

NOVEMBER ACM Abbreviated Minutes

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl F.

October 2020	October Actual	YTD	2020 Budget 61,860.00	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	2,860.54	30,614.35		31245.65
Individual contributions:	95.60	4,384.63		
District contributions:	0.00	3,000.00		
Total contributions:	2,956.14	38,548.00	61,860.00	23311.02
Total budgeted expenses:	1,650.11	26,929.48		-34,930.52
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	1,306.03	11,619.50		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	254.25	254.25		
Total expenses:	1,786.36	28,459.73		
Contributions less total expenses:	1,051.78	10,089.25		
Total Cash Balance: September 2020	27,503.60		25% of budget	
Prudent Reserve Balance	5,000.00			

Questions: Cheryl requesting an unbudgeted expense for \$146.50 for postage and ink//is this enough to get you through December?-ans: yes//motion passes//

Blaine suggesting to post individual group contributions on the website//needs a GSO number or Net Suite number//

Chairperson's Report: Blaine H.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Budget Assembly earlier this month. Cheryl, Joshua, and the Finance Committee did a great job under trying circumstances. We have a Spending Plan for 2021. We know that there will be changes that will need to be made as the year progresses. I believe that our experience with the reallocation process will allow us to deal with those changes in a more effective manner.

And speaking of the reallocation, I want to thank ALL who took the effort to create proposals for those funds. It is unfortunate that not all could be approved but I do believe the process (thank you Jerry) enabled us to accurately gauge the will of the Assembly in a fair manner. Please don't burn those proposals or tear them up like a losing ticket at Del Mar. We already know that there will be unused budgeted \$ next year. Perhaps some of those and others will be able to be funded.

We will find out this evening that the reallocation came just in time to rescue the Gold Can Fund. That very important arm of the Accessibilities Committee which provides ASL interpretation for our local meetings had been depleted as the demand for services had not waned but contributions had fallen dramatically. In order to carry out our primary purpose we need to provide that mechanism for the deaf and hard of hearing to be able to attend our meetings. If you don't recall, that reallocation proposal was given #2 priority by the Assembly. Hurray for us!

The Four-Area DCM sharing Session is an annual event with the four SoCal areas (5, 8, 9, and 93) participating. As you may recall this past year the event was held June 28th and was hosted by Area 93. Next year, 2021, is our year to host this event. I will be looking for volunteers to participate in its planning and execution. One problem when deciding on dates is the need to plan for a possible in-person event when everything is currently shut down.

While Alcoholics Anonymous seems to be surviving during the pandemic, and our adjustment to it using technology to carry the message may help us in the long run, there are concerns about the health of our districts and our standing committees. We, as Area officers are here to help in any way we can. Please let us know your status and if there are problems.

Last month we asked for help in forming an ad-hoc committee to plan the process for conducting an inventory on communication. I have seven volunteers and would like more. Adrian, Angelina, Bill S., Lynda, Lynn E., Natalie, and Jerry S. need not apply. I have you already. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS: ROOTS 11/29, Hispanic Women's Workshop 12/5.

Delegate's Report: Jerry S.: These past few months have been heavy with details of need and special action. I have asked that each of you in some way

reach out and inspire leadership in unique ways due to these unique times. And for that I am grateful. Thank you!

Tonight, however, I don't have much to report.

We made through our 5th Assembly of our service year together mostly unscathed and without too much anxiety or frustration.

So as I have begun to meditate on where we've come and where we're going, I just wanted to share some of those contemplations. In our 4th Step we are introduced to dozens of questions that draw us into reflection and consideration and hopefully guide a realization of past behaviors and objectionable characteristics. And the 9th of 9 questions tucked into our Sex Inventory asks us, "what would we have done differently." Its from this question that a new ideal is born. A new way of thinking, seeing, speaking and acting. A pathway towards growth and healing. This question can be applied to all that we do and as we look forward to our Area Inventory, I hope that we can each be guided by this question. What can we do differently? What new ideal can guide us and shape our shared and most sacred purpose as we look into 2021?

Each of us is but a small part of a greater whole; a larger truth; a bigger purpose. Our way of life and of loving one another must continue or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. This we owe to 2021.

This year has been rough. In a lot of ways, one of the most challenging years our fellowship has known since the earliest days of its beginning. And next year will probably be tougher, wrought with its own challenges and tribulations. However there is nothing that we cannot overcome so long as we stay together, so long as we continue to sacrifice self for a shared experience in unity; in community.

I was saddened that at the end of our assembly, we were either introduced to or reminded of a sense of being amongst us that feels marginalized, disenfranchised from our structure and proceedings, challenged to be heard and fundamentally left out of; not included.

If true unity is to be our guide, then maybe its time for many of us to listen to those who are handicapped and struggling to engage our fellowship effectively. If we are to be truly guided by an ideal, an ideal upon which we all can all agree on, then maybe it will require those that are heard from the most, or have the slickest of technological tools at their disposal to actively listen to those who are barely connected and literally isolated. We must become willing to trade our problems for their possibilities. We must

humble ourselves before one another, set aside old ideas and actively listen, especially to those that are communicating from a space of hurt. Let these principles guide us as we look forward to our Inventory together buoyed by the hope that a divine and loving expression will express itself through us. An expression that will inspire and support us as we look forward. An expression that will bring us direction and enthusiasm as we reach the hand of AA towards the suffering of alcoholism into tomorrow and throughout our year ahead. This we owe to 2021.

In the immortal words of Rudyard Kipling:

“If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: ‘Hold on!’

...

If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it...”

I pray you know satisfaction in the work that you have done to this point. However, know this: The heavy lift is yet to come. We can do it. So long as we do it together. My prayers are with you and yours this Thanksgiving Holiday.

Ques: Have you received any Conference Agenda Items from the Area yet? ans-no

Alt Delegate's Report: Monty C.

Not much to report this month, hope everyone is well. If u r rotating out, look at what you can do for the area. Alot accomplished at the last assembly, thankful for my recovery and general service.

I do not have too much to report this month. I hope all of you are doing well and hanging there. Even though your committees or districts are not able to meet in person, General Service still happens. There are several districts and committee chairs that will be rotating out in December. If you haven't discussed electing a chair at this point, you should. I mentioned last month about the spirit of rotation. If you are rotating out, I hope that you are looking and praying about what you can do next for the area. We could use your expertise and help. Service does not happen by itself. We need you.

If you missed the Assembly earlier this month, you missed out. I thought it was great. We got a lot accomplished. I appreciate you all working together to make this all happen. I am sure some of your groups still have questions about some of the items. As the DCM and Committee Chair, this will be a great way to enlarge the communication path that happens within the districts and members in the area.

I mention at the last ACM and the GSR School/Orientation that I would be willing to drop off some literature. I still have some email to return and deliveries to make. If I have not contact

Old Business:

- **Reallocation of Funds-Results** Cheryl F and Joshua H.

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Final-Reallocation-Results.xlsx>

Question: when was this sent to the groups? This was discussed and presented at the last ACM and it has been talked about prior to the Assembly for the GSRs to take back to their groups- for 2 months.

- **Virtual Groups Ad-hoc Committee Update:** new chair and need for members=Jean S.

Jean was not present//the committee needs more members//they are listing questions to be sent out to virtual groups//many groups will continue virtually after covid//2 Weds of month at 7:30pm//

- **Area Inventory on Communication-**Blaine H.

We are going to meet Saturday at 9am//anyone is welcome and the Zoom info will be posted in chat//purpose to chart the process of the inventory//we do not currently have a method of reaching out to all doing service in Area 8//there are many communication issues in the area//zoom id

Master Calendar: Jo Anne: The master calendar is non-existent but flyers for workshops were emailed out by the Chair. Zoom numbers may be posted on the area website. Information is subject to change. See calendar on the area website (www.area8aa.org) for the most up to date information. Corrections will be made by tomorrow. Send any changes or corrections to Joann.

Joanne was not present to give Calendar report

Birthdays: 7 people celebrated a birthday since the last meeting. Mike 14 yrs //Roxanne 37 yrs//Chuck 45 yrs//Adrian 5 yrs//Jerry 9 yrs//Richard 12 yrs//Angelina 14 yrs

Break pm -pm no break-too early

New Business:

- **Status of Gold Can Fund-**Robert/Jeffrey

The check should arrive by midweek next week of the reallocated fund amount//Jeffrey sent out a letter-the committee has completely drained it's reserve so they have no cushion even with the reallocation money//they need about \$2,000 to refill their prudent reserve//the Gold Can still needs

regular funding//the ASL service will go on uninterrupted//How is your prudent reserve fulfilled?
Prudent reserve is based on 3 months of ASL service//5 meetings currently received money for interpretation//we have enough to get us thru the next year for meeting interpretation

- **Health of our Districts**-Blaine H. would like to know if districts are having problems.
- **Request to create an ad-hoc committee to outline communication of the Area's Finances to the Groups**-Jane G. NP

- **Four Area DCM Sharing Session**-Blaine H.

Last June it was held virtually//2021 we will be hosting//it has usually been held in February and if so, it would be virtual at that time//Feb 28, 2021 might work for the other areas//we need a first year DCM to help plan this event//

- **Zoom Czar Jerry has been doing the zoom accounts for our area and other areas.** Create a position for someone to handle the Zoom accounts. Coordination zoom licensing for all our committee. One year commitment from within the body.//all committee chairs are able to license. //Chuck volunteered//Cheryl, is the Chair going to be responsible for putting all this together. Who will she receive check request from.//Jerry has been carrying the Zoom burden for our area and 9 other areas. Master account holder for our Area, Ideally any check request would be for service for an entire year.//