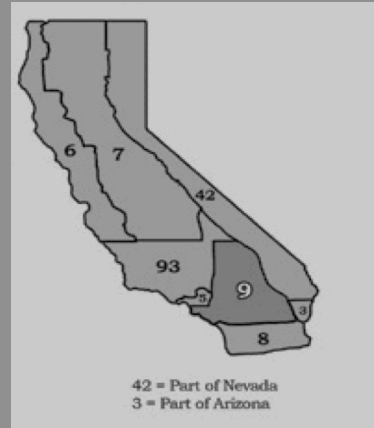


Mid-Southern California Area 09 Newsletter

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

An Open Letter to the Group Treasurer:

The 12 Traditions are one of the greatest examples that we have in AA of the need for a great treasurer. *Tradition One* reminds us that AA, through its contributions, has to live so that those who stumble into the rooms in the years to come will find it here. *Tradition Two* reminds us that a Loving God is the ultimate authority, not the cash. *Tradition Three* concedes that our membership, those we focus on, and whose help we rely upon are all alcoholics. The *fourth tradition* says that we can do our business, make our contributions and direct our attention any way that we, as a group, sees fit. *Five* says each Group has to know ITS message, and, many times it is reflected by the way we contribute to AA. *Six* has us keep an eye on where our funds are going and where we get them from. *Seven* says all of our efforts in New York, Area, District, Central Office, Intergroup and local Groups will be made and maintained by the force of Alcoholics who gather for recovery. *Eight* is the tradition that allows us to use our contributions to pay special workers in our service centers a fair, competitive wage for their labor.

Continued on page 2

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

(more on page 6)

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September 8—Sunday

Area Assembly

Knights of Columbus Hall
1729 E. Baseline Ave.,
San Bernardino

Hosted by District 11

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October 13—Sunday

Area Assembly—ELECTIONS

UFCW Local 324 Union Hall
8530 Stanton Ave. Buena Park

Hosted by District 15

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November 10—Sunday

Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting

San Jacinto Community Center
625 S. Pico Ave., San Jacinto

Hosted by District 14

Where's Jeryl?
Check page 4



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.*

Father Martin's Chalk Talk (2000)	Sat., Sep 21
For One More Day (2007)	Sat., Oct 19
(Nov and Dec: no movie night)	
Bill W. Documentary	Sat, Jan 18

Delegate's Corner—continued from page 1

Nine helps me see how our contributions actually allow service to happen: by funding the service boards and committees who serve us all. Since we don't give nor receive money, gifts, awards from, nor affiliate with outside entities, the *Tenth Tradition* reminds me of how money in the wrong hands can easily draw AA into controversy. *Eleven* is responsible for most of our public relations: We fund our PI, CPC, TSNAC committees, our PSA's, and all of our services to the Fellowship. Finally, the *Twelfth Tradition* reminds me of the immense responsibility of the Treasurer. A genuine humility and a vast knowledge of the AA entities and their function are needed. Thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all, while educating the Group to their responsibilities to the Fellowship as a whole, in a thankless position. Good luck!

Can we explain to our groups where the money goes that we contribute to the different service entities of AA? Intergroup, District, Area and GSO? Are we aware of the financial situations of each? Are we in touch with them so that we are informed? It doesn't hurt for a treasurer to visit the meetings of these entities to gain a first hand experience as to how they operate and their needs, so that we can report our experience back to the group...the then INFORM THE GROUP.

We have all heard the saying, "*You may be the only big book people ever get to read.*" Well, the treasurer may be the only Trusted Servant that the Group ever gets to see, and sometimes they need to be informed. What are the services rendered by Central Office through our contributions? What do they do with each dollar we send? Is there a budget? Are they abiding by the AA Tradition? I know where each dollar we send to GSO is distributed. I have a good idea, through budget and actual experience, where the Area spends its money. The Districts rally to get the word to and from each group through GSRs and committee work.

So, part of the treasurer's job is to inform. But in order to inform, one must be informed. Good service sponsorship is key. Willingness and desire to do the job is paramount. But many times, railroaded, uninformed about where the tools are and how to use them, loving, just wanting to be of service, alcoholics get the job, with no directions. Just keep the money and report spending. HMMM...Our Groups sometimes do themselves an injustice by electing someone to do a job that either has not been of service in any capacity or takes it because all the "good" jobs are already taken. Be careful.

Continued on page 3

How can groups participate?

To help support A.A.'s essential services, the General Service Conference suggests that individual groups, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific contribution plan tailored to meet the group's financial situation. Once the basic group expenses have been taken care of, for example: (rent, refreshments, A.A. literature, Grapevine literature, local meeting lists, G.S.R. travel expenses to attend service functions), and a "prudent reserve" has been set aside to cover any emergency contingencies that might arise, the group may decide to further carry the message by sending money to the following A.A. service entities.

- **The local district**, which communicates directly with the groups, providing the district group conscience for the area assemblies, and serving as a link between the area delegates and the G.S.R.s.
- **The area committee**, which coordinates vital A.A. activities over a broad geographic area; sends a delegate to the annual General Service Conference; holds area assemblies to determine the needs of the Fellowship; and provides information at all levels of service.
- **The local intergroup or central office**, which may provide phone service for Twelfth Step calls and other inquiries; coordination of group activities; A.A. literature sales; institutions work; public information and cooperation with the professional community activities.
- **A.A.'s General Service Office**, which functions as a storehouse of A.A. information, communicating with members and groups around the world; publishes A.A.'s literature; and supplies information and experience to professionals and others interested in A.A.

Q What do contributions to G.S.O. cover?

The 2011 service dollar was spent on the following activities: Group Services 33.1% (which includes various group contact-type costs in addition to *Box 4-5-9*; A.A. Directories; records and files; contributions processing; and French services); the General Service Conference, 15.3%; Loners, Internationalists, and Overseas Services, 8.7%; trustees' and directors' activities, 5.8%; Regional Forums, 6.6%; Archives, 9.0%; C.P.C., 5.5%; Public Information, 5.1%; Correctional Facilities, 4.0%; Treatment Facilities, 2.4%; Special Needs; 2.0%, Nominating, 1.9%; and others, 0.6%.

AA needs good servants to make sure the message is available when the still suffering alcoholic walks into the rooms. Through the Treasurer, the hope of AA's future can be fulfilled.

Jeryl T., Panel 62 Area 09





Area Newsletter Editor Needed! 2014-2015

aka Chair of the Newsletter Sub-Committee
Experience helpful...contact
Area Communications Committee Chair
at

CommCommChair@msca09aa.org

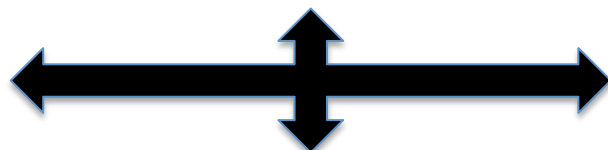
if interested in this service and participation in
your sobriety.

**(Can be prepared in English or Spanish and
translated to the other language)**

Where's Jeryl? ... your busy Delegate

(overview, not complete—contact Jeryl to confirm)

9/4: Intergroup, Colton
9/8: Area Assembly, Dist. 11, 9am
9/8: Unity Hall, Sun City, 3pm
9/13: Spkr, Spanish Conv, 222 W. Houston, Fullerton 11am
9/22: U.U. Church, Long Beach 5-6:30pm
10/6: Spkr Founder's Day, Lucerne 8:30am
10/8: Tue. Dist. 3, Torrance, 7:30pm
10/12: Sat. High Desert Convention, 8am
10/13: Sun., Area Elections, Dist 15
10/17: Spkr, Ottawa Conv., Canada
11/20-26: High Desert IG Convention



WHO CAN VOTE?

No matter what your other qualifications or eligibilities are to vote for area officers, *"in order to be eligible to vote, members of the Assembly must have attended, in their respective capacities, at least one Assembly or ASC (Area Service Committee) meeting in the year preceding the election."*

WHO ARE VOTING MEMBERS?

Members of the MSCA Assembly are eligible to vote in Area elections. Members of the Assembly are: Area Officers, GSRs, DCMCs, Alternate DCMCs, DCMs, Alternate DCMs, Other District Officers (as defined by the District), Chairs and Co-Chairs of Standing Committees, Chairs/Directors of Coordinate Committees (currently serving in office or in office within the past 12 months), past delegates (lifetime voting members).

WHO IS ELECTED AND HOW?

The Election Assembly in October in odd-numbered years elects six Area officers: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar. *The Third Legacy procedure* is used to elect and is considered unique with A.A. The names of all eligible candidates—except those who state they are unable to serve—are posted on a board. Written ballots are used to vote. The first candidate to receive 2/3 of the total vote is elected. If no candidate receives that vote, in 4 or 5 ballots, lots are drawn from a hat to determine the winner. The procedure is described in the AA Service Manual (p. S21) and in our Area 09 pamphlet *"What's It All About?"* (p.11)

Visit our website at www.area09.org Mid-Southern California Area Newsletter – September 2013

**My name is Jesus and I'm an alcoholic.
My sobriety date is Jan. 23, 1992**

I sobered up and joined AA in Berkeley, Ca. while on a geographic move to find myself. I was lucky enough that instead AA found me. I have been doing enough to stay sober a day at a time. Eight months after I got sober I moved back to Southern California and joined my home group *Fe y Accion* in Carson, Ca.

Even now, I sometimes don't understand why things happen the way they happen. In Berkeley, I had worked a few of the steps with my first sponsor there. Once I moved to Southern Ca. I looked around for a meeting where I felt at home and welcome. I tried both English and Spanish speaking meetings and I finally settled for a Spanish meeting in Paramount, Ca. A place I had visited by accident before I ever took my first step. I knew a guy there that spoke from the heart and I wanted what he had because I have always been an introvert and have difficulty expressing myself in public for fear of not being accepted.

I asked Isaac to be my sponsor and he told me he would do something better for me; he took me to the meeting in Carson and told me to go there instead. I have been going there ever since. Needless to say, I had to get a new sponsor. Little did I know that this guy was a service junkie; so here I am 20 years later, still involved in some kind of AA service? Today, I am grateful to be involved in my own recovery through this great program.

As many people know; I've been the area interpreter/translator for some time. I've done some service commitments mostly related to translation, etc. However, this panel my challenge has been me, my attitude toward my commitment as area secretary. I said I was available to serve due to my experience helping translate the minutes and I thought it was within my comfort zone. One and a half years later I have grown personally and found out that God will always make a way for me to grow. I am grateful for the opportunity to be of service at this level. "God will constantly reveal more to you and to us", I really think this to be true.

Thank you for allowing me to share.
Jesus O. Panel 62 MSCA09 Secretary

AREA OFFICERS WHAT DO THEY DO?

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION

DELEGATE: Provide the leadership to build a sound service structure; attend the General Service Conference (carry and express the Area Conscience; vote on all questions; act in the interest of AA as a whole; report back to Area); Maintain contact with GSO and the GSB; Serve on a Conference Committee; attend all Assembly, Service Committee, Area Board meetings; attend all area events, PRAASA, and Pacific Regional Forums.

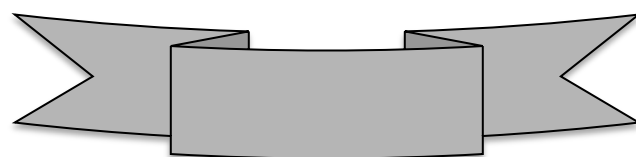
ALTERNATE DELEGATE: Assist, substitute for the Delegate when required; responsible for special committees, workshops, and special functions of the ASC; Maintains liaison with ASC, Intergroups/Central Offices and other permanent committees; Works closely with the Area Chair; Assumes the duties of the Area Chair when that officer is absent.

CHAIR PERSON: Conducts area meetings; plans and publishes the agenda, including executive committee, ASC, and assemblies; appoints ad hoc committees; functions as Administrative officer of the Assembly; Maintains a healthy area structure; Assists Districts when needed.

SECRETARY: Is responsible for recording and distribution of area and executive committee meeting minutes; Maintains roster and mailing list; Distributes roster; Maintains Assembly records.

TREASURER: Conducts Area financial business; maintains fiscal records; provides financial reports; files tax forms; serves on the Finance Committee.

REGISTRAR: Maintains Group records up-to-date with GSO; Locates groups when needed; Plans and oversees Officers' visitation schedule.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 8—Sunday
Area Assembly
 Knights of Columbus Hall
 1729 E. Baseline Ave.,
 San Bernardino
Hosted by District 11

October 13—Sunday
Area Assembly—ELECTIONS
 UFCW Local 324 Union Hall
 8530 Stanton Ave. Buena Park
Hosted by District 15

November 10—Sunday
 San Jacinto Community Center
 625 S. Pico Ave., San Jacinto
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 14

November 16—Saturday
Servathon
 24112 Moulton Pkwy
 Laguna Woods
Hosted by District 12

December 8—Sunday
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 9

January 12—Sunday (subject to approval)
Area Assembly
Hosted by District 18

February 9—Sunday (subject to approval)
Area Service Committee (ASC) Meeting
Hosted by District 23

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.
Elec. Media Kris C.
Elec. Equip John W.
Translation Santiago S.
Newsletter Linda C.
 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.
Grapevine Catherine E.
 GSR School (Eng) Marita H.
 GSR School (Sp) Marcelo C.
La Viña Paco G.
 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)

Archivist Pete B.
Coffee Tony M.
Copier Jim C.
Sound Jim B.
Web Coordinator Rainer F.