

MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS®

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 17

January 2024

msca09aa.org

MSCA-09

P.O. Box 51446

Irvine, CA 92619-1446

Happy New Year!

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 2024

Jan 14	9 am to 3 pm	Area 09 Assembly
Feb 11	9 am to 3 pm	Area 09 Service Committee
Feb 29 - Mar 2	3 days	Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly

[View 2024 Calendar](#)

January Hosting District

District 12

AA Service Manual



MSCA Area Map



[MSCA website](#)



Happy New Year from the Editor

Beginning in 2014, when I served as your Area 09 Grapevine Chair, through the beginning of 2024, as your outgoing Communications Chair and Newsletter Editor, I have been rocketed into the Fourth Dimension through exercising General Service. Never, not once, have I said “yes” to anything in General Service that I knew how to do. In saying “yes,” I’ve been exposed to previous Area committee chairs and officers who were always there - always - to answer questions and help me understand what I just volunteered for.

In 2010, as I sat at the top of the Alamodome in San Antonio, TX at the A.A. International Convention, I looked down onto the main floor where A.A.’s were sitting at speaker-level in folding chairs. The last four or five rows were occupied by the volunteers who wore green t-shirts with “2010” printed in large letters across their shoulder blades. During the countdown, when everyone with one year, then two years, and three years up to year 25 was asked to sit down, most of those green-shirted volunteers were still standing. This was a visual indication to me of the longevity that characterizes our trusted servants, volunteers, and “meeting makers.” Volunteers tend to live longer; General Service volunteers do it sober, with enthusiasm, and for fun!

I liken General Service to be kin to a spiritual gym, where we exercise unseen muscles like compassion, tolerance, and patience. For those five years (in the spirit of “stagnation”) that I served as the District 19 secretary driving by myself 30 miles across the desert one way, I exercised unflagging commitment. As your Area 09 Grapevine Representative, for two years I felt like the “Maytag Repairman,” sitting by myself, exercising availability, envious of the GSR and DCM Schools with their giant crowds of students. As your Area 09 Secretary, I learned about communication and as your Treasurer (for two months), I learned about giving.

On the lower rungs of the General Service ladder, as your Alternate Delegate, I learned to love the ones I’m with; to honor those who showed up without judging those who didn’t. In all of these positions, I’ve learned to be a team player, responsible to those I serve, but never more than as your 2020-2021 Delegate. In this position, I learned that my job was to be sure that you - not me - were heard, that my opinion mattered only as a spokesperson on your behalf, to ensure the Area 09 group conscience was registered at the Conference. During these 10 years, I’ve had a full-body spiritual experience, and it is with full heart that I thank you for letting me be of service. (Ed L, editor)



Carry The Message!

1. If you know the full name and the mailing address of the recipient: Give a Gift Subscription to a friend, a sponsee, doctor's offices, or for giveaways at anniversaries or events at your home group, district, or area level.
2. If you do not know the full name and the mailing address of the recipient and want Grapevine to select an alcoholic in need from the requests we have received. Give a Carry the Message Gift Certificate to someone you do not know (such as an alcoholic in prison.)
3. If you do not know the full name and the mailing address of the recipient and would like to give them a gift certificate for them to redeem themselves for a subscription (example: A newcomer in your group.) Give a Carry the Message Gift Certificate to a newcomer or someone in your group.

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COMMITTEE PAGE LINKS

- [Accessibilities](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Convention Liaison](#)
- [Cooperation with Elder Community](#)
- [Cooperation with Professional](#)
- [Community Corrections](#)
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Committee Reports

Your Panel 72 Officers

- [Delegate](#)
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- [Chairperson](#)
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Online Contributions



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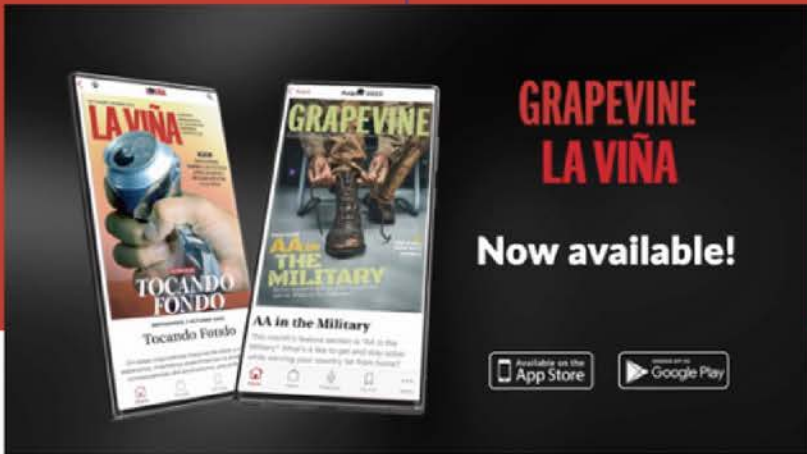


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Contact the editor (Ed L) at editor@msca09aa.org

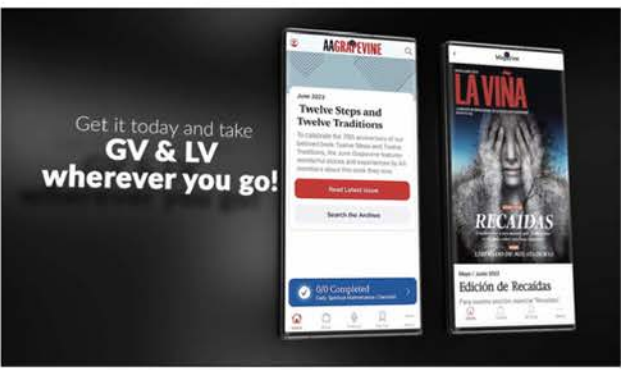


THE GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA APPS ARE HERE!



September 1, 2023

The Grapevine and La Viña apps are here! Download the apps for free from the Apple App Store for iPhone, or from Google Play for Android. Subscribe to the digital magazine and archive for \$2.99 per month, or \$29.99 per year. With a subscription, you'll be able to read the new magazine each month, explore the Grapevine or La Viña archive, send stories to friends, listen to the audio of each article in the magazine, listen to the podcast, enter your own sobriety date for a daily calculation, build your own spiritual maintenance daily checklist, and much more. On your phone or tablet, go to the *Apple App Store* or *Google Play*, and search for "Grapevine" or "La Viña." Tap download.



Subscribe or log in.
New digital users will need to subscribe to get the monthly digital magazine, archives, and other content. Existing digital subscribers will be able to log to the app using your current username and password.



Use our QR Code to access MSCA 09 Newsletters and Website

Thanks to the work of the Communications Committee and our past webservant, Faith B, we now have a QR Code that will allow people to connect to this newsletter and the website. We will begin making the codes available at Area meetings, targeting members who do not have ready access to computers but can access these materials using their cell phones.



NEW!!
“QR CODES”

MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09 WEBSITE
<https://msca09aa.org/>





PLEASE NOTE: At this time, the QR Code will direct you to MSCA09's English version of their website. For the Spanish translation, click on the green "Translate" button located at the bottom of the webpage on the lefthand side.

MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09 NEWSLETTERS
<https://msca09aa.org/news/>

2016 thru Current
Issue of Newsletters







MID-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA 09

OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS®

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

- [General Service Board Chairperson Position Filled](#)
- [Proposed Area 09 Budget for 2024](#)
- [2025 International Convention - Vancouver, BC, Canada](#)
- [Box 4-5-9, Fall 2023](#)
- [A.A.W.S. Highlights, October 2023](#)
- [General Service Board Quarterly Report - 3rd Quarter, September](#)
- [Sharing From Behind the Walls - Summer 2023](#)
- [Your A.A. General Service Office](#)
- [Announcing large-print edition of "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic"](#)
- ["The Home Group - Heartbeat of A.A." - New, Revised version](#)
- [Every Conference-Approved Advisory Action 1951 to 2022](#)
- [New Spanish version of Experience, Strength, & Hope](#)
- [Need a Zoom meeting? Try New York Intergroup!](#)
- [Need a meeting topic? Try Boozer's Bingo!](#) (unavailable in Spanish)
- [GSO Committee Assignments for Committee-Related Questions](#)
- [A.A.® Guidelines - Internet](#)



SAVE THE DATES

- **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](#)



Make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around the world for the 2025 International Convention. This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding. The International Convention will take place from July 3 – 6, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place Stadium.

[**Click here for more information**](#)