

MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS®

VOLUME 55, ISSUE 12

August 2023

msca09aa.org

MSCA-09

P.O. Box 51446

Irvine, CA 92619-1446

¡27th Annual Celebration of La Viña!

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

Aug 6	3 to 4 pm	<u>12 Concepts Workshop</u>
Aug 13	9 am to 3 pm	<u>August Area Service Committee</u>
Aug 17	6 to 8 pm	<u>A.A. Around the World</u>
Aug 20	9 am - 1 pm	<u>Bridging the Gap Workshop</u>
Aug 20	3 to 4 pm	<u>12 Concepts Workshop</u>
Aug 24	7 to 7:45 pm	<u>Treatment Committee Meeting</u>
Aug 26	11 am to 4 pm	<u>4 Area DCM Sharing Session</u>

[View 2023 Calendar](#)

August Hosting District

District 12

AA Service Manual



MSCA Area Map



[MSCA website](#)

MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

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27th Annual Celebration of La Viña

The 27th annual celebration of La Viña occurred over the weekend of July 21, 23, 24, 2023 in Portland, OR. The event rotates among the 15 Areas comprising the Pacific Region of A.A., occurring in Las Vegas last year, in Portland this year, and next year in Utah in a city to be determined. Beginning at dinnertime on Friday evening, a full day on Saturday, and until about noon on Sunday, several hundred La Viña enthusiasts were treated to panel discussions on how to promote the Spanish magazine (with all topics easily applied to promoting Grapevine). Although 99% of the presentations are in Spanish, English interpretation has always been provided. In fact, this was my 9th time attending, where I'm usually one of only a few English-speaking participants. Dancing is the universal language, and if for Nothing else, come dance on Saturday night! This year, a mariachi band kept the crowd lively and busy wiggling on the dance floor four several hours! The final number is forthcoming, but about 1,000 new subscriptions were made as the direct result of this event!

Each year there is a play where no words are spoken, and headphones are extraneous. Perhaps to allow anonymous video recordings of the play, a masked cast of about a dozen people depict an alcoholic in her disease being pulled towards the light by actors dressed in white and towards the dark by actors dressed in black, portrayed as drunks, addicts, thieves, and various other low lives. We see loved ones and good things in her life dissolve as drugs and alcohol siphon away her soul force. Off to the side are two actors dressed in blue, with A.A. emblazoned on their chests, participating in a tug-of-war to bring her into the light of our Fellowship and away from the darkness of the next drink. By play's end, A.A. once again provides the hand that saves her life. And for the ninth time in a row, I'm left swabbing at tears, thankful that I'm a small part of this inclusive Fellowship committed to helping all alcoholics who still suffer, both in English and in Spanish thanks to La Viña! See you next year in Utah! (Provided by Ed L., newsletter editor).



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Lessons from La Viña

(by Ed L, 2020)

I've come to believe that General Service is like a spiritual gym that exercises the Service parts of our psyches in ways that do not otherwise get exercised in A.A. meetings, as vital as they are to Recovery. Having suffered a senior moment and geographic dyslexia, thinking that Tucson was between California and Phoenix, I arranged for us to stay in Tucson on our way to Phoenix (go figure!) for the celebration of La Viña's 25th anniversary. Much to my pleasure, this 220-mile, roundtrip detour landed us in a 5:30 meeting in Tucson with past General Service Trustee, Nancy H, current General Service Trustee, Paz P, their respective husbands, and Area 03 Secretary, Kathy. Afterwards, we had a spiritually and physically nourishing dinner, a midnight thunderstorm with instantaneous lightening, and memories to last a lifetime!

The La Viña celebration is an opportunity for me to be in the minority and to practice patience, humility, and tolerance, as I continue to grow towards being right-sized. Since 2015, this was my sixth La Viña celebration, so I keep coming back, where each year I've been one of fewer than 10 English-speaking A.A. members in attendance. First published in 1996 as a service to the Fellowship, this bimonthly magazine, written by Spanish-speaking A.A. members, has in the last five- or six-years become, like the Grapevine, staple-free and in color.

For 3.5 hours on Friday night, 8.5 hours on Saturday, and 4.0 hours on Sunday morning there were nine "Mesas" (round tables), most with four panelists, and a total of 29 presentations, including a recording session for 7-minute La Viña stories, chaired by the magazine's current editor, Karina C. With 150ish people in attendance, two bilingual volunteers tag-teamed translation duties for about five English-speaking members. For 16 hours they tirelessly provided word-for-word translations much to the audio pleasure of we-five, as the Hispanic panelists provided the visual animations (calisthenics in the case of Area 93's Raymundo L!) that characteristically energize Spanish-speaking presenters.

I love going to bed with better thoughts than the ones I wake up with! And one of my best thoughts at this year's La Viña celebration was to purchase a recording of the weekend for the translators as a way of thanking them for their service. At a cost of \$30/tape divided by 16 hours of very intensive translation, this amounted to \$1.87/hour. Whereas this rate is well below minimum wage, in terms of service value, it was invaluable to the five-person, English-speaking remote community in the room!

Recordings were available on either CDs or a USB flash drive. So, midday on Saturday, I asked the translator how she would prefer to receive the recordings, which precipitated one of many God shots of the weekend. She responded by choking back tears, and told me she had just enough money to buy either a La Viña subscription for a sponsee or to buy the recordings, and she had decided to purchase the subscription. Now, with my gift, she would have both, which touched both of us. In my opinion, this is just one more example of God showing off, which is not at all unusual for those seeking Him in A.A.!

> Hosted by District 12 <

Mid-Southern California Area 09 Area Service Committee (ASC)

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF AN AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE?

(Per MSCA09's Guidelines—Revision 0-May 2022)

- (1) Identifying, defining, and discussing Area, District, and Group problems and issues.
- (2) Obtaining the conscience 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.

DATE:

**Sunday
August 13, 2023**

TIME:

**9:00am
to
3:00pm PDT**



IN-PERSON:

**Tesoro High School
1 Tesoro Creek Rd.
Las Flores, CA**
(Between Mission Viejo &
Rancho Santa Margarita)

Located off of
"Oso Parkway" & "SR-241".
Four miles east of "I-5".



VIRTUAL:

- Join Zoom Meeting -

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83452130481?
pwd=VmFxMCt5SjByN1R4MzhQaGVrdG9aUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83452130481?pwd=VmFxMCt5SjByN1R4MzhQaGVrdG9aUT09)

MEETING ID: 834 5213 0481

PASSCODE: August

MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

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AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.

June 30, 2023

To: General Service Conference Delegates
Trustees of General Service Board, Past and Present
Directors of AA Grapevine, Inc., Past and Present
Directors of AA World Services, Inc., Past and Present
AA Grapevine Editorial Advisory Board Members, Past and Present
Appointed Committee Members of Trustees' Committees
Grapevine and G.S.O. Staff Members
U.S. and Canada Central Offices and Intergroups

Re: Vacancy for Non-Trustee Director of AA Grapevine Board in 2024

Dear Friends:

The AA Grapevine Corporate Board will have a vacancy for the position of Non-Trustee Director following the General Service Conference in April 2024. The Board of Trustees has requested that the AA Grapevine Board's recommendation be presented for this position to the trustees' Nominating Committee for review at its January 2024 meeting. Since resumes need to be screened and applicants interviewed by members of our Corporate Board in a timely fashion, the process must begin well in advance.

We plan to review resumes in September so that we can schedule interviews during the early fall of this year. We therefore ask that completed resumes be submitted by Friday, September 15, 2023.

Some of the qualities most desirable in the person who will fill this vacancy are:

1. A sound business or professional background is preferable, but not limited to the following areas – management, legal, publishing, content production, or e-commerce.
2. Familiarity with and ties to diverse A.A. communities and professional communities.
3. The ability to work collaboratively with others to meet shared objectives.
4. Prior service on a non-profit is helpful.
5. A minimum of seven years sobriety in the AA program.
6. Availability to attend:

Nontrustee Director Notice continued...

- All quarterly and planning committee meetings of the AA Grapevine (currently up to eight per year)
- Three weekend meetings of trustees' committees (to which corporate board directors are appointed)
- The General Service Conference for one week in April
- In addition, directors may be called upon to attend subcommittee or other meetings and to represent AA Grapevine at Regional Forums or other AA functions

All interested AA members may apply; however, a General Service Conference Delegate is not eligible to apply until *one year after* their last Conference i.e. only Panel 71 Delegates and prior panels will be considered for this opening.

Please use this link to a resume form that should be completed by all applicants for this vacancy www.aagrapevine.org/Vacancy-NTD-AAGV and return the completed form via email to resumes@aagrapevine.org, or print and mail to the attention of Janet Bryan, Director of Operations, AAGV, Inc., 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1100, New York, NY 10115 by Friday, September 15, 2023.

All resumes will be considered, and we will advise all applicants when a selection has been made by the AA Grapevine Corporate Board and reviewed by the Trustee's Nominating Committee.

Yours in fellowship and service,

Paz P.
Chair
AA Grapevine, Inc.

Note: In seeking applications for all vacancies in Alcoholics Anonymous, the Fellowship is committed to creating a large applicant file of persons that reflects the inclusiveness and diversity of AA itself. All applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, familial status, sexual orientation, national origin, ability, age, or veteran status.

Did you know that our very own Francine W. has served in the position as Nontrustee Director for Grapevine? Whereas her four years of service happened back in the 1990's, I'm sure she is willing to share this experience with those who may be interested in applying. Since Francine is currently serving as our Literature Committee Chair, you may contact her at LiteratureChair@msca09aa.org.

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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!

MSCA AREA 09 SERVICE WORKSHOP & COMMITTEE SHARING SESSION

THE 3RD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

6 - 7:00PM & 7 - 8:00 PM PST

MAY

**What the conference is actually like.
4 SOCAL Area Delegates Area 5,9,93.**

JUNE

**The How, why and joy of a Class A
trustee & Why we keep them around.**
Michelle G Class A, Nancy M Class A,

JULY

How to reach anyone anywhere
Bron F- Area 15 Secretary

AUGUST

AA Around the world
Hear from Current Class B Trustees at large US and
Canada

SEPTEMBER

Service Sponsorship
Jimmy D - Class B Past Trustee

OCT

Servant, Leader or Both ? -
Debbie D AA Member

NOV

**PARTICIPATION - How we get groups involved and
keep them engaged**
Craig and Matt K - Past Delegates

When:

6:00 - 7:00 P.M MSCA09 Sharing Session
7:00 - 8:00 P.M Area 09 Service workshop

Where:

Meeting ID: 87366078505
Passcode Area09p72

MSCA09.ORG

CONTACT: MSCA09/ALTDELEGATE@GMAIL.COM

**All Meetings are
recorded and can be
found on the
MSCA09.org
WEBSITE .**

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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.](#)

Committee Reports

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

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AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

Summer Reading Sale!

Stock up on summer reading with AA Grapevine's best-selling books!
Get inspired today!



Looking for some new inspirational reading for the summer? Check out one of these books from Grapevine's collection of best-sellers!

- **Emotional Sobriety: The Next Frontier**: In this collection of Grapevine stories, sober women and men describe the transformations sobriety can bring as they practice the principles of AA in all aspects of their lives.
- **The Language of the Heart**: This book features all of AA cofounder Bill W.'s writings in Grapevine. Bill was Grapevine's most prolific contributor, writing more than 150 articles from 1944 to 1970. Great for meetings and AA history buffs!
- **Voices of Women in AA**: Inspiring and courageous stories demonstrating the various ways women alcoholics found sobriety in AA. Includes stories of early AA pioneers and by some of the first female members.
- **Prayer & Meditation**: Features powerful stories by members of Alcoholics Anonymous about the many ways they pray and meditate in their daily lives. An integral part of AA recovery is learning to connect spiritually. The stories in this book show how members begin to pray and meditate and then branch out to develop very personal and often creative ways to practice.
- **The Best of Bill**: A handsome new edition of five of Bill W.'s most powerful Grapevine articles sharing his thoughts on faith, fear, honesty, humility, and love.

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Alcoholics
Anonymous®
www.aa.org

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

Please direct all
communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

Announcing: Daily Reflections now available in new audio formats

July 14, 2023

Dear A.A. Friends,

- New Audiobook of Daily Reflections Now Available
- A new Audiobook edition of Daily Reflections is now available in English, French, and Spanish.

The audio edition will be accessible as follows:

- Download
- Available for purchase from Apple, Audio Google Play, Audio Kobo, Audible, and other Audiobook vendors in English, French, and Spanish narration, at a list price of \$11.99 (actual selling prices due to vendor special offers may be lower).

For information, please visit <https://onlineliterature.aa.org>.

- Listen
- Coming soon: The audio version of each day's reflection will be available in English, French, and Spanish on aa.org in addition to the text.
- For people in custody "behind the walls"
- People in custody throughout the United States will be able to listen to the Daily Reflections audiobook at no charge on tablets supplied by Securus Jpay and Edovo/GTL, as available.

For questions or more information, please contact publishingnews@aa.org.

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New and Older Resources in A.A. and M.S.C.A

- [Announcement Seeking Area 09 Webservant](#)
- [GSO Announcements - What's New in AA?](#)
- [2025 International Convention - Vancouver, BC, Canada](#)
- [Free Book on Sponsorship \("ONE ON ONE AA Sponsorship in Action"\) with Grapevine Subscription](#)
- [Box 4-5-9, Spring 2023](#)
- [About AA – Spring 2023](#)
- [Sharing From Behind the Walls - Summer 2023](#)
- [Your A.A. General Service Office](#)
- [Update on Printing Delays and Backorders - June 2023](#)
- ["The Home Group - Heartbeat of A.A." - New, Revised version](#)
- [Every Conference-Approved Advisory Action 1951 to 2022](#)
- [A.A. 27th World Service Meeting "Carrying the Message of A.A. in the Digital Age" Oct. 2022 - FINAL REPORT \(2023\)](#)
- [New Spanish version of Experience, Strength, & Hope](#)
- [Need a Zoom meeting? Try New York Intergroup!](#)
- [Need a meeting topic? Try Boozer's Bingo!](#)
- [GSO Committee Assignments for Committee-Related Questions](#)
- [First Quarterly Report 2023 of General Service Board](#)
- [A.A.® Guidelines - Internet](#)
- [Treatment and Accessibilities Update - June 2023](#)

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SAVE THE DATES

- 2023: Oct. 8 MSCA 09 Panel 74 (2024/25) Elections
- 2024: Mar. 1-3 PRAASA, San Francisco, CA
- 2024: Jul. 12-14 Pacific Regional Form, Las Vegas, NV
- 2025: Jul. 3-6 2025 International Convention, Vancouver, BC, Canada



➔ **MSCA09 ASA** ➔

Hosted by District 23

DATE:
(Sunday)
September 10, 2023

TIME:
9:00am - 3:00pm (PT)
(Registration begins at 8:30am)

Last meeting in 2023 to qualify for voting at the elections in October.

Last meeting in 2023 to vote on motions within the Area.

Come make sure your group's voice is heard!

In-Person Location:
Jurupa Area Recreation and Park District
8621 Jurupa Road, Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88545608278?pwd=T2dkOnhvdFZDTm04OUJnTC9hdmNYOT09>

Meeting ID: 885 4560 8278 Passcode: ASA