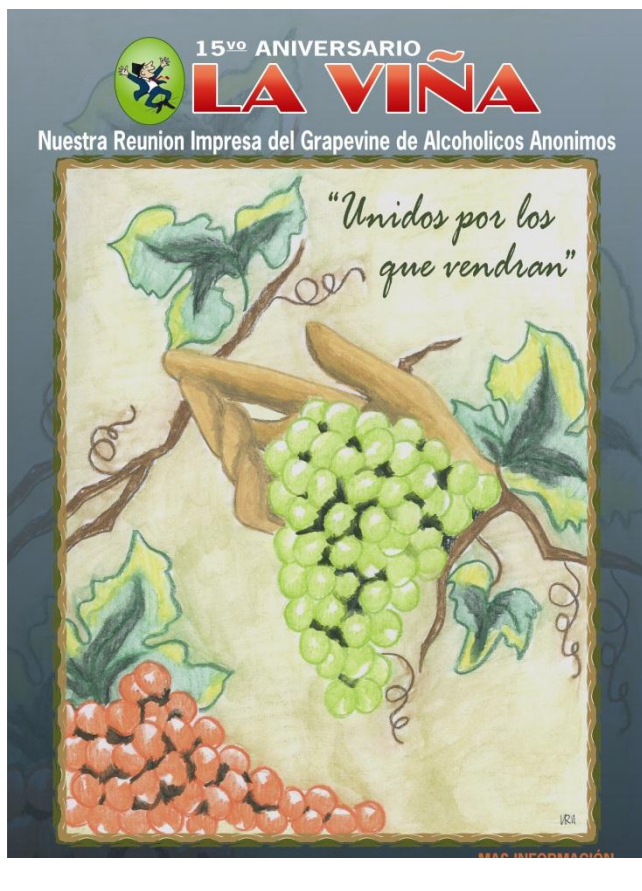
(Next to the Airport in the Riverside Air Park)



"Hey! How about my goddamn phone call?!"

Celebration of the 15th Anniversary of La Vina

All AA members are invited. There will be English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English translations. This celebration will start on Saturday, July 30, at noon. It will be continued Sunday July 31 from 8 am to 6 pm. It will be held in Bakersfield, CA, north of the River Veterans Building at 400 W. Norris Road. For more information, go to www.LVuniversario.org.



Concept VI (Long Form)

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

~Tradition Checklist~

Tradition Six:

An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital?

Is it good for a group to lease a small building?

Are all the officers and members of our local club for AAs familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs" (which is available free from GSO)?

Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?

Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?

~Concept Checklist~

Concept VI:

The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

Are we familiar with how our General Service Board (G.S.B.) Class A and Class B trustees serve A.A.?

Are we familiar with how our other trusted servants serve A.A.?

Are we clear about the terms, "chief initiative" and "active responsibility"? Can we see a direct link to our home group?

Concept VII (Long Form)

VII The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.

"...**GRAPEVINE** is a lifeline linking one alcoholic to another."

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Delegate's Impressions (1951) (MICHIGAN)

BEING an alcoholic, I am emotional, and while AA has, in a measure, taught me to think with my head, I still feel with those old emotions. During the Conference, my feelings ran the gamut of:

Amazement at the scope and efficiency of the Services of AA. Services conceived and fostered for us in AA by our beloved Founders.

Shame for my own selfish acceptance of those Services without having troubled myself to think of them properly or to support them fairly.

Resolution to explain these Services to other members so that they may know that herein we have a fine, necessary and precious means of helping the fellow alcoholic who doesn't yet know.

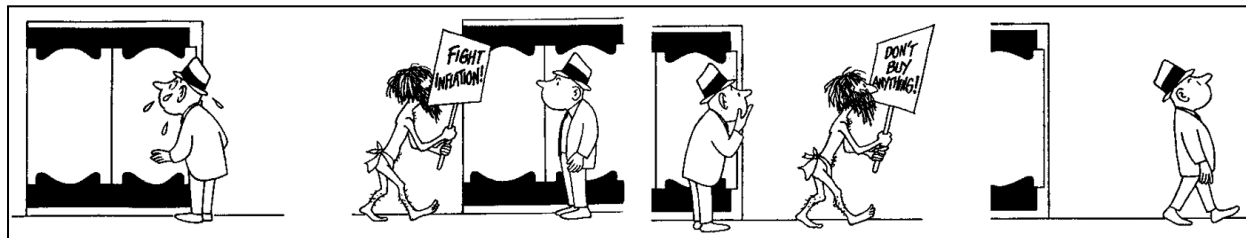
Humility because here were thirty-seven temperamental alcoholics who sat down together for three days and discussed ways and means of preserving and protecting these Services that have, in some fashion, meant so much to each of us in AA. Thirty-seven who did this without a word or gesture that implied government or selfish ends. Thirty-seven whose sole thought was to help in whatever way possible to discharge our collective obligation to a Provident God by "Carrying this message to other alcoholics."

Gratitude that God has seen fit to grant me the beautiful gift of life itself through the message of AA that came to me when I was one of the million yet to come.

F. Mcl.

Muskegon, Michigan

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Editorial:

On the 6th Tradition

The sixth of our 12 Points of A.A. Tradition is deemed so important that it states at length the relation of the A.A. movement to money and property.

Too detailed to print here, this Tradition declares in substance that the accumulation of money, property and the unwanted personal authority so often generated by material wealth comprise a cluster of serious hazards against which an A.A. group must ever be on guard.

Tradition 6 also enjoins the group never to go into business nor ever to lend the A.A. name or money credit to any "outside" enterprise, no matter how good. Strongly expressed is the opinion that even clubs should not bear the A.A. name; that they ought to be separately incorporated and managed by those individual A.A.s who need or want clubs enough to financially support them.

We would thus divide the spiritual from the material, confine the A.A. movement to its sole aim and insure (however wealthy as individuals we may become) that A.A. itself shall always remain poor. We dare not risk the distractions of corporate wealth. Years of experience have proven these principles beyond doubt. They have become certainties, absolute verities for us.

Thank God, we A.A.s have never yet been caught in the kind of religious or political disputes which embroil the world of today. But we ought to face the fact that we have often quarreled violently about money, property and the administration thereof. Money, in quantity, has always been a baleful influence in group life. Let a well meaning donor present an A.A. group with a sizeable sum and we break loose. Nor does trouble abate until that group, as such, somehow disposes of its bank roll. This experience is practically universal. "But," say our friends, "isn't this a confession of weakness? Other organizations do a lot of good with money. Why not A.A.?"

Of course, we of A.A. would be the first to say that many a fine enterprise does a lot of good with a lot of money. To these efforts, money is usually primary; it is their life blood. But money is *not* the life blood of A.A. With us, it is very secondary. Even in small quantities, it is scarcely more than a necessary nuisance, something we wish we could do without entirely. Why is that so?

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6th Tradition ...continued from previous column

We explain this easily enough; we don't need money. The care of our A.A. procedure is "one alcoholic talking to another," whether that be sitting on a curbstone, in a home, or at a meeting. It's the message, not the place; it's the talk, not the alms. That does our work. Just places to meet and talk, that's about all A.A. needs. Beyond these, a few small offices, a few secretaries at their desks, a few dollars a piece a year, easily met by voluntary contributions. Trivial indeed, *our* expenses!

Nowadays, the A.A. group answers its well wishers saying, "Our expenses are trifling. As good earners, we can easily pay them. As we neither need nor want money, why risk its hazards? We'd rather stay poor. Thanks just the same!"

Bill W.

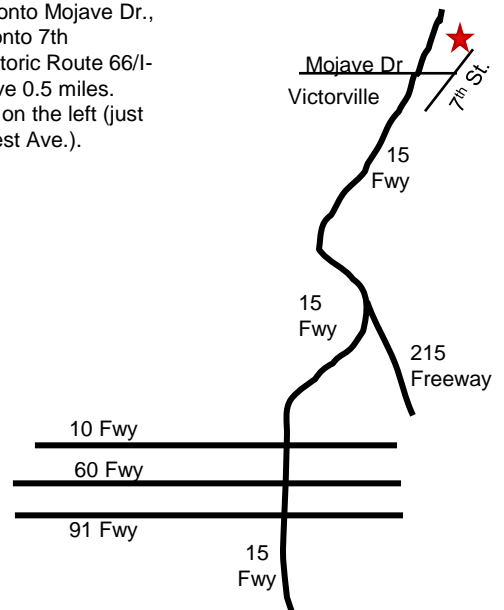
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Foro

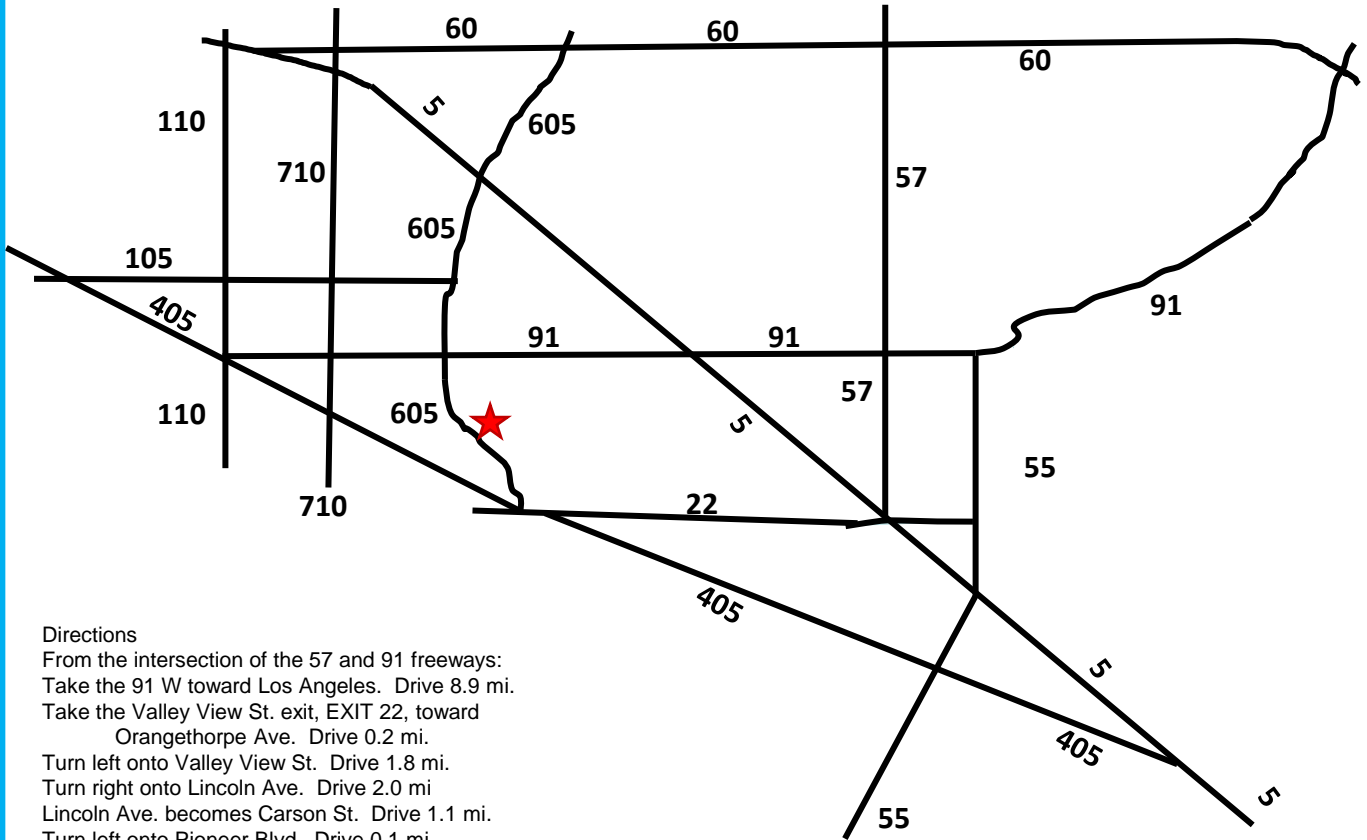
July 17 – Sunday – Foro, Saint Joan of Arc Church, 15500 7th St., Victorville, CA 92395

From the intersection of the 91 and the 15 freeway, drive north on the 15 freeway 53.2 miles to Victorville. From the 15 freeway, in Victorville, take the Mojave Drive exit. Then

turn right onto Mojave Dr.,
Turn left onto 7th
Street/Historic Route 66/
15 Bl. Drive 0.5 miles.
Church is on the left (just
past Forrest Ave.).



June 12 – Sunday – **ASC**, (Proposals will be presented but not voted on),
 City Hall, 21815 Pioneer Bl., Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716



Directions
 From the intersection of the 57 and 91 freeways:
 Take the 91 W toward Los Angeles. Drive 8.9 mi.
 Take the Valley View St. exit, EXIT 22, toward
 Orangethorpe Ave. Drive 0.2 mi.
 Turn left onto Valley View St. Drive 1.8 mi.
 Turn right onto Lincoln Ave. Drive 2.0 mi
 Lincoln Ave. becomes Carson St. Drive 1.1 mi.
 Turn left onto Pioneer Blvd. Drive 0.1 mi.
 21815 Pioneer Blvd is on the right.

What is the difference between Assemblies and ASCs?

Assemblies: GSRs vote
 First ASC after each Assembly: *The ASC members will present proposals, but no vote will be taken on them.*
 Second ASC after each Assembly: *ASC members will vote on which proposals to put on the agenda for the next Assembly (for GSRs to vote on)*

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 Cochairs.

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

Schedule for most MSCA Assemblies/ASCs

9:00 am....Delegate's Sharing*
 10:15 am..... GSR School, and
 Committee Meetings
 11:30 am... Lunch
 12 noon ... ASC or Assembly meeting

* Please note that The Delegate's Sharing now goes from 9:00 to 10:00 and the GSR School and committees start their meetings at 10:15

Panel 60 Area Officers

Linda C., Delegate
 Cesar F., Alt. Delegate
 Jeryl T., Chairperson
 Sharon K., Secretary
 Joseph M., Treasurer
 Michael M., Registrar

Upcoming Events

Date - Event:

June 12 – Sunday – ASC, (Proposals will be presented but not voted on), City Hall, 21815 Pioneer Bl., Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716
 June 19 – Sunday - AA Grapevine Writers Workshop, 7111 Arlington Ave., Suite B, Riverside, 2pm – 5pm
 July 17 – Sunday – Foro, Saint Joan of Arc Church, 15500 7th St., Victorville, CA 92395
 Aug. 14 – Sunday – ASC, *ASC members will vote on which proposals to put on the agenda for the next Assembly (for GSRs to vote on).* Town Hall Recreation, 25925 Cedar St., Idyllwild, CA 92544 (District 14)
 Sep. 11 – Sunday – Assembly, GSRs vote
 Oct. 9 – Sunday – Election Assembly, GSRs vote
 Nov. 6 – Sunday – Servathon
 Nov 20 - Sunday - Area Service Committee (ASC) District 4
 Dec. 11 - Sunday - Area Service Committee (ASC) District 30

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 Co-Chairs of the Standing committees are listed below.

Panel 60 Area Standing Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, et al.

Archives Chair... Joseph H	Finance Committee Chair... Jim B
CEC Chair... Doug W	Grapevine Chair... Doug M
Communications Committee Chair...Jesus O	La Viña Chair... Mauricio T
Newsletter Subcommittee Chair...Joe B	GSR School... David B
Layout Editor...Nancy R	GSR School, Spanish... Renaldo A
Electronic Media Sub-Committee Chair...Jim C	Literature Chair... Ernesto M
Web Coordinator...Rainer F	Literature Co-Chair, Spanish ... tbd
Equipment Subcommittee Chair... Kris C	Public Information Chair... Keith S
Translation Subcommittee Chair...Santiago S	Public Info., Sp... .. Marcelo C
Convention Liaison... Bob D	Registration Chair... Devon F
Convention Liaison, Span... Victor	Special Needs Chair...Scott R
Corrections Chair... Alex O	Special Needs Co-Chair, Spanish...tbd
CPC Chair... Bill G	Treatment Facilities Chair... John O
CPC Co-Chair, Span... Martin G	Archivist... Pete B
DCM School... Terry S	Coffee person... Paco G
DCM School Spanish ... tbd	Sound Dudes...Leandro L & Raul C

Please send articles or information for the Area Newsletter to communications@msca09aa.org