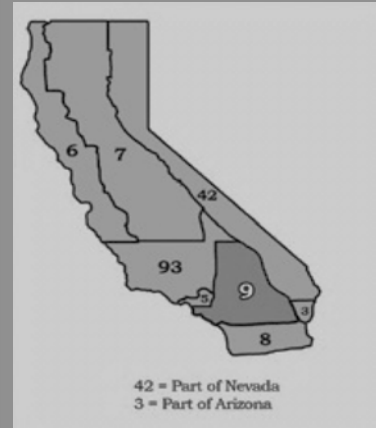


Mid-Southern California Area 09 Newsletter

Mid-Southern California Area 09 includes approximately 2,000 A.A. Groups in the counties of Los Angeles (south of Rosecrans), San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange



DELEGATE'S CORNER

The 63rd General Service Conference was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Times Square, New York between April 21st and April 27th, 2013. 93 Delegates grouped with 21 Trustees and 19 GSO staff personnel combined to form the Conference. This was an absolutely spiritual experience for me in that I got to participate in so much and so many activities where God was and the remnants of Spirit, that the man who left here on April 18th is not the man who came home on April 28th.

This past Thursday night about 11:30, I was talking to one of the Committee people from a District in the Inland Empire, and she asked me, "OK, tell me...What was the most spiritual moment at the Conference? What was your most Spiritual memory of all?"

I pondered for a few seconds and made the mistake of opening my mouth to answer. Well, the flight's anticipation on the way there. No, spending time with my son and his brother. No, was it the historic sites, inventory, the overrun of "The Plan," La Vina!?!? She said, just tell me at the share back. So I spent the next 12 hours trying to figure it out. Until it all made perfect sense. I can tell you my most spiritual moment, because I know exactly when it was. I'll tell you later!!

Continued on page 2

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

(more on page 7)

June 9—Sunday

Area Service Committee (ASC)

Elks Lodge

6501 Elk Trail Dr., 29 Palms

Hosted by District 30

--

July 14—Sunday

Foro

(Spanish-speaking with simultaneous English Interpretation)

1371 Eubank Ave.

Wilmington, CA 90744

Hosted by District 21 and 3

--

August 11—Sunday

Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting

Hesperia Unified School District

15576 Main St

Hesperia, CA 92345

Hosted by District 19

***Where's Jeryl?
Check page 5....***



7111 Arlington Ave., Suite B
 Riverside
 (951) 785-0845
 (Next to the Airport in the Riverside Air Park)

Show Time: Doors open at 7:00
 The movie starts at 7:30.
 Stay after the show and tour the Archives

+ Cartoon

Cost: Free!

Bring your lawn chairs or chaise longue and enjoy classic Hollywood movies about AA in our own unique theater. Refreshments available.

Come Back Little Sheba (1952)	Sat., Jun 15
<i>Flight (2012) (R-Rated) special screening</i>	Sat., Jun 22
Days of Wine and Roses (1962)	Sat., Jul 20
When a Man Loves a Woman (1994)	Sat., Aug 17



Delegate's Corner—continued from page 1

The most spiritual moment I thought, was speaking at the Opening Banquet, and talking about the 12th concept (page 72 of the Service Manual) where it says, "*Freedom under God, to grow in His image and likeness shall ever be the quest of the Alcoholics Anonymous.*"

But then, I remembered the visit to AA's historic spots as one of the most spiritual events I participated in. Just to see and feel the history that I have studied so much over the past twenty years brought it all to life in a way I had never experienced.

Another incredible moment came when I first arrived in New York, with my wife, Rozanne in tow, we shared a cab with Juan, delegate from L.A., and battled rush hour traffic to get to our hotel in Manhattan. Waiting in the lobby for us was my son, Dan, and his brother who's life I was in when he was very young, but hadn't seen for 25 years. We went to a baseball game that featured my most hated team (I am a Dodger/Angel fan), The NY Yankees. We left in the 11th inning of a 2-2 tie. I don't know who won the game, and never want to know because that would make it about the game and not the hours I spent with my family. But still not the most spiritual...

Being a speaker at the opening banquet was without a doubt, one of the most spiritual moments of my life. I had no idea the impact that could have on a Conference or my presence at the Conference. Such an honor that I will never get to experience again. Unscripted, no confines, just God doing His thing through me, I got to address the Conference and guest in total 300 people with my experience, strength and hope.

Probably, even more spiritual was making the motion to not consider the Trustee's Plan as a floor motion. With all the time I had spent studying, researching, configuring and dismantling the plan, to be the one who made it to the mic first...

The Spiritual pamphlet that was recommended by the committee but was voted to be re submitted to the Trustees committee for further processing. It probably could have been forwarded, but fear and doubt permeated the Conference. Yeah, that was probably the most spiritual experience in that we were talking about a spiritual pamphlet which contained stories about atheist and agnostics, and I quoted that 12th Concept again.

Continued on page 3



Delegate's Corner – continued from page 2

I was vehemently against this pamphlet when it was first proposed. But as I quoted the other night, "*Freedom to grow in the likeness and image of God shall ever be the quest of the Alcoholics Anonymous. May our General Service Conference be always seen as a chief symbol of this cherished liberty.*" I said, "Who are we to determine how someone sees God. We are the Conference and it is our duty to allow every Alcoholic to grow in the image of the God of his or her choice. We have to pass this pamphlet."

NO, that still wasn't the most spiritual moment of my conference. I went to another game after the Conference ended, and took Juan, the guy I started this experience with, to his first ever stadium game, and Yankee Stadium to be exact. While I was sitting in the stands, basking in the glow of the total experience, I suddenly noticed all the buildings in the neighborhood, and realized how old they all looked. Realizing I was at Yankee Stadium, I thought about its history and glory. People used to peer out of their windows to catch a glimpse of Babe Ruth right in this same spot. Cheering this icon and his exploits on and off the field. In 1935, he was the greatest thing happening in New York City. The exact same moment that he was glamorizing his lifestyle, an unknown stockbroker on the other side of town was sobering up drunks and trying to learn how to give of himself that others may live. That moment, I must say, was the most spiritual moment of my conference because I knew why I was there and how I got there...God.

May the General Service Conference be always seen as a chief symbol of this cherished liberty.

To a man, we of A.A. believe that our freedom to serve is truly the freedom by which we live - - the freedom in which we have our being. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Thank you for allowing me to be, "AVAILABLE!"

Results of Topics Discussed at our Pre Conference Workshop:

- *No index in the big book*
- *Spirit of Rotation passed*
- *Resubmitted the spiritual pamphlet*
- *The plan didn't come out of committee*
- *Blue card was denied*
- *Commemorative version of the Big Book (English only) will happen*
- *No Facebook*
- *La Viña to stay the same*
- *Trustees rotating out: Don M, Don M, Rogelio Flores, El N, Ward Ewing, Pam Rising and George M.*
- *The "None Left Behind" saga was left on the table.*
- *The dust cover of the Big Book shall remain as is.*
- *The Blue Card will not reflect that non- alcoholics may attend open meetings as observers.*
- *The Spirituality Pamphlet that has been in development for at least 4 years now, was recommended by the committee to move forward. After much loving discussion, it was recommended by the Conference to be re-committed to the Trustees for additional discussion and brought back to the 2014 Conference for discussion. (It was one of the most beautiful pieces I have read in AA in a long time. I felt it was tasteful, and wasn't one sided. I believe those fears and doubt got the best of us. I hope next year we can push through and allow all alcoholics to feel a part of our program.) note: **my personal opinion***
- *We wanted all to know we believe the 11th Tradition covers all forms of social media now, and to be developed in the future when it read, "...at the level of press, radio and films."*
- *PI recommended, and we all agreed, to permit AAWS to utilize digital channels and current support and distribution technologies for the sale and distribution of digital AA literature.*
- *NO FACEBOOK!*
- *The Plan didn't make it out of Committee.*

22nd Annual
Area 9 MSCA "FORO"

Hosted by Districts 3 & 21

July 14 2013

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

1371 N. Eubank Ave.
Wilmington CA 90744

Speakers and Roundtable Discussions

**In Spanish with simultaneous
translation into English**

WE WILL BE SERVING LUNCH

**All Spanish and English
speaking districts from
Area 9 will be invited
to participate.**

**Along with Areas 5, 8,
42 & 93. Make sure you
come and help us make
this years "FORO"
a success !**

INFO - CALL OR TEXT OSCAR AT (562) 826-9488 -

Why Do We Need a Conference?

The late Bernard B. Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairperson of the board of trustees, and one of the architects of the Conference structure, answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting:

"We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life.

Continued on page 5

Attention:

Secretaries and Treasurers:

This is about supporting AA through our own contribution. In most of our meetings we mention that "the money collected will pay for our rent, coffee, literature, etc." We do not mention, and most importantly, most of our secretaries and treasurer do not know that the collected money should also be used to support our entities which are: Our Central Office, District, H & I, Area and General Service Board in New York. There is a lot of work to be done, especially in this digital age. I am amazed how competently our entities are able to perform. Yet, there is need for a lot more support. Please be advised that part of our group donation, irrespective of the amount, should be assigned to support our entities. I could not believe a crowded meeting that I attended around the time that AA turned 75 years old. The meeting spent \$240 for cake, drinks and other refreshment to celebrate. It was great to celebrate, but we did not need to spend that much of money for that purpose while we could assign that money to support our entities to keep AA going as strong. Later on, I found out that that particular meeting never donated any money to our entities. They did not know that they should do that. That is why I am writing this: to bring awareness to all the groups. So, by writing this, I would like to ask all the secretaries and treasurers to be vigilant about their expenses and try to donate some money to our entities each month. It is duty that we all have to do.

With thanks,



David A.
Treasurer,
Alternate DCMC,
Co-Chair IE H & I

Why do we need a Conference? *(continued from page 4)*

"We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing overintegration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services.

"We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is."

*Reprinted with permission from **The A.A. Service Manual***

Where's Jeryl?

YOUR DELEGATE IS A BUSY MAN!
HERE IS PART OF HIS SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF 2013

- Jun 2 – (Speaker) Grupo Quinto Capitulo, 2930 College Ave., Costa Mesa 8:00pm
- Jun 9 --Area Service Committee Meeting, Elks Lodge, 6501 Elk Trail Dr., 29 Palms, 9:00 a.m.
- Jun 11 – (Conf. Sharing Session) Dists 5,6,7,&18 at Sr Ctr, 695 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa 6:45 Pot Luck
- Jun 12 – (Conf. Sharing Session) OC Intergroup at Senior Center, 695 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa 7 pm
- Jun 13 – (Conf. Sharing Session) Dist 1 at Kiwanis Club, 2215 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach 7:30pm
- Jun 16 – (Speaker) Paramount Speakers Group 8021 Rosecrans Ave., Paramount 7 pm
- Jun 19 – (Conf. Sharing Session) District 14 at 308 E. Acacia Ave., Hemet 7 pm
- Jun 25 – (Conf. Sharing Session) District 25 at 222 E. Highland Ave., San Bernardino 7pm
- Jun 28 – (Conf. Sharing Session) District 23 at 10838 Hole Ave., Riverside 7pm
- Jul 3 – (Conf. Sharing Session) Districts 10 & 15 at 109 E. Wilshire Ave., Fullerton 8 pm
- Jun 11 – (Speaker) Bellflower We Care Group - 14527 Bellflower Bl., Bellflower 7:30 pm
- Jul 9 – (Conf. Sharing Session) District 17 at 26850 Cherry Hills Blvd., Sun City 6:30 pm
- July 14 --MSCA Foro, 1371 Eubank Ave., Wilmington 8:00 am
- Jul 20 – (Speaker) La Viña Anniversary - 222 W. Houston, Fullerton 11:30 am
- Jul 21 – (Conf. Sharing Session) District 9 at 45940 Portola Ave., Palm Desert
- Aug 7 – (Conf. Sharing Session) District 4 at 1900 E. Carson Street, Long Beach 7 pm
- Aug 11 --Area Service Committee, Hesperia School District 15576 Main St., Hesperia, 9 am
- Aug 19 – (Conf. Sharing Session) Dist. 19, 11085 Central Road, Apple Valley 3 pm
- Aug 31 – (Speaker) Redwood City Convention
- Sep 8 --Area Assembly, Dist. 11
- Sep 13 – (Speaker) Spanish Convention - 222 W. Houston , Fullerton 11am
- Oct 6 – (Speaker) Founder's Day Lucerne 8:30 am
- Oct 13 --Area Elections, Dist. 15
- Oct 17 – (Speaker) 20 Ottawa Convention, Ottawa, Canada
- Oct 25-27 – (Speaker) Desert Intergroup Convention

Officers/Directors Reports

Delegate: Conference Share back: thanked God, MSCA members and wife for this opportunity and support. Thanked Alt. Del., Sharon, "hardest working person in General Service". Reviewed the Conference experience, including the 28 Advisory Actions for the Trustees and reviewed his votes and experiences. Acknowledged visiting conference members, Tom M. (Panel 62, Area 08) and Jeff S. (Panel 62, Area 92).

Alt. Delegate: Thanked everyone who participated in the Pre-Conference workshop. She participated in the CPC workshop in Santa Ana hosted by District 20, attended District 20's anniversary celebration, the board meeting, the Sponsorship workshop hosted by District 10 and 15, and the Archives Open House. Our Area is alive and well. Looking forward to accompanying delegate for report backs and the Foro in July. She asked everyone to email her about what she has done well as Alt Del and what she could have done better, for her own performance and for the next Alt Delegate.

Registrar: Still updating GSR/Contacts on the GSO database. Working with Kristen District 17 to update all their sub-districts. Also received a memo from GSO saying that they will not print the AA Regional Directories in 2014. GSO also sent clarification about what can be changed by area registrars and which things need to be done at GSO Records Dept. For example; changing a group name, moving a group from one area to another, changing groups' cities, changing group status; active, inactive, etc.

Treasurer: Checking account as of 5/16/13: \$ 7,775.67;
Savings account: \$ 5,001.51
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts: \$ 12,777.18

Chairman: Thanked District 8 for hosting; also, coffee guy & sound dude "hardest working people in the area". Prepared the ASC, Assembly and board meeting agendas, went to a few district meetings, District 21, District 11 at Fontana Kaiser, and a couple of meetings in District 22. Reported on GSO request for Treatment facility info. Announced La Vina anniversary celebration. Reported that his and Raul's stories were published in the May/June edition of La Viña.



Old Business

Motion (Martin J.): "That the finance committee publish, on the website, each quarterly profit and loss statement, as soon as available and, in addition, publish the preliminary budget in October and final budget in January." (Motion passed)

Motion (Linda C): "That the Mid-Southern California Area 09 apply for a fee-free bank credit card to be used by the Area Treasurer solely for the purpose of paying for Area 09 expenditures and establishing Area 09 credit history. It is further proposed that strict and explicit guidelines for the prudent use of an area credit card would be written by the members of the Finance Committee, affirmed by the board of directors, the Area Assembly and added to the Area Guidelines before application for the card is made." (Motion failed)

Committee Activities



Public Information:
What's
Happening??

- attended health fairs, young peoples fair, elderly fair and looking for more fairs!
- Riverside, Palm Desert, Moreno Valley yes and beach fairs-???
- PSA's being researched to replenish our stock of same. Get appropriate PSA's for table tops-fairs.
- Radio and TV contacts-English and Spanish. GSO sent large number to radio and tv stations 2012.
- if a local fair is occurring, let us know.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 9—Sunday
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
 Elks Lodge
 6501 Elk Trail Dr., Twenty Nine Palms
Hosted by District 30

July 14—Sunday
Foro
 (Spanish-speaking with simultaneous English Interpretation)
 1371 Eubank Ave.
 Wilmington, CA 90744
Hosted by District 21 and 3

August 11—Sunday
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
 Hesperia Unified School District
 15576 Main St
 Hesperia, CA 92345
Hosted by District 19

September 8—Sunday
Area Assembly
Hosted by District 11

October 13—Sunday
Area Assembly—ELECTIONS
Hosted by District 15

November (date to be determined)
Servathon

November 10—Sunday
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 14

Usual Area Meeting Schedule at most assemblies and ASCs

9:00 a.m.	Delegate's Sharing
9:00 a.m.	GSR Orientation
9:00 a.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Standing Committee Meetings
10:00 a.m.	DCM Orientation
11:15 a.m.	Lunch
12:00 Noon	Area Meeting

Who's Who

Officers/Directors

Delegate: Jeryl T.
Alt. Delegate: Sharon K.
Chairperson: Cesar F.
Secretary: Jesus O.
Treasurer: Annie D.
Registrar: Raul C.

Committee

Chairs, Co-Chairs

and other Area Service Positions

Archives (Eng)	Matt W.
Archives (Sp)	(open)
CEC	Patricia P.
Communications	Martin J.
<i>Elec. Media</i>	<i>Kris C.</i>
<i>Elec. Equip</i>	<i>John W.</i>
<i>Translation</i>	<i>Santiago S.</i>
<i>Newsletter</i>	<i>Linda C.</i>
Convention (Eng)	Lois L.
Convention (Sp)	Mauricio T.
Corrections	Julio I.
CPC (Eng)	Catherine
CPC (Sp)	Jose F.
DCM School (Eng)	Nikki N.
DCM School (Sp)	
Finance	Tina B.
<i>Grapevine</i>	<i>Catherine E.</i>
GSR School (Eng)	Marita H.
GSR School (Sp)	Marcelo C.
<i>La Viña</i>	<i>Paco G.</i>
Literature (Eng)	Scott B.
Literature (Sp)	Martin G.
P.I. (Eng)	Bob D.
P.I. (Sp)	Jaime F. to be confirmed
Registration	Kristin F.
Spec. Needs (Eng)	Jennifer C.
Spec. Needs (Sp)	
<i>Archivist</i>	<i>Pete B.</i>
<i>Coffee</i>	<i>Tony M.</i>
<i>Copier</i>	<i>Jim C.</i>
<i>Sound</i>	<i>Jim B.</i>
<i>Web Coordinator</i>	<i>Rainer F.</i>

Check it out!!
Stories by our Area Chairman
and Area Registrar are both
featured in the May/June
2013 issue of La Vina...

Have you sent your story to
the aaGrapevine and/or La
Vina?

What's stopping you? Your
story is as valuable as anyone
else's...it might save some-
one's life...

Dare you!

And, while you're at it, how
about subscribing to both
magazines...it's available
online, in print, or in audio.

CHECK IT OUT
www.aagrapevine.org



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