

**Mid-Southern California Area 9 Service Committee Minutes
February 14, 2010**

Meeting was called to order by Jeryl T. at 12:10pm.

Readings: Declaration of Unity: Elsworth/Antonio A.S.C. Statement of Purpose and Membership: Rozanne/Santiago Tradition 2: Willie W. /Oscar Concept 2: Dave/ Bartolo

Approval of 2009 December Area Service Committee minutes Motion/2nd – Scott/Bill

Officers Reports:

Delegate Linda C. - After wishing everyone a happy Valentine's Day, Linda, described the gathering of past delegates at her home on January 24th and expressed her gratitude for all the good information, experience, and advice they shared with her.

Conference Background Material: She will be making the background material for the final conference agenda items available to those who want or need it this week. She will post the agenda items on the area website and invites those who want or need background material to let her know. She mentioned that the suggestions submitted by MSCA Archives committee have been included in the background material for the review of the Archives Workbook. In addition, she mentioned that related to the other committee on which she serves, Agenda, there will be presentations and a workshop about the rights and responsibilities of the Conference Agenda Committee in the agenda-setting process. She requested feedback from individuals in our area about specific personal experiences on "attempts to 'continuously balance the right relation between ultimate authority and delegated responsibility in....¹: 1) AA Groups, 2) Districts, and 3) Area." and how those attempts have been handled.

International Convention: She reminded everyone about the International Convention in San Antonio and gave information concerning housing, registration, and transportation.

Pins: In answer to a question from someone in the Area, she explained that the pins she is distributing are a personal gift from her and no area funds have been or will be spent for them.

PRAASA: She gave a pep-talk on PRAASA and strongly encouraged everyone in the Area from groups, districts, central offices, and especially those in general service to attend this PRAASA as it is so close and within easy traveling distance.

She ended with a quote from the Trustees' subcommittee conclusions and recommendations concerning the Agenda-setting Procedure: *"Our unity does not preclude us from having strong and sometimes conflicting views on matters of importance to A.A. It does demand of us a willingness to trust that those who disagree with us hold their views in good faith, and a willingness to discuss issues with a view o finding consensus and resolution."*

¹ Concept III

Alternate Delegate Cesar F. – “I have the honor and privilege to serve you as Panel 60 Alternate Delegate. First I would like to inform you that I attended our last Area Officers Meeting at the Archives. I also made contact with District 1 and they are doing a really good job on planning the Pre-Conference Workshops, flyers will be available at the next ASC. The Pow Wow is coming and I brought flyers today in English and Spanish. Please take one. The purpose of the Pow Wow is to enhance communication and participation among the Districts and Standing Committees. Featuring: Area Officers/Directors Presentations, Standing Committee Presentations, Round Tables, Past Delegates Panel, Spanish translations will be available. Come join us to share your experience on service. Coffee, Donuts, and Snacks will be served by the Area Officers. For more information please contact me. Lastly I am looking forward to attending PRAASA. This is going to be my 9th PRAASA.”

Treasurer Joseph M. - “End of January balance was \$6673.35. Present balance after writing checks - \$3595.13. \$326.13 came in on the food kitty. Have packets of information for several Districts. Group contribution numbers are really handy in order to record information and a good address. 247 groups that contributed to MSCA 09 in January, 47 did not have a group number. I have a database that goes back to 1993 and would be more than happy to research groups for you. Currently, we are ahead through last year for budget back to 2005.”

Registrar Michael M. – No written report today but there will be an on-going monthly report of all changes by District, beginning next month. I was fortunate to be able to attend the Registration Committee meeting today, chaired by Devon F. from District 4. Devon did a fabulous job of chairing. Lots of good questions and very productive. Numerous District DVDs have been handed out, which will allow the Districts to begin checking up on their meetings. The balance of the DVDS will be prepared and delivered in the next several weeks. Our Chair, Jeryl T., has asked me to chair a By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee. This committee has been tasked with three items, the first of which will be to determine how to change Article 4.3 of the By-Laws, in order to allow all members in good standing to vote. The first meeting of the By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee will be 2/27/10 at 1:00 pm at District 20’s hall. The members of the committee are Leandro C., Alex N., Nick M., and Jim C.

Secretary Sharon K. – “It is my privilege to serve you as your Panel 60 Secretary. Many of you have noticed that I have been blowing up your email boxes. It has been a challenging task to get the Panel 60 roster together along with the minutes and keeping everyone’s mailing address, etc. My email distribution address list for the entire area includes 128 email addresses. I just want to clarify what the email list is for. It is used for communicating to the area about area events and the occasional shout out for helping another alcoholic. Reminder, the roster is confidential. For those of you that responded to my request for help today in registration, thank you. I was overwhelmed with those of you willing to be of service. Regarding the Roster, if you would like me to email the roster I would be happy to. I also have copies here for those of you that do not have a computer and will bring copies every month with updated information. Finally, it is the board of director’s intention to get information to you in a timely manner. Whether it be the agenda posted on the website up to 10 days prior to the next area meeting or getting the minutes to the ASC within a week or two of the last meeting that was attended. Not waiting three months down the line to get information. I also ask that you be patient with me if I do not respond right away to your email requests. Although I have a blackberry and can sometimes get to you, I don’t always have the information with me and am away from home 12 to 13 hours daily. Also wanted to remind the Committee Chairs that one of our duties as a corporation is to keep on hand the minutes from your meetings. If you have those, please forward to me. I am pleased to serve on this panel with such loving and dedicated members of AA. The resounding theme of “transparency” has definitely shown through in the first couple months. I look forward to seeing you all at PRAASA next month.”

Chair Jeryl T. – “What a great month of education for me I have learned that it takes what it takes, to get done what needs to get done. 7 hours for a board meeting, only to have to carry over several topics until next month. 124 emails to and from to make sure we are all understood. 6 or 7 rewrites of the agenda because I can’t spell. Visits to Districts, meeting with my service sponsor, helping to form committees, plotting and planning the plight of AA to come. And all this happens in two days....then...it just doesn’t stop. Are you ready for PRAASA? The DCM Sharing Session? POW WOW? The International? Foro, Pre-Conference Workshop, ASC’s, Assemblies, Forums? It will still only be August. Wow, we have a lot to do., and God has assembled just the right people for the job. One note, FORO will be hosted by District

24 and District 3. Please correct. I have already begun to call on some of you, who have gladly stepped up and accepted the call. Just know your name will be called too. I am grateful for the support I have been offered, and the participation rendered, especially by the past delegates, in helping our Area to move forward. I am proud to serve on this Panel with such an amazing body of Servants of Alcoholics Anonymous as I am privileged to be with here. It does take what it takes to get done what we need to get done, and I am asking that we continue to be patient and willing to stay the course. I will visit more districts this month. I will direct more attention to the needs of the Area. And I will be available for all. My number is on the roster. Call at anytime please."

New Business

1. Creation of an Ad Hoc committee (Alex, Jim C., Nick, Michael, and Leandro) tasked with making recommendations within a three-month period to:

- Resolve difficulty of voter eligibility including the need to have attended at least one Area meeting in the past twelve months in the same capacity (section 4.3), and
- Identify and suggest possible reconciliation of differences between Area Guidelines and Area By Laws.

Old Business

1. 2010 Budget Final – There was a change. The \$3,200 that we took out of the prudent reserve was not reflected in the spending or projection. So we put it in at the top and then again at the bottom. Bob (Convention Liaison) asked question about requesting an override. Answer: start with the Finance Committee.

Chair invited people to share their experience on PRAASA.

Standing Committee Reports

Archives Joseph H. An AA home group from Costa Mesa volunteered to assist the Area Archives Committee in sorting various AA materials; inventory of the AA Library and data input on the Grapevine Collection. Archives Committee meeting to be held on Feb. 20th, 2010. Joseph H., Archives Chair to attend PRAASA 2010 as a representative from District 11. Upcoming events: Archives Open House March 21, 2010. This year's theme "The Oxford Group". Archives presentation at the Victorville Convention March 12 – 13, 2010.

Communications Jesus O: We'd like to ask everyone to please check the information on the website for your Committee or District pages. We want to encourage you to use your Committee or District pages for any information relative to your committee or district on the area website. If you have any info that needs to go on the website. Please send it to the ACC Chair. We try to keep up with the information that comes in either for the website chair, electronic media sub committee, newsletter, etc. I've asked the sub-committee chairs to give a brief report on their committees and any special announcements.

Electronic Media Sub Committee Henry B. – introduce the topic to promote the extended use of the forum which we created which is an excellent way to retain their anonymity while expressing their ideas on the topic presented. A lot of the information is pertaining to the conference. Would like to know what topics interest you.

Newsletter Committee Joe B. – Encourage newsletter articles please submit them. Encourage Spanish speaking committee to write which I will have translated. If you want to get your article in the current issues should be by the 25th of the month.

Cooperation with the Elder Community – Doug volunteered to stand for Area Committee chair

Cooperation with the Professional Community Bill G. Four people attended our meeting today. We are scheduling CPC Chair visits to the Districts to present PowerPoint. Need to obtain a projector. Chair inventoried all literature from previous Chair. Annie introduced herself as Finance liaison to CPC if we have any questions, need money. Our committee decided how to disburse our budget of \$1,050. Discussed where to bring CPC info to our area (Police, Doctor's office, Businesses, Legal) Goal is all CPC chairs to have a kit/workbook. Upcoming events: District 8 – 3rd Wednesday. District 6 2nd Tues. Action items: Chair to email inventory list to those who want it. Minutes to be emailed by Rozanne.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (Spanish) Martin G. We had a combined meeting with the PI committee to discuss important issues and to begin working together and the information that we

all shared was very interesting and we reached a consensus at the end. We had 22 members in attendance at this meeting. If anyone is interested in a CPC presentations we are glad to be of service. **Convention Liaison Bob D.** – Identified 6 conventions for participation: OC, San Bernardino, Victorville, Palm Springs, Riverside, and Indian Wells. We are still forming a committee. Cesar offered to get a Spanish speaking co-chair. Budget formed total estimate \$1,050 for hotel registration, room for one night, convention registration, meal per diem, and mileage. Estimate \$175 per participation. Dates for convention were identified. More volunteers needed. Materials for convention display are being gathered. Upcoming events: Sunshine of Spirit Victorville convention 3/12/10 – 3/14/10. Materials for tabletop committee, Area property to be determined.

Corrections Alex O. There were four in attendance of our meeting. GSO of New York update is Jim M. will be our Corrections Chair for the next two years. I went to H & I meeting in Long Beach. This is a report from Rich P: The Kern Valley State Prison panels are doing well in 2010. The prison officials are supportive of our existing meetings and even wanting to add more. The current list of cleared H & I members representing six of our Southern California committees is growing again which is great. If anybody wants to get involved to submit for clearance, see me for the chairperson contacts for Central Coast, Kern County, LA, Orange County, San Fernando Valley, and Ventura. District 9 invited me to their meeting which was a good experience. I hope this is not the last time. Let me know how I can help.

DCM School Terry S. 16 in attendance. Introductions were made and a short history of their service. Covered the pamphlet “Your DCM” in depth. We discussed group visitation strategies, how to attract and keep our GSRs, including enlisting sponsors to promote the joys of service. Bring conference agenda items to meeting visitation to promote discussion and enthusiasm. Hope to see everyone at PRAASA and the Four DCM sharing session.

Finance Jim B. Six in attendance. Finance Committee Liaisons to committees: volunteers selected several committees to serve. Work to update guidelines to mesh with new Area 9 bylaws is ongoing. Finance Committee approved changes to 2010 budget.

GSR School David B. Four in attendance. School started late and opened with Serenity Prayer. Expenditures: \$0. Special thanks to Scott R. Past GSR School Chair for attending today and offering his experience strength and hope. Upcoming events: GSR School to be held at next ASC in March. GSR School is available to travel to any District with sufficient notice.

GSR School Spanish Reynaldo Meeting was opened at 9am with the Serenity Prayer followed by the GSR Preamble. There were 7 new GSRs and 3 alternate GSRs. We told them they were welcome and we encouraged them to ask any questions. We also had guests from other committees. Thanks to all of them for sharing their experience with us. We had 21 GSRs in attendance and 5 guests for a total of 31. Thank you for the privilege of serving.

La Viña Mauricio Good afternoon everyone. Today our meeting focused on the work that the magazine requires. Taking into account the fact that it was our first meeting with, a new chair. There was a lot of good participation with questions and answers. Each attendee being highly interested and motivated to work, in each of our districts. I made up my own presentation with help from committee materials and a telephone conversation with the La desk in N.Y.. Thank you for the opportunity to remain active within this great program.

Literature Ernesto M. Five in attendance. Reviewed February workbook corrections. Possible consolidation of workbook and “What’s it all About” pamphlet together into single electronic based document. Suggestions to work more closely with electronic media/communications. Suggestions to have an easier to remember area website alias: serenitynow.org. Upcoming events: Next ASC, PRAAS with other Literature committees.

Literature Spanish Antonio M. We have discussed and analyzed the possibility of consolidating the workbook and the “What’s it all about pamphlet” into one single publication. This committee needs more feedback about how you people feel about this. So, please let us know what you think. I’d like to take the opportunity to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve and learn. It’s been wonderful experience and it’s time to rotate out.

Public Information Keith S 14 in attendance. We have received P.I. service items from the last panel. Handed out 50 information posters on “Can You Spot the Alcoholic”. If we get good reports back we will order more. They are available from GSO for \$1.00 each. These posters are a great Public Information tool that should be used by the Districts and posted in accordance with published P.I. guidelines. Each District in attendance discussed P.I. opportunities that they are finding and taking advantage of. Districts 24 and 17 are in the process of reviewing their guidelines; District 24 will bring a copy to our next meeting

to assist the others. Many questions were asked regarding P.I. Dos and Don'ts. Marcelo and Keith reminded the members that there are pamphlets and guidelines published by GSO that can answer our questions and help us get the word out. Upcoming Events: We will take a look at the Area guidelines regarding P.I. and discuss them at our next meeting. See you at the March 20 Pow Wow.

Public Information Spanish Marcelo C. The Spanish PI committee will do our best to work with the English-speaking committee to exchange information on how to work in English & Spanish speaking districts to improve the work of these committees. We want to bring information to churches, libraries, schools and English-speaking chair thinks it would be great to bring information to local radio and television stations. We will try to reach these media sources and stick to the committee guidelines. Districts that attended are 21, 24 and 7 to share information on how each one is working.

Registration Devon F. Seven in attendance. Discussed deadlines and process of group updates, lack of participation at District level, and change form submission procedures. Angel was appointed as Secretary. Next month: Registrars to share ideas for goals in 2010. We will find solutions to encourage participation and interest in service at the District level. Upcoming events: scheduling workshops at the District level. Group updates to be returned to Michael by 4/11/10.

Special Needs Scott R. – Nobody showed up. I was left with my head, a lonely place to be.

Treatment Facilities John O. – Talked with Cesar confirmed Pow Wow to define range and scope of Treatment Facilities Chair and responsibilities. Going to look up what information I can on AA.org as far as range and cope of the position. Upcoming events: Pow Wow at the Archives.

District Reports

District 1 45 – 50 in attendance. Sending six fully paid members and nine partial paid members. Briefed the District about hosting the Pre-Conference Workshop in April as Cesar discussed. We filled all open commitments except DCM for Lawndale/Gardena. Started a GSR School 7 – 7:30pm with Linda H. presiding.

District 2 15 in attendance. New business – Tentative planning of a conference sponsored event by District 2 of the History of AA for 75 year Anniversary. Promoting GSR participation in PRAASA by sponsoring their registration fees. Next meeting March 1, 2010.

District 5 31 in attendance. Jeryl Area 9 chair spoke at District meeting. Group Issue: What to do with a meeting that doesn't want to follow the traditions? What to do when a meeting in our District supports another District monetarily. Formed a subcommittee to review accuracy of District meetings and sub-district allocations DCM. Six people from District 5 plan to attend 4 Area DCM sharing session.

District 6 56 in attendance. General Service structure presentation by Nancy J. Discussed attendance to Area meetings. Discussed attendance to PRAASA in LA. Handed out 2010 workbooks. New GSR questions/comments; permanent agenda item for District 6. Mentioned International Convention in San Antonio TX. Upcoming events: Discussion on upcoming Regional Forum 2010. Tentative schedule in April for CPC Presentation.

District 7 Linda C. gave a presentation. We had three DCMs in attendance and elected two more. Five new GSRs, 44 registered GSRs. Discussed PRAASA. Upcoming Events: Discussion of a traditions play.

District 8 Last month we had 25 members in attendance. At present time District 8 does not have a formal budget and we are discussing not only the importance of a budget but also the importance of a prudent reserve. If you would like to share any experience you may have on this issue please feel free to contact me.

District 9 Started by report on Concept 2 by Nikki. Our District purchased Big Books, 12 x 12s, and literature racks for local libraries. After much discussion our District has elected to register 10 people and five rooms for PRAASA. Hope to see you all there. Mike L (DCM East) gave Archives forms to all GSRs to have groups fill out about their history. March Meeting will be Inactive due to PRAASA.

District 10 DCMC and Treasurer are registered and will be attending PRAASA. District 10 is looking forward to hosting the ASC in June. Upcoming events: No District events however events held within District are NOCCO hosting "Rockin' Soberfest" Sat. Feb. 20th. OCAAC – April 2 – 4 Hilton Hotel, Costa Mesa.

District 11 We are sending 10 people to PRAASA. Came to an agreement on our budget. Registrar & DCMC are preparing arrangement to visit meetings. We have a GSR School at 4:30 before our District meeting which is the first Sunday of every month at 5:30pm – 7pm. We have 13 GSRs on our service list.

All of our officer seats are filled and five of our committee seats are filled: Archives, GSR School, Treatment Facilities, CPS, and Convention Liaison. We are working on all others.

District 12 Meet 1st Thursday of the month we have six tables that seat eight and 17 is a full house. Four people in attendance. Hosting the Servathon in November. Submitted the Rent expense and Joseph provided the check to Milt.

District 14 Eight Present at District meeting. We are attempting to “grow” and get the service message out to groups with communication of what is happening in service in AA. Trying with enthusiasm and love to encourage groups to participate with GSRs at the Area level. We decided to send four people to PRAASA. Visitations to four groups have been made since the last Area meeting. Banning, Beaumont, Cabazon and Anza. Our funds stand at around \$460. Linda C. Panel 60 Delegate attending meeting on 17th. Getting to know members in neighboring Districts 7, 19, and 30.

District 15 16 members present including two new GSRs. We are in the early stages of planning an Archives workshop event for the District. The date will likely be in the Fall. We elected a Convention Liaison Chair, and are still in the process of filling other Chair positions.

District 17 18 in attendance. Filled Grapevine & CEC Chair positions. All Committee Chair positions filled. Looking forward to PRAASA. About 15 District members are attending. Ad Hoc committee to update District 17 guidelines.

District 18 Presentation from Past Delegate Nancy J. “Ask Me About the AA Service Structure.” We now have Committee Chairs for: Archives, Literature, PI, Grapevine. Open: CPC, Special Needs. We have DCMs for Women’s & Irvine Sub Districts. Costa Mesa, Men’s, and Alano Club Sub Districts are Open. All liaison positions are filled (H & I, Intergroup, and Young People). Ran out of time for old/new business. Upcoming event: Past Delegate Joe B. speaking in March “The General Service Conference”; fill open positions; fill committee positions; create ad hoc technology committee

District 19 Three in our District did our 1st of many group visitations. We were “OK’d” to speak at the Saturday Night Candlelight Meeting in Wrightwood. We were given 30 minutes to share about general Service opportunities and then the meeting formation reverted back to its open discussion. To my delight 95% of the share were on the rewards of service including the newbies anxious to step into roles not quite sober long enough. We are also collecting archives information from meetings.

District 20 We’d like to report, that we continued to visit the groups and encourage the members through our committees and that together we can carry the message to the alcoholic who doesn’t have this information. So, they know there is a place where they can stop drinking. We are also preparing for our intra-district meeting on Feb. 28th. At “Ampliation Group” located at: 1812 W. Edinger “B”, Santa Ana, CA. 92704, Ph..(714) 429-9679. Today’s attendance is 14 people.

District 21 We continue to visit 2 groups weekly, (Mondays and Thursdays); and every Wednesday of the month, 1-2-4 we have district meetings; GRS – from the 18th. thru 25th.; we are encouraging the GSRs and the groups to attend PRAASA and also to the Regional Forum. In January, we elected a new Archives chair and we will keep working. Total attendance is 10.

District 22 Visiting 2 groups weekly; We meet on Tuesdays in the Intergroup Office club We are encouraging the groups to send their representative. We have in the 21 groups, in the Coachella Valley and 13 active GSRs . We are encouraging the groups to attend PRAASA and some of the interested members have already made hotel reservations. We are working with much enthusiasm, and are very welcome at the groups. March 14, district 22 is hosting the next area assembly and we have everything ready. Upcoming events: Area Assembly – March 14, Ave. 30 in Cathedral City, 69-300 James Workman School, Cathedral City, CA.

District 23 In this district, over the years, the past trusted servants, have left a Legacy of Service for the new reps. and today we are grateful to share their experience. I say that because from the past until now we have encouraged the AAs of this district to attend praasa and to have the experience of what PRAASA is. We have reserved 4 – rooms for the AAs of district 23. With encourage Unity and the 7th. Tradition so that we can put aside a prudent reserve through out the year for this event. This has worked very well ‘til now. Thank you, for your attention. District 23 DCMC Manuel

District 24 Ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon, to you all. Before I give you my report, I would like to wish everyone of you a Happy Valentine’s Day. Today I communicate to all of you, that district 24 is working with all of the groups, visiting and promoting this magnificent event of PRAASA. We also took back the information that the Delegate gave us at the past assembly. Especially to those groups that have no GSR and we have invited to elect their GSR. And also to let you know that our district will be co-hosting the local foro along with district 03. I think at our next meeting we’ll select the committee so plan

this event. I want let you know that our PI and CPC committees will be working together with panel 60 for the first time. This is all for now and I thank you very much, for your attention, and God bless you! Thank you for letting me be of service!!!

District 25 We are still visiting the groups, we visit 2 groups per week, and meet 4 times a month the first four Mondays, at 7:00pm – 9:00pm. We also attend to all invitations from the groups, we continue to promote General Service and try to cover the service positions that are vacant in the district, we have 2-committees for La Viña and Audio-Visual Projections. All is good in general; the district is working in Unity. I would like to let you know of our new location, our new address is 222 E. Highland Ave., Suite 7, San Bernardino, CA. 92404. This is all for the moment. Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving.

District 30 Introduced new District Officers. Tony M. DCMC, Brian F. Secretary, Joe J. Treasurer, Matthew P. Registrar, Becky J. Guidelines Chair. Welcomed new GSRs, attendance has jumped from three to 11. A motion was passed to make copies of Area 9 2010 Workbook. A motion was passed to fun DCMC to attend PRAASA, GSRs were encouraged to attend. Upcoming events: Discussed group visitations, finalized introductions letter to groups.

Birthdays: Linda C. – 30, Terry – 11, Roberto – 12, Jeryl – 17, Teresita O.- 5 , Willy 26, Martin – 29, Shep - 9

Announcements

- Four Area DCM sharing session next Saturday Feb. 21 in La Verne. 9am program begins at 10am.
- Hospitality Suite at International convention Pacific Regional forum is hosting and we will have sign ups.
- Archives can use help with sorting. Some groups have started carpooling and driving to the Archives to help.

Recap of Actions

Created Ad Hoc Committee to look over the By-Laws.

MOTIONS:

THE ASC ADJOURNED at 308pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Panel 60 Secretary –Sharon K.