

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

Meeting was called to order by Jeryl T. at 12:24pm with the Serenity Prayer

**Readings:** Declaration of Unity: John W./Elizabeth 3<sup>rd</sup> Tradition Brian P./Wilfredo A.S.C. Statement of Purpose and Membership: Elsworth/Paco Concept 3: Judy J./Bartolo GSR Preamble Gary L./Rigo

**Approval of 2010 February Area Service Committee minutes** Motion/2<sup>nd</sup> – Steve S. /Doug S.

**Officers Reports (following reports are written reports):**

**Delegate Linda C.** - Pre Conference Workshop: She gave out Conference Background Material group response sheets to DCMs and DCMCs for distribution to groups for feedback and reminded everyone to please come to the Pre-Conference Workshop on April

International Convention in San Antonio, July 2010: She announced that as of the end of January there were over 33,000 people registered for the International Convention and there will be several thousand more. The Pacific Regional Hospitality Suite will give out stickers that say, ***“I’ve been hugged by the Pacific Region!”*** Keith S, our hosting coordinator, will help with coordinating the time slots at the hospitality suite.

Opening for a nontrustee appointed committee member for the Trustees’ committee on Public Information: She gave information on the qualifications and invited people who have the time and the qualifications to apply.

Articles for MSCA newsletter and La Vina: She asked that Spanish speaking members, especially, contribute articles about their experience.

PRAASA: She said it was her 25<sup>th</sup> PRAASA and the best yet. The hosting Area (05) had the largest attendance (355) and MSCA 09 had the next (264). She thanked all who participated and helped make it a success. See you in Hawaii next year!  
She reported a list of things she heard at PRAASA, which included

*“If it’s not inconvenient, it doesn’t have spiritual value.”*

*“I like how I’m turning out.” “I have lots of character defects, and I’m convinced you will be intrigued by them.”*

*“Instant gratification takes way too long.” “A knee-jerk reaction may take three years in AA—a well-reasoned decision may take decades.” “August is a good time to come in to AA because you will stick to the seat.” “The Spirit of Service is born out of a grateful heart.”*

**Alternate Delegate Cesar F.** – Spoke about PRAASA and meeting 15 other Alternate Delegates. Talked about the POW WOW March 20 and Pre-Conference Workshop on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of April. District 1 at West High School in Torrance. Attended District 1, 25, 21, and 20 and last area officers meeting.

**Treasurer Joseph M.** - End of February cash in checking account \$5,298. Prudent reserve \$4,832 for a total \$11,505. Balance at meeting is \$843. Please ask the groups in your District to use either the GSO number or the X number. A valid return address is extremely helpful.

**Registrar Michael M.** –The Registrar reported that a motion to eliminate the following words ‘...in their respective capacities.’ from section 4.3 of the Mid-southern California Area 09 Bylaws, was submitted by the Bylaws Ad Hoc committee, to the Officers/Board of Directors and at the March 14 Area meeting. The Registrar also reported that she participated in roundtables for Registration and Archives, and in the Saturday evening discussion regarding predators in AA at the 2010 PRAASA. All discussions were enlightening and lively. The Registrar also reported to have volunteered at the Registration Desk for PRAASA on Friday morning. The Registrar visited Districts 1, 7, 11 and 12 and reported that District meeting information in the form of DVDs were distributed to all of the districts. The Districts will return the meeting information to the Registrar by April 20, 2010, for input into the GSO FNV database so GSO is able to update the Western Directory with accurate contact information. The Registrar continues to update the Area Visitation Schedule for the Delegate and other officers.

**Secretary Sharon K.** – Had the privilege of attending my 2<sup>nd</sup> PRAASA where I attended the Secretary Roundtable, GSR Roundtable, and late night predator discussion. I thoroughly enjoyed PRAASA this year. Also, I had the privilege of being invited by District 1 to attend their meeting. What a joy. It's always nice to meet new people. I will be attending the TRICYPAA elections next Sunday and the Pow Wow at the Archives next Saturday. For those of you that need forms, I have them up here for your report thank you.

**Chair Jeryl T.** – My report this month is simple. I am just grateful for the living sacrifice all of you have made of your lives by becoming a part of the Service structure of AA. I am moved by the countless alcoholics and non-alcoholics whose lives are being spared the countless years of misery and aloneness while being marooned on the island of despair engulfed by alcoholism. All of you here and in Service, help make that possible. I was at PRAASA last week, and while I sat listening to one of the panels, it came to me that the 1500 or so members in the room at the time were not always as I was seeing them right then. All of us were at some time and to some degree were really, really messed up. In fact everyone whose lives touched ours was also messed up. So I could only see the devastation that was going on at any given moment. But because of AA and the Service Structure therein, all of the people in the room were there for one reason; to learn how to better serve AA and the members of our Society. And I cried for what God had done in all of those lives in that room that day. Especially, for what he had done for me. While there, I missed the presence of two people who were very instrumental in my desire to better serve AA through General Service: Mary Ann M. and Bill M. Mary was my DCMC in District 6 and Bill was a Black medical professional I met in Alaska, who explained why it was important for me to continue work for all people of AA. I wore his button and carried her bag with me for the convention. While there I was informed of the passing of another tireless servant of AA, Jack R., who joined in my grief for another good friend, Jim K., who died two weeks before. Immediately upon my arrival home, I was made aware of the passing of one of the "TRICYPAA Young People's" trusted servants, quickly followed by Jason S. expiration. What a week. As I reflect on the lives of these people, trusted servants, children of God's, I can only be grateful for the sacrifice each one has made for AA and the alcoholic that still suffers, and also the impact each has had on my life. It is not in their death that I am saddened; it is in their lives that I am awed. How they died is still irrelevant in the face of how they lived. So, with this Panel 09 60, with the funny buttons, I am grateful that we get to live to serve AA and God and get to die to self. In the coming months, there will be talk of the "Predators of AA," discussion regarding translation of background information to French and Spanish, plans for "Tradition Plays" and Group Inventory. We will continue to grow in our understanding and effectiveness. We will continue to live to serve and serve to live. And we will still live the pledge..."I am responsible..."

### **Old Business**

Motion that the Area Assembly approve to let the 2010 Pacific regional Forum Host Contact Committee use the Area's Translation Equipment for possible use at the Regional Forum in August. August 27 – 29, 2010. Bruce/Marita motion/2<sup>nd</sup>. Dave presented a question if it is committed to anyone during that time frame. Jesus mentioned no. Jeryl asked how many will benefit. About 750 – 1000 possible attendees.

ByLaw Ad Hoc Committee will continue to identify and suggest possible reconciliation of differences between Area Guidelines and Area By Laws.

### **New Business**

1. Motion by ad hoc committee to bring to May Assembly to vote to modify Area Bylaws section 4.3.to remove the portion of the phrase "in their respective capacities". Steve/Bob motion carries. Linda and Bruce spoke to minority.

Annie/Ernesto motioned to table until next ASC in June. Motion denied. 33 – 32

Discussion: Pete – needs to go through two ASC before it goes to the Assembly. Don mentioned the information should be in written format to take to the district and groups. Bill asked that we make sure to follow protocol and have it in written format. Alex mentioned this is an Area issue not a group issue.. David asked is there anything that says we require it should be in writing. Sean if this goes to the

Assembly will we be able to provide background information to our District? Yes the archived agenda and minutes.

### ***Standing Committee Reports***

**Archives Joseph H.** 8 in attendance. Approval of Archives Feb. 2010 meeting minutes. Report from Archives Treasurer of Archives 1<sup>st</sup> quarter expenditures. Updating group history forms (English & Spanish) to Area webmaster. Finalization on preparing for the 2010 Archives open house on March 21, 2010. Upcoming events are MSCA Pow Wow (Mar. 20), Movie Night (Mar. 20), Open House (Mar. 21), AA Home Group Movie Night (Mar. 27), Inland Empire Round Up (April 10), Spanish Convention in the Inland Empire (April 23 – 24), H & I Conference (April 30 – May 2)

**Communications Jesus O.** 10 present. Had a good time at PRAASA and attended a few round tables including GSR, website, and translation. The ACC will produce a form with a list of items needed to update your pages in the Area website and will soon have copies available for you. I want to apologize for any mistakes or miscommunication in your requests. I'm still learning what my commitment entails. Please bear with us. We will provide the translation equipment and interpreter for both the Pow Wow and the Archives Open House next weekend. Henry B. informed us that he needs to step down from his commitment as EMSC chair but will remain active within the committee to help train or advise. So we are looking for anyone who would like to take that commitment and our Translation Committee is also available for anyone interested. Please let us or anyone in the ACC know.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community Bill G.** Approximately 14 present. Two requests for CPC to attend events: Calif. Psychiatric Association 10/8 – 10/10 and Health Fair for seniors. Chair encouraged all committee members to get a CPC workbook and use it as a reference for contact professionals. (Judges, courts, etc.) Discussed how to get people to join CPC committee. Don't confuse them, tell them the truth, show excitement/enthusiasm visit groups. Relationship and PI and how to with them in the future. Schedule for CPC co-chairs to visit districts. Budget – Finance Liaison offered info. Can the Grapevine be given to professionals? Sparked a discussion in what literature to give professionals. Suggestions for the future: What about having a huge meeting for professionals hosted by several districts together? Give a presentation to the Area committee members so they know how to give the presentation to professionals.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community (Spanish) Martin G.** We had our monthly meeting today and between guests and area we had 14 in attendance. We had a lot of enthusiasm from everyone that was there. District 21 invited us to participate with them on March 24th to give them some more information about our committee and we're planning to be there. This and all invitations to carry the message are welcome. We are also open to any comments that you may have to help us do a better job..

**Convention Liaison Bob D.** – 3 present. Committee still forming, 3 "Westside", 2 "Eastside". Bilingual persons. Literature picked up Joshua Tree. Orange County Convention 4/2 – 4/4 is covered. March 12 - 14 convention in Victorville TBD for next year. Literature needs work. All is in my garage in Garden Grove. Need to replenish and have Eastside and Westside package. Budget and Costs TBD. Convention contacts are important and TBD. Upcoming events – OC AA Convention 4/2 – 4/4. Riverside, San Bernardino, Pow Wow Indian Wels, Palm, Springs, Indio.

**DCM School Terry S.** 12 present including two Spanish speaking members. Reviewed minutes of DCM/DCMC roundtable at PRAASA. Discussed the importance of pre-conference workshop Sun. 4/11 in Torrance. We covered DCM visitations: who to see, what to cover, the yellow envelope packets (which includes the small yellow card with the GSO Group ID# that Joseph referred to). We need the 3<sup>rd</sup> concept article in the current newsletter – great pitch to meeting without GSRs.

**Finance Jim B.** 8 present. Working on inventory of Area equipment. Working with committees on budgets. Upcoming events – May meeting.

**Grapevine Doug M.** 8 present. Judy J. was elected as our new Grapevine Area 9 Alternate Chair. Talked about Grapevine published in big print for vision impaired. We asked Linda C. our new MSCA Delegate about this possibility. Her response was she didn't think there was a large printed Grapevine for weak eyes. Another topic for our consideration was "Does La Vina translate English Grapevine stories into Spanish reading stories or vice versa. Suggestions were talk about how to improve display material to have updated Grapevine showcase. Upcoming events 8/27-29 Pacific Regional Forum Torrance, CA. Pre-Conference Workshop Apr. 11.

**GSR School David B.** 11 present. There were expenses this month of \$12.09 for literature. We read from the pamphlet "GSR may be the most important job in AA". We discussed the role of the GSR as the link between the group and AA as a whole. We talked about why the groups should reimburse GSR for legitimate expenses as group expenses. We also discussed the value of having a service sponsor and the role of the GSR as guardian of the Traditions.

**GSR School Spanish Reynaldo** The meeting started at 9:15am with the Serenity Prayer. Followed by the Preamble The GSR Preamble and we read the service legacy by co-founder Bill W. We talked about the Pre-Conference workshop and spoke about the GSR duties and responsibilities. We encouraged them to attend. We shared about our experience at PRAASA how we all like the event. We encouraged gsr's to get involved in their districts and work together. I had the opportunity to attend PRAASA by the grace of God and I was very happy I did. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

**La Viña Mauricio** : Good morning everyone: first of all I'd like to thank the area for giving me the privilege of submitting my name to the PRAASA Committee. Since I had the opportunity to speak on the subject of La Viña and the Grapevine in this great event. I'm happy to report that I had the opportunity to meet the new La Viña editor and I participated in the two roundtables concerning La Viña. There seemed to be a consensus that we need to work in unity with other areas so that our magazine reaches its desired purpose .. Today, in our meeting I spoke to committee chairs, RLV's, GSR's about the topics discussed in the two roundtables at PRAASA. So we exchanged information and questions about this. Finally, I'm happy to say that I received my La Viña Chair package from NY. That's all for today. I had an attendance of 30 people at the meeting.

**Literature Ernesto M.** The Committee chair met with Kristen from the Finance Committee, Reviewed current spending vs. budget (25%) mostly mileage. No overrides anticipated at this point. No interest or demand from Area to resurrect a display (the old one is battered and obsolete and needs to be thrown-out). Attendees (3) Area Service Representative, District 30 DCMC, Past Delegate. Began the formal review process of both Workbook and WIAA pamphlet to determine what specific redundancies are in both. Also, discussed how best to release the Workbook each year. Perhaps we shouldn't make hard copies until February yet make the workbook available for printing via disk for each district in January (for review and corrections). This is a savings of about \$150.00 since the workbook still stands to be corrected each year and particularly each new panel year. Each member without a computer or printer will still receive a hard copy. There will be no changes unless Area approves, members should not worry, and we are just doing our job, particularly since we need to look at ways of saving the area money.

**Literature Spanish Antonio M.**

**Public Information (Spanish & English) Keith S.** 10 present. One member had feedback on the young people's posters we distributed last month. School counselors have been receptive and District 14 has been distributing these posters. District 14 is ordering 50 posters. We reviewed the committee guidelines. No takers for Alt. Chair and Secretary. District 20 was given a flyer for Cesar Chavez Festival that has spots for health and community info tables. District 20 will also be discussing whether or not to staff an event in May that has a \$60 fee. The Area committee agreed the fee is not a tradition break and will help District 20 with materials if they decide to attend the event. District 9 has been active in supplying libraries with books and is pursuing speaking at schools. District 14 & 17 have been co-operating on an alcohol awareness two day program at a school in Anza. They will have an info place on day 2 of the program. We had a brief discussion on the conference agenda item regarding full faces of actors in PSA's. No conclusion reached, nor sought. Upcoming events: PI workshop in September with the ultimate goal of a workshop for those outside AA to come and get information and education on what AA is and isn't, within two years. We will have our next meeting at the Pow Wow at the Archives.

**Registration Devon F.** 8 present. We resumed our ongoing discussion about increasing service participation at District level. We will be reaching out to all Districts regarding a registration workshop. We discussed developing a software program for all Area 9 registrars to use for group changes/new groups. Discussed creating a service video. Upcoming events: June 5 – District 2 hosting a "service" event for more details see Revo. We are inviting Spanish speaking Districts to attend and will have translations services available.

**Special Needs Scott R.** – we had seven members at the meeting and changing the direction of special needs and attempting to carry the message to all districts so we can do what bill and bob did initially in finding people who need help. We have a lot of good ideas and if anyone has any ideas or some sort of input let us know.

## **Coordinate Committee Reports**

**North Orange County Central Office** – NOCCO Board studying World Service guidelines for Central Offices to see if local bylaws need to be revised to more closely dovetail. NOCCO newsletter ("Anonymous Times") is in the process of reviewing its guidelines for content and standards to reflect World Service guidelines and newsletters of other Central Offices in the area. Upcoming events: Miracles Happen AA Convention 4/30 – 5/2. [www.miracleshappen.org](http://www.miracleshappen.org)  
**H & I** – **H & I conference fundraiser spaghetti dinner March 20<sup>th</sup>**. **Registration for conference needs your help.**

## **District Reports**

**District 1** 50 plus GSRs showed up (some new who attended GSR Orientation). Discussed pre-conference workshop budget, electing Archives. Had three guests – Cesar F. Alternate Delegate, Michael M. Registrar, and Sharon K. Secretary from Area 9. With the hopes of insighting a light in our GSRs for service we sent 16 people to PRAASA plus 5+ who self paid. We are excited about the feedback which we tabled for next month. Upcoming events Pre-Conference Workshop and PRAASA.

**District 2** 13 present. Continue to promote GSR participation. PRAASA report for members not attending will be presented with a page of items discussed in agenda and different presentations. Start planning a field trip to next Assembly of GSRs wanting to participate in a group trip sponsored and financed by the District. Upcoming events: The social reception of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration set for the 5<sup>th</sup> of June – 10; at 13234 E. 166<sup>th</sup> St. in Cerritos starting at 4pm. Sponsored by District 2 and all free to the fellowship wanting to attend. (coffee and snacks) 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition will be observed.

**District 5** Five people at PRAASA. Two today. Lost a DCM to Long Beach. We have 25 or 30 regularly. Most meetings go well.

**District 6** approx. 60 present, 9 new GSRs. Discussed going to PRAASA, Roundtables, service needs of the meetings. New GSR's questions/comments section. Pointed out upcoming events: Area meetings, Pow-Wow, and Regional Forum and International Convention in San Antonio, TX. Listing of AA websites was also noted. Registration package given to Registrar for update. Still need chair for CEC and PI. Upcoming events: Roundtables – pre-conference agenda items. \* CPC presentation and an area report. Attendance to the Pre-conference workshops and PRAASA reports.

**District 7** 26 present. Michael M. talked on Registration. 4 new GSRs. Upcoming events – Traditions play.

**District 8** 10 members of District 8 attended PRAASA. At our business meeting our attendance has been steady at about 25. We passed a motion to set aside \$250 for prudent reserve. The district passed a motion to purchase a printer and set the amount not to exceed \$150.00. We are having a practice roundtable session at our next business meeting.

**District 9** Five present. Our District was inactive in March due to PRAASA. We had eight members from our District there. Once again I am re-energized and grateful to have been able to attend PRAASA. I always learn something new and a lot of the same old, same old. One thing is for sure, I am confident I am right where I am supposed to be.

**District 10** DCMC and Treasurer attended PRAASA. Upcoming events OC AA Convention 4/2 – 4/4 and ASC hosted by District 10 Sunday, June 13.

**District 11** Our District meeting was the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of March and we discussed PRAASA and the importance of GSR's attending for their groups or they left decisions up to District officers who serve District not individual groups to make decisions for them. 5 GSRs who didn't attend PRAASA. PRAASA was attended by all District officers and 9 GSRs. Area Registrar gave report to District and working on Western Directory.

**District 14** 19 present. Visit with posters to Idyllwild School of Arts. Received a visit from Delegate to share her experience on General Service. Linda was a great attraction to our meeting and together with her fervor for General Service has left some people motivated. PRAASA was another wonderful event and three of us attended. Some of the things we got on this weekend were enthusiasm in AA of some in service and that many Districts and Areas have got bigger hills to climb than ours. This has led to us getting more organized at the District with a budget being put together. Upcoming events: march 31 a talk at a High School in Anza.

**District 15** 16 present. 6 of us from our District attended PRAASA. Elected a PI chair, Intergroup Liaison, and next month may have a new H & I Chair. Our Archivist will contact Archives to set up a District field trip to donate a few hours of our time. Myself and our sole DCM attended the 4 Area DCM sharing session and learned a lot. Upcoming event: Hosting May Assembly – location to be locked in this week. Still working on a workshop to be held in the fall.

**District 17** 15 present. 12 attended PRAASA with two Al-Anon spouses. Upcoming events planning District event May 8.

**District 19** Continuing with group visitations discussing service opportunities through General Service. We are continuing to collect group information and their histories for the Archives. Newly formed HIDYPAA (High Desert Young People in AA) group in Hesperia, CA (Young @ Heart Group) had approximately 20 in attendance each week with participation visitation from young people from Antelope Valley and Riverside area (TRICYPAA). Upcoming events: Planning of a District service event June 19 in Hesperia with participation from our Delegate, Linda C. called "From Young People to the Young at Heart". A message of recovery to all, through service in Alcoholics Anonymous.

**District 20** We want to report that we are still meeting as usual and thanking the groups for encouraging members to get involved in Service outside the group. We currently have 23 groups, most of them represented by the gsr's at the District. Thanks to that, we had the opportunity to host the Interdistrict Meeting at one of our group locations on February 28 and was attended by about 75 people. About 14 of us attended PRAASA and was very encouraging to hear other alcoholics share on AA service. That is all for now and thank you for the opportunity to give my report.

**District 21:** We visit two groups every week on Mondays and Thursdays. Our District Meetings are the first, second and fourth Wednesday of the month. There was a change in the Public Information Committee, Manuel C. gave up the commitment and Jose attendance to the Pacific Regional Forum. We have 38 registered groups and there was an attendance of 24 of us to PRAASA.

**District 22:** We are having our business and book study meeting every Tuesday and we visit groups on Mondays and Thursdays. We are fulfilling our speaking engagements for the groups and everything is going well. We will be sending letters to all groups without a gsr to encourage them to elect a gsr in their next business meeting. Last week, our district decided to terminate the local PI committee for lack of attendance and willingness to serve. We are encouraging the GSR's and district members to organize a new committee.

**District 23:** Good afternoon everyone, we at District 23 want to let you that we continue to encourage Service at the groups and to keep them inform regarding current events of AA as a whole. Also to let you know that we had 13 members attend Praasa from our district and were all very happy and packing our bags for the next one in Hawaii. We know that service work is not easy at times but we can happily do it together. Let's keep trudgin'! Thank you for your attention. Respectfully District 23

**District 24:** Good afternoon everyone. Our group visitation is twice a week and we keep them informed about the agenda items for the conference. We also encourage the members to give us feedback or suggestions through their GSR's. We are promoting the Local Area Foro and the Regional Forum for members to participate in the experience and get involved in service. In addition, we are happy to report that we have elected the 19th Area Foro planning committee and the chair is our past DCMC Eloy and his alternate is Rafael current alternate DCMC of ditrict 24. That is all for now, thanks for your kind attention and thank you for allowing me to serve. God bless you and happy 24 hours.

**District 25:** Hello from District 25. We continue to work as usual, we have our business meetings the first four Mondays of each of the month. 10 of us attended PRAASA. We visit 2 groups every week to encourage service. We have 18 groups in the district. Highlights this months are the fact we are now meeting at a new location and we are sharing the space with the San Bernardino intergroup office. The address is: 222 E. Highland Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92404

**District 30** Six present. Handed out 2010 workbook and the pamphlet "What's it all about". Had discussion on both and encouraged everyone to read through and bring back any questions they might have. Started discussion on future events. Asked GSRs to ask their groups what they would like to do. Encouraged GSRs to attend PRAASA as it was so close this year. Upcoming event : District 30 meeting March 21.

**Birthdays:** Julio – 3, Bill – 37, Karen – 26, Joseph – 19, Keith – 6, Ernesto – 25, John – 15, Melody – 10, Leandro – 15.

## **Announcements**

Open House Archives 9is – Jay S. from Redondo Beach talking about the History leading up to formation of AA and Oxford Group. For those Districts or groups looking for a field trip come on down every Saturday and appreciate any help. Website is [www.msca09aa.org](http://www.msca09aa.org) under Archives committee. 7111 Arlington Suite B 92503.

Four Area DCM sharing went well. We had about 30 – 35 from our area.

Hospitality Suite in San Antonio and have five shifts for two hours each. Would like more names from our area.

Group Saddleback/El Toro March 20 – 1pm – 10pm is having anniversary held at 24442 Moulton Pkwy Laguna Woods. We have maps.

You can go to [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) to register for the Pacific Regional Forum. There is no registration fee.

## **Recap of Actions**

### **MOTIONS:**

Motion that the Area Assembly approve to let the 2010 Pacific regional Forum Host Contact Committee possibly use the Area's Translation Equipment for possible use at the Regional Forum in August. August 27 – 29, 2010. Bruce/Marita motion/2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

Motion by ad hoc committee to bring to May Assembly to vote to modify Area Bylaws section 4.3. to remove the portion of the phrase "in their respective capacities". Steve/Bob motion carries.

Annie/Ernesto motioned to table until next ASC in June. Motion denied. 33 – 32.

THE ASC ADJOURNED at 3:15pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Panel 60 Secretary –Sharon K.