# San Diego-Imperial Area Committee

## 2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA

# Minutes of the September 20, 2012 Meeting

## Meeting Called to Order

The Committee was called to order at 7:00 pm by Jane G., Area Chairperson, with a recital of the Declaration of Unity. The Twelve Concepts were read in Spanish by Pedro S., and in English by Suzanne R.

# **Introductions and AA Birthdays**

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

## **Roll Call**

Monty, Area Registrar, conducted a roll call of the Area Committee, and declared that the requirements for a quorum had been met. > Officers were in attendance. Those not in attendance at time of roll call were: Secretary, Alternate Secretary; Districts 17, 20; Finance, Newsletter, Translation; Archivist, GSDYPAA, Oficina Central Hispana, Intergrupo Condado Norte Espanol, North County Intergroup.

## Approval of August Area Committee Minutes: Butch M., Alternate Treasurer

Roxane R. and Gonzalo C. were absent tonight, past Area Secretary Butch M. filled in.

Minutes are available in digital format. If you did not receive the August 2012 minutes please contact Area 8 Secretary and she will send you a copy via email. If your alternate would like a digital copy, let the secretary know, via email.

A member asked to clarify the Policy Chair's report, and to strike the sentence, "The Ad Hoc Committee..." through "...area website" under Policy Chair report. MSP to approve August 2012 minutes as amended. You may submit your monthly report to the Area 8 Secretary via email at <a href="mailto:rexroll@aol.com">rexroll@aol.com</a>. Reports should contain your first name, district, committee or liaison, date and report. Keep it simple.

# Treasurer's Report: Arturo L., Treasurer

- Written report.
- Keep reminding your groups who contribute to the Area to include an e-mail address so we can process contribution acknowledgements electronically, and at a lower cost.
- Question: Do districts contribute to the area? Only when they have money left over? Yes.

August	August 2012	YTD	2012 Budget	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	2,620.17	20,004,78	38,480.00	-18,475.24
Individual contributions:	272.35	1,350.34	00	
District contributions:	25.00	1,167.47		
Total contributions:	2,917.52	22,522.57	38,480.00	-15,957.43

Total budgeted expenses:	1,353.16	20,657.11	38,480.00	-17,822.89
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	1,564.36	1,865.46		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	.00	80.00	.00	80.00
Total expenses:	1,353.16	20,737.11	38,480.00	-17,742.90
Contributions less total expenses:	1,564.36	1,785.46		
Previous month ending balance	10,618.81			
Cash on hand:	12,183.62			

# **Master Calendar**

Host	Date		Time	Location
Dist. 4,11,15	Sept 22	2012	*8:00a	Torrey Pines Christian Church-La Jolla
	Sept 28-30	2012		San Diego-Town and Country Resort
	Sept 29	2012	11:00a	San Diego-Town and Country Resort
Dist. 4, 14, 19	Nov 10	2012	9 a-12 p	Christ Lutheran Church in Pacific Beach
Dist. 1, 2, 3, 23	Nov 10	2012	3:00-6 p	Carlsbad Community Center
Dist. 3, 21	Nov 17	2012	*8:00a	Community Lutheran Church-Escondido
Archives Committee	Nov 18	2012	2-4 pm	Torrey Pines Christian Church-La Jolla
	Dec-TBD	2012	TBD	
Dist. 6,7,19	Dec. 31	2012		Church at 6 <sup>th</sup> and Penn, San Diego
TBD	Jan 5	2013	*8:00a	Methodist Church, Mission Valley
TBD	Jan 26	2013	8:30 a	First United Methodist Church, Mission Valley
TBD	Feb-TBD	2013	TBD	TBD
	Dist. 4,11,15  Dist. 4, 14, 19  Dist. 1, 2, 3, 23  Dist. 3, 21  Archives Committee  Dist. 6,7,19  TBD	Dist. 4,11,15   Sept 22     Sept 28-30     Sept 29     Dist. 4, 14, 19   Nov 10     Dist. 1, 2, 3, 23   Nov 10     Dist. 3, 21   Nov 17     Archives Committee   Nov 18     Dec-TBD     Dist. 6,7,19   Dec. 31     TBD   Jan 5     TBD   Jan 26	Dist. 4,11,15         Sept 22         2012           Sept 28-30         2012           Sept 29         2012           Dist. 4, 14, 19         Nov 10         2012           Dist. 1, 2, 3, 23         Nov 10         2012           Dist. 3, 21         Nov 17         2012           Archives Committee         Nov 18         2012           Dec-TBD         2012           Dist. 6,7,19         Dec. 31         2012           TBD         Jan 5         2013           TBD         Jan 26         2013	Dist. 4,11,15   Sept 22   2012   *8:00a     Sept 28-30   2012     Sept 29   2012   11:00a     Dist. 4, 14, 19   Nov 10   2012   9 a-12 p     Dist. 1, 2, 3, 23   Nov 10   2012   3:00-6 p     Dist. 3, 21   Nov 17   2012   *8:00a     Archives Committee   Nov 18   2012   2-4 pm     Dec-TBD   2012   TBD     Dist. 6,7,19   Dec. 31   2012     TBD   Jan 5   2013   *8:00a     TBD   Jan 26   2013   8:30 a

Note: \*\*Non-Bolded Events Are Not Sponsored or Hosted By Area 8 Service Entities and are listed for planning purposes only. Updated Sept. 22, 2012. Information is subject to change. See the calendar on the area website for the most up to date information.

## **Delegate's Report: Tom M.**

- Past Delegate Jim H. had open heart surgery last week. He has been moved to a convalescent hospital and is doing well. A card was passed around the room to offer our well-wishes.
- Still not able to get the Delegate's report translated, so he is not presenting it in writing. He is practicing our legacies of service and unity by not circulating a document unless it's produced in English AND Spanish. He will have his report only in English at the September 22 Area Assembly.

#### Additional Comments:

- Re: AAWS mailing lists and Grapevine marketing: Within the Area we try to protect our members' contact information and use it only for the expressed purpose, and not for any other.
- Tom spoke of his personal growth as a trusted servant since he made his first report to the Area Committee as CPC chair.
- Trustees' Public Information Committee has asked for area sharing on whether the wording of the short form of
  Tradition Eleven is adequate with regard to electronic media. Tom has passed this to the San Diego Coordinating
  Council's Public Information Committee. The Conference made an advisory action confirming the effectiveness
  of the long form however.
- The proposed pamphlet on religion and spirituality is still on hold. The spectrum of stories received did not, in the opinion of members of the Trustees' Literature Committee, reflect the broad diversity of A.A. experience.
- Sharing has also been asked on the effectiveness of the A.A. Membership Survey. GSO is looking for ways to use it; if you have any ideas, please speak with Tom.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving Area 8! Tom M. 619 405 7777 delegate@area8aa.org

## Alternate Delegate's Report: Dean B.

- General Service Panel @ Southern California Convention:
  - O Audio Visual Presentation "Faith & Works", September 29, 2012 11:15a to 12:30a, Town & Country Hotel Mission Valley in the Golden West Room. Must be registered to attend. Register Online or in person at Hotel. Convention Registration is \$20. Come join us for a fun movie matinee type of event. Live personal stories combined with the AA Archives Film "Markings Along the Journey" uniquely show how the birth of the General Service Conference, is just as relevant today as it was back then. Contact Dean B 760-274-5309 if you need any additional information.
- GSR Orientation at the September 22 Assembly 8:00am start Torrey Pines Christian Church
  - You might consider making reminder calls or emails to new GSRs in your district that have not attended an Assembly Orientation yet. This orientation is not intended to duplicate or substitute for any orientation or training that you may receive at your district. The purpose of the Assembly Orientation is to lightly touch on:
  - Why we have a General Service Structure
  - How it all starts with the Groups / Upside down triangle / 2<sup>nd</sup> Tradition
  - What role the Districts, Standing Committees, and Area Assembly serve in supporting the General Service Conference
  - What are we going to do here anyway?

<u>Comments – Gaining a better understanding of Why We have a Conference</u>: Last month at ACM in my oral report I said that I would continue sharing one reason a month for "Why We Have a Conference" from page S-21 of the General Service manual. There are a total of 9 points made in this short essay by Dr. Bernard Smith, a Non-Alchoholic (past) Trustee. Reading and re-reading this essay continues to help me better understand the "Why" of general service, which then helps me gain a basic undertanding I can pass on to others. Although it is only stated once, there is one sentence, I understand best as a qualifier, that precedes the listed reminders of "Why" we are here. It reads "We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own Recovery." For me that is a point I can't be reminded of enough.

It is eventually followed by the 9<sup>th</sup> listed reason: "We need it (referring to the conference) 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."

# Chairperson's Report: Jane G.

- No written report.
- We will be using the Membership Survey in the Area Inventory, and a copy will be available for everyone at the
  Area Assembly. There are 38 million binge drinkers, according to the Centers for Disease Control, and we have
  only 1.3 million A.A. members. Room to grow...
- Jane shared a blow-up of the Conference Structure from page S18 of the A.A. Service Manual, which included a "WE ARE HERE" arrow at the "Area Assemblies" level.

# **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 <a href="mailto:chair@area8aa.org">chair@area8aa.org</a> 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*.

## <u>Liaison Committee Reports</u>

**Coordinating Council:** Rick: <u>SDAACO@aol.com</u> Report by: Rick W.

#### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE:**

Our August 2012 Net Revenue is \$146. Our 2012 YTD Net Revenue is \$9,182.

- 1) Sept.'s Book of the Month: "Experience, Strength & Hope" on sale: \$6.00 reg. \$7.00
- 2) Oct.'s Book of the Month: "As Bill Sees It" (hard copy) on sale: \$7.00 reg. \$8.00
- 3) Daytime phone shifts available:

**COORDINATOR NEWSLETTER:** November's Theme: "AA in Treatment" (Pamphlet #27). Submissions of 500-1000 words welcome. (Submissions due by September 27) Send to sdaa.newsletter@gmail.com or mail to Central Office at 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd San Diego, CA 92120. Committee NEEDS HELP each month to collate your Coordinator Newsletter. Takes about 1 fun hour.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE:** Checking on locations for Anniversary of AA in San Diego Breakfast for Nov. 3rd or 10th. Solicited the Council for assistance in securing a location to have a pancake breakfast. Passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:** In anticipation of upcoming school year we are looking for young people who would like to speak to students and older people to speak at senior centers. New Volunteers will be matched up with an experienced volunteer.

North County Intergroup: Not present. (Currently need new liaison.)

**East County Intergroup:** Gary: The East County Intergroup Business Meeting is being held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Lakeside Community Center. The next meeting will be Oct. 16 at 7pm. We supply and deliver A.A. literature, as well as meeting information and newcomer brochures. It can be ordered through the website at <a href="https://www.eastcountyaa.org">www.eastcountyaa.org</a> or by calling 1-877-993-2422 Extension 2. The ECI operates through a Virtual Office and with help from volunteers who do 12<sup>th</sup> Step calls. There is still need for several service positions. Contributions from 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, group contributions and literature sales for August 2012 were \$115.50. Expenses were for the Virtual Office phones and the annual renewal fee for the Post Office Box. The total in accounts is \$1,439.85.

Oficina Central Hispaña: Marina, chair. Not present.

Oficina Intergrupal Condado Norte: Malacio, chair. Not present.

**Oficina Intergrupal Sur, Chula Vista:** Alicia: On September 21 we will visit Grupo Central to speak about the functions of the Central Office.

**GSDYPAA:** Emily: GSDYPAA (See NSDYPAA). Not present.

NSDYPAA: Emily: Co-service liaison. Thank you for supporting "Service Palooza". All present walked away with knowledge of the various needs in the AA community, and how they can be of service. Alt. Del. Dean aided in the planning process and MC'd the event. Thanks to trusted servants of Area 8, Archives, NCAIC's Contact on Release committee, and the Grapevine/La Vina Comm. who spoke, as well as the volunteers from District 22. This was a great example of members working together for our common purpose. Thanks to Area Chair, Jane and the Area for the letter of support. Young People from YPAA San Diego traveled to St Louis to attend ICYPAA and to bid for the Conference. The Advisory Council was impressed with the service-oriented nature of our committee and the hotel/AV package we presented. We'll bring a solid bid again next year. The conference introduced a pilot program by Grapevine/La Vina to make audio recordings of young alcoholics for the Grapevine website. It was successful and they performed a first ever workshop for audio recordings. They plan to make the workshop guidelines available in the future. We look forward to working with the Grapevine committee when the program becomes available. ICYPAA gave out copies of the new book, Young and Sober to anyone signing up for a Grapevine subscription or renewal, as well as buttons saying Young and Sober. We will be part of a Young Peoples Panel during the So Cal Convention. The Anonymity Statement from the ICYPAA host committee this year included the quote "Please do not post recognizable photos or videos of identifiable A.A. members on Web sites accessible to the public, including unrestricted pages on social networking sites." The idea of an AA Facebook page is being discussed so we need another "AA in the Digital Age" workshop to help AA members understand our tradition of anonymity. Mannbark@gmail.com, 619-517-1805

Native American Liaison: Jeff S, (Chair): (jestruve@san.rr.com) No report

**DCM Sharing Session:** Vince: Hosting this event in 2012. Looking at venues in North County. Asking previous participants to contact him with sharing on their experiences.

**Liaison to the Seniors in Sobriety conference:** Dixie: Each week, Seniors in Sobriety meets, Fridays, 1:30, Alano Club at 35<sup>th</sup> and Grape, to discuss what we can do for the Senior in Sobriety and related things. The group elected Dixie as their liaison. There was also discussion about an upcoming Conference.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Birthdays since August were celebrated.

## DISTRICT REPORTS

- District 1: Blaine: District One has agreed to support District Two's Serenity Cruise event with \$300 and volunteers for the event. The district has also come to an agreement with its host facility for rent payments. Area Delegate Tom visited the District this month and provided helpful information about the General Service Conference. He was also open to questions from the GSRs.
- District 2: Wilma: Paul T. from finance presented an excellent, clear proposed budget. He fielded questions from GSRs which made it easy to understand. Presenting to the fellowship should be easy as well. DCM used a white board to show contributions for the past 5 years and members were shocked, opening the budget discussion. Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> *Serenity Cruise* Event is coming along. Please join us and see fellow sober friends carry the message through their talents. Tickets are \$7.00.
- District 3: Guy: Butch M., Alt. Treasurer visited to discuss the 2013 Budget. GSRs asked questions. No other business transpired.
- District 4: Michelle: Planning for "Traditionally Speaking" event to be held in November is happening. Members discussed strategies for giving GSR reports to their groups.

- District 5: Vince: No Report
- District 6: Renee: Aaron from the Finance Committee discussed the 2013 Budget Proposal. District members wondered how our deaf GSR, also Alt. DCM, will have ASL at the Area Committee Meetings if he is elected next year. We are looking at developing flyer for the New Year's Eve Alkathon.
- District 7: Rich: Tom, our Delegate, went over the Agenda Items from the Conference and new ways to get more contributions from the groups. Also a topic was participation from "dark" groups.
- District 8: Tanya: Nothing to report.
- District 9: Don: District is purchasing literature to take to prisons and institutions. Also planning with the Round-Up Committee for Imperial Valley.
- District 10: Paul: No GSRs were present for the September District Meeting however Alicia R from the Finance Committee did show up and present the proposed 2013 Budget for the Area.
- District 11: Karen: Nothing to report.
- District 12: Connie: Alicia from Finance Committee gave 2013 Budget Presentation with handouts. *Emotional Sobriety* Workshop to be held on Saturday, October 27 from 1 pm 4 pm. Flyer posted on Area08.org website.
- District 13: Tim: Alt. Delegate, Dean, visited. We discussed a motion to have Dist. 13 fund or partially fund the DCM or another representative to attend PRASSA each year as one of the DCM duties and responsibilities. We also talked about visiting unrepresented meetings.
- District 14: Gary: Thank you to the Area 8 Treasurer for a wonderful presentation on the budget. Q & A followed.
- District 15: Nicolas: We had our meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> with 26 people. Chairs of the different committees and the officers meet every Friday. Thanks to all who attended the Sixth Local Foro. Thanks also to Delegate Tom for sharing at the Foro. Elections in November for 2013-14. Have a committee working on our annual conference, next on January 19, 2013. Hosting this Saturday's assembly.
- District 16: Crystal: Paul, Finance Chair, visited our district and gave a presentation on the 2013 Proposed Area Budget. We finalize our Labor Day Picnic plans. The GSRs are taking suggestions from their groups on establishing a district pie chart.
- District 17: Not present.
- District 18: Juan (alt): Business meeting was held on Monday September 17, and visited a group every week. We attend anniversary meetings of groups to share on a topic. Committees are doing very well. Discussed and agreed to send \$10.00 to GSO.
- District 19: Jennifer: We have completed our Inventory and are a more cohesive District because of it. The information is useful as we continue to craft a thumbnail chart for next panel's activities and budget: Do we finance a PRAASA rep? How many and which workshops do our Groups want to do? Do we want to host a Delegate's Workshop (where we can get the Agenda Topics)? Do we ask other Districts to participate in the Grapevine Carnival Games? Everything that has lingered at the end of the Dist. Agenda, like reaching out to dark Groups, will be addressed first.

District 20: John: Not present.

- District 21: John: Met with District 3 to plan November Assembly. Oct. 6 is a walk through and we will have a flyer out in the next couple of weeks.
- District 22: Tom: We co-hosted the Service-Palooza with the YPAA group chaired by Emily. Tom, the Area Delegate, reviewed the General Service Conference and took Q & A. We also reviewed the budget proposal and discussed finance concerns. We will be revisiting our structure and guidelines.

District 23: Mark: Not present.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Accessibilities: Alan: The sign language fund, "gold can," partially funds 4 meetings per week of ASL interpretation.

  Other committees are doing outreach to build communities, verifying wheelchair accessibility, considering outreach possibilities to mental health community. "Meetings to Go" brought a meeting into a long term care facility in San Marcos that has become a regular scheduled meeting in the North County Meeting Schedule. Deaf Awareness Day will be celebrated on Saturday, October 6, 2012, from 9am-3pm in Balboa Park.
- Agenda: Karen: Suggestions for 2014 Conference Theme Workshops are printed and will be distributed at the next Area Assembly on Sept. 22, 2012.
- Archives: Carrie: Still collecting group histories and we can visit your group or event. We were just at the *Service-Palooza*. ROOTS is Nov. 18, 2-4pm, Torrey Pines Christian Church, La Jolla. We need specific help—Cookie Chair moved. We also need set-up help to make sure cookies show up and are on display for the event. Flyers are available but keep things "green" by emailing this event to friends and group members.
- CPC: Bob: We met at S.D. Central Office. We have only one member volunteer. Volunteers are needed for a GSO scheduled event at the S.D. Convention Center, the "Gerontological Society of America". Our next meeting is in San Marcos at 1359 Waterbury Court, 6:30 pm. Moving forward, we will do alternating meetings with even months in San Diego and odd months in San Marcos.
- Finance: Paul: All district budget presentations have been made.
- Grapevine/LaViña: Suzanne: Committee assisted *Service Palooza*. Also attended the District 16 Labor Day Picnic and gave away 2 subscriptions to the Grapevine and 2 CDs. See you at the Area Assembly on Sept. 22. Visitations are going well. We will be at the Oct. 27 *Emotional Sobriety Workshop*.
- Information Technologies: Steve: Last meeting was 9/20/12. Many members on vacation so light and short. The new website was discussed.
- Literature: Ray: We meet each month at Central Office. We continue to work on a project of creating a synopsis of all our AA pamphlets. There are newly revised and updated pamphlets and books available. Our next meeting is Oct. 15 at 7pm at Central Office.
- NCAIC: Rich: North County New Member Orientation is Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday, at the Oceanside Alano Club, 6:20 pm. There is a business meeting at 5:30 pm. Yearly officer elections take place during the orientation. There will be 5 positions elected-Director, Co-Director, Treatment Chair, Corrections Chair and Treasurer.

Newsletter: Chris: Newsletter has a new format and will be at the next Area Assembly. Both the English and Spanish versions are posted on the area website. New editor, Beth, is responsible for the new format and other changes. We do not have an official translator and we look forward to when a new translation chair steps forward.

Policy: Paul: Nothing to report.

SDIAIC: Chris: San Diego H&I takes meetings into hospitals and others places of confinement where alcoholics can't get out to meetings. There are 125 meetings per month going into correctional institutions and 250 meetings per month go into the hospital/treatment center setting. Our regular monthly meeting (third Sunday) was last Sunday. There is always a need for volunteers to serve on panels. There are two orientations each month – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, noon @ 5150 Kearney Mesa Rd and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7 pm @ Central Office. Budget - The 2013 budget will be presented to the Policy Council at the Oct. meeting then to the Business meeting in Nov. for adoption.

Elections – At the Oct. Business Meeting, the nominating committee will present to the membership a slate of members to fill six elected positions. In Nov., the election process will proceed as described in our P & G.

Translation: Not present.

Archivist: Joe: Not present.

# **AREA COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

#### **Motion Presentations:**

Policy Committee on Recommendations by Ad hoc on Guidelines: Paul K.

Motion re: Officer Absences

### **Discussion:**

- Q: What is the background on Proposed item 4? To prevent the domino effect. A: We feel a currently serving officer should complete their commitment.
- Item 4 prevents us from obtaining the best possible pool of candidates for a position; why exclude the currently serving officers?
- One member feels that "late term vacancies" should be spelled out. Another member pointed out that a sense
  of the Area Committee at the time of the resignation of the Area Chairperson late in his term was that our
  guidelines were too restrictive and didn't offer the flexibility needed to respond to the situation in an effective
  manner.
- Another member feels there is a sufficient pool of candidates within the Area Committee (not including currently serving officers).
- The Alternate Delegate position has long been considered a primary officer position with its own duties and
  responsibilities. For the purposes of this motion the Alternate Delegate should not be included in the listing of
  alternate officers.
- **Friendly amendment offered:** Strike proposed item 4 and renumber 5 as 4. The maker of the friendly amendment has accepted the offer.
- Continued discussion on the amended motion:
- Q: Can I then move at the assembly to reinsert the removed line? A: Yes.
- Vote on whether to go to a vote on the amended motion: 25 yes, 3 no.
- Vote to recommend the motion as amended to the Area Assembly: 23 yes, 9 no. The motion is recommended.
- **Minority opinion:** I see the motion, as written, accomplishing the first half of the background presented by the ad hoc committee. I think the second part, adding some flexibility, I think as worded, going back and forth

between the area, determined by the Area, but putting some certain wording in there like, "late term," and "replaced at the next area assembly" keeps the same lack of flexibility in there that doesn't take into account other circumstances of why we may want to pause at an assembly.

• No one voting in the majority wished to change their vote, and the vote to recommend stands.

Motion re: Voting/Non-Voting Members — REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA AND POSTPONED TO THE OCTOBER MEETING.

District 14: Gary S.

Motion re: Prudent Reserve

Gary read from correspondence maintained by GSO and from Conference Approved A.A. Literature in support of the motion.

#### **Discussion:**

- Q: Where would this vote of the officers and their alternates take place? A: It could be done anywhere.
- Intergroup has a prudent reserve. To access it the groups have a voice, not just the select ten people.
- Q: Where did the figure of \$2,500 come from? A: We felt that was a reasonable amount.
- We haven't had a prudent reserve since 1980 and it has worked. If it works, don't fix it.
- This seems like a "set-aside" for when an unexpected expenditure needs to be made.
- How does our Finance Committee feel about this motion? A: Removing the checks and balances from the fellowship is ill advised. We cannot support striking F.1. and F.2. The operating account maintained (up to 25% of our annual budget) is effectively our prudent reserve for unanticipated needs. We had such an event last year which resulted in a new facet of our S&G, to create special line items for specific purposes. This new motion creates what we would call a "discretionary account" rather than a prudent reserve.
- We had a situation where the officers made the decision to approve an expense over \$450: an area treasurer had to cut a check for more than \$450.00 without Committee Approval for an Area-sponsored Traditions Breakfast. The deposit for the meeting room at the hotel was something like \$485 and needed to be paid by a certain date or the event could not have been held as planned. The upcoming Area Committee meeting was two weeks after the date the deposit was due. The officers agreed unanimously to support the treasurer's actions. Then the action taken was reported at Area Committee and the room broke into two factions, one who said the guidelines are just that: guidelines; and the other who said they are hard rules to be followed. After much "loving discussion" the Area Committee agreed to trust our trusted servants, and they supported the treasurer's decision.
- Some national psychiatric conventions served by CPC don't give local committees a lot of time to scrape up the several-hundred dollars participation fee. This is a good way of handling that. Or for when the Area provides for the special needs of a handicapped GSR or DCM.
- **Friendly amendment offered**: Restore F., F.1 and F.2. The offer was accepted by the presenter of the motion. Further, new number [erroneous] 1 is now new letter J.
- Q: Wouldn't this require an amendment to H.2. Operating Account, referring to the 25% rule for sending off excess funds? A: Gary: They would not be excess funds, but part of our fiscal structure. A: Finance Chair: With the amendment we passed last year for special line items, this prudent reserve would be a "set-aside," it would not be calculated in that 25%.

- It does sound like a discretionary fund. Q: Did this come from the groups? A: It's a motion that came from the groups in District 14.
- Q: Would new item J. contradict Item D. (expenses not exceeding anticipated income)? A: Finance Chair: This is a set-aside, for emergencies and unanticipated expenses. It gives us a pool of money we can tap without impacting the given year's budget. By restoring F., F.1. and F.2. it reinserts the controls. Finance would support this motion with the \$2,500 prudent reserve, but not at the discretion of the officers. This should still be a Fellowship decision. With 6.H.1. we have the ability to set aside funds in a special line item for a specific purpose and receive targeted contributions.
- A member believes there needs to be more of a clear definition of "prudent reserve." The proposed uses for this prudent reserve sounds more like a savings account.
- Gary: A prudent reserve is not sacrosanct, you use it when the need arises, such as when you have to explain why your books are not in order enough to be able to pay for ASL and you can dip into that fund instead.
- My home group has a prudent reserve which we have never had to touch in twenty-two years. My definition of what you're talking about is a "slush-fund" or a bank account.
- We trust our trusted servants to make decisions, but the groups should be able to have a direct say in how the money is used. We should also cut that \$2,500 at least in half.
- This fund should be clearly defined as being separate from our operating account. Q: Would we establish the reserve by drawing it out of the operating account the day it's enacted? A: We could make payments into it until it's populated.
- The intent is that money be set aside so it could be used quickly if needed. We should call it a set-aside. Just about any decision could be deferred until the next Area Committee meeting so there is a group conscience on the matter. Perhaps the \$450 Area Committee limit could be raised to \$1,000. There's good intent here.
- Due to time constraints, the matter is continued to next month, and it remains new business so that friendly
  amendments could still be offered and accepted.

Motion re: GSO Send-off Calculation

No Time for Discussion:

• Tabled

Ad hoc Area Inventory Questions: Jane G.

Tabled

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxane R., Panel 62 Area 8 Secretary With the help of Butch, past Area Secretary