

**San Diego-Imperial Area Committee
2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA
Minutes of the December 15, 2011 meeting**

Meeting Called to Order

The Committee was called to order at 7:01 pm by Dean B., Area Chairperson with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, then A.A.'s Declaration of Unity.

The Twelve Concepts were read in English by Renee and in Spanish by Ruben.

Introductions and AA Birthdays, Voting Procedures

New DCMs, Committee Chairs, Alternates and Guests introduced themselves.

Birthdays occurring since the November Area Committee meeting were celebrated.

Dean explained the operating and voting procedures.

Roll Call

Monty C., Area Alternate Registrar, conducted a roll call of the Area Committee, and declared that the requirements for a quorum had been met. Those not in attendance at time of roll call were: Alternate Secretary, Registrar; District 2, 9, 14, 17, 18, 19.

Approval of October and November Area Committee Minutes: Butch M., Secretary

MSP to approve October minutes as submitted.

MSP to approve November minutes as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Ham H., Treasurer

- Written report.
- May not make budget for the year, about \$9,000 shy of projected income. However, we have not yet expended the line items of the budget, so officers and committee chairs should turn in their receipts for reimbursement before the end of the month.
- Had unbudgeted expense of PA system and the CPC Meeting of the Minds.
- Ask groups to get their contributions in this month.

November Financial Report	November 2011	YTD	2011 Budget	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	2,352.75	27,157.39	37,959.00	-10,801.61
Individual contributions:	174.15	1,364.80	-	
District contributions:	206.09	351.04	-	
Total contributions:	2,732.99	28,873.23	37,959.00	-9,085.77
Total budgeted expenses	2,372.25	27,749.34	37,959.00	0.00
Contributions less budgeted expenses	360.74	1,123.89		
Total unbudgeted expenses	16.00	1,699.74	-	166.26
Total expenses:	2,388.25	29,449.08	37,959.00	166.26
Contributions less total expenses:	344.74	-575.85		
Previous month ending balance	9,719.54			
Cash on hand:	10,064.28			

Master Calendar

Event	Host	Date		Location
Holiday Alkathon	Dist 8	Dec 24 - 25	2011	1:30p Chula Vista – Recovery Home
New Year's Alkathon	Dist 6 & 7	Dec 31-Jan 1	2011	4:00p Hill Crest – Parrish Hall
New Year's Alkathon	Dist 8	Dec 31-Jan 1	2011	1:30p Chula Vista – Recovery Home
Orientation Assembly	Dist 8 & 13	Jan 7	2012	*8:30a Mission Valley – United Methodist
Area Committee / DCM Training Workshop	Area Chairperson	Jan 28	2012	8:00a Mission Valley – United Methodist
Imperial Valley Round Up	Dist 9	Feb 10-12	2012	Brawley Recreation Center
4 Area DCM Sharing Session	Areas 5, 8, 9, & 93	Feb 12	2012	9:00a Area 93
Pre-Conference Workshops	Varied	Feb 24-28	2012	— TBD
PRAASA	Pacific Region Areas	March 2-4	2012	12:00a Area 72 Western Washington
Pre Conference Assembly	Dist 5, 14, 18 & 12	March 31	2012	*8:30a El Cajon -Reagan Community Center
<i>San Diego Spring Roundup</i>	—	<i>April 5-8</i>	<i>2012</i>	Town & Country Hotel, Mission Valley
<i>H&I Conference</i>	<i>So Cal H&I</i>	<i>April 13-15</i>	<i>2012</i>	San Diego – Bahia Resort
General Service Conference	GSO	April 22-28	2012	New York
Delegate's Report (Post Conference) Assembly	Dist 16 & 23	May 19	2012	*8:30a Encinitas Community Center
Regional Forum	GSO	Sept 14-16	2012	Fairbanks, Alaska
Big Day Business Assembly	TBD	Sept xx	2012	TBD
<i>Southern California Convention</i>		<i>Sept 28-30</i>	<i>2012</i>	San Diego
November Assembly	TBD	Nov xx	2012	TBD

*Note: **Non-Bolded Events Are Not Sponsored Or Hosted By Area 8 Service Entities, they are listed for planning purposes only. Updated December 1. Information is subject to change, see the calendar on the area website for the most up to date information.*

Delegate's Report: Joel C.

Joel's written report is submitted as his official report:

I have a great deal of information to report that I hope will be useful to DCMs and GSRs in stimulating an interest in general service. As always, know your district or group and select those items to share that are most likely to appeal to the members you are addressing.

Report from our General Service Board

Rod B., our Pacific Region trustee, sent a very thorough report of the October meeting of the General Service Board. He mentioned many of these items in his verbal report at our November area assembly, but I am passing them along tonight in writing to help get the word out more widely among the groups, through the DCMs and GSRs. Here are some of the highlights:

- The General Service Office is continuing to work on a plan to post *Daily Reflections on GSO's AA website*, with an optional daily e-mail delivery service.
- Pricing for the *eBook* format of the Big Book and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions has been set at \$6.00 each. There will be a maximum of three electronic devices per individual purchase, and the free app will be called the "A.A. eReader."

- Looking at the overall *financial picture for AAWS*, total revenue for the nine months ended 9/30/11 was \$10,488,857. We had total expenses of \$10,194,978, leaving an excess of revenue over expenses of \$293,879, which compares to a budgeted excess revenue for the period of \$48,983.
- Looking at the overall *financial picture for AA Grapevine, Inc.*, for the nine months ended 9/30/11 the Grapevine realized a loss of \$32,267 in comparison to a budgeted net loss of \$156,141. This is ahead of budget by \$123,874. Total La Viña magazine income is \$87,895 which is ahead of budget by \$11,600. Looking at the *Reserve Fund*, it had a balance of \$14,473,825 at the end of September, which represents approximately 11.3 months of operating expenses.
- Here are *two possible Conference agenda items for next year related to finance*. The trustees considered a suggestion that the amount requested from each Delegate Area as a Conference fee be increased. The committee agreed to forward the request to the Conference Finance Committee. The trustees also considered a letter which suggested an increase to the annual limit on individual contributions and one-time bequests, and agreed to forward it to the Conference Committee on Finance to review.
- The trustees approved the *new service piece on basic archival principles* and requested that the Archives begin distribution of the service piece.
- It looks like a *draft of "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell"* will be ready for the January board meeting, which means next year's Conference may consider approving the revised pamphlet.
- At the 17th REDELA (Reunion de las Americas, a meeting of general service structures in the Western Hemisphere) delegates from Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia submitted a *request that the Big Book be translated in Quecha, the ancient language of the Inca*, spoken today by 8 million persons. This request was forwarded to the International desk to be sent to AAWS Publications Director with a request for periodic progress reports.
- The trustees are *reviewing suggestions from the fellowship for a theme for the 2015 International Convention*, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia.
- Work continues on the following *literature projects*: development of new literature which focuses on spirituality and includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are sober in A.A.; update of the "A.A. and the Armed Services" pamphlet; and update of the booklet *Living Sober*. In addition, the trustees considered a suggestion to add the Twelve Concepts to *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* so that all 36 of our principles would be included in a single volume. Another option might be to do a boxed set. More will be revealed.
- Tabulation of data and work on pamphlet design for the results of *2011 Membership Survey* continues, and next year's Conference will likely see a draft for their consideration.
- A preliminary video for *the new Hispanic PSA* (public service announcement) is expected to be ready for the trustees to review at the January board meeting.
- The trustees have received *two requests to add language related to current media to the Eleventh Tradition*; these requests have been tabled to the January board meeting.
- A *Navajo translation of "How it Works"* will be sent to the Publications Department Director for authentication and to ensure that the translation maintains the spirit of Alcoholics Anonymous. All translations go through this necessary process. Once this occurs, then this will open the door for a complete translation of the Big Book into Navajo. This would be the first translation of the Big Book into an Native American language in AA's history.

A correspondence with GSO about anonymity

A couple of local members recently sent me an email expressing concern about a website that has been set up to sell recordings of speakers. The concern is that many of the speakers are identified by full name. Curiously, the website's homepage includes the following disclaimer: "For identification purposes it is sometimes necessary to use speaker's last names. Please respect their anonymity." Reminds me of a recurring theme in one of my favorite comic strips, which often ran panels under the heading "People unclear on the concept"! Anyway, I contacted the public information desk at GSO and received a great reply from Mary C., who said the staff discussed the site at length. Although our General Service Office can't always respond to every online anonymity concern, in this case they did decide to send a letter to the website asking them to respect our anonymity Traditions. I have also contacted a local A.A. member whose anonymity was not being respected on this site and encouraged him to contact the site personally. I think this is a great example of how we all work together – individual members, area delegates, and our General Service Office – to do our best to protect our principles. As a member of the Conference public information committee, I was happy that one of the things I was able to do during my final month as delegate was to address this situation.

Well, I guess that's it. We are all bound together by our common purpose of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. I will carry each of you with me as I move along each day, doing what I can as just one member to help another drunk find our solution to the ravages of alcoholism. I pray that I can give one or two of them just a little bit of hope.

The following are oral comments not included in Joel's written report:

- Joel has a box of 2011 Final Conference Reports; please take all you want.

Alternate Delegate's Report: Tom M.

Tom's written report is submitted as his official report:

SoCal H+I-

The Southern California H+I Conference will be held at the Bahia Hotel on Mission Bay, April 13-15, 2012. The next planning committee meeting for this conference will be held at the Oceanside Alano Club, 4198 Mission Ave, Oceanside on Sunday January 8 at 10:00am.

The 2012 conference features a corrections panel that includes members of the San Diego Sheriff's department, a Spanish language H+I panel, and an inspiring presentation called The Family Afterward with a husband, wife, and teenage son telling their story of the recovery of an alcoholic and the recovery of the family affected by alcoholism.

Download a registration form at www.socalhandi.org , registration is \$15.00.

Box 459-

The winter 2011 issue of Box 459 is out and it has ideas for AA gift giving that include Grapevine print subscriptions of one year for \$28.97 and La Vina for \$11.97.

There is a special holiday offer that allows two subscriptions to be given for \$42.00 which is a \$16.00 discount.

The Grapevine website is www.aagrapevine.org.

To obtain Box 459 in digital format visit the www.aa.org website and select “Newsletters” from the literature menu. Subscriptions for Markings (Archives newsletter) and About AA (aimed at non-alcoholic professionals) are also available.

Pre-Conference Workshops-

In late February of 2012 Dean and I will be conducting Pre-Conference workshops where we present some of the 2012 General Service Conference agenda items to the fellowship and to GSRs in particular. We think the workshops will look much like past years when they have been located in various locations around Area 8 that are geographically convenient to several districts at a time. There will be 7 workshops held between Friday February 24th and Monday February 28th with a district acting as host for each event. Holding the workshop on these dates allows GSRs one month before the Pre-Conference Assembly to collect input from their groups on the agenda items.

If anyone has suggestions for changes to the Pre-Conference workshops or ideas on alternate methods of presenting the agenda items to the fellowship please contact me or Dean.

It is a pleasure to serve Area 8 and to serve with all of you!

The following are oral comments not included in Tom’s written report:

- Expressed thanks to Joel. Heard a speaker say his service is to make his area better. Tom said Joel has done that, and that that is about as mushy as he can get!
- I’ve heard that this process changes you. The first year, when we worked on the agenda topics he was very clear in his suggestions on what they should present to the groups. The second time we worked on the agenda topics he accepted a great deal of input and left me to do the work while he played Angry Birds!
- To Joel: “You have truly been a servant, not a senator.”

Chairperson’s Report: Dean B.

Dean’s written report is submitted as his official report:

Welcome everyone and thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to participate in the Area Committee process. Also a special thanks to visitors and service liaisons visiting from throughout the Area.

Tonight’s Business

Tonight we will be processing **business items** that include:

- More information offered on the background of the Finance related motion we will vote on in January
- Unbudgeted expense request from Native American Liaison Committee
- Full end of panel report from Native American Liaison Committee
- New discussion and sharing session regarding Cooperation with the Elderly Alcoholic
- Continued questions and answers on the final Committee Assignment Report we heard at November ACM
- Continued questions and answers on the final Guidelines Review Report we heard at November ACM

Current Topics or Motions for GSRs to REVIEW WITH GROUPS:

**MOTION
TAKE TO
GROUPS**

1. The motion proposing (in summary) that allow for the classification of certain budget line items will be heard for 2nd and Final Vote at the January 2011 Orientation Assembly. See Full motion wording is on Area Website area8aa.org. Please only use full versions of all motions when reviewing with groups.

**MOTION
TAKE TO
GROUPS**

2. The motion proposing (in summary) proposes the Area Structure and Guidelines be modified to offer standing committees clearer methods of recruiting and using the help of appointed committee members. This item **will be heard at the January 2011 Orientation Assembly** for the 1st of 2 Assembly votes required for passage. A yes vote at the orientation assembly will automatically forward this motion to groups for further review and a 2nd vote at a future assembly where we do business. Please only use full versions of all motions when reviewing with groups. A full copy of the motion is available in hard copy at this meeting and is pending posting to the Area Website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Orientation Assembly is January 7, 2012 @ United Methodist Church in Mission Valley. Look to area8aa.org for flyers and future event information details.

The DCM/Committee Chair Workshop is January 28, 2012 @ United Methodist Church in Mission Valley. Look to area8aa.org for flyers and future event information details.

To the new officers and members of the area committee that will be serving for the next two years, hold on tight and consider getting a service sponsor if you don't have one already!! I know you will do well as long as you remember we can't do it alone. Also a special thanks to those officers and Area Committee members that are rotating out of their service position.

It is hard to express how much of a gift and blessing to my sobriety it has been to serve the Area these past two years, most of the time serving as Alternate Chairperson and the last 6 months serving as your Chairperson. One last time I would like to formally thank Rafael, our previous Area Chairperson this panel, for his service and dedication.

To see the hard work in all aspects of our in General Service continues to amaze me. Sometimes when I get a question from someone new to the assembly (or not) just how this thing works, I never can tell them the full answer. There are the guidelines we can refer to, the manuals we can read, information about how other areas "work", a click away on the internet. But none of that ever really answers the question completely, in my mind anyway.

How can all those resources really tell the full picture when the original part of the story for every one of us , starts out as just being drunk, of the hopeless and helpless variety? When we talk about qualifications for general service, it might be the most important qualification of all. It is living in that hopeless way of existence that many of us remember so vividly and it is that memory that helps me become more flexible to make that next Assembly, to attend the next Area Committee, to add that one more unplanned thing into my schedule when at first I thought- ..No way can I fit that in!

Thank you

Groups that take the time to send representatives to all our AA service entities
Past trusted servants that continue to care participate in the Assembly process
Liaisons from Intergroups and other committees
Committees and the Committee Chairs
Districts and the DCMs
Area Officers

As long as we stay together, thru the challenging and not so challenging times, we will keep the chance alive to serve our primary purpose. As long as we remember that everyone, regardless of differing points of views, loves AA the same, we will be OK.

Liaison Committee Reports

Coordinating Council: Rick: **BUSINESS COMMITTEE & MANAGER'S REPORT:** Our November 2011 Net Revenue is \$376.75. Our 2011 YTD Net Loss is (\$8,269.56). Group and Individual Contributions were \$9,998.11. December's Book of the Month: Any Grapevine book for \$1.00 off regular price. Initiated Faithful Fivers Club for individual contributions. Have received \$2,500 thus far. Central Office offers Gift Certificates for \$10-\$25 increments for holiday shopping. Aasandiego.org has surpassed 1,000,000 hits. aasandiego.org website: on "electronic forms page" – in pdf format: example: literature price list, contributions pie chart, secretary meeting log and handbook, big book readings ... Have added FaithFul Fivers Sign-up, After Hours Phones Group Sign-Up Sheet, Coordinating Council Guidelines & built google maps in Calendar Events. Coordinator Newsletter: sign-up for a FREE subscription electronically by email. Send an email to sdaaco@aol.com or call 619-265-8762. Hard copies will continue to be available at Central Office. Currently emailing 1,350. Sending group contributions receipts, with current event flyers by email. **PROGRAM COMMITTEE:** New Years Eve Event will be at Scottish Rite Center in Mission Valley on Saturday, December 31st. Tickets are \$22.00 and available at Central Office. Tickets MAY be available at door if not sold out. Room capacity: 500. **DECEMBER ELECTIONS: Council Chair:** Rick W. Council Chair Assistant: Nikki F. John L., volunteered to be coffee maker. **OLD BUSINESS:** Motion to amend Council Guidelines Section V paragraph D2, Coordinator Newsletter Committee, to add "*and to ensure that any topic or monthly theme for the newsletter be limited to those subjects addressed in AA Conference approved literature.*" Coordinators presented their groups discussion on this motion. Vote on motion will occur at January 12, 2012 Council Meeting. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was none.

North County Intergroup: No one present.

East County Intergroup: No one present.

Oficina Central Hispaña: No one present.

Oficina Intergruppal Condado Norte: No one present.

Oficina Intergruppal Sur, Chula Vista: Alicia: Nothing to report. Just getting ready to rotate and assume new positions next year.

GSDYPAA: No one present.

NSDYPAA: No one present.

4-Area DCM Sharing Session Liaisons: Al: Have 8 topics, recruiting moderators. Each area should contribute a translation equipment amplifier for the day. Should have flyers in January; location chosen, more to report next month.

SPECIAL REPORT

Native American Liaison Ad Hoc Committee End of Year Report — Jim H.

This report was requested by our Area Chairperson, Dean B. The Native American Liaison Committee was established in late 2009 by the then Chairperson of the Area, Roy G. The committee was created to fill the Area's need for an outreach commitment to the 18 Native American Indian Reservations within Area 08, San Diego-Imperial Area of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. I have had the honor to serve as Chairperson for this committee.

The Committee's original purpose, tasks and goals were: (1) Help carry the message of AA onto the reservations within Area 08; (2) Establish District responsibility to support, help establish and maintain AA meetings, and provide information about AA to the new and existing AA meetings on the reservations whose borders and boundaries coincided with those of the district, or were within the district; (3) Try to improve participation of reservation meetings in the Area's Districts, the Area Assembly and the General Service structure of Alcoholics Anonymous; and (4) Establish the Native American Indian voice and group conscience within AA's service structure.

In other words, the committee was to represent the Area Chairperson and attempt to establish a visitation capability within each District that had reservation meetings within their district. Treat the AA meetings on the reservations in the same manner you treat all AA meetings within your District. Now, if the district didn't have a visitation committee, one was to be established per the Chairperson. We were the liaison for the Chairperson on these Indian reservation issues.

We developed a one page talking paper and briefed Districts 3, 11, 12, and 22. We explained the purpose and goals, outlined the scope of attendance as follows:

- a) Have regular attendance at Native meetings.
- b) We were there to support and share, not to patronize or criticize.
- c) Repetition was the key, once is not enough.
- d) Tradition 4 allows Native format, it may be different from what we are used to, different does not mean wrong.

Oversight responsibility for support outreach belongs to the Area chairperson. The DCMs have the same oversight responsibility for their districts. They report to the Area Chairperson. We recommended that the GSRs, or AA members from their groups, work in pairs for each reservation meeting they attended in their district. Mileage for travel to be paid out of district funds, with each district deciding the amount per mile.

Our last part of our talking paper covered procedures for the visitations. Use standard visitation protocol.

- a) Arrive early and introduce yourselves to the meeting secretary.
- b) Since you are new to the meeting, some procedures may be different.
- c) Our job is to support.
- d) Participate in the meeting.
- e) During announcements, advise the meeting group that we are from the district and would like to come back.
- f) We hope to establish trust and participation.

The outreach work is ongoing. Nothing is completed. The districts responsibility to assume support and maintain visitation thereby encouraging group participation within the districts and area never caught on. Attempts were made to obtain GSR representation for the groups at Rincon and Pala, but no Native Americans

were ever elected. The non Indians elected GSR both stepped down after a few months for various reasons. There has been good progress made in Native Americans being elected group secretaries. At one point in time a few months ago I counted four (4) Native Americans serving as secretary of meetings at Rincon, Pala, Pauma and Mesa Grande. Six (6) have served this year. The importance of this is at least two fold. First, the young Native American is more likely to attend AA meetings where his own kind is the secretary, i.e., they are attracted and feel safer to attend than when the non Indian is the meeting secretary. Second reason, they see and hear their brother or sister in action and he or she provides a source of sponsorship. I was told this by Lodge Pole back in the early 2000's. Trust is a very big item in the Indian world.

Another positive was the start of a woman's meeting on the Pala reservation earlier this year. I took a man I sponsor and his AA wife to Rincon earlier this year. During announcements my friends wife spoke about the women sponsoring women workshop that was coming up in District 16. Several Indians ladies attended the workshop and later started the women's meeting on the Pala reservation. The down side is what we are trying to avoid by supporting these meetings, especially when they first start up. This woman's meeting went dark a few months after it started because of a lack of support. This should never have happened. We should have had ladies out there encouraging them and helping them make announcement at other meetings, etc.

This year saw the first ever AA meeting held on the Mesa Grande Indian Reservation. It meets on Friday night at 7:00 PM and has a Native American serving as secretary. In addition, two new AA meetings started on the Santa Ysabel reservation.

The current Native American Liaison Committee's five active member's (4 men and 1 lady) were asked whether we should continue our outreach or shut it down. They advised me to suggest keeping it active as a liaison (ad hoc) committee with provisions for some funding through the Area Chairperson. They strongly suggested the Area not make it a Standing Committee where GSRs are assigned. Let the Area Chairperson and the committee chairperson decide who will serve on the committee. The last attempt that made the Remote Nations Committee a Standing Committee weakened that committee as we got mostly people who were uninterested or unwilling which caused the Remote Nations Committee to fold, i.e., formation of current liaison committee.

Here are some suggestions for the future. Create quarterly or semi-annual news letter with recovery stories from Indians living on the reservations. Have more pot lucks and speaker meetings. Native Americans like these type gatherings. Contact the Southern Indian Health Council and join in the Mini POW Wow. This would be great for Unity between North County (Heavy AA) and South County (Heavy Red Road). Have another Forum sponsored by GSO like the one held at Morongo in 2006. We had Native Americans from all over the US attend. Lots of Unity.

It's time for a second pamphlet like "Paths to Recovery". The first one was a big success and we know enough Native American Indians to obtain more stories. This would help us improve Unity with Barona, Viejas and Sycuan's South County "Red Road" meetings if we can get some of their stories for this piece of local literature.

Special Circumstances. What we (AA) are still up against in the South County, i.e., are: (1) Disagreements among Indians that are significant enough to pose problems that hurt the chances of being one strong force to obtain recovery for the Native American living on the reservations; (2) Geographic issues; (3) Some reservation Indians feelings toward white men (some of it comes from Indians that don't attend meetings); (4) At times and places we run into the impenetrability of the whole Indian issue—We must keep trying to carry the message, it's our primary purpose!!!

Funding Issues. Every thing we do requires some form of funding. Gasoline, reproducing reports, supporting meetings with initial AA literature, a Newsletter, joint pot lucks and speaker meetings, participation in POW Wows, another Forum and so it goes. In two years to date, we have requested only \$400 for purchasing 400 copies of "Paths to Recovery" which we purchased in conjunction with our own Area Literature Committee and the South County Central Office. This was approved last year as an unbudgeted funding request. This year we are requesting \$50 to cover the cost of flyers for Rod B's pot luck/speaker meeting held last month. The rest of our expenses came out of our pockets. The Chairperson, Dean B., wanted me to bring this funding issue to your, the Area Committees, attention.

In closing, we love what we've been able to do the past 10 years since the Native American Indians came to me as your Panel 52 Delegate and asked that they be allowed to return to AA and further asked for our support to carry the message on the Indian Reservations within Area 08. Three of our committee members need a break, but will remain if asked. The other two plan on doing the same thing over and over, until we get it right. There are Native Americans that need AA's help. This committee recommends an outreach effort remain active. I suggest that I step down and if this committee is still required in yours and the incoming Chairperson's opinion, we recommend you consider Jeff S. as its new Chairperson. Thank you one and all for allowing us to serve Alcoholics Anonymous (Larry A., Dorothy R., Jerry C., and Jeff S. committee members).

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1: *written*: District 1 is considering a March workshop that addresses some common AA group and meeting issues, including foul language, 13th stepping, "outside issues," and anonymity breaks.

District 2: No one present.

District 3: Guy: Dean B, incoming Alternate Area Delegate, visited us to assist in the holding of elections for an Alternate DCM. Those available for the position were Louis, Bob and Jim. Louis is the new Alternate DCM with 7 votes. The DCM discussed the Motion proposing that the treasurer be able to manage certain budget line items, as approved by the area committee. DCM reminded the GSRs to ensure they announced at their respective meeting the need for bilingual speakers who can translate documents and the need for ASL interpreters. The Treasurer discussed the topic of prudent reserve for the District 3 bank account. This discussion was tabled until January's District meeting. DCM and GSRs then discussed at length the concept of "Dark Meetings" and "Inactive Meetings" and what to do about them. It was decided by the GSRs to attend meetings and submit a report to the District Three meeting.

District 4: Larry: New officers have been elected. Ongoing outreach to dark groups.

District 5: *written*: We had our district elections: Vince V. is new elected DCM; Colin M. is new Alternate DCM; Buddy H. is reelected Treasurer; Linda M. is reelected secretary; Roger K. is newly elected registrar. Monty C. and Veronica S. conducted the elections.

District 6: Shelley: We have elected a new DCM and a new Alternate DCM! Congratulations Renee (DCM) and Art (Alternate DCM)! The New Year's Eve Alkathon will be back at 6th and Penn this year! It will be an abbreviated event because of church needs on Sunday, so the meetings will go from 4PM on Saturday, Dec. 31st to 5AM on Sunday, January 1st. District 7 is co-hosting the event with us this year.

District 7: Richard: Discussed New Year's Eve Alkathon and the need for volunteers. Went over the motion to bring to their groups.

District 8: Jane: We elected a new Treasurer - Roy J. and a new Secretary, Judy W. We also discussed the planning for co-hosting the January 7, 2012 Area Assembly. District 8 paid the rent for the facility. We will pick up a \$500.00 check from the Area Treasurer at the December ACM and a \$125.00 check for their share of the facility rental.

District 9: No report.

District 10: Paul: Reported a low turnout of GSRs in District 10. Previous DCM, Larry, is going to be temporary treasurer until they elect a new one or the new DCM will take this position as well. Incoming DCM will be informing church of change of persons for contact information.

District 11: Al: Reviewed Area Assembly. Group is considering what to participate in for 2012.

District 12: Dixie: DCM's last District 12 meeting ended with potluck. Dixie is looking forward to working on the C.E.C. Committee in whatever capacity that is.

District 13: *written*: We are working towards co-hosting, with District 8, a great Area Assembly on January 7. We have a new District Financier, Mary P. I guess Treasurer is the correct title.

District 14: *written*: District 14 held elections and briefly discussed the Meditation Workshop preparations (mark Calendars-March 10, 2012, 9-Noon, at the "Center" in Hillcrest) and also the preparations for the Pre-Conference Area Assembly.

District 15: Nicolas: Met on December 9. District is visiting groups, informing them of PRAASA. GSRs are working with their groups on better communication in the district. Sixth Local Foro is visiting groups to inform them of the upcoming event. Group will discuss subcommittees at next meeting. New officers for the District are: Coordinator, Vincent, Secretary, Oscar, Treasurer, Rey. We wish you all happy holidays and another 24 hours of sobriety.

District 16: Bob: We have not met since the last ACM so nothing new to report.

District 17: No one present.

District 18: No one present.

District 19: No one present.

District 20: Paul: Elections were held and a new DCM and Alt. DCM were elected. DCM, Margo F, Alt. DCM, Jon S. A new Year's Eve Party flyer can be sent to you by emailing Paul, DCM District 20.

District 21: John: Making plans for 2012.

District 22: Tom: I am the newly elected DCM for next term. Due to rotation we need a new Alternate DCM, Secretary, Registrar and Treasurer.

District 23: Mark: Presented proposed district budget for 2012. GSRs will take budget proposal to groups as necessary. GSRs will vote on budget at next district meeting. Discussed hold elections for those district positions which are rotating out or currently vacant, i.e., treasurer, alt. registrar. Discussed co-hosting report back assembly with Dist. 16 in upcoming year.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibilities: Alan: Committee working on orientation package. Chair gave overview of ASL and interpreter process with written recommendations on guidelines for ASL interpreting for groups. The Downtown Discussion Group is voting to have their Saturday evening discussion meeting become an ASL interpreted meeting. Meetings-To-Go is taking AA meetings to members unable to attend regular meetings, and there is a request for a meeting in Spring Valley. Working on contacts at Blind Center and Braille Institute on how to better carry our message to blind members. Next meeting is Tuesday, 1/24/2012.

Agenda: Barb: The meeting was held Dec. 8, 2011, with 10 participants; 7 regular members and three guests: Dean, outgoing Chair of Area Committee, Jane, Incoming Chair of AC and Mike, Incoming Alt. Chair of AC. Minutes were approved from last month and birthdays acknowledged, then Dean presented the agenda for the upcoming AC meeting and the Area Assembly in January to show Jane how his process has worked in putting items before the Agenda Committee. We reviewed said agenda and approved it. Lively discussion ensued.

Archives: Carrie: Archives committee is bringing back the Open House. It will be the 4th Sat of every month from 1-4pm at the central office Archives room. Check out some of our cool archival material, listen at the listening station, or help sort through what's been donated. Speaking of donations, as the time for rotation is at hand for some of you, we ask that you please donate meeting minutes, agendas, flyers, whatever you may have from your time in your position. We'll take anything, then we can sort through and decide if it's

archival. We voted to change our odd month north county meeting location to my house in Cardiff, since the member who's house we've been meeting at is rotating out. We'd like to invite the IT committee to our meeting, so we can pick their brains about what is possible for us in regards to putting material on the website. We wrapped up our annual ROOTS meeting. We felt it went very well. Wanted to get a feel of the Area Committee about what you all felt about this year's location. We liked it, but wanted outside opinions since we need to book next year's location early. Finally, I wanted to let you know how excited we all are to hear about our Archivist Joe's trip to the Archives in NY, full report coming at the January assembly...

CPC: Dean (in Gonzalo's absence): The CPC committee will be having an election for their new chairperson on the last Monday of this month.

Finance: Paul: Finance spent the last two sessions attempting to codify the intent and application of the motion to change the finance portions of the S&G. Finance will welcome a new treasurer and alternate treasurer next month. Additionally, Finance will lose 7 of 10 members due to rotation this month so we roll into 2012 with 3 members.

Grapevine/LaViña: Suzanne: We met 12/11/11 and had a potluck. New members of the committee were introduced and we all discussed the committee's direction for 2012. Thanks to all who participated. We will be at the Orientation Area Assembly January 7, 2012 where the committee also will meet (in January). Our next event to plan will be the Unity Day/Grapevine Celebration and a possible workshop with District 12. I will be serving the Grapevine/La Vina Committee as the chair for 2012-2013 and Linda F. will serve as my alternate. If you wish for me or a member of the committee to bring our booth, please call me at... [number on Area Roster].

Information Technologies: Steve: Laptops need to be accounted for and maintenance performed. If you are a new member of area assembly in any capacity, please send your new information to the Area Registrar. The website has capacity for doing just about anything. Submit ideas and IT will review.

Literature: Ray: No December meeting. New Movie Night flyer has been printed! Introduction of Ray M, new Literature Chairperson for Area 8!

NCAIC: Rich: 2012 North County H & I new member orientation begins Jan 20, 6:30 PM, Oceanside Alano Club. We purchased ten Grapevine Subscriptions for panels. One new H & I Panel meets monthly at the Vista Village Assisted Living facility. We are revising the N.C. H & I policy and guidelines and preparing a 2012 budget. H & I Southern California Convention (April 13, 14, 15, 2012) Planning Committee meets Jan 8, 2012, 10 AM at the Oceanside Alano Club. All are welcome to participate and serve.

Newsletter: Cindi: Last meeting had 4 in attendance. Chris N. was elected new chair. Need members, especially GSRs from districts. Jeff M. is still editor for both English and Spanish editions of the newsletter. We are looking to purchase Microsoft Publisher to improve ease of formatting — less than \$100 online and will need to purchase by year end. The Area Newsletter is to be published by year end as well. The committee meeting night will change to 2nd Tuesday at the Denny's on Mira Mesa Blvd. Thanks go to the four editors the Chair has worked with: Carolyn W, Ruben F, our first Spanish editor, Beverly S and currently Jeff M. Also thanks to all committee members for helping Chair stay sober. Thank you to all contributors to the newsletter over the year.

Policy: Linda: Elections were held Dec. 1 and Paul K. is new Policy Chair. Tony M is Alt. Chair. The Committee wants to thank Jane, Paul and Tony for making the last two years possible. The Area 8 Structure and Guidelines have been posted on the Area 8 website. Thanks go to Steve on the IT Committee and Rafael for the translations. This is a true miracle to have this job completed. I will be coming back: I am the new GSR for the Belly Up Group and am looking forward to being on a standing committee! [laughter]

SDIAIC: Chris: The purpose of H&I is to establish and maintain AA meetings in facilities where people are confined and to bring AA General Service Conference approved literature into those institutions. The purpose of Contact on Release is to introduce alcoholics being released from confined facilities to AA in San Diego. When notified of a release in San Diego County, volunteers contact the individual and take them to their first few meetings. Thank you for taking the pink and blue flyers to your district meetings. And we appreciate your GSRs taking the flyers to their meetings, as we are always looking for new members and

groups to adopt panels. H&I Orientation and Business Meeting – has two meetings per month: 3rd Sunday @ noon, Machinists Union Hall 5150 Kearney Mesa 92111. H&I Orientation only - Thursday @ 7 pm Central Office 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd 92120. Contact on Release - meets once a month: 3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 pm, Central Office, 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd 92120 -OR- contactonrelease@yahoo.com. We approved our 2012 budget at our November meeting. Pencil in April 13-15, 2012 for the H&I Intergroup Conference at the Bahia Resort on Mission Bay! Gonna be a blast!

Translation: Arturo: Most of translation work is done. We only have area assembly meeting which will be ready in a couple of days. Ruben is the new chair of Translation. His contact information will be included in an upcoming Area Committee roster.

Archivist: Joe: Went to archives in New York. They “found” a Jim Burwell scrapbook, including his conference report from 1955, two pages long! Lost Jewell J. recently, he had 49 years of sobriety.

AREA COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motion to modify finance related section of Structure and Guidelines; discussion on background — Paul T.

Updated Background Information:

This amendment to the Structure and Guidelines will accomplish two things.

For One:

- It will capture the process currently in practice for managing the Grapevine LaViña and Literature lines of accounting.
- Both of these lines accumulate cash through the process of sales or reimbursements for products made available to the fellowship.
- **In** order to manage the cash on hand, it has become established practice for the Treasurer to hold that cash on account against future orders to replenish literature stocks ...
- This authorizes a safe and secure vehicle for these Committee Chairs t.o manage significant sums of cash on hand.

And Secondly:

- This motion will allow the Area to respond in a timely manner to an urgent or emergent need that is outside the scope of the current budget and is too timely to allow it to go through the normal assembly approval process.
- The intention is to provide a vehicle for the Area to respond by establishing a special line of accounting that can accept targeted donations for the purposes of satisfying that need.
- There are processes in place for unbudgeted expenses less than \$450.00 and greater than \$450.00. This option should only be exercised if the dollar amount is greater than \$450.00 and the Area Committee deems there isn't enough time to go through the traditional assembly process.
- For expenses such as emergency capital equipment replacement or providing a service required to ensure any particular AA member is supported with special needs, the income received to address the special need, and the related expense would be properly vetted and voted on at the Area Committee meeting. If the short term proposal passes, the Treasurer would be authorized to accept funds from traditional sources for the special or time sensitive need. The item would be funded 'till complete and then closed out.
- For items that turn out to be perennial in nature, the fund would only exist in this form until the following budget cycle where it will be voted on by the fellowship to either be dissolved or incorporated into the approved annual budget.

- **Discussion:**

- Q: Is this an addendum to the original motion? A: No, this is simply clarification of the original motion background. It will be translated into Spanish and distributed bilingually to the DCMs very soon. This is also what will be presented on the floor of the Orientation Area Assembly in January.

Adhoc Committee for standing committee membership – continued discussion on report findings

Sense of the Area Committee on how to proceed with committee membership in 2012 — Tom M.

- Tom presented a draft handout of the new Area 8 GSR Standing Committee Request Form.
- Perhaps this will be printed on colored paper, and will be distributed to the districts, at the Registrar's table at the Area Assembly.
- **Discussion:**
 - Q: Can inaccurate info be changed? A: Yes.
 - Change "Mission Valley" to "Central Office"
 - Q: Someday, can we include specific needs in the form of a comment on the sheet? A: That's a continuing discussion item.
- **Sense of the meeting was to approve this format (with minor changes to correct factual information).**

Motion for \$45 Unbudgeted Funds Request (Native American Liaison Committee) — Jim M.

- **Motion:** "This motion for funding is submitted by the Native American Liaison committee. We request funds in the amount of \$45.26 to cover the costs of flyers for the potluck and speaker meeting held on November 11, 2011 at the Pala Indian Reservation, where Rod B. the Pacific Region Trustee was the guest speaker."

MSP/unanimous without discussion.

Cooperating with the Elderly Community – Background and discussion – How to move forward, or not. — Dean B / Dixie M.

- Dixie believes there is a need to create a new ad hoc committee to meet the needs of elderly alcoholics.
- At this time only Hawaii and Arizona areas have a CEC committee.
- This committee would work in conjunction with the Intergroup's Public Information Committee, as well as the Area's Accessibilities, and CPC committees.
- Dixie recommended that this committee not be staffed by younger AAs, to promote identification by the target population.
- Sallye M., incoming PI Committee Chair, said they will be contacting retirement homes and convalescent centers to explain what AA is and isn't, but not taking an AA meeting in to them.
- Dixie suggested this committee would also need a supply of young people's literature.
- Joel said that CEC is listed as one of the committees in several other areas besides Arizona and Hawaii. If we can get involved in efforts to carry the message that are more tangible, the fellowship in the Area will see General Service in a new light.
- The County's Aging & Independence Services agency said 3 of 4 calls they received involved alcohol or drinking problems.
- Q: Does H&I do anything like this? A: One panel goes into Edgemoor, probably the only one.
- Alan: Accessibilities has a Meetings to Go program for shut-ins, but only upon request. Facilities like the Blind Center or the Braille Institute must make a request before we can go into their facility.
- Past CPC chair: When an elder goes into assisted living they have a medical staff. We might reach the medical staff but it's hard to directly reach the elders themselves. Perhaps each district could have its own CEC committee; easier than trying to solve this problem with a single, central committee. Too many places and difficult access.

- Perhaps we can collaborate with organizations such as Meals on Wheels, which do have direct contact with the elders.
- **A sense of the Area Committee supported continued research into this need.**

Adhoc Committee on Guidelines - Review Final Report & recommendations to consider — Joel C.

- Report distributed last month. Paul K., incoming Policy Chair, assured Joel that this will not die away.
- Connie J., incoming DCM of District 12 can field questions.
- Up to incoming Policy and Area Chairpersons will take this up in 2011.

Motion to pay underfunded Spanish interpretation costs in 2011

- MSP to approve \$80 of unbudgeted funds to pay for oral Spanish interpretation.

Motion for unbudgeted mileage expense from Accessibilities Committee

- MSP to approve \$93.30 of unbudgeted funds for mileage for Accessibilities.

Dates for Big Day Area and Budget Area Assemblies

- Districts will bid in January for September 22 and November 17 Area Assemblies.

Officer Panels — incoming and outgoing

- Dean asked the Panel 60 officers to come forward and be recognized by the Committee.
- In a similar manner, the Panel 62 officers introduced themselves.

Respectfully submitted,

Butch M., Panel 60 Secretary

Roxane R., Panel 62 Secretary