

# MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS®

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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

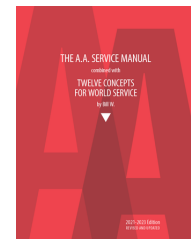
- Oct 8.....[AA History: Pioneer Women of AA](#)
- Oct 9.....[MSCA Area Service Committee Meeting \(ASC\)](#)
- Oct 20.....[MSCA Area 09 Service Workshop](#)
- Nov 12.....[Area 09 Servathon](#)
- Dec 3.....[7th Annual Hispanic Women's Workshop](#)
- Dec 11.....[Area Service Committee \(ASC\)](#)

[View Full Calendar](#)

## October Hosting District

**District 25**

## AA Service Manual



## MSCA Area Map



[MSCA website](#)



## COMMITTEE PAGE LINKS

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[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

## Monthly SPOTLIGHT on OUR MSCA Trusted Servants

### Joseph H - Past Archivist for Area 09

I am a 73-year-old Vietnam Veteran that served three times in Vietnam, and I am an alcoholic. I was assigned to a Tactical Combat Communications team consisting of 14 communications specialists from Elision AFB, Alaska. Our flight went from Alaska to Japan, then to Guam Air Base, then to Philippines Islands, and to Vietnam. First night, incoming shelling and I ran to the closest bunker. Our team members passed around a bottle of bourbon to take a drink while we waited for the shelling to stop, which was during the second Tet Offensive in early 1969.

My early years of drinking began on my grandfather's farm in Drew, Mississippi. Grandpa's distilling still was located in the barn and us boys would have a sip of moonshine on Saturday night after working all week long. During my high school years, I stole my father's beer to drink on the weekends. I attended community college for two years and worked part-time at night to earn money for myself and to buy my own liquor.

I enlisted in the United States Air Force after I learned that my sister was starting college. After arguing with my father (a World War II and Korean War Veteran, and an alcoholic himself) about me going into military service, I would send support money to assist my sister while she was going to college. In 1971, I was home after my second tour from Vietnam and Alaska, and I got to see my sister graduate from college. Still, I drank booze at night to sleep.

After my third tour to Vietnam (March 1973 to June 1974), I was stationed at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, near Lompoc. I met an old Vietnam buddy of mine; we would go to night college classes together and then hit the bars in downtown Lompoc. After that tour, I served five years upon the DMZ in South Korea and came home with a wife and child. Married and divorced twice, my life was just wandering around with alcohol at its center, until a friend of mine suggested I go to Loma Linda VA Medical Center for help for my drinking problem.

My last drink was on December 21st, 1996, and I went to the Loma Linda VA Med Center, asked for help, and was accepted into the Alcohol Treatment Program (ATP) on December 26, 1996. By God's Grace, I was hired to work at the Loma Linda VA Med Center in the medical records section by a kind and gentle lady. This would not have happened if not for the Grace of God, the Alcoholics Anonymous program, my two sponsors, and alcoholic treatment program.

At the VA Medical Center, I learned three principles: (1) "Sobriety is Number One;" (2) "Honesty;" and (3) "Responsibility." I applied these three principles to the first Three Steps of the A.A. Program and to my life. My journey in sobriety began with my sponsor getting me into General Service right away as a General Service Representative (GSR) for our AA Home Group, reading the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, working the 12 Steps, and working with newcomers at the Loma Linda VA Medical Center.

In 1999, I had the privilege to help elect my first Area 09 Delegate, who later became my AA sponsor and General Service sponsor, and I met my Grand-General Service sponsor, who was a past Area 09 Delegate and Pacific Regional Trustee. I have had the honor and privilege of electing nine different Mid-Southern California Area 09 Delegates during my time in General Service. I served on the Area 09 Archives Committee for over fifteen years, and was Archives Committee Chairperson for two terms (4 years).

Today, I have a good, comfortable life with a God of my understanding, my A.A. program, the Steps, my General Service work, my archival research for Area 09 Archives Repository, and my family, which consists of my daughter (who attended my 10th, 15th, and 20th AA Birthdays), granddaughter, my two great grandkids, and my pet cat (Maui), who is a small blessing and joy in my life today.

[MSCA website](#)





## When it comes to Literature, did you know?

Area 09 has played an important role in A.A.'s Literature? Jim C, who served as Area 09's Panel 42 Delegate in 1992-1993 also served as our Pacific Region Trustee from 1998 to 2002. During that time, Jim served as the Chair of the Trustee's Literature Committee and was in that position when the 4th Edition English Big Book was published in 2001. Later, in 2010-2011, Linda C, Jim's lovely bride, served as Area 09's Panel 60 Delegate.

[Get your story in the 5th Edition of the English Big Book](#) Deadline: Oct 31, 2022

[Get your story in the 4th Edition of the Spanish Big Book](#) Deadline: Dec 31, 2022

[Vera F's Power Point on writing your Big Book stories](#)

There is one other opportunity to submit stories:

[Call for stories for Black and African American A.A.'s - deadline Oct 31, 3033](#)

[Please note that Grapevine will increase book rates as of August 2022](#)

## Area 09 Revised Guidelines and Bylaws

Our Guidelines were revised in March 2022 and voted on at the September 2022 Area Service Assembly. These Guidelines are probably the best source of information of our structure and function. Therein, you'll learn that the formation of the Mid-Southern California Area was approved at the Eighth General Service Conference in April 1958, and the first Delegate was sent to the Ninth General Service Conference the following year. You'll learn about the Area Service Assembly, Area Service Committee, our seven officers and their duties, 19 Standing Committees, annual meetings schedule, voting procedures, Area elections, and other service functions (e.g., Pre-Conference Workshop, Foro, and Servathon).

[Revised Guidelines as of March 2022 - English](#)

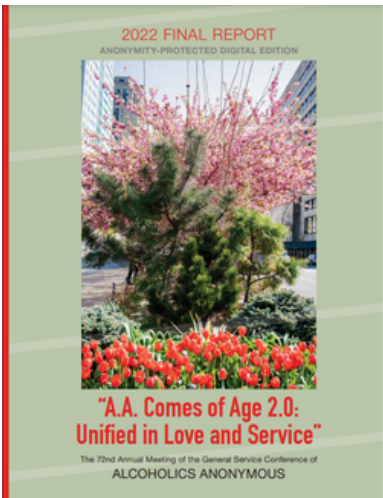
[Revised Guidelines as of March 2022 - Spanish](#)

Equally important and informative, and last revised in 2017, are the latest proposed revisions of our Bylaws:

[Revised Bylaws as of September 2022 - English](#)

[Revised Bylaws as of September 2022 - Spanish](#)

# 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.

[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