

The Mid-Southern California Area 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

October 2004

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

Leadership and Fiscal Common Sense

By Mike M

It is hard to write something that everyone will like. There are a few things like our constitution and checks that almost everyone likes. *"Somewhere in our literature there is a statement to this effect: 'Our leaders do not drive by mandate, they lead by example.' In effect we are saying to them, 'Act for us don't boss us.'* From; "Leadership in A.A.: Ever a Vital need" Language of the Heart. Your Finance Committee is in the beginning of preparing a budget for 2005. This is one of the places where "money and spirituality mix," in support of our Area Treasurer on who's shoulders rest the weight of the 7th tradition. There is a great article titled "Corporate Poverty" by Gary A. Glynn in the March 97 Grapevine where he talks about some of those spiritual and practical principles involved with our 7th tradition. *"I think the keys here are first, we must be true stewards with A.A.'s money, acting as if we were poor even if we have a prudent reserve fund. No one is going to send us the contributions if we are perceived as wasting money or spending it in marginally effective ways."* And he ends with: *"I started out by saying that if it wasn't spiritual it wouldn't work in A.A. and if it wasn't practical, it wasn't spiritual. A solid prudent reserve fund and good business management skills are both spiritual and practical. It is neither practical or spiritual to accumulate more or spend more than we need to. It is also neither practical or spiritual to run out of money. As usual Bill had a good phrase for what we need. He called it fiscal common sense."*

Concept 11 in the service manual has a lot to say about finance committees, but my favorite is: *"This committee must conservatively estimate each year's income. It needs to develop plans for increasing our revenues. It will keep a cold and watchful eye on needless cost, waste and duplication. It will closely scrutinize the yearly budgets of estimated income and expense submitted by A.A. World Services Inc. and the A.A. Grapevine Inc. (in our case Area officers and committees). It will recommend amendments of estimates when necessary. At mid-year it will ask for budget revisions if earlier estimates have gone too much wrong. It will scrutinize every new and considerable expenditure, asking 'is this necessary or desirable now? Can we afford it all considered?'"*

.....continued at top of page 2

Reaching out to Alcoholics who still suffer in the Native American Community

There are approximately 15 Native American tribes within our MSCA boundaries and, as stated in the "Remote Communities Communicator," upwards of 80% are affected by alcoholism. Many are isolated by geography, culture and language. In order to find out how we can better carry the message to alcoholics among the Native American population in our Area, the MSCA decided to send both our Delegate (Nancy J) and Alternate Delegate (Carlos M) to the Native American Conference being held October 9th, 2004. Questions that our MSCA representatives will be asking at this Conference will include: "How do we get into contact with the alcoholics living within the reservations in our area? How can we best serve these alcoholics? What service do they think would be the most beneficial to them?"

What's new on our website?

2005 MSCA meeting schedule

Guidelines approved at the Sept. 12 Assembly (for the following committees: DCM School, Treatment Facilities, Corrections Facilities, PI)

Aug. 04 Trustees Report (containing news from the last meeting of our General Service Board)

Tradition 10 (long form)

Our A.A. experience has taught us that:

No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues – particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.

Concept 10 (long form)

Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority – the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws.



The needs of the many should outweigh the needs of the few. We all must lead by example because that is the only way to lead in the spirit of traditions. In May 1946 Bill wrote this: "But how do we keep these risks to a minimum; how shall we traditionally limit the use of money so that it may never topple the spiritual foundation upon which AA life so completely depends?" and in his discourse on Tradition 6 in May 1948 he said: "We explain this easily enough; we don't need money. The core of our AA 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 AA 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." We all should live by these words that Bill wrote so long ago. We seem to crave bigger and better at the expense of our expenses, sure every thing costs more now but money carries no message other than how we spend it. I am extremely grateful for the life AA has given me so I try to give back every thing I can doing my twelve step work. Service means sacrifice of time, money and our own desires. Tradition 8 says that AA should always remain non-professional but we may "employ" people to perform full-time services but our twelve step work is never to be paid for. I am a trusted servant, not a paid employee of MSCA Inc., we "volunteer" our time, the effort and our money to ensure AA is around in the future. The seventh tradition is not only about what we put in the basket but also about what we don't take out for our twelfth step work. Let's all lead by examples of service in our Area not only by what we do but also by what we don't do. It is my greatest hope that every officer and committee has the funds to carry the message in a "spiritual and practical" manner but we can't do this without help. We can not pay for everything, sacrifices must be made. I will leave you by paraphrasing JFK: " Ask not what the Area can do for you, but what you can do for your Area." Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

in Love and Service, Mike M. FC Chair

Service Opportunities – Spanish Co-chairs

There are openings for Spanish Co-Chairs for the following MSCA committees: Literature, Special Needs. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact our MSCA Chairperson, Bruce H.

Archivist Workshop

There will be an Archivist Workshop on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2005 at the Repository in Riverside.

Our MSCA website

What are the most valuable things for us to put on our website?

Currently, our MSCA website (www.msca09aa.org) features maps (of event locations and of districts and Area boundaries), calendars of events, committee guidelines and descriptions, District descriptions (purpose, meeting place/time, cities included, etc.), MSCA newsletters (the 12 most recent issues), records of group contributions to the MSCA, the most recent Delegate report, the most recent Pacific Region Trustee's report, the MSCA Guidelines, and FAQs (answers to **F**requently **A**sksed **Q**uestions).

Are these valuable for us to have on our website? Are there other things we should add/change on our website? Our Electronic Media sub-committee would love to hear from you so our website can keep improving and best-serve the MSCA.

Contact Nancy R, webmaster@msca09aa.org

Current MSCA DCMCs

Thanks to all our hard-working DCMCs who do such a great job helping maintain the general service structure for the groups and their GSRs in each of our 23 MSCA Districts!

Dist.	DCMC	Dist.	DCMC	Dist.	DCMC
1	Jeff C	9	Ernesto M	19	Paul J
2	Kay F	10	Scott R	20	Rogelio S
3	Bob S	11	Patrick C	21	Bartolome T
4	Rich W	12	Valerie K	22	Jose R
5	Garry B	14	Jack N	23	Francisco D
6	Doug S	15	Peyman H	24	Abraham C
7	Shane M	17	Scott C	30	Nancy S
8	Herb K	18	Sandi R		

Announcement: The Other 12&12

Note: This announcement is listed here solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the MSCA

There is a weekly **Concepts and Traditions Meeting** that meets on Sunday at 5:30pm, 705 W. La Veta Ste. 208, Orange, CA 92867.

Congratulations

to our newly elected chairs:

- Melissa B (Grapevine Committee)
- Alex N (Correctional Facilities Committee)
- Nancy R (Electronic Media Subcommittee)

to our newly elected Trustee-at-Large MSCA nominee: Nick M

and to the following MSCA committees for getting their Guidelines approved:

- Correctional Facilities
- DCM School
- Public Information
- Treatment Facilities

You are invited to come to an AA
 "COOPERATION WITH THE
 PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY"

**INFORMATIONAL PANEL
 OF PROFESSIONALS**

Presented by the Mid-Southern
 California Area CPC Committee
 Hosted by District 11
 Sunday, Oct 17, 2004
 11 am to 2 pm
 Alder Middle School
 7555 Alder Ave., Fontana, CA
 92336

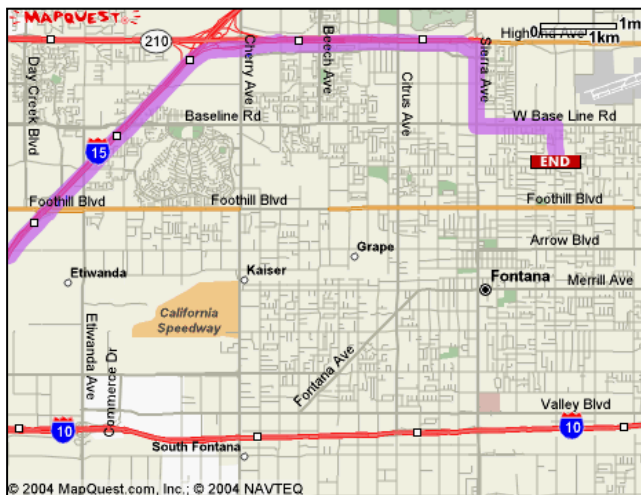


The purpose of this informational meeting is to educate the recovering alcoholic with the professional as it was when our cofounders struggled with starting AA, and professionals reached out to recovering alcoholics.

This is not an AA Meeting, but an informational meeting presented by Alcoholics Anonymous. In keeping with AA singleness of purpose, Tradition five states that each group has but one primary purpose – To carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Statement of Anonymity reads: There may be some here who are not familiar with our tradition of personal anonymity at the public level:

" Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion : We need always to maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, Radio and film." Thus, we respectfully ask that no A. A. speaker – or indeed, any member, be identified by full name or photograph in published or broadcast reports of our meetings.



The insurance of anonymity is essential to our effort to help other problem drinkers who may wish to share our recovery program with us. Our tradition of anonymity reminds us that AA Principles come before personalities.

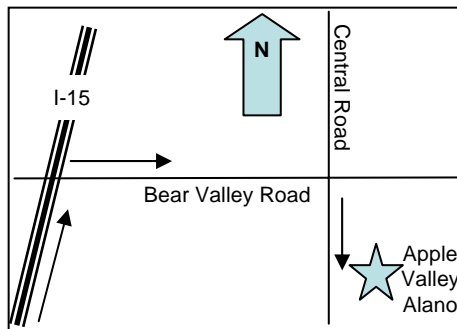
A panel of Professionals (e.g. Physicians, Attorneys, Clergy) will be speaking.

Heritage Day --"What it used to be like!"

Saturday Oct. 2, 2004, 1pm – 4pm
 Apple Valley Alano Club, 11085 Central Rd
 Presented by the MSCA Archives Committee,
 and Hosted by District 19.
 This is the 16th Annual Heritage Day

Come hear a panel of Long Timers, from the Victor Valley Area, share with us "What it used to be like!"

A combined total of 179 years of sobriety and experience
 Charlotte D 43 years Bob D 45 years
 Pete P 47 years Jack N 44 years

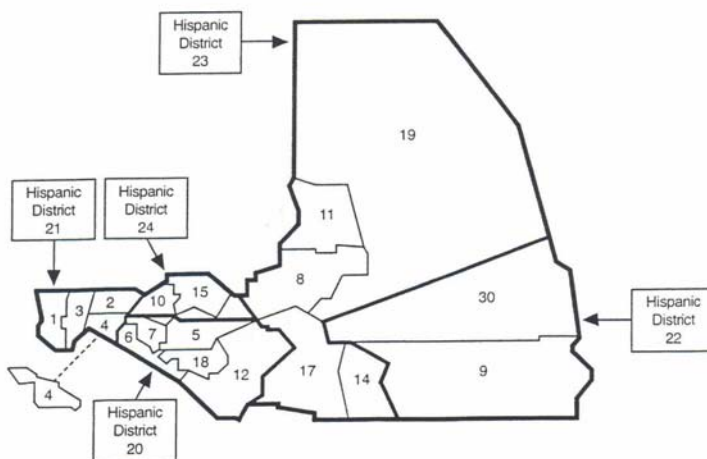


Directions:
 Take I-215 N like going to Vegas
 I-215 becomes I-15 N
 Take the Bear Valley Rd exit Watch Road Signs
 Go E toward Lucerne Valley. Drive 0.3 mi.
 Turn right onto Bear Valley Rd. Drive 9.7 mi
 Turn right onto Central Rd. Drive 1.2 miles.
 Club will be on your left

2005 MSCA meeting schedule

Approved at the Sept. 12, 2004 MSCA Assembly

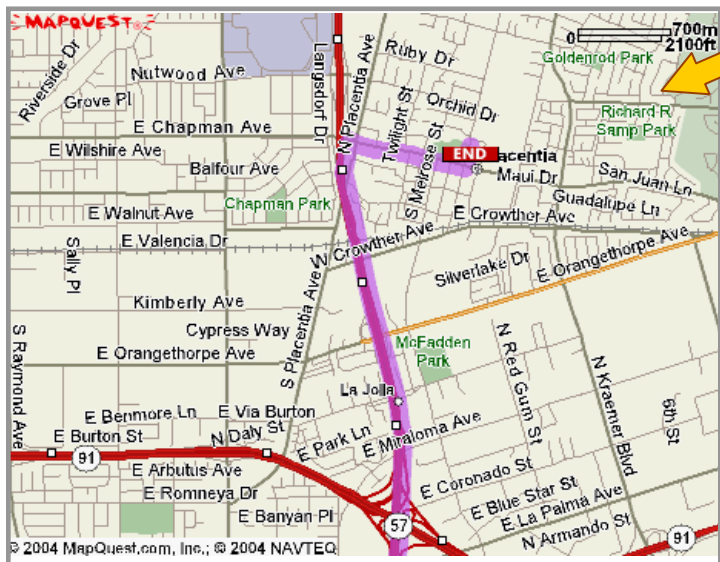
- Jan. 9...Assembly (Host: District 19)
- Feb. 13...ASC (Host: District 20)
- Mar. 6...ASC (Host: District 3)
- Apr. 3...Pre-Conference Workshop (Host: Dist 9)
- May 15...Assembly (Host: District 15)
- June 12...ASC (Host: District 2)
- July 10...Foro (Host: Districts 10 & 24)
- Aug. 14...ASC (Host: District 11)
- Sept. 11...Assembly (Host: District 12)
- Oct. 2 ...Heritage Day (Host: District 19)
- Oct. 9...Election Assembly (Host: District 1)
- Nov. 5...Servathon (Host: District 14)
- Nov. 13...ASC (Host: District 5)
- Dec. 11...ASC (Host: District 6)



Mid-Southern California Area Districts

Oct. 10 (Sunday):
MSCA ASC (Area Service Committee) meeting hosted by District 24 Backs Community Building 201 N Bradford Ave. Placentia, CA 92670 by Kraemer Memorial Park.

Directions from the 91:
Take the 57 North and turn right onto E. Chapman Ave. Drive 0.5 mi. Turn left onto N Bradford Ave. drive 0.1 mi.



Upcoming Events

Oct. 2 (Saturday): Heritage Day, Apple Valley Alano Club, 11085 Central Rd, presented by MSCA Archives Committee, and hosted by District 19 (map previous page)

Oct. 10 (Sunday): MSCA ASC*, hosted by District 24. Backs Community Building, 201 N Bradford Ave., Placentia (see map this page)

Oct. 17 (Sunday): CPC Workshop, hosted by District 11, middle school, 7555 Alder Ave., Fontana, 92336

Nov. 13 (Saturday): Servathon, church, 3891 Ridge Rd. Riverside CA 92501-2445. Hosted by District 8. Coffee and donuts @ 8am. Registration @8:30. Program @ 9am. Lunch will be served

Dec. 12 (Sunday): MSCA ASC*, hosted by District 4, Silverado Park, 1545 West 31st Street, Long Beach, 90810

Jan 8 (Saturday): Archivist Workshop, at the Archives Repository in Riverside

Jan 9 (Sunday): MSCA Assembly*, hosted by District 19 (Eastern Div.)

Mar. 11-13 PRAASA 2005, 181 W. Broadway, Tucson, Arizona

*Schedule for most MSCA ASCs and Assemblies:
 9:30 am..... GSR School
 9:30 am..... Delegate's Sharing Session
 10:15 am..... Committees meet
 11:30 am..... lunch
 Noon until 3:30 pm..... main meeting

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.

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 54 Area Standing Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, and other Area trusted servants

Archives Chair...Pete B

Archives Co-Chair...Ron E

CPC...Maggie R

CPC Spanish Co-Chair...Miguel M

Convention Liaison...Jason S

Convention Liaison, Spanish...Arturo F

Correctional Facilities Chair...Alex N

DCM School...Phil L

Electronic Media...Nancy R

Finance Chair...Mike M

Grapevine Chair...Melissa B

La Vina Chair...Raul C

GSR School...Jim B

GSR School, Spanish...Felipe G

Literature Chair...Craig S

Literature Spanish Co-Chair...vacant

Treatment Facilities Chair...Patrick S

Newsletter Chair...Nancy R

Newsletter Co-chair-Spanish...Jesus O

Public Information Chair...Christine S

Public Information, Spanish...Ezequiel G

Registration...Henry B

Special Needs Chair...Nancy B

Special Needs Spanish Co-Chair...vacant

Archivist...Charles K

Audio Equipment...Joseph M

Coffee Maker...Suzy C

Area Officers (Panel 54)

Delegate.....Nancy
delegate@msca09aa.org

Chairperson.....Bruce H
chairperson@msca09aa.org

Secretary.....Cesar F
secretary@msca09aa.org

Alt. Delegate...Carlos M
altdelegate@msca09aa.org

Registrar...Linda H
registrar@msca09aa.org

Treasurer.....Joe B
treasurer@msca09aa.org

Please send articles or information for the Area Newsletter to: Nancy R: newsletter@msca09aa.org

