

Area 8 San Diego-Imperial
Area Chair Report
May 19, 2012

Area Inventory Ad hoc Committee

At the April Area Committee Meeting, I requested more committee participants. I met with the new volunteers to define the below-listed planning timeline. We reviewed the inventory questions and decided to ask our GSRs to extend an invitation to the members of our groups to submit suggestions for inventory questions. I sent an email to all on the Area Roster. We want to insure that we are updated on any issues and concerns that are appropriate for the inventory process.

Here is the link to the survey tool through which we are collecting the responses. The submission deadline is June 12, 2012. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PLKM9RY>

Area Inventory Planning Timeline

May – Collection of Inventory Questions

June – Collection and Review of Inventory Questions

July ACM – Presentation of Draft of Inventory Questions

August ACM – Inventory Questions Distributed

September Area Assembly – Conduct Area Inventory

October – Communicate Inventory Findings

November Area Assembly – Review/Report Back of Inventory

Cooperation with the Elderly Community

This ad hoc committee has been meeting regularly and anticipates it will be prepared to give a report on its findings at the June ACM.

Policy Committee's Review of Recommendations by Ad hoc on Guidelines Review

Our Area's Policy Committee has been hard at work reviewing the suggestions delivered by the Ad hoc Guidelines Review Committee. The Policy Committee classified the suggestions as either grammatical and clarifying from those that indicate substantive changes to our current structure and guidelines. The committee expects to complete its presentation of the non-material changes at the June ACM. They have also begun the work on forming the motions required for the substantive changes.

This is a Test ---Only a Test

One of our DCMs brought in a supply of wireless remote control devices, a computer, and a projector to test the use of electronic voting devices. If you have seen, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire," you have seen these devices in use when the contestant polls the audience. Each ACM participant was given a remote to use to voice his/her opinion on a few multiple-choice questions written for the test. The question and its options were displayed by the projector. The voters were given an explanation on how to make their selection (vote) with the remote. A 10-second window for casting votes was established. (The voting time period is adjustable.) During the open voting time window, the voter can change his/her selection if desired. Each remote is registered by its own unique number and only allows one vote to register from it. We worked through a few questions one at a time. The results of all the responses were instantly calculated by the computer that registered the responses from the remotes. The operator allowed the computer to display the results in bar graph form. The actual numerical percentage of the vote each response received was also displayed. It was very fun. The sense of the meeting was to hold more discussion on the use of this tool.

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Chair Visits/Discussions

In addition to my regular attendance to Policy and Agenda Committee meetings, I attended:

Cooperation with the Professional Community - I was joined by our Area Registrar on my visit to this committee's meeting.

District 4 - This was a wonderful meeting. The DCM invited me to this meeting because she expected at least 10 new GSRs -- and they all showed up!

District 9 Imperial County- (May 16) Mike S., Alternate Chair will accompany me to visit the meeting. I will report on our visit in my next assembly report.

As a note, I did have a call from one of our DCMs who shared a stalking problem that was brought to her attention. I have made a point to our DCMs that one of the purposes of the ACM is to share issues and concerns. It is likely there is someone in the room that can share his/her experience, strength and hope on the topic.

ACM Discussion on Standing Committees

We have not forgotten the motion regarding Standing Committees that was tabled at the January 2012 Area Assembly. The motion was tabled with the suggestion to divide the original motion into three separate parts.

I am considering there is a need for further discussion in order to build a common understanding of the functioning of each individual standing committees. This way we can identify any specific issues that are in need of remedy for our standing committees in general vs. those that may be present in one or only a few committees.

This report is being written prior to the discussion at the ACM. I will deliver the main points at the assembly and follow up by including them in my next report to the assembly.

Translation Committee

This committee is vital to the smooth functioning and unity of our Area. The Translation Committee is a good example of the functional differences that exist amongst our committees. This committee's work is really coordinating specially-skilled workers. It takes many individuals to perform this work in a timely and accurate manner.

Our Area is in need of this committee finding additional individuals to perform translation services. We are all working on deadlines that, at times, create a bottleneck. The past month has been a perfect example. This committee has the minutes of two area committee meetings, an area assembly, the Delegate's Conference Report, the Chair's Report, our agendas for the Area Committee Meeting as well as the assembly, and the Master Calendar -- to name a few. Then, there's the Newsletter!

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

Please announce the continuing need for

- ASL Interpreters - Jane G.
- Spanish Interpreters - Ruben F.
- Volunteers to the Translation Committee - English to Spanish

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Our Area has continues 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 ask interest individuals to contact the Area Chair at chair@area8aa.org.

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

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