



---

# SAN DIEGO – IMPERIAL AREA

## ASSEMBLY OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS – AREA 8

# NEWSLETTER

---

Vol. XXX No. 3 P.O. Box 3670, San Diego, CA 92163-1670 ([www.area8aa.org](http://www.area8aa.org)) May 2017

**“Supporting our Future; Growth, Participation, Contributions.”**

### My experience at PRAASA

By Renea

My experience at PRAASA was a wonderful and spiritual uplifting. I learned so much especially the appreciation of being in service. I am thankful to Jane our delegate for the opportunity and blessing to speak at PRAASA for the first time I had ever gone.

I was asked to speak and the topic was “Future Leaders The Spirit of participation and rotation”. I started getting nervous. Started to think, I have to go in front of all these people and speak? I was always afraid of going in front of people and making a speech or giving a report. Let me tell you when I was younger I would purposely fail and not give a report so I wouldn't have to go in front of class. When I became an adult and I had to either give a presentation or be in front of people, alcohol was always the solution for me. It gave me some courage. The Miracle of this program allows me to grow not just to live my life without alcohol and to have the courage to do things but also to grow spiritually. I have learned to trust people in this program. I was blessed to be able to find a sponsor that took me through all 12 steps help me learn about myself to know I could love myself. Something I didn't do when I was drinking I lost all self-respect, self-confidence and I no longer wanted to be here in this world. AA has saved my life and allowed me to be of service and give back to this program. So when I was asked to speak it was a blessing to me a way for me to give back. My service sponsor help me to prepare what I needed to say. I've read books like “Language of the heart” that has so much information on AA history and so much other more.

The ride going to it was an interesting and great experience riding up to Sacramento. I got to meet a new friend sister in sobriety. My service sponsor and her husband drove up. The closer we got to PRAASA my nerves would increase more and more. It stopped for a bit when we arrived. The first night there we went to an early meeting. I heard these women share who got into an accident a year she was going to PRAASA. She didn't get a chance to go because she got hit by a vehicle. After she recovered she was determine to go to PRAASA. Even though she was partially paralyzed. She shared she was so glad to have made it this year. I thought to myself, if this woman has all this courage to get here I can do this. The next day when I woke up I thought this is the day. This is the day to go up in front of so many people to speak. Some ease came when my higher power and the fellowship especially all those in San Diego gave me the courage to do my speech. I am guessing they could see how nervous I was. My very good friend who was able to attend PRAASA was there and I am so thankful to her being there at the right time. She helped me get through something I was having trouble with right before my time to talk. I share all this because this is where my higher power worked in my life. Normally I would have just found a corner to cry. The incident that happened which it was too embarrassing to tell happen I didn't want to go up. My higher power allowed me to be surrounded by loving and caring people until I had to sit in front of everyone to speak. After I finished my speech I felt relieved it was all over. I grew at that moment. Not just myself, but I grew spiritually.

## A.A. RESOURCES

GSO NY	aa.org
AA Grapevine	aa.grapevine.org
AA Central Office	aa.sandiego.org
Area 8 San Diego-Imperial	area8aa.org
North County Intergroup	nosdco-aa.org
ACYPAA 2010	acypaa2010.org
Oficina Central Hispana	619-280-7224
Oficina Intergrupar	
Condado Norte	760-758-6905
Oficina Intergrupar	
South Bay Area Chula Vista	619-473-0288

## AREA 8 OFFICERS

Chairperson	Colin M	619-517-2167
Alt. Chairperson	Monty C	619-243-9031
Area Delegate Panel 66	Jane G	858-212-8568
Alt. Delegate Panel 66	Roxanne R	760-751-2348
Area Treasurer	Paul K	760-845-0015
Alt. Area Treasurer	Efrain A	760-533-8040
Area Registrar	Renee R	619-233-4472
Alt. Area Registrar	Gerry S	619-507-5083
Area Secretary	Linda R	760-634-1618
Alt. Area Secretary	Tanya T	858-336-3795

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS	PAGE
My experience at PRAASA	1, 3
AA Resources	2
Area 8 Officers	2
Theme for 2017 GS Conference	3
My PRAASA experience	3 – 4
PRAASA, A newbies experience	4 - 5
Assembly Minutes	5 - 9
Master Calendar	9 - 10
Financials	11

### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

*Chairperson: Carmen B.*

*Editor: Monty C.*

*Coordinator: Monty C.*

\*\*\* **Note:** *The Editor may make modifications to submittals to the newsletter in order to keep with formatting. The intent of the message in the submission will not be altered.*

### Area Committee Meeting

The Area Committee meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7 PM to 10 PM.

The location is 2650 Melbourne, San Diego, CA. All AA members are welcome to attend.

To get an item on the agenda, please contact [chair@area8aa.org](mailto:chair@area8aa.org) to begin the process.

If required, your specific request or proposal will be directed to the assistance of one of our Area's standing committees.

**The Area Committee meeting and all other General Service meetings are open to all AA members.**

## **My experience at PRAASA**

### **By Renea (continued)**

The rest of my experience at PRAASA was even better after speaking. I got to enjoy all it had to offer. Learning new things. I got to join in one of the discussion room on Accessibilities. What other Areas do and our Area do to carry the message to those with accessibilities issues. Making new friends and enjoy all the speeches.

The ride home was reflection on my time at PRAASA Everyone I rode up with, we all got to know each of us on a more personal basis. We told a little of our story and our family. And I got to be closer to them all. I am extremely grateful to them for so many things. There is that part in the story in the Big Book. Acceptance is the answer. The sentence where God doesn't make mistakes. He places all of you at the right time and place to help me. All I had to do was trust in my higher power and worked my program to the best of my ability.

My sponsor said to me. I don't ever have to pick up a drink. I haven't had to from the start of my sobriety. I can live life on life's terms without having to pick up a drink. And it feels good. I wouldn't have been a part of all of this if I hadn't participated in service. There's a part in our service manual and wanted to read. Rotation helps to bring some spiritual rewards far more enduring than any fame. With no AA "status" at stake we needn't compete for titles or praise - we have complete freedom to serve as we are needed. And also, this last sentence in Language of the Heart page 303. Our AA freedoms create the soil in which genuine love can grow - the love of each for the other, and all for God himself.

### **2017 GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE THEME: "Supporting Our Future"**

#### **WORKSHOP TOPICS:**

##### **Growth**

Diversity -- Outreach and Attraction  
Safety – An Important Consideration  
Communication – Today and Tomorrow

##### **Participation**

Fellowship vs. Membership  
Leadership: "I am Responsible..."  
Is Your Voice Heard?

##### **Contributions**

Spirituality and Money

Fully Self-Supporting Our Obligations  
Apathy and Power of the Purse

## **My PRAASA Experience**

### **By Lynda**

What PRAASA means to me. I have been to three PRAASA's. I don't remember my first PRAASA very well, and I should, because it was in my hometown of San Diego. But, it was mostly a blur of meetings and eating and talking with my sponsor, who attended with me. I did attend one meeting for group treasurers that had some interesting things said, like don't get a debit card for your account. And I remember the breakfast speaker's story of lows and highs.

Then I didn't go to PRAASA for a few years and my sponsor passed away. In January of 2016, our DCM could not represent us and I was chosen for this position. It was an honor to be asked, but I feel I was not exactly ready for it. I went to the PRAASA in Spokane, Washington. This time I was prepared to pay attention and take notes. I thought a bit about my sponsor and I knew she would have wanted to be there also. I learned that there are 15 areas in 9 states and PRAASA is held every year with the groups taking turns to host. The delegates for the Conference in New York are on 2 panels for first year and second year delegates. Our new delegate, Jane G., spoke of first year highlights. Joel C., our Pacific Regional Trustee who comes from San Diego, also spoke about experience, strength and hope. Nevada Mike said when he has an emotional connection, he says something; he has to remain teachable. Darin F. said he had to remain approachable and to listen. He enjoys service work because it is hard. Leaders do not drive by mandate. I also heard "We are united by our desire to be of service." It was mentioned that we are perhaps too anonymous--we have to let people know who we are and how to reach us. Don't be so anonymous that people can't find you. Social media also came up. Gabe in YPAA of San Diego said AA organization could implement technology to start their own social network and we are a network. Facebook is no place for AA. Also, safety was discussed: have someone to say Hi, talk to newcomers, introduce them to others, give them your number and get theirs, walk them to their car at night. But the most meaningful thing I heard came when we were discussing the plain language version on the Big Book. A man with tattoos everywhere said he couldn't read or write his own name when he came to AA. He learned by using the big book and help from AA volunteers and has since become literate. We discussed the cost of translation and even though it is quite

expensive, we need to get translation done. Finally, if you can give a little more--we do need more money. A dollar won't make it anymore--contribute more if you can. I also went to an Al-Anon luncheon which had delicious food and an engaging speaker. I don't exactly understand Al-Anon, but it was a little clearer after that talk. That was it for my second PRAASA. I never made it to the night time round tables---being a little bit worn out from all the day time things.

My last PRAASA was this year. It was about supporting our future and it was our 50th Anniversary of PRAASA. What I learned is that the future is here and the time for AA is now. Anything you can do the carries the message is a significant job. We need to give more time and money to AA. The committees we have need your support. The committees need more financial help. We need to use technology. Don't talk about the future--talk about now. And that's the bulk of what I learned from PRAASA.

### **PRAASA, A Newbie's Experience By Bryan B.**

2017 was a lot of firsts for me. I was still fairly new as the Area 8 District 5 DCM, I only had a few months of experience at the position. I had planned my first large event, the January orientation assembly (with lots of help of course). And I attended my first PRAASA.

I hadn't been to a convention for AA before, and the trip up brought up some nervousness at not quite knowing what to expect. It was almost akin to first coming into the rooms, not knowing quite what was going on. This was dispelled even while waiting at the airport and running across a fellow DCM that was on the same flight up as me.

Arriving at PRAASA was also daunting, as the check in and room was all people I had yet to meet, but was also welcoming. Entering into the room that was already filling up with people from all around was interesting, and there was an energy in the room already. I spotted people from Area 8 and was welcomed at the table they were at, which shortly I realized was a prime spot to sit, instead of in the mass of chairs up front. The following hours were a bombardment of info that was hard to keep a grasp of, so I started to try to hold onto the emotion that each speaker was bringing to each topic.

The heartfelt emotions of each speaker after speaker brought an underlying message to me about the importance of the work done in general services, and seeing people from each Area speak so passionately about a variety of topics on the future of AA kept reinforcing that message. It brought a

togetherness of purpose to a greater scale than what I had seen before, and was quite powerful to me.

Going to lunch and dinner with people from Area 8 also reminded me of when I was a newcomer in AA, going to a meal before or after a meeting, and getting to know people then. I started to feel more a part of. It helped me get to know people a little better and felt like I was a little bit more in the fold here. I was able to see people in more than just the general services role we were all in, and get to know more about them, and their likes/dislikes.

The first roundtable I attended was the DCM roundtable, and was also quite large, but a much smaller scale than the main room. It was interesting and eye opening to see the different perspectives on how to handle different duties and ways to approach how to get these done. I was able to learn a little more on how I can better my district and area from grabbing some interesting ideas from this roundtable. Not all were things I would try to implement, but it was good to hear how other areas handle certain things.

The second day was even longer than the first, but I had already gotten my feet wet so to speak, so was able to comprehend and absorb more this day, even taking better notes than day 1. As with day 1, the sincerity kept coming from each of the speakers, and ranged from a talk about the legacies, to inclusivity to cooperation, all across the board it seemed at times, but still brought together by the common overall purpose.

The banquet dinner was quite interesting as well. I had been told there were a "don't miss" event, even though I was also warned the food usually sucks at them, so I went to it, although I steered myself to the possibly low quality meal. To my surprise, the food was quite good 😊. And the fellowship was excellent. The meal lasted for quite a while, but the conversations kept going during the lulls in the serving of the food, although as often as it can be, the coffee was in short supply.

The second roundtable I attended was on technology, and it was very interesting to hear how we might be able to use certain types of technology to better serve our main purpose, and help bridge the gaps that might be there.

Day 3 everyone seemed to be wiped out, but in a good way. I especially liked hearing all of the past trustee's speak on the topic of "Supporting our Future". It seemed an excellent way to cap the weekend with an excellent message.

Overall, my experience at PRAASA was a very good one, and I am very glad that I was able to go and participate in this event. It helped me see things in a new light, and hopefully I can bring that light to my district and area to help keep carrying the message with better vigor.

**April Pre-Conference Area Assembly  
San Diego/Imperial Area 08  
First Presbyterian Church  
2001 El Camino Real,  
Oceanside, CA 92056  
Minutes of the April 1, 2017 Meeting**

Meeting Called to Order

- Meeting called to order at 9:12 am by Colin M., Area Chairperson.
- Colin opened with the Serenity Prayer, then led the group in the recitation of A.A.'s *Declaration of Unity*.
- Introductions-New GSR's, Standing Committee Chairs, all Alternates, Past Delegates and guests were made.
- Birthdays were announced since the January Orientation Area Assembly.
- Sally, past delegate said a few words about Cliff R., past Delegate who recently passed on.

Approval of January Orientation Assembly Minutes — Tanya T., Alt. Secretary.

Tanya T, Alternate Secretary: Minutes were approved as amended. Correction will be made on page 8 first bullet point "holding elections followed by elections."

Minutes are available via the area newsletter at this time. When they are published they will be posted in both English and Spanish on our area website: [www.area8aa.org](http://www.area8aa.org). Minutes are emailed to all DCMs, Chairs, and Officers and their alternates. DCMs and Chairs can send the minutes out to their committees. If you are not receiving the minutes and would like a copy emailed to you, please email the area secretary. Please keep your information updated with the Area Secretary.

Treasurer's Report — Paul K., Treasurer (*Written report submitted as his official report.*) Asked groups to get their contributions in each month, no matter the amount.\*

- Please ask groups to attach their email address to contributions so a confirmation can be sent via email.

1. **Chairperson's Report: Colin M :** Welcome everybody to our Pre-Conference Assembly – the jumping off point for our Area and especially our Delegate Jane G. who has been working tirelessly since she and our alternate delegate Roxane received the 1400 pages of this year's General Service Conference materials in mid-February. For those of you who are new Panel 67 members and who may not have had an opportunity to attend one of the pre-conference workshops - which have been held on successive Saturday's in March - this day is another opportunity to listen, share at the roundtables, and join the conversation that will help our delegate better understand the conscience of the Area as she prepares to travel to New York later this month.

Since our last Assembly in January a number of other successful Area Workshops have been held in various parts of the County. Our thanks go out to the members of our Districts, Committees and groups who have planned and supported these events. A number of us attended the Traditions Breakfast at Camp Pendleton a couple of weeks ago which is sponsored by our North County Coordinating Council annually. Our Regional Trustee Joel C. shared his wisdom, strength, and anecdotes about the traditions. He returns to run our Panel 68 election at our Assembly in Sept.

By my count from the picture that we took, 64 of our Area 8 members attended the 2017 PRAASA (Pacific Region AA Service Assembly) held this year in Sacramento. I was honored to be asked by the 2017 PRAASA Planning Committee to read S20 from the AA Service Manual as Reader for the opening Panel of PRAASA. Our delegate Jane presented at the opening session as a second year delegate. And two of our Committee Chairs, Jerry with a J from Finance and Renea from Accessibilities served as Panel presenters during the conference. Other Area 8 members served on roundtables or as volunteers at the conference.

I encourage those who attended to share your impressions when you report back to your Districts, Committees, and Groups. I can say that I feel privileged to have been partially supported financially by the Area this year and to have been given the opportunity to share so many wonderful experiences with our members there and with my other friends and fellows from the region. And I hope that our Area can find the means in future budgets to support more members to attend the 2018 PRAASA next year in Reno Nevada and then nearby in Irvine in 2019.

At PRAASA I attended both Chairs roundtables, one with Monte and the other by myself. I also attended the Senior Outreach roundtable, which was strange, to say the least, if only because the moderator thought some of us were trying to hijack the session with CEC and SIS business. No biggie.

Today our Agenda doesn't allow time for District and Committee business updates, so I encourage each of you to read the minutes of our monthly Area Committee

Meetings (we call them ACMs) and also attend one of our monthly Service Committee meetings, especially if you haven't yet found a committee home. Most if not all of our Committee Chairs or alternates are here today. Please take time to introduce yourself to them at the lunch break. Today, in my fellowship, family and community I have a full and thankful heart. I try to achieve a state of peaceful and joyful gratitude even though Life itself tries to get in the way – a lot. But most of you know what I'm talking about. So we trudge. The AA program and the opportunities for service offered by General Service activities have become a large part of the fabric of my recovery and one which I would never have predicted when I first got sober. Our "keep coming back mantra" and the still small voice of my higher power continue to motivate me to dress up, show up, and be responsible. Thank you for letting me be of service. Colin M. – Area Chair

### Twitter-Public Information Committee would like to explore this route.

**General Discussion comments:** //my group feels it is going against the traditions//my group thinks this way of reaching out is going to be taken advantages of//online presence is going on already we need to take control in more productive ways// use as a way to funnel people to existing websites//reach out to government officials to let them know how important//AA needs to catch up with technology//attraction rather than promotion but what that mean with today's technology//we need to embrace this idea and educate ourselves in this area// Online group member--Venmo a way of taking 7th tradition contributions--Tradition violation? our group needs support on this//Purpose of AA to reach out to newcomers as soon as possible if we need technology to do this-if times are changing then we need to do it however we need to be responsible.//As we develop our online presence, we need to adhere to a strict structure to properly maintaining that presence.//My prison group thought it was a great idea for AA online presence-- though when members are released--how do we find AA meetings online or ?// Another group member--I work with teenagers--they are always working with Social Media. Very important to reach out to young people--these kids need to know where to go. They skim through youtube and Twitter to check out things that they can relate to.--Yes,we need a definite answer. We need to be there when they need us.//Can we do anything to trademark the AA name on social media?//AA is not in the dark ages anymore. We need to move on and figure out how we can represent ourselves in a positive light online.

**Plan for the Day : Jane G. Delegate:** The goal for the assembly is to provide as much information to the GSRS and the Groups on the General Service Conference item as possible. She went over the Plan for the day and provided background information on the three main discussion areas. The Standing Committees will run the Roundtables discussions to get more info from the GSRS.

**Open Discussion on Social Media: Emily B., Past Chair:** Emily is an expert on cybersecurity in her day job and was asked to give more background information on how social media works. What I have come to learn is, AA is already being promoted in all these ways. So we need to ask ourselves, do "We" want to be the ones to promote and represent AA or do we want others to take it upon themselves. By taking on this responsibility as whole we can protect our anonymity. (The following bullet points are the areas of social media that will be discussed at the General Service Conference)

**Sense of the Assembly on Social Media:** The bulk of SDIAA members are in favor of Social Media as long as the AA Traditions are observed (8 against Social Media). One asked who would be in favor of Social Media if we could not observe the AA Traditions. No one raised their hand. Another said they would vote no if the Traditions could not be observed.

### San Diego Spring Round-up: Mike S, SDIAA Area

**Archivist:** He announced the events for the Round-Up. Friday, Jane G, Area Delegate, will speak. The Round-Up will take place April 14-16, 2017 at The Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, CA.

### Session 1 of Roundtables:

- **Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee**  
 LinkedIn-Grapevine LaVina is currently thinking about starting a LinkedIn page as well.
- **Grapevine/La Vina**-My group was in favor of social media--new way to reach out to new members//My group in favor of social media...they were afraid of AA aging out//  
 Instagram-  
 Facebook//make it more informational and disable the comments option  
 Google-for-Nonprofit
- **Public Information Committee**  
 Google-for-Nonprofit-GSO is looking into using Youtube to promote PSAs.//select and disable comments on Youtube//Ads will still be on

#### 1. **Finance Committee Roundtable: Finance Reports-Develop a template for a standardized finance report from the General Service Board (GSB)**

**A. What finance measures does your group want to see regularly reported to the Fellowship?**

**B. Develop a regular schedule of what the Fellowship can know and by when it can expect reports from their Area and the GSR.**

**C. How can individuals and groups insure they fulfill their financial support to AA as a whole? (Individual**

contribution amount of \$7.14 person/year; \$146.48 group/year.) (Slide 20 of 2016 GSC Finance report.)

D. What measures would your group like to see in the Finance report from the Area?

## 2. Literature Committee Roundtable A:

Discuss 2017 GSC Literature Committee agenda items:  
“Questions & Answers on Sponsorship” (P-15)  
“The AA Group: Where It All Begins” (P-16)

The below-listed pamphlets will be reviewed at the 2017 GSC. The decision to revise them was made at the 2016 GSC. Please keep in mind it takes a minimum of two-years for the pamphlet to move through the Conference revision process. The Conference Literature Committee will be the first to review the drafts and if they accept them, THEN they will be sent to the Conference floor for all the other Delegates to review. That will be the first opportunity for all the Delegates outside of the Literature Committee to review the draft. If any of your group members have any specific items they want removed or inserted into any of these pamphlets, please let me know. I can review the draft for their suggestions.

Session 2 of the Roundtables: (Letters are as assigned on the Literature agenda)

- VI. D. “Young People and AA”.Pamphlet
- VI. E. Review revised draft pamphlet “AA for the Women”.
- VI. F. Review revised draft pamphlet “Finding Acceptance: AA for the LGBTQ Alcoholic.” ( formally titled “AA and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic”.
- VI. G. Review progress report on the development of the literature for alcoholics with mental health issues and those who support them.
- VI. H. Review draft sample illustrations and corresponding revised text for the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated”.

### 3. Grapevine/La Vina Committee Roundtable:

- A. Does your group have a Grapevine/LaVina Representative?
- B. Do any of your group members subscribe to the Grapevine/LaVina?
- C. Have any of your group members mentioned why they do not subscribe to the Grapevine/LaVina?
- D. Besides articles, poetry, photos and art, what other content can be published as useful to 12-Step efforts?

**Roundtable Report Back- Finance Committee:**

- Adding text to the Pamphlet, *Self Supporting...*//It is a good idea//it will cost too much to change text//there

shouldn't to a limit to how much someone contributes, let's change it.

- Simplified version of GSO and area finance reports available online

**Area comments:** //More trend analyses need to be sent out.// make the info more appealing with visual with charts and pictures. This will also make things easier for Spanish speakers and young people to understand.

**Standing Committee Assignments: Monty C.,** Alternate Chair: Each Standing Committee Chair described their committees before the assignments were done.

**San Diego H & I Announcement: Diana C, Treasurer,** announced about the Standing Committee of H & I. They bring meetings to those confined in institutions. They meet the 3rd Sunday of the month at the Machinist Hall, San Diego, CA.

**Lunch Break: 12:00-12:45pm**

Lunch provided by District 2,16 & 23. Thank you so much.

**Sharing on General Service Conference Considerations:**

**Roundtable Report Back-Grapevine/LaVina Committee**

- Talked about spiritual unity//combine LaVina and Grapevine into one.
- 6 out of 36 people surveyed have groups with a Grapevine/LaVina representative.// LaVina needs an App like the Grapevine.//it should have a monthly article dedicated to the History of AA.
- Grapevine needs better advertisement

**Spiritual Parity of Grapevine/LaVina: Jane, Delegate:**

LaVina Magazine has not been profitable since its creation. Grapevine was at a profit in 2016 however they were in the black because they did not spend money. Would the fellowship like to empower the Grapevine and LaVina staff to cut down on the publications equally to have both operate at a profit. Sense of Assembly: Most are in favor with a few against.

**Area comments:** If every group just bought one subscription to the Grapevine/ LaVina, it could raise \$25,000 from our area alone// This literature is a great 12 stepping tool.// LaVina is an excellent tool for reaching out to those who are in jail.// Meetings giving a 1yr subscription to those who get a year of sobriety. Sense of Assembly: Most are in favor with a few against.// This literature should be self-supporting.

**Translation of Conference Background Material:** Making background available/Translated in Spanish and French. With the cost being \$120,000. 39 areas in North America need Spanish translation. When the delegate asked the area if having to choose to financially support Grapevine/ LaVina OR the translation of background material, the area supported financially supporting Grapevine/ LaVina over translating the background info.

**Area comments:**//concern would be the cost of doing this//not worth it because not everyone uses it// this is too costly, we need to find better solutions.// it is draining to translate this information but very important// surveying what areas need what kind of translation and splitting the cost between areas.// online forum structure for our 93 Area chairs and sharing the responsibility of translating. With this idea, areas would only have to translate 4-5 pages each and then would be shared on this forum.

### **Roundtable Recorder Report Back- Literature Committee**

#### **1. *Young People in AA Pamphlet***

- Proposal to add language on YPAA conferences and where to find info

- Nearly everyone at the tables agreed with proceeding with this action. Complementing the spirit of Bill W & validating young people conference structure. This can help bring the young people movement within our fellowship more into the light and get the helpful/healthy representation.

**Comments & Questions:**//That is the right direction – keep it simple// There will be costs incurred// What will the cost look like? This information might sway opinion//One member did not think it was necessary as young people “are already pretty connected.”//Great idea – emphasizes primary purpose – more info to new people = the better!// The better our whole fellowship can be by doing this.

#### **2. *Review of the Progress Report on new literature for AA Members w/ Mental health Issues & those who sponsor them***

- Proposal to develop new literature & include a medical “doctor’s opinion” on the topic

**Comments & Questions:**//Are we going to have a story to every mental diagnosis out there? Concern about addressing all of them.// How would we compliment everyone’s needs that might relate?// Where are we going to find this “physician” to support the Doctor’s Opinion portion?//Be sure to focus on the alcoholic portion vs. trying to discuss or “fix” other problems - be sure to be clear on this – keep our arms open and welcome – maintain primary purpose//AA & Medication - about this pamphlet – there are x3 stories about people that use medication; “we don’t play doctors” – They think this is necessary & being clear on boundaries as a sponsor vs giving suggestions regarding prescription instructions of a doctor.// Worry about what might take away primary purpose.

Concerned about helpful information that would direct such individuals to necessary professionals//Yes, to all assistance to sponsors on this topic “100% yes”// Very helpful to the Hispanic community// One member was concerned that this would represent too much organization and violate tradition 9 – not in favor of this action//Majority of homeless have mental issues – therefore vital to many of our membership who fall under the category of “dual diagnosis”. Shared her personal experience of being chastised for taking prescription drugs.// We want to reiterate that the doctors and mental health provider be the primary opinion on services and suggestions –

we are not to be the arm of suggestion to the member regarding medical advice// Would be helpful to H&I panel members taking meetings into psych wards and other places where “dual diagnosis” persons are present to the meeting/panel// Medically we need to be correct – yes, to the doctor’s opinion portion// Referenced the agenda item of the “Special Needs” - yes, we need to complement this// Especially important for the sponsors//One member was strictly against discussing or addressing any other mental disease/disorder other than alcoholism// Having the appropriate knowledge to ensure the general message on this topic is presented. These members are within our groups & we need information on how to respond and support them. This would support a respectful way to compliment primary purpose// This would help with negative stigmas that can be labeled on sponsors that deal with AA members that also have mental health issues//Let’s try to improve communication between the groups and GSO.

**Young People in AA:** //my group supports updating the pamphlet but does not support having a Young People Committee because it just separates them more.//we are not trying to be separate, we are trying to open another door.// young people need to be involved to be on a committee.//We need old-timers to teach the young timers how to hunt. We need to talk to each other because we both have much to offer. It seems like young timers are teaching other young timers. Old-timers we need you//

**Pamphlet on Medical Professionals:** One member asked about the pamphlet and status of that.

**Safety Literature: Roxanne, Alt. Delegate:** This literature already exists but in different forms but many of us are not aware on how to find this info. Info on safety is embedded in many places. You can go to the GSO website and click on “What’s New” to find articles on Safety. The Grapevine and LaVina also have “Hot Topic” articles.

**Area comments:**//groups should have a group conscience and come up with a plan on how to handle different safety issues.//this is about common sense and something that cannot be learned from a pamphlet.// A Safety Pamphlet is a very good idea. When I came into AA, I was very confused. I was afraid to speak up. This pamphlet could help.// My group feels that the Safety problems will still exist no matter what be do.

**Open Sharing:** //There needs to be a list of what AA “Do’s and don’ts”?//we have a Native American at our group/ Do we have a strong need to reach the Native American population. We need to be more inclusive.// My group thinks the pamphlet “*Is there an Alcoholic the workplace?*” should be changed to “*Is there a trouble drinker in the workplace?*”// what is the availability of a Big Book app all editions?// You can purchase Big Book from other entities such as Amazon.// In the pamphlet “*AA and The Armed Services*”--Members of a group suggested another publication so members of armed services



can remain anonymous from their commanding services.// There was a floor motion that was voted on last year 2016-- The floor motion about money from literature to support AA. What happened to that motion?// That floor motion was not heard at the Conference because the General Service Conference voted not to hear the Floor motion.

**Ask It Basket:**Where can we find the postings of the Quarterly Trustee’s Report. They come from the Area Delegate. Are the General Conference Agenda items available on aa.org. Jane G, Area Delegate, said no. Each Delegate distributes them to the GSRs and DCMs. How does AA Literature get approved? Grapevine and La Vina? Comes from the groups, goes through Area, then to the Conference Agenda Committee then gets on the Agenda (GSC) then sent through Delegates to distribute to the GSRs. Can the General Service Conference agenda be posted on aa.org and area8aa.org? Jane G. answered no. Another member only 10% of the SDIAA A.A. membership here. Would it reach enough people? Jane G., spoke about Lawsuits in AA. One was in Canada and another in the U.S. They do happen. Is the conference addressing the leveling of the A.A.. fellowship? The General Service Office never removes a group from the database, they status it --Active or Inactive? It is important that we call on those inactive groups..We need to keep them up to date Jane G. explained.

Then we can get an accurate picture of our fellowship. Communication about our groups will inform them and members of groups will be motivated to help the whole fellowship grow. Do they calculate the groups in the General Service Office registry. Jane G, Delegate, said they attempt to be accurate. It’s for later conversation.

**Closing:**

- We always need extra hands to help with cleanup and set down.
- At 3:00 pm the Chair closed the meeting with the *Responsibility Pledge* in English and Spanish

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Tanya T, Alt. Secretary, Panel 66 and Suzanne R., NCAIC Alternate Chair.*

**Next Assembly: Post-Conference Assembly, May 20, 2017- Sponsored by Districts 7, 9, 18 Location TBD.**

## MASTER CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### AA – San Diego Imperial Area 8 – as of May 15, 2017

EVENT	HOST	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	Resources Required
<b>Post Conference Assembly</b>	7, 9, 18	May 20	8-4:00 pm	First United Methodist Church 2111 Camino Del Rio S San Diego CA 92108	AV, Translation, Coffee, Screens
<b>Military Outreach</b>	NSDYPA	June 3	2:00 p.m.	VA Association of North County 1617 Mission Ave Oceanside, CA 92058	
<b>GVR/RLV Support Session</b>		June 4	9:00 am – 10:00 am	Oficina Central Hispana 3628 University Ave San Diego CA 92104	
<b>Officina Intergrupual del Sur de San Diego</b>	82 <sup>nd</sup> AA Birthday	Jun 11	11:00 am - 10:00 pm	Salon de Lion 3993 54 <sup>th</sup> St. San Diego, CA 92105	
<b>NSDYPA Dodgeball Tournament</b>	NSDYPA	June 17	Mtg 10am Reg 11am DB 12pm	Martin Luther King Park 4300 Mesa Drive Oceanside CA 92056	
<b>YPAASA Workshop</b>	SoCALYPAA	June 24		Trinity Hospital	
<b>Grapevine/LaVina Writer’s Workshop</b>	Grapevine/ LaVina Committee	July 8	9:00 am – 12:30 pm	Steps Serenity Shop 1745 E Vista Way Vista, CA 92084	
<b>Secretary’s Workshop</b>	Dist 13	July 8	10am – 12 noon	Mira Mesa Alano Club 6727 Flanders Rd. #106 San Diego, CA 92121	

La Vina Regional Event		July 21-23		Oxnard, CA	
<b>Saturday Step and Tradition Workshop</b>	Dist 11	July 22	8:00am – 11:30am	St. Andrews Church 8350 Lake Murray Blvd San Diego, CA 92119	
<b>33 Aniv Oficinia Central Hispana SD</b>	Oficinia Central Hispana	July 23	TBD	TBD	
<b>Sponsorship Workshop</b>	Dist 5 & 18	Aug 26	8:00 am – 1:00 pm	First United Methodist Church 2111 Camino Del Rio S San Diego CA 92108	AV, Translation, Coffee, Screens
<b>La Vina Workshop</b>	Dist 15	July 30	9:00-2:00 pm	District 15 Office	
<b>Unity Day</b>	Area 8	Aug 1	9am – 1pm	St Bartholmew’s Church 16275 Pomerado Rd Poway CA 92064	AV, Translation, Coffee, Screens All resources
<b>Inventory Workshop</b>	Area 8	Aug 5	TBD	TBD	
<b>Improving our Relationships Workshop</b>	Dist 11	Aug 12	9am – 12 noon	United Methodist Church 8964 N Magnolia Ave Santee CA 92071	AV, Translation
<b>Safety Workshop</b>	Dist 1	Aug 19	9am – 1pm	TBD	
<b>Sponsorship Workshop</b>	Dist 5,14 & 18	Aug 26	8:00 am – 1:00 pm	First United Methodist Church 2111 Camino Del Rio S San Diego CA 92108	AV, Translation, Coffee, Screens
<b>General Service Workshop</b>	Dist 15	Aug 27	TBD	TBD	
<b>Labor Day Picnic</b>	Dist 16	Sep 4	8:00am – 3:00pm	Oak Crest Park 1219 Encinitas Blvd Encinitas CA 92024	
<b>Labor Day Picnic</b>	Dist 23	Sep 4	8:00am-3:00pm	Calaveras Hills Park 2997 Glasgow Dr Carlsbad CA 92010	
National AA Technology Workshop		Sep 8-10		Hilton Sacramento Arden West Hotel 2200 Harvard St Sacramento CA 95815	
<b>Election Assembly</b>	Dist 1, 13 & 15	Sep 23	8-4:00 pm	Machinists Hall 5150 Kearney Mesa Rd San Diego CA 92111	AV, Translation, Coffee, Screens
SoCal Conference	Committee	Sep 29-Oct 1		Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa 71333 Dinah Shore Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA, 92270	
21 <sup>st</sup> National AA Archives Workshop		Sep 28 – Oct 1		Clarion Hotel & Suites 1445 Portage Ave Winnipeg, MB Canada	
<b>Emotional Sobriety Workshop</b>	Dist 12	Oct 14	TBD	St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church 6556 Park Ridge Blvd San Diego, CA 92120	
<b>Budget Assembly</b>	Dist 6 & 19	Nov 4	8-4:00 pm	TBD	AV, Translation, Coffee, Screens
<b>Roots</b>	Archives	Nov 26	1:00pm – 3:00pm	San Diego Woman’s Center 2557 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave San Diego CA 92103	

**San Diego/Imperial Area Assembly Financial Report – March 2017**

<b>March 2017</b>	<b>March Actual</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>Variance with Annual Budget</b>
Group contributions:	3,686.08	10,441.30	47,003.00	-36,561.70
Individual contributions:	0.0	573.08	0.0	573.08
District contributions:	200.00	959.89	0.00	959.89
Total contributions:	3,886.08	12,004.27	47,003.00	-35,028.73
Total budgeted expenses:	5,170.90	14,067.75	47,003.00	-32,935.25
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	-1,284.82	-2,063.48		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	0.0	0.0	47,003.00	
Total expenses:	5,170.90	8,896.85	47,003.00	
Contributions less total expenses:	-1,284.82	-2,063.48		
Cash on Hand	10,196.53			

**TRANSLATORS NEEDED!**

We hope you will help us by making the following announcement at the meetings you attend:

Our Area has continued to seek American Sign Language and Spanish Interpreters to add to our availability list. There is also a continuing need for volunteers to participate in translating written documents from English to Spanish.

Please announce the continuing need for  
**ASL Interpreters & Spanish Interpreters -**  
 Colin M. 619-517-2167 - [chair@area8aa.org](mailto:chair@area8aa.org)

**Volunteers to the Translation Committee -**  
 Providing written translation of documents from English to Spanish and Spanish to English.  
 Please contact the Translation Committee  
 Chair, Maire H. at 619-559-8267 or [mairehun@msn.com](mailto:mairehun@msn.com).