

# MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS®

VOLUME 51, ISSUE 8

April 2023

[msca09aa.org](http://msca09aa.org)

MSCA - 09

P.O. Box 51446

Irvine, CA 92619-1446

## Conference Season, In the Thick of It!

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 2023

[April 1 - District 17 Preconference Workshop](#)

[April 2 & 16 - Chat with the Delegate](#)

[April 15 -Preconference Workshop](#)

[April 24 - Remote Communities Meeting](#)

[April 27 - Treatment Committee Meeting](#)

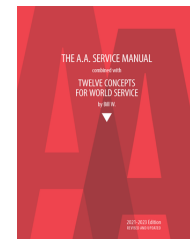
[April 23 to 28 - 73rd General Service Conference](#)

[View 2023 Calendar](#)

## March Hosting District

**District 18**

## AA Service Manual



## MSCA Area Map



[MSCA website](#)



# MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

## OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

### **What Is A Delegate “Shareback?”**

By Jay R., District Committee Member Chair, District 18

The 2021 – 2023 Edition of The A.A. Service Manual outlines the awesome responsibilities of our elected Area Delegates:

“Delegates are charged with understanding the experiences, viewpoints and group conscience of their areas, while assuming responsibility for the U.S./Canada Conference as a whole.” (p 32)

There are currently 93 Area Delegates, each elected into their service positions by their respective Areas, in the North American (U.S./Canada) A.A. service structure.

Among their many responsibilities, the Area Delegates represent their Areas at the annual General Service Conference (GSC) in New York. In preparation for the annual GSC, each Delegate must become familiar with the long list of Conference agenda items. They must also interact with Groups and members to gather the “group conscience” of their Area. A well informed Delegate will be better prepared to participate in the Conference, and carry the Area’s group conscience in matters affecting A.A. as a whole.

Once the General Service Conference is finished, the Delegates are then tasked with reporting back to their respective Areas the outcomes of the Conference. Some refer to this as a “report-back” or “shareback.”

Mid Southern California Area 9 covers a large geographical portion of Southern California, represents 24 Districts and more than 2,000 A.A. Groups. In order to more efficiently carry GSC information, it is common for Districts and Groups to organize joint meetings or events at which our Delegate is invited to present a “shareback” from the Conference.

Our Area 9 Delegate, Mitchell B, will no doubt be busy from now until well after the close of the 73rd General Service Conference, which is scheduled for April 23-29, 2023! He will likely give “sharebacks” both in person and via Zoom. Two “sharebacks” that are already scheduled are:

**[May 20 Delegate Shareback Event](#)**, presented by Districts 18, 12, and 6. This will be an evening event with dinner, the Delegate shareback, and a musical concert (see flyer on next page)!

**[May 21 MSCA 09 Area Assembly - Delegate shareback](#)**.

Stay tuned for more details and flyers for these and other shareback events.



**73rd Annual General Service Conference**  
**Area 9 Delegate “Shareback” Event**

Districts 18, 12, and 6 present an evening of  
fun, food, service, and entertainment!

When: May 20, 2023, 6:00 – 9:00pm

Where: Norma Hertzog Community Center, 1845 Park Ave, Costa Mesa

5:45 pm: Doors open. Tickets (paper or on phone) required for entry!

6:00 pm: Dinner buffet.

6:45 pm: Shareback and Q&A (Mitchell B, Area 9 Delegate).

7:45 pm: Sugar up at the dessert table.

8:00 pm: Epic concert by **surprise musical guest!**

This event is free of charge; however, we will have a basket at the buffet  
and ask for a “suggested contribution” of \$5.00 to help defray our costs.

Open to the **first 140 people to Register:**

<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/shareback>

(Please be fair and courteous. Do not reserve tickets unless you  
are sure to attend.)

You can catch the Shareback portion on Zoom:

ID: 858 8970 9797 Passcode: service





# MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

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## **From Rehab to The Rooms: Bridging The Gap**

By Sean V, GSR and Treatment Committee Co-chair, District 14.

It's often heard in meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous that the Newcomer is the most important person in the room. But what if the newcomer never makes it to the room? The time between a patient being released from a treatment facility until they get to a meeting is particularly dangerous. The recently released patient may have the best intentions but how do they find a meeting place? Which meetings do they attend? What are the different types of meetings?

We current sober members of A.A. all have different stories. We may not have gone to a treatment facility but we all remember how we felt walking into the room for the first time. We were sick, lost, scared, and alone. How do we, in our singleness of purpose, extend the hand of A.A.?

**How it Works:** The Alcoholics Anonymous Bridging the Gap program matches a newcomer exiting a treatment facility with a Temporary Contact to make the transition from a facility into A.A. in their home community. To help newcomers with this transition, you can act as a Temporary Contact (see [www.area9btg.org/volunteer](http://www.area9btg.org/volunteer)). It's an excellent way to be of service by giving the newcomer a good start on the path to long-term recovery. This is a short-term commitment.

A.A. suggests that the Temporary Contact accompany the newcomer to a limited number and a variety of meetings; make introductions to other A.A.'s; ensure that the newcomer has phone numbers; and, share the experience and benefits of sponsorship and a home group. This is basic 12th step work.

We always need volunteers, and you can be of service in any capacity. Click the link below to visit the Area 9 Bridging the Gap website to help in this vital 12th step work. Contact: [www.area9btg.org](http://www.area9btg.org), email us at [treatment@area9btg.org](mailto:treatment@area9btg.org), or call and leave us a message at (949) 346-4697

We look forward to periodically submitting our success stories with you! In love and service.



# MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

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## **Area 09 Highlights - by Mitchell B.**

Area 09 was approved at the Eighth General Service Conference in 1958 and elected its first area officers in 1959. One of six areas in California, Area 09 spans four counties: Orange County, San Bernardino County, Riverside County and part of Los Angeles County. The Area includes Catalina Island off the Pacific coast, portions of south Los Angeles, down the oceanfront from Manhattan Beach to San Clemente to the San Diego County border; reaching up north to Barstow; and east past Palm Springs and Coachella Valley to Blythe on the Colorado River. The Area meets 12 times a year, including three Area service assemblies, six Area service committee meetings, a pre-Conference workshop, a Servathon, and our FORO, a jointly hosted event by Spanish- and English-speaking districts. The Area consists of 24 districts, with six overlapping Spanish-speaking districts. Most of our districts have subdistricts with both DCMCs and DCMs. From the new Fellowship Connection there are 2,028 active groups in Area 09, with 47 new virtual groups, where approximately 62,600 members attend. Area 09 is comprised of 19 standing committees, including Remote Communities, Technology, and Young People. Coordinate committees include five Young People in A.A. Intergroups, 14 central offices (including six Hispanic offices), and eight Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) committees, with 34 local H&I committees. We regularly distribute information electronically and on a newly redesigned website to more than 1,100 present and past trusted servants, with about 220 actively participating at any given time, through online and in-person events. Area 09 is committed to having the heart and message of A.A. available, both in-person and online, for those who suffer and those in service who carry the message of hope and love.



## 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



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





## What Makes This the 73rd General Service Conference?

Well, first, the General Service Conference (GSC) is both a happening and a body of Trusted Servants. Due to Covid, the 70th GSC occurred in May 2020, but typically, it occurs for a week in late April each year. And, to answer the title question: 2023 will be the 73rd time the GSC has met, always in New York, except for 2020 and 2021, when it was virtual. As a body, the GSC is a group of 135 Trusted Servants comprised of 21 Trustees (14 Class B - Boozers and 7 Class A - Non-boozers), 93 Delegates (Mitchell B is our current delegate), 6 Nontrustee Directors, and [15 A.A. staff at the General Service Office](#) (A.A. World Services and Grapevine/La Vina). As Jay mentioned above, their responsibility is to identify final Agenda Items for each GSC, which become [Advisory Actions](#) if approved by the Conference (= "Conference Approved"). Other Agenda Items may fail for lack of unanimity (2/3 of the GSC members voting yes = unanimity), may be retained as needing "Additional Committee Considerations," or may be labeled as "Took No Action," which means that the Agenda Item was not even brought to the floor to be discussed. At any time during the GSC, in between deliberations, a GSC member may introduce a Floor Action. Two recent noteworthy Floor Actions include Jesus O's Floor Action to develop the 4th Edition of Alcohólicos Anónimos in Spanish during the 69th GSC in 2019 and three Floor Actions in 2021 that resulted in changing the Grapevine's 1947 Preamble from, "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of **men** and **women**..." to "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of **people**...", which achieved a slim unanimity when 88 of the 132 GSC members voted "yes" in 2021. Finally, the main link in communication between our Delegate and your groups is the GSR, or General Service Representative. If your group does not have a GSR, your group is a remote community, a voiceless entity disconnected from the GSO - General Service Office in New York.

# 2023 Committee Sharing Sessions

The schedule for the 2023 Committee Sharing Sessions is now available (below). Among the presenters are current and past trustees, delegates, alternate delegates, and other General Servants. Looking forward to seeing everyone there! See: [Committee Sharing Schedule](#)



JANUARY 19 7:00PM PST	FEBRUARY 16 7:00PM PST	MARCH 16 7:00PM PST	APRIL 20 7:00PM PST	<b>FEATURING THE 12 CONCEPTS &amp; VARIOUS TOPICS</b>
<b>CONCEPT 1</b> DOUG DELEGATE <b>CONCEPT 2</b> JIMMY W ALT DEL <b>CONCEPT 3</b> COREY D ALT DEL KENTUCKY	<b>CONCEPT 4</b> PATRICK C AA STAFF <b>CONCEPT 5 -</b> TROY D AA STAFF <b>CONCEPT 6</b> VERA F TRUSTEE	<b>CONCEPT 7</b> RICK W TEXAS DELE <b>CONCEPT 8</b> JOEL PAST TRUSTEE <b>CONCEPT 9</b> CAROLYN TRUSTEE CANADA	<b>CONCEPT 10</b> KATHY F PAST TRUSTEE <b>CONCEPT 11</b> MONICAH CHICAGOLAND PAST DELEGATE <b>CONCEPT 12</b> JENNIFER D NC PAST DELEGATE	
<p><b>May 18th</b> - What is the conference actually like ? Hear from our Southern California Panel 72 Delegates. Mitchell Area 09 Delegate &amp; Monty Area 8 Delegate</p> <p><b>June 15th</b>- The How, Why and Joy of a Class A trustee life - Michelle G Class A Trustee</p> <p><b>July 20th</b>- How to reach anyone anywhere - Bron Panel 73 Area 15 Secretary</p> <p><b>August 17th</b>- A.A Around the world - Class B Trustees at large US and Canada (Trish &amp; Maritta)</p> <p><b>September 21st</b> - Servant? Leader? or both? - Debbie D AA Member</p> <p><b>October 19th</b> - Service Sponsorship - Jimmy D Past Trustee</p> <p><b>November 16th</b> - Participation - How to get groups involved and keep them engaged - Craig and Matt K Past Delegates from CT</p> <p>December - No Meeting enjoy the Holidays we'll see you in Panel 74 :)</p>				
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:</b>				
Spanish Translation is available			7:00 PST	
Hosted By			8:00 MTN	
MSCA 09 Alt Delegate & Delegate			9:00 CST	
Contact Info			10:00 EST	
Alex W (954) 654- 3149			Hawaii 5:00	

## WHEN:

6:00 -7:00 PST MSCA Area 09 Committee Sharing Session  
7:00 - 8:00pm PST Area 9 Service Workshop

## WHERE:

Meeting ID: 873 6607 8505  
Passcode: Area09p72





## **What's New in A.A. and M.S.C.A?**

**[Every Conference-Approved Advisory Action 1951 to 2022](#)**

**[Panel 73 General Service Conference Agenda Items](#)**

**[New Spanish version of Experience, Strength, & Hope](#)**

**[GSO announces that literature prices increasing](#)**

**[Winter 2022 version of Box 4-5-9](#)**

**[GSO Quarterly Newsletter - November 2022](#)**

**[Need a Zoom meeting? Try New York Intergroup!](#)**

**[Need a meeting topic? Try Boozer's Bingo!](#)**

**[GSO Committee Assignments for committee-related questions](#)**

**[Check aa.org for Mixed-Title Quantity Discount & Hardcover](#)**

**[Versions of the Big Book and 12 and 12](#)**

## **Area 09 Communications Committee Guidelines Revised!**

With the adoption of the new [Technologies Committee Guidelines in 2022](#), it is time to reconsider and revise the old [Communications Committee Guidelines from January 2009](#). At the January 2023 Assembly, Ed L was elected as the new Communications Committee Chair. At the February Area Service Committee Ed presented [background information](#) describing the redundancies between these two committees and presented the new revised guidelines, which are intended to resolve these redundancies, and may be [previewed here](#). If you have comments, questions, or suggestions to improve the draft guidelines, contact Ed ([communicationschair@msca09aa.org](mailto:communicationschair@msca09aa.org)) and be prepared to vote at the May Assembly (April is the Mock Conference workshop, so the the first Assembly after March will not be until May). See you there!

