

# MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS®

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 4  
November 2022  
msca09aa.org

MSCA - 09  
P.O. Box 51446  
Irvine, CA 92619-1446

## WELCOME TO MSCA 09!



Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.

## Upcoming Events 2022

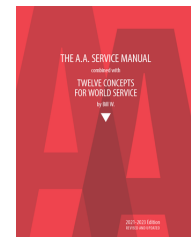
- Nov 12.....[Area 09 Committee Chair Quarterly Check-In](#)
- Nov 12.....[Area 09 Servathon](#)
- Nov 17.....[Area 09 Service Workshop](#)
- Dec 3.....[7th Annual Hispanic Women's Workshop](#)
- Dec 11.....[Area Service Committee \(ASC\)](#)

[View Full Calendar](#)

## November Hosting District

Districts 8 & 11

## AA Service Manual



## MSCA Area Map



[MSCA website](#)



## COMMITTEE PAGE LINKS

[Accessibilities](#)

[Archives](#)

[Communications](#)

[Convention Liaison](#)

[Cooperation with Elder Community](#)

[Cooperation with Professional Community](#)

[Corrections](#)

[District Committee Member School](#)

[Finance](#)

[General Service Representative School](#)

[Grapevine/La Viña](#)

[Guidelines and Policies \(GAP\)](#)

[Hospitals & Institutions \(H&I\)](#)

[Literature](#)

[Public Information](#)

[Registration](#)

[Remote Communities](#)

[Technology](#)

[Treatment](#)

[Young People in A.A.](#)

## Your Panel 72 Officers

- [Delegate](#)
- [Alternate Delegate](#)
- [Chairperson](#)
- [Registrar](#)
- [Secretary](#)
- [Treasurer A/R](#)
- [Treasurer A/P](#)

## Online Contributions



## Subscribe to Email List



[MSCA website](#)

Contact the editor (Ed L) at [editor@msca09aa.org](mailto:editor@msca09aa.org)

# MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS



"IT'S ALL ABOUT SERVICE"

# SERVATHON

# 2022

GRAB YOUR DATE

BACK TO THE ROARING 20'S



GREAT GATSBY  
THEME

DRESS TO IMPRESS

SATURDAY NIGHT  
NOVEMBER 12TH  
6:00PM-9:00PM

- MUSIC
- DANCING
- SPEAKER
- GAMES
- FREE DINNER

### LOCATION

1025 N Vine Ave.  
Ontario, CA 91762

Servathon wouldn't be the same without our Latino AA family. We hope you can come. We will have translation available.



RSVP by October 1st

Alex W. (954) 654-3149

Email Cindy ~ clvcv1@gmail.com



HOSTED BY ALT DELEGATE AND  
DISTRICTS 8 & 11 | AREA 9 ASCA EVENT

## General Service Keeps a Newcomer Sober

Ronnie O. sat on the back row of his first AA meeting on a Saturday night in Wrightwood, California on 9 February 2008. It had been 24 hours since his last drink. Introducing himself as a newcomer near the beginning of the meeting, I approached him afterwards and asked if he sincerely wanted to stay sober. Not waiting for an answer, I offered to pick him up the next morning and transport him to an Area 09 Service Committee meeting in Indio. I could only promise that he would not drink between 6 a.m. when I picked him up and 6 p.m. when I dropped him off.

Then a new GSR, I was somewhat surprised when he said yes and even more surprised when he was standing in his front yard the next morning shortly after sunrise. I cautioned that this would not be a “typical” AA meeting but that he was guaranteed not to drink sitting there in my backseat and later mingling with other southern California alcoholics. Along the way I picked up my service sponsor, John W., in Hesperia and the three of us proceeded to make the three-hour drive to Indio. We had the meeting-before-the-meeting during the drive.

Once there, Ronnie was introduced to AA at the Area-level. There were a hundred-and-fifty alcoholics in one large room, amplifying chaotic conversations occurring in both English and Spanish. When one can’t hear, one speaks louder, which feeds on itself and is overwhelming at first. Of all the AA-related functions I’ve attended, it is AA at the Area-level that seems to best demonstrate our 9th Tradition. I continue to be amazed (and pleased) at how we always get things done even in the face of all the seeming lack of organization! How several hundred alcoholics somehow end up at the right committee tables even when there are no signs to announce who is meeting where was disconcerting at first and is now something I’ve come to appreciate.

Ronnie was introduced to several District 19 folks, who in typical AA fashion made him feel at home. Then several other alcoholics welcomed him when they learned that he was a newcomer thrust into Area-level bedlam. It may not have been as cozy as a group of a dozen faithful AA’s sitting on couches in someone’s home but there was every indication that he felt right at home surrounded by a hundred trusted servants. It’s sometimes difficult to see the similarities between an AA home group and an Area-level group; however, whenever two alcoholics get together it doesn’t seem to matter where.

The 14 February 2010 ASC hosted by District 11 marks two years since we attended that meeting. Having held his mouth right (i.e., not in a circle near a glass hole), Ronnie celebrated two years on 8 February 2010. Although he has never revisited an Area-level meeting, he is a dedicated member of Alcoholics Anonymous and makes his home group in Phelan, California. I’ve told this story to a half-dozen alcoholics as evidence that AA working at even the Area level can be an effective way of beginning a new sober life. Now, it’s a pleasure to share this story with the entire Area. You just never know how first impressions can lead to lasting sobriety! Even in large crowds, it continues to be one alcoholic caring enough to carry the message to another alcoholic who no longer wants to suffer that has worked for 75 years and continues to do so!



## Alphabet Soup!?

Where even A.A. is an acronym, Alcoholics Anonymous is full of them, where letters are given to represent words. If you are new to General Service, likely a G.S.R. (General Service Representative), following are some of the common acronyms that you will hear regularly (see Service Manual for definitions of most acronyms):

12 x 12 - Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions

A.A.W.S. - Alcoholics Anonymous World Services

A.C.M. - Appointed Committee Member

A.S.A. - Area Service Assembly (or just "Assembly")

A.S.C. - Area Service Committee

A.S.L. - American Sign Language

B.T.G. - Bridging the Gap

C.C.S. - Corrections Correspondence Services

C.E.C. - Cooperation with the Elderly Community

C.P.C. - Cooperation with the Professional Community

D.C.M. - District Committee Member

D.C.M.C. - District Committee Member Chair

G.A.P. - Guidelines and Policies (Committee)

G.S.B. - General Service Board

G.S.C. - General Service Conference

G.S.O. - General Service Office

G.S.R. - General Service Representative

G.V.R. - Grapevine Representative

H&I - Hospitals & Institutions

L.G.B.T.Q. - Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered Queer

L.I.M. - Loners/Internationalist Meeting

M.S.C.A. 09 - Mid-Southern California Area 09

P.C.A. - Pre-Conference Assembly

P.I. - Public Information

P.R.A.A.S.A. - Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

P.S.A. - Public Service Announcement

REDELA - Reunion de Las Americas (Meeting of the Americas)

R.L.V. - La Vina Representative

W.S.M. - World Service Meeting

Y.P.A.A. - Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous



## Miscellaneous, Important Resources

[180 Proposed Agenda Items for 2023 Conference](#)

[All Conference Advisory Actions from 1951 to 2022](#)

[Young People's Audio Project - Deadline 11/7/2022](#)

[September 2022 GSO Quarterly Report](#)

[New Grapevine Book - "Sobriedad Emocional"](#)

[AAWS Memo on Literature Delays and Availability](#)

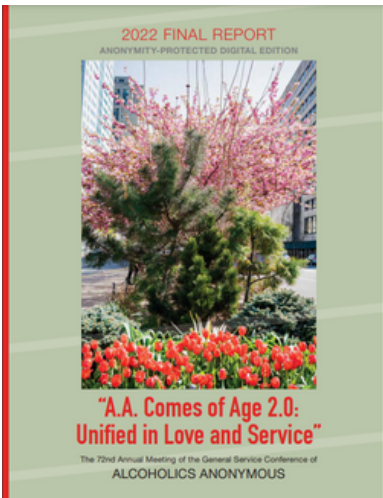
\*\*\*\*\*

[Boozer's Bingo](#) is a great way to run a topic meeting! With A through D across the top and 1 through 22 along the side, you randomly select, D3, for example, where the topic is "Easy Does It, but do it!" Thanks to Robert H from Spottsylvania, VA for sharing it!

	A	B	C	D
1	First Things First	Learn to listen and listen to learn	Although we are not responsible for our disease we are responsible for our recovery	An addict cannot be grateful and hateful at the same time
2	Don't Use No Matter What	Many meetings, many chances, few meetings, few chances, no meetings, no chances	Hugs not Drugs	Easy does it
3	This too Shall Pass	Meeting makers make it	Just for Today	Easy does it but do it
4	Live and Let Live	People who don't go to meetings don't hear about what happens to people who don't go to meetings	Recovery doesn't happen overnight	Stick with the winners - Win with the stickers
5	Let go and let God	To keep what you have, you have to give it away	Pass it on	Serenity is not freedom from the storm but peace amid the storm
6	Time takes time	How does it work? It works just fine	If you want to stay clean, don't use	Feelings are not facts
7	One day at a time	If you don't want to slip, stay away from slippery places	Don't quit before the miracle happens	Turn it over, don't hane it off
8	Principles before personalities	If you do what you always did, you'll get what you always got	Nobody ever found recovery as a result of an intellectual awakening	Beneath every silt is a slip
9	Is your program powered by Will Power or Higher Power?	If you all in the barber's chair long enough, you'll eventually get a haircut	Use the 24 hour plan	Seven days without a meeting makes one weak
10	Cultivate an attitude of gratitude	Most things can be preserved in alcohol; dignity, however, is not one of them	When all else fails, follow directions	Growing old is mandatory - Growing up is optional
11	Misery is optional	Progress, not perfection	Change is a process, not an event	Sluggans are wisdom written in shorthand
12	God doesn't make junk	Resentment is like drinking poison and expecting someone else to die	Call your sponsor before, not after, you take the first drink	It's a simple program for complicated people
13	Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less	Think...think...think	Give time time	The newcomer is the most important person in any meeting
14	Live life on life's terms	Keep it simple	I was sick and tired of being sick and tired	Keep coming back, it works if you work it
15	You can't think your way into a new way of living... you have to live your way into a new way of thinking	Stick with the winners	You only get out of it what you put into it	
16	The key to freedom is in the Steps	If O P E = Happy Our Program Exists	It's the first drink that gets you drunk	If you expect respect, be the first to show some
17	GOD = Good Orderly Direction	Recovery is a journey...not a destination	An addict alone is in bad company	Keep the plug in the jug
18	HAAL = don't get too Hungry, Angry, Lonely, Tired	To thine own self be true	You can only keep what you have by giving it away	Do it sober
19	Your worth should never depend on another persons opinion	Turn it over	Take what you can use and leave the rest	It is possible to change without improving - it is impossible to improve without change
20	HOW it works - Honesty, Open mindedness, and Willingness	Nothing is so bad, a drink won't make it worse	Recovery begins with the First Step	Experience, strength and hope not opinions, bulls**t and dope
21	SCP = Sobriety Lost its Priority	Willingness is the key	Help is only a phone call away	One drink is too many and a thousand not enough
22	Don't pick up, ask for help, call your sponsor, and go to meetings	Take what you need and leave the rest	Nothing changes if nothing changes	



# The Final Conference Report of Panel 72 is here!



To Area 09 Members, from Mitchell B, Panel 72 Delegate:

"The 72nd General Service Conference (Anonymity-Protected) in English, Spanish (and French) was distributed on August 31. I have sent Faith the files to add to the Area 09 website. Print copies will be shipped in mid-October for the version with full names. I estimated the number of printed versions in March 2022. If more copies are needed there is the option for the area to print copies." Hard copies expected in October!

[Panel 72, 2022, Final Conference Report - English](#)

[Panel 72, 2022, Final Conference Report - Spanish](#)

## Area 09 Newsletter Resurrected!

As made available by Mitchell B (past Archivist) at this link ([Access MSCA 09 Archives](#)), our first English Newsletter was in November 1976 and our first Spanish Newsletter was in November 1982 (although it was still written in Spanish). These two Newsletters are available at the following links:

[MSCA 09 English Newsletter, November 1976](#)

[MSCA 09 Spanish Newsletter, November 1982](#)

Past MSCA 09 Newsletters are available at this link: [MSCA 09 newsletters](#)

This is YOUR Newsletter, and we sincerely want to populate it with your thoughts, editorials, images, and shared memories. So please reach out to the current editor (Ed L) and share your materials at [editor@msca09aa.org](mailto:editor@msca09aa.org).

According to the Communications Committee Guidelines, these are the types of things we are looking for:

1. Local AA news and information about groups and committees;
2. Reprinted material from AA literature;
3. Sharing of experience in recovery, unity, and service;
4. Information pertaining to Area actions, finances, and meetings;
5. Information regarding AA service, events, and announcements (In keeping