



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

December 2007

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

Concept XII

General Warranties of the Conference: in all its proceedings, the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. Tradition, taking great care that the conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principal; that none of the Conference Members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that, though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

This is the capstone for the previous 11 concepts. Like the 12th step describes the rewards of the 12 steps and the 12th Tradition describes the rewards of the 12 Traditions, this Concept describes the rewards of the 12 Concepts. No service body in Alcoholics Anonymous strives harder than the General Service Conference to cleave to the 6 Warranties outlined above. Whoa! Warranties! That's like a guarantee, correct? Absolutely correct.

....continued on page 2, col. 1

The Gratitude of Being Chair of the Public Information Committee

The gratitude I feel for everyone who has been on the Public Information Committee and those who have helped with the workshops, input on Proposals and the COMMUNICATION (2008's General Service Conference Theme) has been an awesome experience.

Our committees accomplishments were two workshops, two Proposals to the General Service Board-one has been forwarded. Many of the committee had never seen a Public Service Announcement. They have since seen the 2006

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

Delegate's Corner

Well it is that time again for that principle of rotation to take place where one delegate rotates out and another one rotates into that service position. I shall try to the best of my ability to express my reflections of the last 2 years. First I could never name the people that have been 100% supportive over the last 2 years so I shall just say that their friendship and love has been the most important tool that has made it possible for me to serve in this service position for the last 2 years. However I would be amiss if I did not mention the one person that was there day in and out that being my wife Linda, who was there when I needed a swift kick in my rear and there to support me when I needed her help and love. She never failed in that capacity because she understood that we both had the same love for AA. We both tried always to keep the idea that we keep the principle of carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic as our primary focus.

Next I would like to give thanks to those members of the General Service Conference who I had the honor to serve with over the last 2 years, whether it was a staff member or a trustee or one of my fellow Delegates their love and support will be something I never forgot. Those tears and laughs that we shared with each other will be with me forever as long as I live. I would like to say a couple of words about the 2 Pacific Regional Trustees that I had the privilege and honor to serve with the last 2 years. Phyllis H. was a 100% example of love thru service. I remember one time I was questioning to her why more people do not have to do this service, and she turned to me and said Bruce drunks like you and me have to do this service or we die. Then there is our current Pacific Regional Trustee Madeleine well what can I say other she has been a true example of a classy AA lady with love and dedication with that unique sense of humor. One time I was questioning the focus of our Area so I called her to get some of her experience strength and hope. After a few moments she squared me away and I never again had that concern, and she is somehow I will miss but know that AA and I are better for her service.

...continued on p.3, col. 1



Concept XII ... continued from p.1, col. 1

There are two bodies of thought and principle in Alcoholics Anonymous that our co-founder, Bill W., found to be of supremely vital importance.

These 6 warranties are one of those bodies and the 12 Traditions are the other. How do I know that Bill applied such importance to these two collections of principles? Are you aware that the General Service Conference could change the step 12 at their meeting in 2006 to read something like, *"Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to the world, and practice these principles in most of our affairs"*. Yep, they could do it with 2/3 of the General Service Conference voting to do so – that's all it takes. But do you know what it takes to change the 12 Traditions of the 6 Warrantees listed above? Listen to this: it would take the written permission off ¾ of all the groups known to exist by the General Service Office. In other words, it ain't gonna happen!!

Why such importance? Doesn't it seem like a lack of proportion? Well, if you can't see the wisdom in applying such protection to the 12 Traditions, you should probably commit to a Traditions Study for a year or so. But the 6 Warranties – why those? Because, in a very basic sense, these warranties are not warranties to the servants so much as they are warranties to the Fellowship. Bill believed that if we didn't accumulate money and authority in any single place, and especially at the perceived top, Alcoholics Anonymous would surely survive. Upon completing the 12 Concepts, Bill wrote, *"I knew that A.A. was safe at last, even from me"*.

I can add nothing to that.

A member of A.A. in Orange County.

Over 200 unique visitors per day to MSCA Website

Our MSCA website (msca09aa.org) continues to receive an average of over 200 different visitors (sessions) per day. The most often visited page, other than the main page, continues to be the "How to Find an AA Meeting" page, on which visitors can find out where/when AA Meetings are in cities throughout the Mid-Southern California Area. The 2nd most often visited page is the calendar page, on which visitors can find what Area and Regional General Service Events are coming up, and can find maps, directions, agendas, fliers, and other related materials for upcoming events. They can also find minutes of some of the past Area ASCs and Assemblies, although minutes of some of the 2007 events are missing.

Online Discussion Forum – Topic #5 Now Available For Your Responses

Each year, the delegates to the General Service Conference choose a theme, as well as discussion and workshop topics for the next General Service Conference. In 2007, the 57th General Service Conference chose **"Communication and Participation – The Key To Unity and Self-Support"** as the theme for the 2008 General Service Conference.

The Electronic Media Sub-Committee, (EMSC) is asking the members of A.A. in our Area to submit posts to the Online Forum between September 2007 and April 2008 addressing these discussion/workshop topics. This will allow our newly-elected Panel 58 Delegate, Joe B, to carry the experience, strength and hope of our Area to the 58th General Service Conference. The EMSC is posing a list of questions, but your postings need not be restricted to answering these questions – the questions are proffered merely as a way of initiating the thought process. The subject of the 5th topic for which the Committee would like to get your feedback is:

Unity

Our Common Welfare Should Come First

Principles Before Personalities

Diversity: Reaching Out to All Alcoholics

To access the forum, you may go to the area website at <http://www.msca09aa.org> or you may go directly to the forum at

<http://www.msca09aa.org/BGSharingTheMessage.html>

Please note that all 5 topics are open for your response. Your response to any of the topics is valuable to the trusted servants who seek only to serve the groups in Mid-Southern California Area and Alcoholics Anonymous, as a whole. As the topic of the 58th General Service Conference states: **"Communications and Participation – The Key To Unity and Self-Support"**. Never has this been more true than right now.

Grateful to serve,

Nick M. – Chair, Electronic Media Sub-Committee

Gratitude of Being PI Chair ...continued from p.1, col.1

"Testimonials", the archived "Reach Out" and the one that the Public Information Committee has a proposal on which is entitled "Force of Nature".

Upon reading "Guidelines for Submissions for Young People", some thoughts crossed my mind: "a) stick to A.A.'s primary purpose, b) try not to reference popular fads or fashions that may quickly date the piece, c) look for ways to make your message attractive."

...continued on p.4, col.1.

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

Then there is my fellow Pacific Regional Delegates that I served with the last 2 years those varied from those Panel 55 Delegates who shared their experience having attended one Conference to those Panel 57 Delegates who were hungry for our experience that we had acquired from our first Conference as Panel 56 Delegates. All of these brothers and sisters will hold a special place in my heart and memories, and I hope to see them at PRAASA,s and Regional Forums in the future.

Lastly I would like to thank some AA members who have been supportive whether that was by putting that extra buck in the basket so your Home Group could make a contribution to the Area or GSO or just having a kind word for our Service.

Those members who still may have a concern of whether or not is General Service really necessary I can honestly say having seen this Service in person for the last 2 years that answer is a resounding yes. I believe that as long as we have a General Service Conference we can continue to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic, but we must continue to be diligent to protect our Traditions and Concepts so that

...Continued on top of col. 2

Delegate's Corner ... continued from col. 1

our Groups are involved in the process of the Conference. I would like to say thanks to also AA members that I have never met but hope to meet in my next service position as Past Delegate.

In closing if I can ever be helpful to those members who have touched my heart during this last 2 years feel free to let me know. I hope to expound on my reflections at the Area Service Committee in December in Corona. Well I would lastly like to thank my GOD for his guidance in carrying out this Service as Delegate. I am sure he will guide me as I rotate into the service position as elder statesman. I hope to meet more of our loving fellowship as we trudge this road of service.

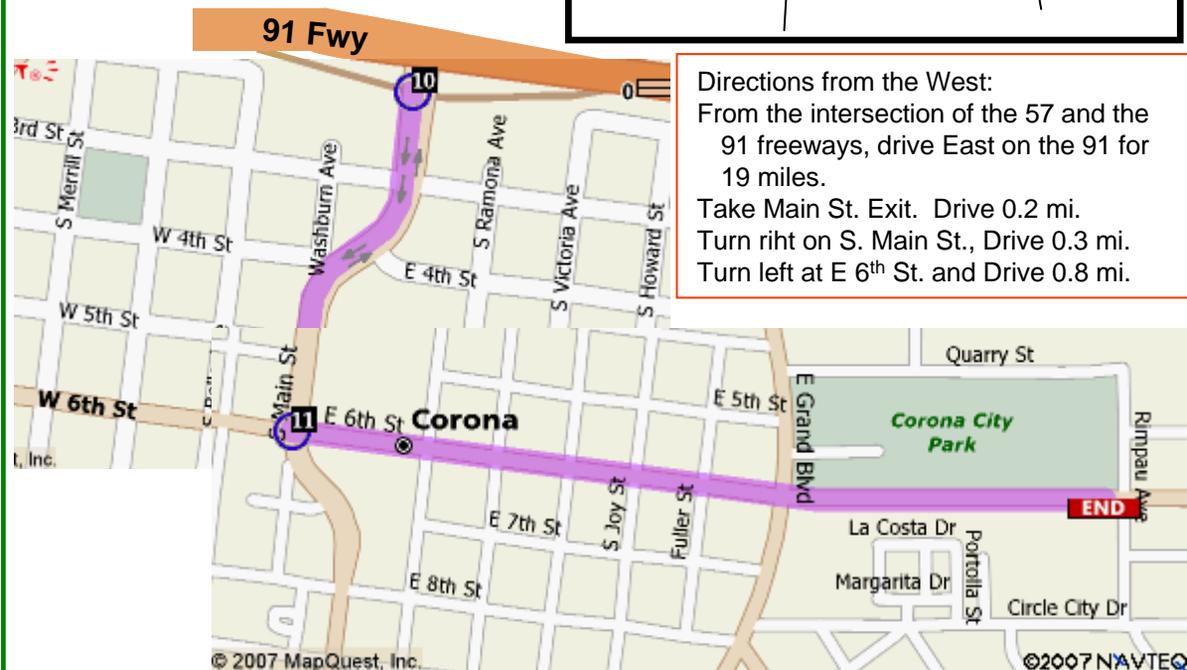
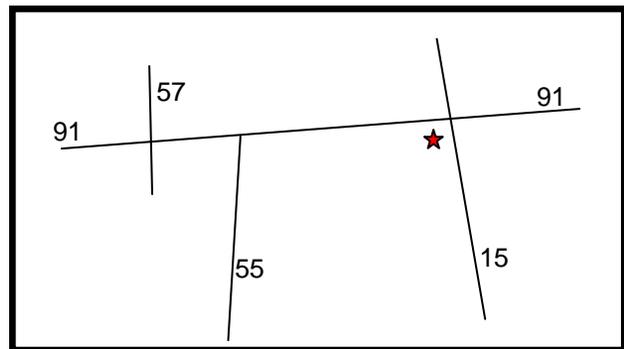
Love thru Service Bruce H.

Tradition 12 (Long Form)

And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

Dec. 9 ASC, (District 23) *(The ASC will vote on which proposals to put onto the next Assembly Agenda)*

**Corona City Park,
1075 E 6th St.
Corona, CA 92879**



Directions from the West:
From the intersection of the 57 and the 91 freeways, drive East on the 91 for 19 miles.
Take Main St. Exit. Drive 0.2 mi.
Turn right on S. Main St., Drive 0.3 mi.
Turn left at E 6th St. and Drive 0.8 mi.

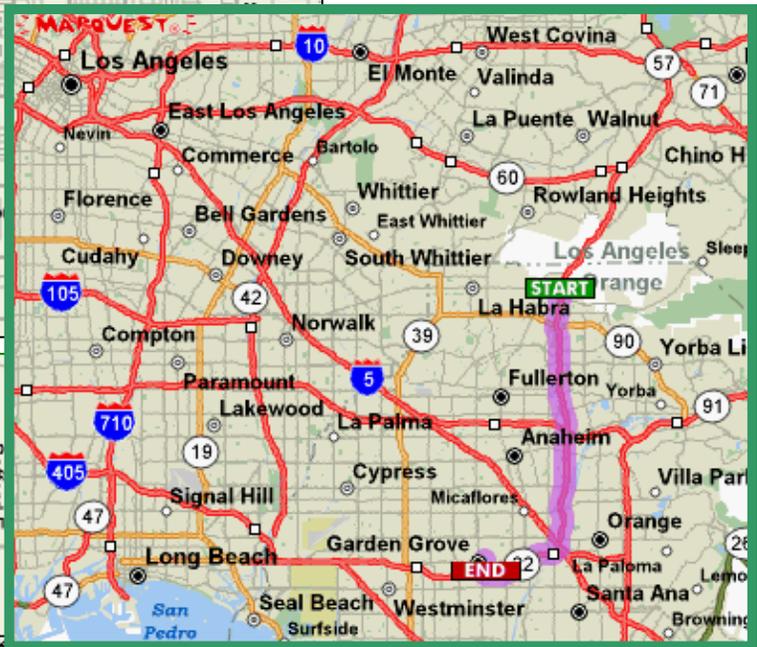
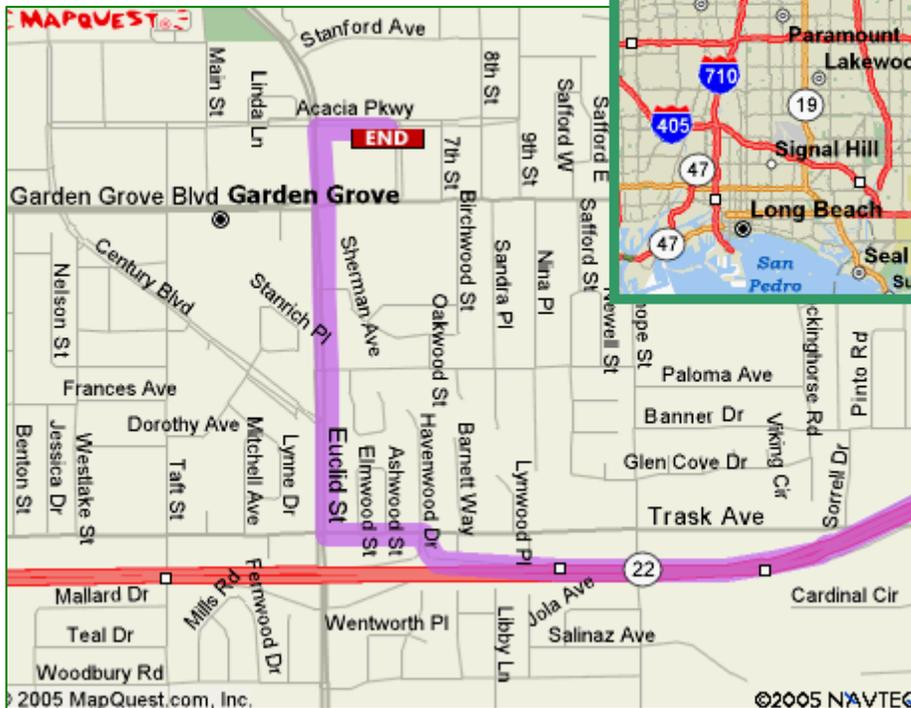
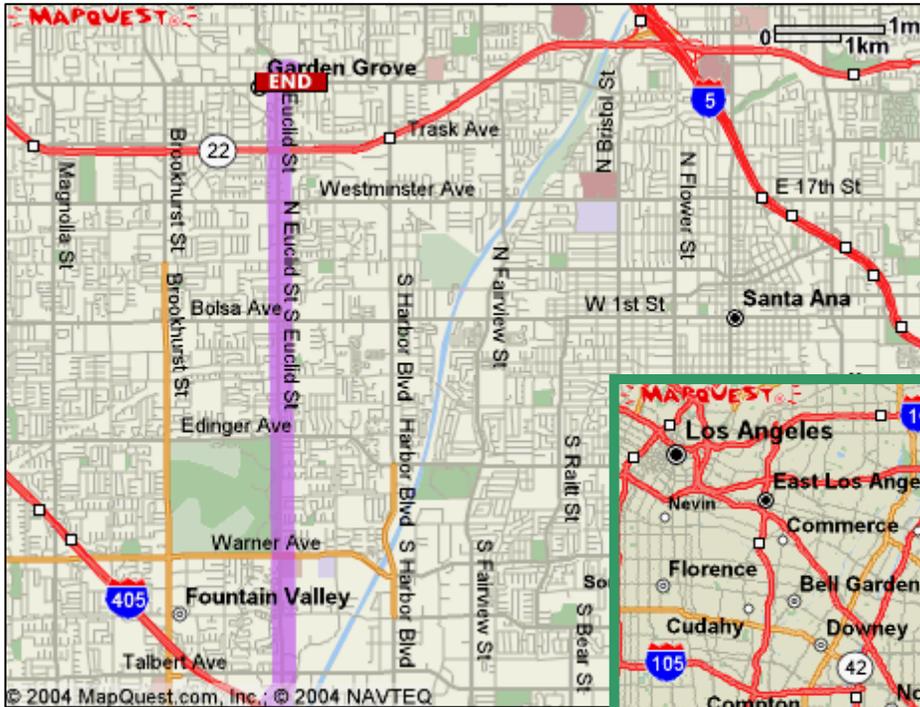
Gratitude of Being PI Chair...continued from p.2,col.2

Also Briefly describe what it was like, what happened and what it is like now; touch on feelings, attitudes & behaviors-allowing the alcoholic to identify; Share a simple & honest message of recovery; reinforce A.A.'s Twelve Traditions – including anonymity at the public level. Avoid personal identifiable information, such as home address, place of employment, etc. These are

just a few things that should be included in all Public Service Announcements.

The Public Information Committee does do 12th Step Work after our wonderful Professionals recommend those to Alcoholics Anonymous; it is up to all recovering Alcoholics to practice the "Declaration of Responsibility". Merry Christmas!

*In gratitude of service, Linda H.,
MSCA 09 Public Information Committee*



**Jan. 13 Assembly
(GSRs vote),**

Masonic Lodge,
11270 Acacia Parkway,
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Directions:

From the CA-22, get off at Euclid St. and go north. Turn **RIGHT** onto ACACIA PKWY. Drive .0.1 miles.

Upcoming Events

Dec. 9, Sunday, ASC, (District 23) *(The ASC will vote on which proposals to put onto the next Assembly Agenda)*, Corona City Park, 1075 E 6th St., Corona, CA 92879

Jan. 13, Sunday, Assembly **(GSRs vote)**, Masonic Lodge, 11270 Acacia Parkway, Garden Grove, CA 92840, (District 5)

Feb, 10, 2008, Sunday, ASC *(The ASC will present proposals, but no vote will be taken on them)*, (Dist 9)

Mar. 7, 8 and 9, PRAASA 2008, Egan Convention Center, 555 W. 5th Ave., Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Opening will be at 1 pm Friday, and closing will be at 12 pm Sunday. Registration forms can be found on our MSCA website, at www.msca09aa.org

Mar, 16, 2008, ASC, Sunday, *(The ASC will vote on which proposals to put onto the next Assembly Agenda)*, North Town Hall, Sun City Civic Association, 26850 Sun City Blvd., Sun City, CA 92586-2948. (District 17)

Apr.13, 2008, Sunday, Pre-Conference Workshop **(GSRs vote)**, District 10

May 18, 2008, Sunday, Assembly **(GSRs vote)**, (District 20)

June 8, 2008, Sunday, ASC *(The ASC will present proposals, but no vote will be taken on them)*, (District 1)

July 13, 2008, Sunday, Foro (District 22 & 30)

Aug. 10, 2008, Sunday, ASC *(The ASC will vote on which proposals to put onto the next Assembly Agenda)*, (District 15)

Sep. 14, Sunday, Assembly **(GSRs vote)**, (District 4)

Oct.12, 2008, Sunday, ASC *(The ASC will present proposals, but no vote will be taken on them)*, (District 7)

Nov. 8, 2008, Servathon (Saturday) (District 3)

Dec. 14, 2008, Sunday, ASC *(The ASC will vote on which proposals to put onto the next Assembly Agenda)*, District 18

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 Cochair, Spanish
CEC...Michael M	...Cesar F
CPC...Ernesto M	Newsletter Chair...Russ D
CPC Cochair, Spanish...tbd	Newsletter Cochair,
Convention Liaison...Gary M	Spanish...Raul C
Convention Liaison,	Public Information Chair...Linda
Spanish...tbd	H
Corrections Chair...Alex N	Public Information,
DCM School...Jim B	Spanish...Damien
DCM School Spanish	Registration...Ben
Electronic Media Sub-	Special Needs Chair...Rich W
Committee...Nick M	Special Needs Cochair,
Finance Chair...Joseph M	Spanish....vacant
Grapevine Chair...Linda C	Translation... Jorge M
La Vina Chair...Francisco D	Treatment Facilities Chair...Phil L
GSR School...Scott R	Webervant...Nancy R
GSR School, Spanish... Jose A	Sound Dude...Joseph M
Literature Chair...Patrick C	
Coffee person...Ana S	

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

Panel 56 Area Officers

Chairperson: Craig S,
chair@msca09aa.org,

Delegate: Bruce H,
delegate@msca09aa.org,

Alt. Delegate: Joe B,
altdelegate@msca09aa.org,

Secretary: Oscar G,

Treasurer: Mike M,
treasurer@msca09aa.org,

Registrar: Jason S,
registrar@msca09aa.org,

Future (Panel 58) Area Officers

Delegate: Joe B

Alternate Delegate: Mike M

Chair: Jason S

Secretary: Ruth D

Treasurer: Linda H

Registrar: Cesar F

