

DISTRICT 16
Guidelines
San Diego-Imperial California Area

Preface

The District 16 Guidelines are based on A.A. General Service knowledge and experience shared in, "The A.A. Service Manual, "and the, " San Diego-Imperial California Area 8 Structure and Guidelines. "Additionally, other A.A. Conference-approved literature has been used to develop these District 16 Guidelines such as The AA Group.

Article 1. District Purpose

- A. Keep the lines of communication open between the General Service Office (G. S. O.) and District 16 Groups through full registration and representation of all active Groups.
- B. Develop knowledgeable and experienced General Service Representatives (GSR's) through the study, practice, and application of the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts, the Six Warranties, and other principles of service as contained in "The A.A. Service Manual."
- C. Elect officers to represent District 16 at Area Service Committee meetings and to participate with GSR's at Area Assemblies, and other San Diego-Imperial Area functions.
- D. Strengthen District 16 Groups through service work to ensure that the opportunity to recover from alcoholism through the practice of the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions will be available for future alcoholics.
- E. Support the A.A. service structure including the General Service Office, the San Diego-Imperial Area 8 and District 16 in the spirit of the Seventh Tradition by; encouraging all Groups in District 16 to establish and participate in a regular contribution plan.
- F. Further support the A.A. service structure by encouraging individual participation in Regional Forums and Assemblies (e.g. Forums and P.R.A.A.S.A.)
- G. To assist in the development and communication of an **informed group conscience**.
- H. Deliberations which usually includes recommendations for consideration and voting will be approved by **substantial unanimity** - defined as a **two-thirds majority**. **Page S52**

Article II District Description

- A. **District:** District 16 is part of the San Diego-Imperial Area (Area 8) in the Pacific Region of the General Service Conference Structure. It is located in San Diego County, California. The boundaries of District 16 are specified in the "San Diego-Imperial Area Assembly Area 8 Structure & Guidelines **Appendix A AND B**
- Geographical Boundary Lines. **NORTH:** Southern city limits of Carlsbad to El Camino Real at Olivenhain and a line between El Camino Real at Olivenhain to Via Rancho Parkway at S-6 (borders District 1 and 23). **EAST:** To Lake Hodges and a line to Penasquitos Canyon on the Black Mountain Road (~District 21). **SOUTH:** A line between Carmel Valley Road at 1-5 and one mile south of Poway Exit on I-15 (borders District 4 and 13). **WEST:** Pacific Ocean. *
WIDTH: North-South 10 miles; **East-West** 9 miles

Article 111. District Membership

- A. **Voting members of District 16**
 - 1. District Officers: D.C.M., Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and Alternates.
 - 2. All GSR's who are currently registered as representing a District 16 group.
 - 3. Alternates: All members serving in alternate Trusted Servant positions have the same voting privileges as their principals only when their principals are absent.
- B. **Need for alternate Trusted Servants**
 - 1. In an effort to build a greater experience level in the District, the following incumbent Trusted Servants are encouraged to recruit members to serve as their alternates.
 - a) GSR's
 - b) District Officers and Committee Chairs
 - 2. This policy recognizes the great advantage of having a member gain valuable experience while in the alternate position and perhaps become interested enough to stand for that office at the next election, When 2 alternates volunteer for the position, the principal shall introduce them at the next District Committee meeting.

C. Definition of District Officers and GSR Members.

1. District 16 Officers, GSR's and Committee Chairs are "District Officers" for the purpose of voting at District meetings.

D. Exclusions.

1. Each qualified voter shall have a single vote even though the member may be serving in more than one capacity.
2. District Officer's who have missed three consecutive District Committee meetings are considered inactive. They are automatically removed from the service position. They are ineligible to act as a District Trusted Servant unless reinstated by a vote of the District Committee. The incumbent or the DCM., arranging for an alternate to assume the duties of the position on a temporary basis with the approval of the District Committee, may preclude this action.

Article IV. District Funding

- A. District 16 accepts no money or things of value from nonalcoholic persons or organizations. District 16 sells no merchandise or raises any funds that are not entirely voluntary contributions of its members.
- B. District 16 is entirely self-supporting through contributions from District 16 Groups and 7th Tradition collection at District 16 Committee meetings.
- C. When discounts or subsidies are offered to District 16, the following policy applies. "Whenever a discount or subsidy is that which would be offered to any other organization of similar size requiring a purchased service or product of similar character and magnitude ... it may be accepted. Whenever a discount or subsidy is partly or in total offered because we are Alcoholics Anonymous, it must be declined."

Article V. District Elections –

A. Positions and Eligibility

1. DCM

- a) A background in A.A. service work, which is related to the DCM position.
- b) Minimum suggested sobriety of four years.
- c) The time, energy and willingness to serve the District well.
- d) Availability to attend all Area Service Committee meetings, Area Assemblies, and other Area events.
- e) Able and willing to assume duties as described in Article VI, Section A

2. Alternate DCMs

- a) A background in A. A. service work, which is related to the GSR position.
- b) Minimum suggested sobriety of four years.
- c) The time, energy and willingness to serve the District well.
- d) Availability to attend all Area Service Committee meetings, Area Assemblies, and other Area events.
- c) Able and willing to assume duties as described in Article VI, Section A & B

3. Secretary

- a) Minimum suggested sobriety of two years.
- b) The time, energy and willingness to serve the District well.
- c) Able and willing to assume duties as described in Article VI, Section C

4. Treasurer

- a) Minimum suggested sobriety of four years.
- b) The time, energy and willingness to serve the District well.
- c) Able and willing to assume duties as described in Article VI, Section D
- d) Maintain the post office box for the District.

5. Registrar

- a) Minimum suggested sobriety of two years.
- b) The time, energy and willingness to serve the District well.
- c) Able and willing to assume duties as described in Article VI, Section E

B. Election Procedure

1. November of odd-numbered years.
2. The principal of Rotation applies to all District 16 officer positions.
3. The term of office for District 16 Trusted Servants is two years commencing on January first of the even-numbered year following the election. *Page 2 of '9 (11/20/02 reviewed - Printed 08-27-03)*
4. The DCM and other District Officers with Alternates are elected by Third Legacy procedure.

5. Voting will be by written ballot.
6. It is preferred that more than one person is nominated for each office.

C. Vacated and Newly Created Positions

1. Vacated District Officer positions will be filled automatically by the alternate. If there is no alternate, the DCM may appoint a member to the position temporarily subject to confirmation by Third Legacy procedure at the next District Committee meeting.
2. Newly created District Officer positions will be filled by an election at the next District Committee meeting.
3. The current and past officers are ineligible for election to a District Officer position in which they have served in the past. They are encouraged to participate in other District and Area positions.
- 4.

Article VI. Duties of District Officers

A. District Committee Member (DCM)

1. Prepare agenda for District meetings.
2. Maintain roster of officers and GSR's.
3. Set up District meeting.
4. Maintain an effective service structure throughout the District.
5. Respond to groups that request information on General Service, the AA service structure, application of the traditions or any other question the group desires information on.
6. Service sponsor District GSR's by continuing their study of the, "The Twelve Traditions," "The Twelve Concepts," "The AA Group" pamphlet, "The A.A. Service Manual," "Box 4-5-9" and other General Service material.
7. Attend all meetings of the District 16 Committee.
8. Attend and participate in all Area Service Committee meetings, Area Assemblies, the Pacific Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (P.R.A.A.S.A.), and the Regional Forum. Events requiring lengthy travel may be attended if District funds permit
9. Chair the monthly District 16 Committee meeting.
10. Maintain active communications between the District and the San Diego-Imperial California Area Delegate and the Area Service Committee.
11. Encourage and assist GSR's to develop leadership, knowledge, experience and love of General Service work.
12. Maintain responsibility for the following District Election tasks:
 - A. Coordinate the biannual District Election and conduct any other District elections.
 - B. Ensure that the results of the District Election are communicated to District 16 and the San Diego-Imperial California Area; and that any reports required are promptly sent.
 - C. Service sponsor replacement to ensure an orderly transfer of responsibilities.
13. Keep bank authorities signatures current with Treasure.

B. Alternate District Committee Member (Alternate D.C. M.).

1. Assist the D.C. M. to maintain an effective service structure throughout the District.
2. Substitute for the D.C. M. when necessary.
3. Attend all meetings of the District 16 Committee.
4. Participate as a voting member of District 16 in the absence of the DCM
5. Participate as a voting member of the Area Assembly.
6. Participate as a voting member of the Area Service Committee in the absence of the D.C. M.
7. Attend and participate in all Area Service Functions and Area Assemblies.
8. Chair District and report on special project committees as needed.
9. Service sponsor replacement to ensure an orderly transfer of responsibilities.

C. Secretary

1. Take the minutes of the District Committee meeting. Present the minutes for approval at the next District Committee meeting.
2. Attend all meetings of the District 16 Committee.
3. Attend all Area Service Functions and Area Assemblies.
4. Participate as a member of the Assembly.
5. Distribute the minutes to District Committee meeting.
6. Purchase secretarial supplies with district funds and maintain custody of such supplies.
7. Maintain copies of all District minutes, agenda, and correspondence in good condition.
8. Process correspondence as required.
9. Service Sponsor replacement to ensure an orderly transfer of responsibilities.

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D. Treasurer

1. Attend all meetings of the District 16 Committee
2. Attend and participate as a member of the Area Assembly.
3. Keep accurate and permanent records of District funds.
4. Record donations to the District using the Group's name and registration number on the District Treasurer and meeting record forms.
5. A.) Maintain the Treasurer's records in good condition.
B.) Maintain 7 years of records
6. Acknowledge donations by receipts to the donors.
7. Provide the Secretary with a copy of the Treasurer's Report, which contains a list of donating Groups for inclusion in the monthly District Committee minutes.
8. Make a copy of the Treasurer's record of the previous month's meeting available at District Committee meetings.
9. Maintain checkbook records and balance the District bank account.
Note: Two signatures are required on all District Checks.
10. Ensure that District monthly rental fee for meeting place is paid on time.
11. Ensure that District Post Office Box is paid on time.
12. Ensure that the DCMs, Treasurer's and Alternate Treasure names are placed on the District bank Account.
13. Purchase with District funds and maintains custody of the Treasurer's records, other Treasurer's supplies, and the key to the district Post Office Box.
14. Distribute any Post Office Box mail to the proper District members.
15. Service Sponsor replacement to ensure an orderly transfer of responsibilities. Including the transfer of signature
16. Work with the DCM in transferring of signatures authorities on bank accounts are completed.

E. Registrar

1. Maintain accurate records of District Groups and GSR's including name, address, telephone number, and email address of all Group officers and GSR's.
2. Attend all meetings of the District 16 Committee.
3. Attend Area Assemblies.
4. Participate as a member of the Area Assembly.
5. Work closely with DCMs, Secretary, Treasurer and GSR's to keep District Group records current.
6. Inform the DCM, Area Registrar, the G.S.O., Records Department and/or the Conference Secretary of changes in Group, or officer information as necessary.
7. Inform new GSR's of their Group name and number as it is currently registered with G. S. O.
8. Service Sponsor replacement to ensure an orderly transfer of responsibilities.

Article VII. Ratification.

A. Ratification.

These guidelines shall become effective immediately upon acceptance by two-thirds of the District present and voting.

B. Annual Review

1. District 16 Guidelines Review ad hoc Committee Chair shall be appointed by DCM each odd numbered year in February to review and study, as necessary, the District 16 Guidelines and make recommendations for any changes deemed necessary. A written report shall be made to the District Committee reflecting any possible suggested changes.
2. - The ad hoc Committee Chair is responsible for a complete and thorough review of the District 16 Guidelines. The ad hoc Committee Chair's term of service is from the date of appointment as Chair, to the date that the Guidelines have been

- revised and distributed at a District Committee meeting.
3. The ad hoc Committee Chair may implement editorial changes such as spelling, grammar and other revisions that have no significant impact on the Guidelines with the concurrence of the District 16 Committee.
 4. The District 16 Committee must review other recommended changes that may possibly affect District 16 policies and procedures. Each
 5. Upon completion of the Guidelines Review ad hoc Committee Chair shall complete the following sequence of actions.
 - a) Deliver the completed Review/Study report to the DCM at a District 16 Committee meeting.
 - b) Explain the Editorial Changes and request the concurrence of the Committee in order to incorporate the Editorial Changes.

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- c) Explain each Recommended Change to the Co Committee.
- d) Upon Acceptance by two-thirds of the district, present and voting, incorporate recommended changes into the District 16 guidelines.
- e) Arrange to publish and distribute the revised District 16 Guidelines.

C. Amendment

1. Guidelines changes proposed by the District Guidelines Review ad hoc Committee Chair should follow the procedure in article VI1. B above.
2. Guidelines changes proposed between annual District Guidelines reviews.
3. All proposed amendments must be in writing and submitted to the District Secretary who will give them to the DCM.
4. The Secretary shall present the proposed amendment to a District Committee meeting no later than two months after receipt
5. Prior to presentation to the District committee meeting, the DCM shall provide opportunity for GSR's and other District members to become fully informed on the proposed amendment by announcing the receipt of the proposed change(s) and making them available in writing at the next District Committee Meeting.
6. Upon acceptance by two-thirds of the District, present and voting, the proposed amendment becomes a part of the District 16 Guidelines.

D. Suspension.

Upon agreement by two-thirds of the District, present and voting, these guidelines, or any part thereof, may be suspended temporarily for necessity.

Article VIII. District 16 Committee Meeting

A. District 16 Committee Meeting Day.

a.) The District 16 Committee meeting is held on the fourth Wednesday of every month excluding November and December. November and December meeting will be held the 3rd Wednesday. The meeting time is 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

B. Typical District 16 Committee Meeting Format

Call to order
The Serenity Prayer
Roll Call: Sign in by all present
Celebration of Birthdays

Introductions

New GSR's
Visitors DCM
Guests

GSR's
Speaker

District Officers

Readings

Twelve Traditions (short form)
Twelve Concepts (short form)..

Declaration of Unity

Approval of Minutes: presented by Secretary

Reports:

Treasurer Report
Registrar if needed
Committee: Visitation, Workshop or other committees

Old/Continuing Business

DCM Report including reading and explaining any agenda items to be brought up before the Area Service Committee meeting or Assembh/. Old business New business * **Committee**

Reports

Archives
H & I Liaison
Literature New

Grapevine
Special Needs

Public Information (PI)
CPC

Business

Questions or problems reported from attendees
District meetings, workshops and reports (as time permits)

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Additional Information:

Area and District events

[Reminders: Next Area meeting; date, time and location] Minute
of silence Closing- chosen by PCM

Possible Programs.

1. Area Officer presentations.
2. Delegate's annual General Service Conference report.
3. Quarterly GSO Board meeting reports.
4. General Service Conference Agenda Items and Advisory Actions.
5. Area Committee presentations.

Agenda	Grapevine	San Diego Imperial Area Institutional Committee
Archives	Literature	Contact Services
Newsletter	Public Information (PI)	Cooperation with the Professional Community
Finance	Policy	AD HOC Committees
Special Needs		
6. Study session on Traditions, Concepts and Conference agenda or AA concerns
7. Skits or plays depicting some aspect of General Service or AA concern.
8. Films or Video features.

—end—

The GSR Preamble

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A.

We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as he may express Himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship.

Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole.

A.A. Language

A glossary of terms frequently used in General Service activities

A.C.Y.P.A.A - All California Young People in A.A. A.A.W.S - Alcoholics Anonymous World

Services, Inc.

Alternate - A service worker who, at Group, District, or Area level, assists, supports, and participates in service responsibilities where feasible, depending on local autonomy and local needs.

Area - A geographical division within a state or province. A conference delegate represents an Area.

Area Service Committee - An S.D.I.A. committee made up of Area Officers, past Delegates, D.C.M.'s, alternate D.C.M.'s, other District Officer's, Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co Chairs. There is a minimum of two A.S.C. Meetings between each regular Assembly. The Area Service Committee has the following purpose:

1. Identifying, defining, and discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues.
2. Obtaining the consensus of each District and its Groups.
3. Acting as an advisory Committee to the Assembly, Executive Committee and Delegate.
4. Establishing The agenda for the next assembly

Archives - A collection of A.A. memorabilia usually maintained by a committee.

A.S.C - Area Service Committee.

Assembly - Membership includes the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, other Area Officers, all currently serving

D.C.M.'s, Alternate D.C.M.'s, other District Officers, and Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co chairs.

The Assembly is the mainstream of the Conference structure and is the representative voice of the, movement expressing itself. It is the gathering of the G.S.R.'s and the A.S.C., which deliberates upon and enacts resolutions concerning service matters brought before it. Its responsibilities include:

1. Electing and supporting the Area Officers, including a Delegate to the General Service Conference.
2. Being an interim repository, through its G.S.R.'s, of the collective group conscience of-the Area.
3. Seeking substantial unanimity in all important decisions.
4. Strengthening A.A. as a whole and carrying the A.A. message the best way possible in the M.S.C.A.

Box 4-5-9 - A bimonthly publication of the General Service Office, including many items of interest.

Conference - The General Service Conference. This can mean:

1. The structure involving committee members, G.S.R.'s, and Delegates in the United States and Canada.
2. The annual meeting of Delegates each April in New York.

C.P.C. - Cooperation with the Professional Community. C.P.C. committees at the District, Area, Trustee, and Conference level help carry the message to professionals who work with Alcoholics.

Delegate - The man or woman elected every other year to represent the Area at the annual Conference meeting in New York and to bring back to the Area the results of that meeting.

DCM - District Committee Member Chair, A member of the District Committee elected by the District to represent the entire district and to coordinate service activities within the district.

District - A geographical division within the Area, sometimes divided into subdistrict, represented by Committee Members.

F.C.- Finance Committee

General Services * Movement wide services, performed by anyone in the General Service Structure (G.S.R., D.C.M., Delegate, etc.).

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G.S.O. - General Service Office (in New York), which provides services to groups in the U.S. and Canada.

G.S.R. - General Service Representative; An A.A. member elected by the Group to voice the Group's opinion in discussions at the Area level, and to vote for the District and Area Officers and the Delegate.

GVR - Grapevine Representative; the Group or District or Area contact with the Grapevine office.

H.& I. - Hospital and Institution Committee.

I.C.Y.P.A.A. - International Conference of Young People in A.A.

Informed Group Conscience - implies that pertinent information has been studied and all views have been heard before the group votes. The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents **substantial unanimity** on an issue before definitive action is taken.

Page 34 & 35 of The AA Group

P.I. - Public Information; P.I. Committees at the District, Area, Trustee, and Conference level help carry the message by working with the media.

P.R.A.A.S.A - Pacific Region AA Service Assembly; The Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly. Held each year in March in a different Area of the Pacific Region. A weekend of sharing experience with our counterparts from all the different Areas in the Pacific Region, and staff members from G.S.O. A great opportunity to learn more about General Service.

Region - A grouping of several Areas from which a Regional Trustee comes to the Board of Trustees. There are six Regions in the U.S., two in Canada.

S.D.I.A. - San Diego Imperial Area.

Third Legacy - Recovery and unity are A.A.'s first two Legacies. Our Third Legacy is Service, the sum total of all A.A. services, from a twelfth step call to AA's coast-to-coast and worldwide service activities.

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Trustee - The usual term for a member of AA's General Service Board. There are 14 Alcoholic Trustees (Class B) and 7 Nonalcoholic Trustees (Class A).

Twelve Concepts - As the Twelve Steps are to personal RECOVERY and the Twelve Traditions are to the preservation and UNITY of Alcoholics Anonymous, so are the Twelve Concepts to General SERVICE. They are a set of principles intended to provide service to A.A. and the still-suffering alcoholic. They also protect the structure by which such service is made possible.

Vital to A.A.'s Growth

These services, whether performed by individuals, groups, areas, or A.A. as a whole, are utterly vital to our existence and growth. Nor can we make A.A. more simple by abolishing such services. We would only be asking for complication and confusion."

Bill W. 1951
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The Conference Structure-An Overview

"The Conference structure is the framework in which these "general services" are carried out. It is a method by which A.A.'s collective group conscience can speak forcefully and put its desires for worldwide services into effect. It is the structure that takes the place of government in A. A., ensuring that the full voice of A.A. will be heard and guaranteeing that movement-wide services will continue to function under all conditions.... Today, general service include all kinds of activities within the Conference structure, carried on by districts, area committees, delegates, trustees, the General Service Office and the Grapevine. Usually, these services affect A.A. as a whole."

An Upside-Down Organization

Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside-down organization because, as the structure chart shows, the groups are on top and the trustees are on the bottom. Bill W. wrote in Concept 1: "The A.A. groups today hold ultimate responsibility and the final authority for our world services..." Then, in Concept II: Bill made it clear that the groups "delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world service and thereby made the Conference... the actual voice and effective conscience of our whole Society."

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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."

"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 over integration. 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 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."

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District 16 Motions to Amend District 16 Guidelines: October 2009 – All motions approved

- A. Review material submitted from a District 16 member concerning the Annual Proposed budget exceeding the previous year's contributions.
- B. Background: In 2008 Total 7th tradition contribution was \$3,812.64 from District 16 AA meeting contributions. The proposed budget for 2009 is \$7,137 which exceeds 2008 contributions by \$3,324.36. District 16 should strive for self support from contribution from the meetings in District 16. Additional funds for District 16 can be generated by more District 16 meeting contributing. Educating our members will heighten awareness of the spiritual dynamics of our 7th Tradition.
- C. *Stated in the Grapevine March 1997 "Corporate Poverty"*

In the Seventh Tradition, when talking about how AA acted when it found out about the bequests that were coming its way, Bill wrote, "The pressure of that fat treasury would surely tempt the board to invent all kinds of schemes to

do good with such funds, and so divert AA from its primary purpose. The moment that happened, our Fellowship's confidence would be shaken. The board would be isolated, and would fall under heavy attack of criticism from both AA and the public. Then our trustees wrote a bright page in AA history. They declared for the principle that AA must always stay poor. Bare running expenses plus a prudent reserve would henceforth be the Foundation's financial policy." He went on to say, "At that moment, we believe, the principle of corporate poverty was firmly and finally embedded in AA tradition."

MOTION FOR THE GROUP: District 16 will adopt an annual budget, the expenses of which shall not exceed its anticipated income.

B. Review material submitted from a District 16 member concerning the Prudent Reserve.

Background: In 2003 the below motion was passed regarding District 16 Prudent Reserve.

District 16 shall follow the 1954 decision by A.A.'s Board of Trustees found on page 12 of pamphlet Self-Support: Where Money and Spiritually Mix. District 16 shall establish a reserve fund whose principal purpose is to provide the financial resources necessary to continue the essential services of District 16 for up to 1 year in the event of an unexpected and substantial reduction in the normal revenues of the organization (A.A.)

Stated in the Box 459 - December 2008 "What is a Prudent Reserve ?"

In terms of the common good, when it comes to a group's long-term survival, one of the most prudent things group members can do is to establish a financial reserve—a proverbial "rainy day fund"—to see the group through any difficult times. In this way, should contributions fluctuate or unexpected expenses arise, the group will be fortified financially and able to keep its doors open. Each group has a set of fixed expenses that must be met on a regular basis in order to keep the group afloat—such things as rent, literature, refreshments, and, in some cases, insurance. These costs are met through the regular contributions of group members. Yet most groups also try to put aside some additional funds as a bulwark against uncertainty, aiming to create a prudent reserve equal to anywhere from one to three months of their regular operating expenses. Such funds contribute to a group's continued survival and help to ensure the group's primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

MOTION FOR THE GROUP: District 16 to maintain a Prudent Reserve sufficient enough to cover 12 months of budgeted essential expenses. Essentials expenses are defined as: rent, copies, secretary supplies, bank charges, PO Box rental, stamps, literature, and budgeted mileage reimbursements. DCM expenses to attend PRASSA every year and the Pacific Regional Forum each other year. Funds in excess of the Prudent Reserve will be donated to other AA entities upon group conscious of District 16 on a quarterly basis.

C. Review material submitted by District 16 member concerning the purpose and funding of Service Events.

Background: The Seventh Tradition is not about money. It's a spiritual concept based on participation. It's not about groups sending more money; it's about a larger percentage of groups contributing. We don't need the groups to send more money we need more groups participating in the process. The District provides the services the groups need and the services it provides are communicated, the group will contribute.

In the long form of the Seventh Tradition, it says... "Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority."

The money is not ours; it simply travels through our hands to fulfill our purpose. We don't own the money; we use some of it and pass on the rest to those who also need it to 'Carry the Message'. This is not about us and them. It is about being a small part and doing our part.

MOTION FOR THE GROUP: District 16 will follow the below guidelines regarding Service Events and 7th Tradition.

C. Service Events

Service Events should fulfill the primary purpose of District 16. Service Events should not be held for the purpose of raising funds. Service Events should be budgeted to pay for expenses only.

Contributions received specifically for a Service Event are to be used to offset the expenses of the specific intended event. Surplus funds from a Service Event should be passed onto AA

Service entities, as determined by the District 16 GSR's at a regularly scheduled meeting of District 16.