

Mid-Southern California Area 09

Workbook 2023-24

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LITERATURE COMMITTEE MESSAGE

Since the early days of Alcoholics Anonymous and the publication of the first edition of the Big Book in 1939, our literature has inspired alcoholics to not only stay sober, but to carry the message of how they stay sober and how our AA literature contributes to their recovery.

The Literature Committee (the “Committee”) is charged with developing, revising, translating, and publishing Area specific literature e.g., the *Workbook*, *Third Legacy Pamphlet*, and the *What’s It All About?* brochure. The Committee’s goal is to bring awareness to all Mid-Southern California Area 09 members (the “Area”), districts, and groups about available AA Conference-approved literature, audiovisual material, and other special items. The Committee accomplishes this through displays and other suitable methods.

The Committee is available to review and edit literature created by other Area committees when requested to do so in writing. When available, members of the Committee can attend groups and districts to share about AA Conference-approved literature.

Some portions of this Workbook have been taken from the most recent AA Service Manual, dated 2021-23 (the “Service Manual”). However, we encourage all Area members to become familiar with the actual Service Manual. It is the ultimate tool for all who embark on general service as an avenue for giving back to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Respectfully submitted,

A.A.'S LEGACY OF SERVICE

by BILL W.

Our Twelfth Step—carrying the message—is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die.

Hence, an A.A. service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer — ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a ten-cent phone call and a cup of coffee, and to A.A.'s General Service Office for national and international action. The sum total of all these services is our Third Legacy of Service.

Services include meeting places, hospital cooperation, and intergroup offices; they mean pamphlets, books, and good publicity of almost every description. They call for committees, delegates, trustees, and conferences. And, not to be forgotten, they need voluntary money contributions from within the Fellowship.

These services, whether performed by individuals, groups, areas, or A.A. as a whole, are utterly vital to our existence and growth. Nor can we make A.A. more simple by abolishing such services. We would only be asking for complication and confusion.

Concerning any given service, we therefore pose but one question: "Is this service really needed?" If it is, then maintain it we must, or fail in our mission to those who need and seek A.A.

The most vital, yet least understood, group of services that A.A. has are those that enable us to function as a whole, namely: the General Service Office, A.A. World Services, Inc., AA Grapevine, Inc., and our board of trustees, known legally as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our worldwide unity and much of our growth since early times are directly traceable to this cluster of life-giving activities.

(See, Full text of this article in **Appendix A** in the *AA Service Manual*)

PREAMBLE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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 AA membership, we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA 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.

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) PREAMBLE

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A. We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as he may express Himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole.

A DECLARATION OF UNITY

This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend on our lives, and the lives of those to come.

RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

MSCA 09 DELEGATES 1959 to Present

<u>Panel</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Sober Date</u>	<u>Deceased</u>
10	1960-1961	Jack W			1973
12	1962-1963	Joe B			1973
14	1964-1965	Tom A.			1998
16	1966-1967	Joe K.			1983
18	1968-1969	Warren S.			1970
20	1970-1971	Ellery S.			2004
22	1972-1973	John Mac A.			1992
24	1974-1975	Genevieve L.			1989
26	1976-1977	Jerry F.			
28	1978-1979	Goldene L.			2011
30	1980-1981	Denver C.			1984
32	1982-1983	Dyanne G.	Huntington Beach		
34	1984-1985	Frank S.	San Pedro		
36	1986-1987	Bill S.	Riverside		
38	1988-1990	Maxine C.			1998
40	1990-1991	PJ D.	Lomita	5/9/81	
42	1992-1993	Jim C.	Costa Mesa	1/27/80	
44	1994-1995	Manuel Y.			1999
46	1996-	Lona W-P			
46	1997	Nick M.	Santa Ana		
48	1998-1999	Nick M.	Santa Ana		2014
50	2000-2001	Al P.	Montclair	10/10/82	
52	2002-2003	Pete B.	Laguna Hills	9/20/87	
54	2004-2005	Nancy J.	Corona Del Mar	9/28/73	
56	2006-2007	Bruce H.			
58	2008-2009	Joe B.	Riverside	5/15/90	
60	2010-2011	Linda C.	Costa Mesa	2/1/80	
62	2012-2013	Jeryl T.	Costa Mesa	2/28/93	
64	2014-2015	Cesar F.	Santa Ana	1/06/96	
66	2016-2017	Joe C			
68	2018-2019	Jesus O.	Bellflower	1/23/92	
70	2020-2021	Ed L.			
72	2022-2023	Mitchell B.			
73	2024-2025	Alex W.			

PACIFIC REGION TRUSTEES

1963 to Present

- 1963 – Jim Masterson
- 1967 – Eric Bergman
- 1971 – George Grimstad
- 1974 – Stanley Wilsey
- 1978 – George Dorsey
- 1982 – Natalie Schwanke
- 1986 – Ruth Jagodzinski
- 1990 – Greg Muth
- 1994 – Julian Rhinehart
- 1998 – Jim Clough
- 2002 – Phyllis Halliday
- 2006 – Madeleine Parmely
- 2010 – Rod Bettoney
- 2014 – Joel Castellaw
- 2018 – Kathy Fowler
- 2022 – Reilly Kalles

HOW GENERAL SERVICE FUNCTIONS

THE GROUP.

The communication process starts with the group, which lets its group conscience — for or against change, approval or disapproval of a proposed action — be known to its elected general service representative (G.S.R.). The G.S.R. (see Chapter Two) makes sure the group's wishes are heard and fully considered at the district Conference, the G.S.R. is responsible for making sure that group members are informed about what went on at the Conference and made aware of the full range of Advisory Actions (see Chapter Seven).

THE DISTRICT.

Groups are organized into districts, collections of groups located near one another. The G.S.R.s of these groups select district committee members (D.C.M.s), who become part of the area committee (see Chapter Three for more on the district).

THE AREA.

The U.S./Canada Conference is divided into 93 areas, made up of a state or province, part of a state or province, or in some cases parts of more than one state or province. At the area assembly, a delegate is elected to represent the area at the annual Conference meeting (see Chapters Four and Five for more on the area and its activities).

THE CONFERENCE AND THE DELEGATE.

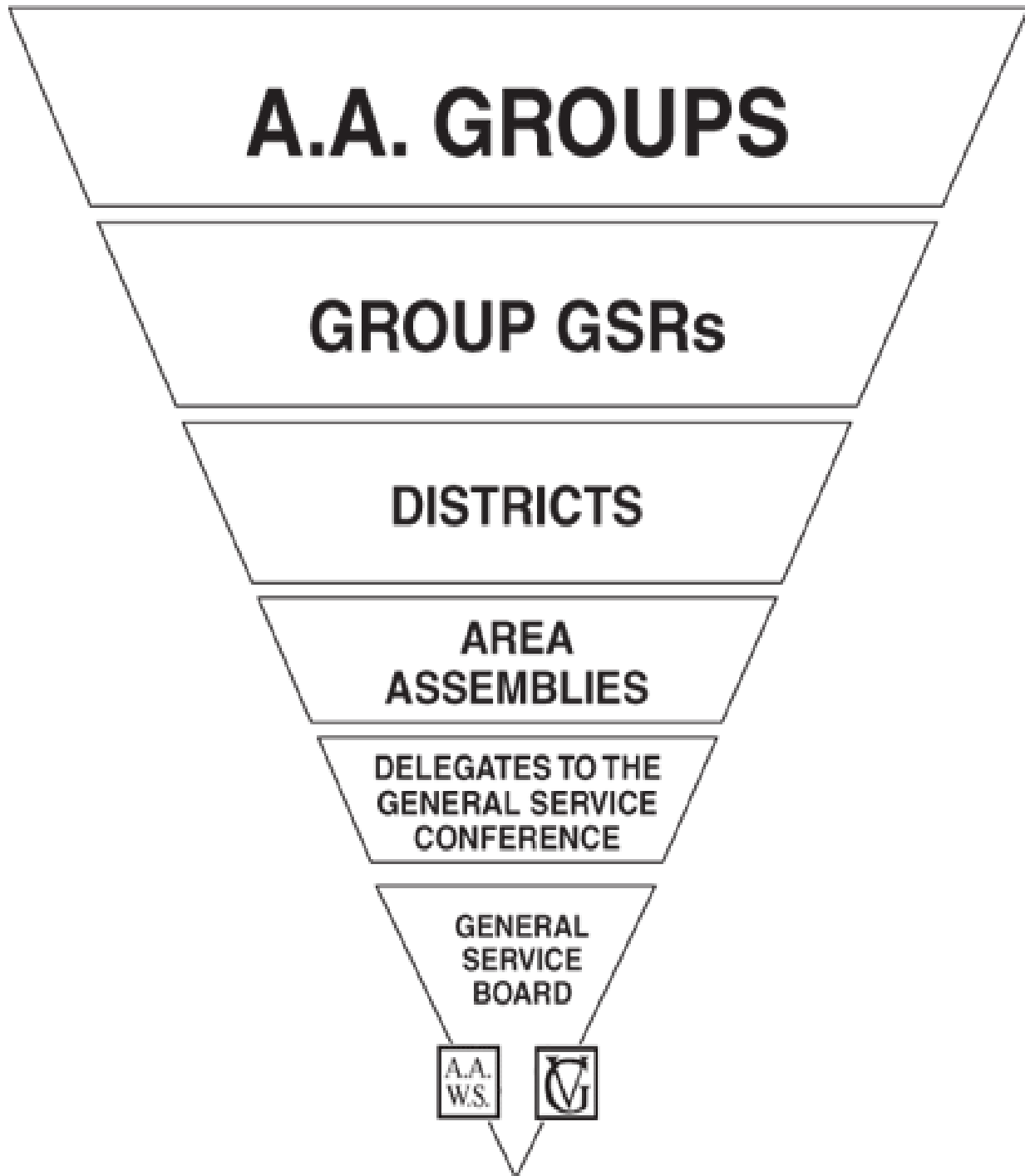
At the annual Conference meeting, matters of importance to the Fellowship as a whole are first considered and discussed by one of the standing Conference committees, then brought to the full Conference in the form of committee recommendations. All Conference members then have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the recommendations before they are voted on. Committee recommendations that are approved become Conference Advisory Actions (see Chapters Seven and Eight for more information on the Conference). After the Conference, the delegate reports back to the area, working through D.C.M.s and group G.S.R.s. At the same time, any Conference Advisory Actions that were referred to the trustees are sent to either the appropriate trustees' committee, G.S.O., or the A.A. Grapevine for implementation. Membership in the Conference consists of area delegates, trustees, directors of A.A. World Services and the Grapevine, and A.A. staff members of the General Service Office and the Grapevine. Traditionally, area delegates make up at least two-thirds of the Conference body.

THE TRUSTEES.

The General Service Board (see Chapter Nine) is made up of 21 trustees. It meet quarterly, and its actions are reported to the Fellowship through quarterly reports and also in the Final Conference Report. The board's two operating corporations, A.A. World Services, Inc. and The A.A. Grapevine, Inc., report in the same way (see Chapter Ten). A.A.W.S. is the corporation that employs G.S.O. personnel, directs G.S.O. services, and is responsible for book and pamphlet publishing. The Grapevine corporate board employs the magazine's editorial and business staffs and publishes A.A.'s monthly magazine and related materials.

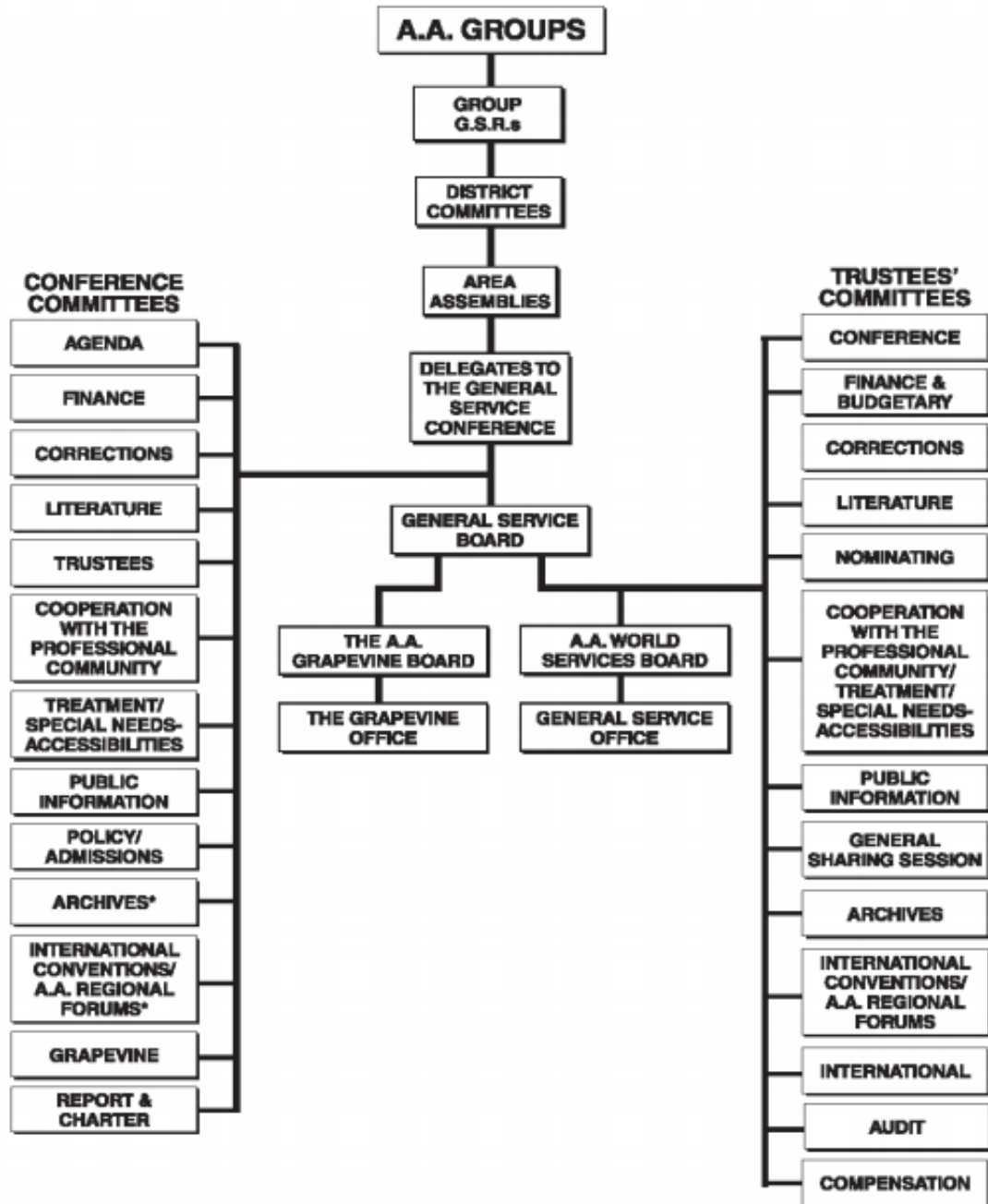
(See, AA Service Manual Pages 4-5)

STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE (U.S. and Canada)



(See, AA Service Manual, Page 103)

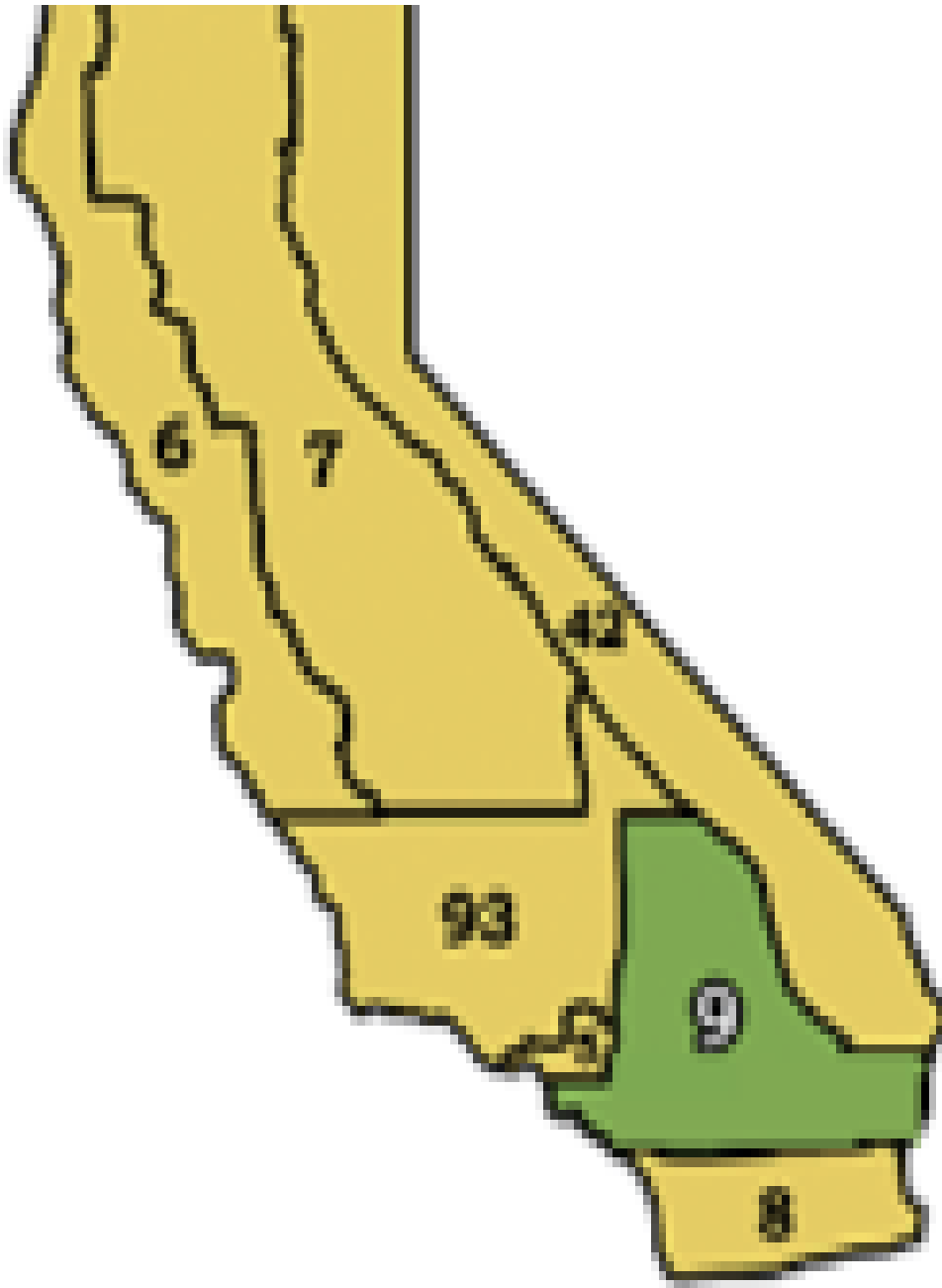
General Service Conference Structure
(U.S. and Canada)



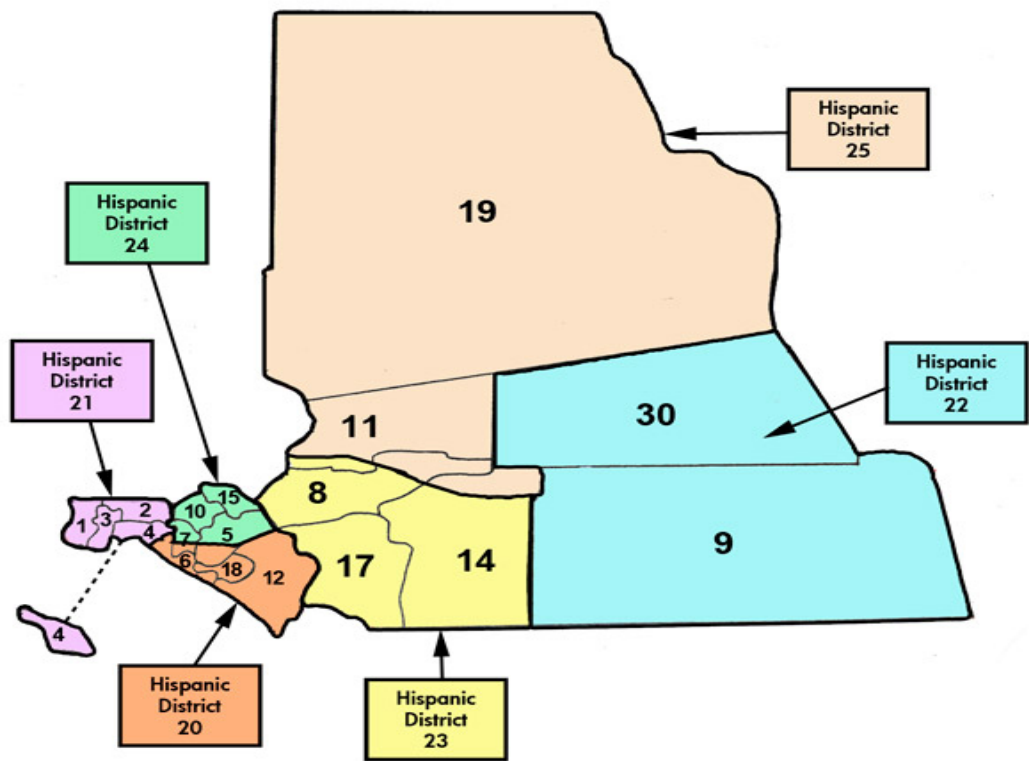
(See, AA Service Manual, Page 104)

MAP OF CALIFORNIA AREAS INCLUDING AREA 09

Area 42 is part of Nevada



MSCA 09 District Information



MSCA 2024 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Meeting	District Host
January 14	Sunday	Assembly	TBD
February 11	Sunday	Service Committee Meeting	TBD
March 10	Sunday	Service Committee Meeting	TBD
April 6-7	Sunday	Pre-Conference	TBD
May 19	Sunday	Delegate Report back	TBD
June 9	Sunday	Service Committee Meeting	TBD
July 7	Sunday	Foro de MSCA	TBD
August 11	Sunday	Service Committee Meeting	TBD
September 8	Sunday	Assembly	TBD
October 13	Sunday	Service Committee Meeting	TBD
November 10	Sunday	Servathon	TBD
December 8	Sunday	Service Committee Meeting	TBD

AREA 09 ADDRESS

MSCA 09 Contributions can be made in one of two ways:

- ONLINE: <http://area09.org/contributions.php>
- SNAIL MAIL: PO BOX 51446 Irvine, CA 92519
Make Check Payable to MSCA 09
- Panet 74 Delegate Resources: <https://bit.ly/m/p74-Delegate>

MSCA STANDING COMMITTEES

- Accessibility
- Archives
- Communications
- Cooperation with the Elderly Community
- Cooperation with the Professional Community
- Convention Liaison
- Corrections and Correspondence
- DCM School
- Finance
- Guidelines and Policies (GAP)
- Grapevine & La Viña
- GSR School
- Literature
- Public Information
- Remote Communities
- Registration
- Technology
- Treatment Facilities
- Young People

COORDINATE COMMITTEES

- Hospitals and Institutions
- Hispanic Women's Workshop
- Audit Committee

THE TWELVE CONCEPTS (SHORT FORM)

- I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
- II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.
- III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision”
- IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.
- V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.
- VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.
- VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
- VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.
- IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.
- X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.
- XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.
- XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action

(See, the 12 Concepts in their entirety in the Service Manual, pages C3 – C59)

THE TWELVE TRADITIONS (Short Form)

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
6. An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

TWELVE STEPS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol — that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

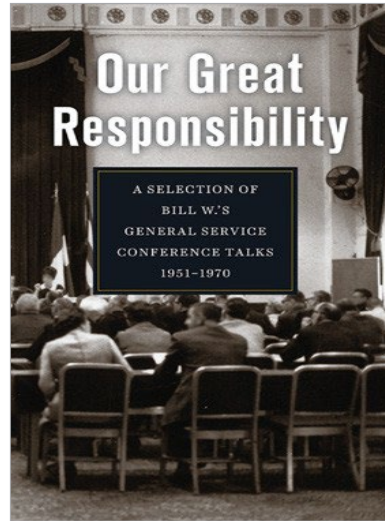
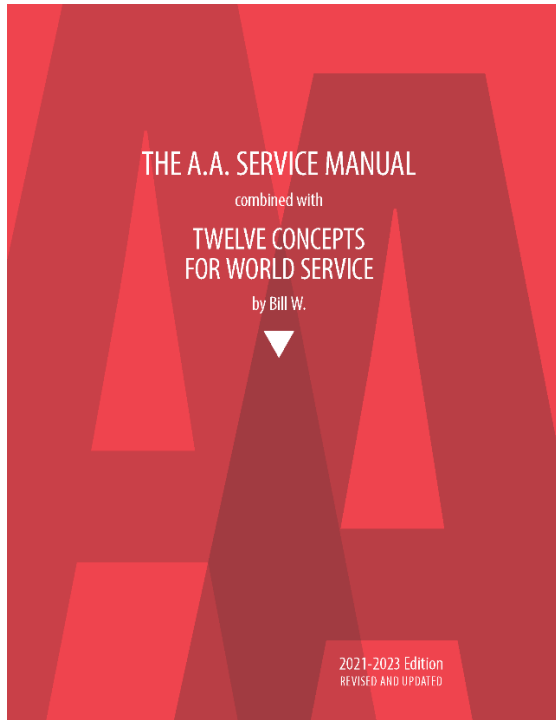
GLOSSARY OF FREQUENTLY USED GENERAL SERVICE TERMS

- **A.C.Y.P.A.A.** ~ All California Young People in A.A.
- **A.A.W.S.** ~ Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.
- **Alternate** ~ A service worker who, at Group, District, or Area level, assists, supports, a designated office holder, and substitutes in the office holders absence.
- **Area** ~ A geographical division within a state or province. A conference delegate represents an Area.
- **Area Service Committee (ASC)** ~ An M.S.C.A. committee made up of Area Officers, past Delegates, D.C.M.C.'s, alternate D.C.M.C.'s, D.C.M.'s, other District Officer's, Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs. There is a minimum of two A.S.C. meetings between each regular Assembly. The Area Service Committee has the following purpose: Identifying, defining, and discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues. Obtaining the consensus of each District and its Groups. Acting as an advisory Committee to the Assembly, Executive Committee and Delegate. Establishing the agenda for the next assembly.
- **Archives** ~ A collection of A.A. memorabilia usually maintained by a committee.
- **A.S.C.** ~ Area Service Committee.
- **Assembly (ASA)** ~ Membership includes the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, other Area Officers, all currently serving G.S.R.'s, D.C.M.C.'s, Alternate D.C.M.C.'s, D.C.M.'s, Alternate D.C.M.'s, other District Officers, and Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co chairs. The Assembly is the mainstream of the Conference structure and is the representative voice of the movement expressing itself. It is the gathering of the G.S.R.'s and the A.S.C., which deliberates upon and enacts resolutions concerning service matters brought before it. Its responsibilities include:
 - •Electing and supporting the Area Officers, including a Delegate to the General Service Conference.
 - Being an interim repository, through its G.S.R.'s, of the collective group conscience of the Area. Seeking substantial unanimity in all important decisions.
 - Strengthening A.A. as a whole and carrying the A.A. message the best way possible in the M.S.C.A.
- **Box 4-5-9** ~ A bimonthly publication of the General Service Office, including many items of interest.
- **Conference** ~ The General Service Conference. This can mean: 1. The structure involving committee members, G.S.R.'s, and Delegates in the United States and Canada. 2. The annual meeting of Delegates each April in New York.

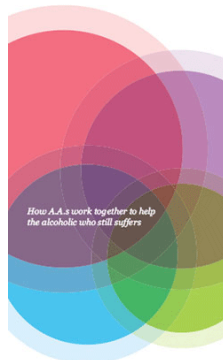
- **C.F.** ~ Correctional Facilities Committee. Formerly part of the Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) Committee, which split into two entities: Correctional Facilities and Treatment Facilities
- **C.P.C.** ~ Cooperation with the Professional Community. C.P.C. committees at the District, Area, Trustee, and Conference levels help carry the message to professionals who work with Alcoholics.
- **Delegate** ~ The person elected every other year to represent the Area at the annual Conference meeting in New York and to bring back to the Area the results of that meeting.
- **D.C.M.** ~ A member of the District Committee elected by the G.S.R.'s, usually represents a sub district within a district. In Spanish speaking Districts the District leader is a D.C.M.
- **D.C.M.C.** ~ District Committee Member Chair, a member of the District Committee elected by the G.S.R.'s to represent the entire district and to coordinate service activities within the district.
- **District** ~ A geographical division within the Area, sometimes divided into sub districts, represented by Committee Members.
- **E.M.C.** ~ Electronic Media Committee
- **F.C.** ~ Finance Committee
- **Foro de M.S.C.A.** ~ Held in the summer of each year, its purpose is to focus on General Service topics.
- **General Services** ~ Fellowship-wide services, performed by anyone in the General Service Structure (G.S.R., D.C.M., Delegate, etc.).
- **G.S.O.** ~ General Service Office (In New York), which provides services to groups in the U.S. and Canada.
- **G.S.R.** ~ General Service Representative; an A.A. member elected by the Group to voice the Group's opinion in discussions at the Area level, and to vote for the District and Area Officers and the Delegate.
- **GVR.** ~ Grapevine Representative; the Group or District or Area contact with the Grapevine office.
- **H.&I.** ~ Hospital and Institution Committee.
- **I.C.Y.P.A.A.** ~ International Conference of Young People in A.A.
- **M.S.C.A.** ~ Mid-Southern California Area.
- **P.I.** ~ Public Information; P.I. Committees at the District, Area, Trustee, and Conference level help carry the message by working with the media.
- **P.R.A.A.S.A.** ~ Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly. The Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly held each year in March in one of the nine Areas of the Pacific Region. A weekend of sharing experience with our counterparts from all the different Areas in the Pacific Region, and staff members from G.S.O. A great opportunity to learn more about General Service.
- **Pre-Conference Workshop** ~ A workshop for the entire M.S.C.A. where we form discussion groups and talk about agenda items for the coming General Service Conference. This is of great value for our Delegates in preparing Areas for the Conference.

- **Region** ~ A grouping of several Areas from which a Regional Trustee comes to the Board of Trustees. There are six Regions in the U.S., two in Canada.
- **R.L.V.** ~ La Viña Representative; the Group or District or Area contact with the La Viña office.
- **M.S.C.A. Servathon** ~ Held in the fall of each year, it's purpose is to focus on one or more of the Twelve Traditions and all aspects of A.A. service work.
- **Third Legacy** ~ Recovery and unity are A.A.'s first two Legacies. Our Third Legacy is Service, the sum total of all A.A. services, from a twelfth step call to A.A.'s coast-to-coast and worldwide service activities.
- **T.F.** ~ Treatment Facilities Committee. Formerly part of the Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) Committee, which split into two entities: Correctional Facilities and Treatment Facilities
- **Trustee** ~ The usual term for a member of A.A.'s General Service Board. There are 14 Alcoholic Trustees (Class B) and 7 Nonalcoholic Trustees (Class A). Twelve Concepts ~ As the Twelve Steps are to personal RECOVERY and the Twelve Traditions are to the preservation and UNITY of Alcoholics Anonymous, so are the Twelve Concepts to General SERVICE. They are a set of principles intended to provide service to A.A. and the still-suffering alcoholic. They also protect the structure by which such service is made possible.

SELECTED AA SERVICE-RELATED RESOURCES



Circles of Love and Service



Visit www.aa.org

Service Committees

A.A. service committees work to ensure the A.A. message reaches people who may need it. Many alcoholics first hear A.A.'s message of hope thanks to the work of the volunteers on these committees.

Accessibilities Committees

Accessibilities Committees serve to assist those who have significant barriers that must be overcome to insure full participation in A.A.

[READ MORE >](#)

Archives Committees

Archives committees work to collect, preserve and share the history of A.A.

[READ MORE >](#)

Cooperation with the Professional Community (C.P.C.) Committees

C.P.C. committees work to inform professionals who are likely to come into contact with problem drinkers about A.A.

[READ MORE >](#)

Corrections Committees

Corrections committees work to carry the A.A. message of recovery to incarcerated alcoholics.

[READ MORE >](#)

Literature Committees

Literature committees work to convey the importance of A.A. literature to recovery. They make sure that A.A. literature is available to A.A. groups, service meetings, A.A. events and the general public.

[READ MORE >](#)

Public Information Committees

Public information committees work to convey A.A. information to the general public.

[READ MORE >](#)

Treatment Committees

Treatment committees work to carry the A.A. message into treatment settings where there may be suffering alcoholics.

[READ MORE >](#)

Remote Communities Committees

Remote Communities committees work to bring A.A. to communities that are difficult to reach because of geography, language or culture.

[READ MORE >](#)

Connect with a service desk at G.S.O.

G.S.O. has staff members that are assigned to specific service activities. Staff members who serve in these assignments share accumulated A.A. experience gathered from local service committees. They do this in writing, phone calls, and by traveling, upon invitation, to A.A. events.

[Contact a service desk](#)

[See current staff assignments](#)

NOTES

NOTES