

ABBREVIATED MINUTES of the DECEMBER 2020 ACM

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl (Treasurer)

- Written report submitted.
- Remind groups who contribute to the Area to include an email address so we can process contribution acknowledgements electronically, and at a lower cost.
- Have your group get or find out what their GSO six digit code is. It will help the Treasurer.
- Please make sure to submit any reimbursements before the end of the year.

November 2020	November Actual	YTD	2020 Budget 61,860.00	Variance with Annual Budget
Group contributions:	1,668.92	32,283.27		29576.73
Individual contributions:	136.00	4,520.63		
District contributions:	0.00	3,000.00		
Total contributions:	1,804.92	40,353.90	61,860.00	21506.10
Total budgeted expenses:	1,750.67	28,591.17		-33,268.83
Contributions less budgeted expenses:	54.25	11,762.73		
Total unbudgeted expenses:	591.77	1,856.75		
Total expenses:	7,644.44	30,447.92		
Contributions less total expenses:	-5,839.52	9,905.68		
Total Cash Balance: November 2020	26,678.10		25% of budget	
Prudent Reserve Balance	5,000.00			

Questions: Cheryl is considering a line item for 12 Step work//for a bid process of ideas//many do not feel that they are a part of the budget process//so we are trying to include the rest of the area in the budget process//soliciting ideas from the Area of how to spend monies//Are we sending off funding to GSO or will we allocate monies to those who requested funding?//Gold Can funding may not be needed after all because the districts stepped up to contribute to the Gold Can//that would amount to \$5,302.00//So many of the other requesting parties may be funded//these will need to be paid by this month or carried over to next year.

Chairperson's Report: Blaine H.

2020 has been a most difficult year for everyone. Seeing family and friends on a computer screen is a heluva way to spend the Holidays. But we owe it to others to stay safe and utilize the practices that have been proven to keep the virus at bay as much as possible. Someday we will meet (In person) again.

Despite the drawback we recently had the pleasure to experience two great events in a virtual setting. ROOTs, with a new interview format, was a trip into the past and brought back lots of fond memories for many of us. And the Hispanic Women's Workshop last Saturday was remarkable. It was my first time "attending" one of these and all the shares were great. The translation, largely done by Area 8 members, was fantastic!

With the practice of the spirit of rotation, the new year will bring lots of new faces to our screens. I wish to thank all those rotating out for their service during these difficult times. Hopefully this will not be the end of your General Service experience. There are many opportunities still out there. If you are departing following a stint as a DCM or Standing Committee Chair, remember that you are eligible to stand for election to an officer position next September. Don't be a stranger.

Tonight you will hear of plans for increased involvement of our standing committees at the Orientation Assembly. Although membership on a committee is considered one of the responsibilities of being a GSR, it doesn't appear that always happens. At the January Assembly the new (and old) GSRs will have a chance to interact with the committees during round tables. Also, as opposed to the "blind pick", GSRs will have more choice in a committee assignment.

Also on the agenda will be a motion to adopt the amended Structure and Guidelines that have been undergoing revision by the Policy Committee with input from the parties involved. Agreed, you will not have had a chance to digest the extensive document and it is possible that the Spanish version may not be currently available. Please remember that all motions that go through this body go on to an assembly whether or not they are "recommended" by the Area Committee. The reason to present this now is that it then can be presented at the January Assembly for a vote to take it to the groups. There will be ample time to study the document between now and then.

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. We will be hosting the event in 2021. I had Areas 5 and 9 on board for a

February 28th date but just received word from Area 93 that this represents a significant conflict with their Spanish community. We are now looking at a summer date possibility involving less conflict with the Conference season.

Remember The Western Regional Forum on Saturday 12/19 6:00 AM – 5:00 PM PST
The front page at <aa.org> has a box at the top where you can click to register. ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS ADVISED.

I would like to make a shout out to our Translation Committee//they have a huge body of work and few members to do the translation//

Thank you ALL for your service!

Delegate's Report: Jerry S.: Talking Points: • Rotation/Leadership/Orientation Assembly • Unity • End of Year Delegate Email • Carry the Message Campaign o
<https://www.aagrapevine.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/CTM-Challange2020-Oct20- Edited.pdf> A mis amigos que hablan español: lamento que el poema no se traduzca como se escucha en inglés.

A Holiday Poem
And so here we all are another year to its end
What a trip, a whirlpool, a tremendous effort it's been
Who could have guessed when we started it be
As tumultuous, transformational, and challenging to see
One another, our families, and friends all feeling trapped under a rock
Without hand shakes or hugs, lights off and doors locked
But we persisted and forged new paths and ways to connect
ZOOMED through it on desktops, cell phones and tried not to infect
A struggle to rename or just turn off ones camera and go back to sleep
Challenged to connect with the newcomer without being a creep
To practice the principles and new ways to remain calmer
What does it say about me that I enjoyed a few of those bombers
But we made it and we know that there's something much bigger for us all
A purpose that's primary and a sacrifice to help pick up those of us who fall
And so with joy in my heart and a reminder that each day is a gift
From the way it once was, dark, desperate and adrift
That with purpose and unity the suffering alcoholic we'll find
With a few extra calls to my sponsor and a reminder to be kind
And so, I pray for us all. I pray we fight the good fight
And if it happens to be dark, may your sobriety bring light!
Happy Holidays!!!

Questions: Are AA meetings essential? I heard that in the news-some states have qualified AA meetings as essential, but I believe not in the state of California//How can I go about sending a subscription of the Grapevine to persons incarcerated//That information is in my email of last Sunday on giving//La Vina and/or Grapevine//Carry the Message Project from the GVLV Committee

Alt Delegate's Report: Monty C. This is a time of year for reflection for me. 2020 has brought some very unusual times for all of us. Things that I had got accustomed to doing everyday has been disrupted. Now the new normal is attending a meeting or service committee on Zoom. The program teaches us to dissect and work thru our problems and fears. We have been forced to learn a new way of living. Now we are having to adapt and overcome, we will get through this together.

The area is continuing to reach out to the members via the districts and committee chairs. General Service has always been a strong component of my recovery. It allows me to have a voice when I do not have nothing to say. Your will continue to be of service by being of service to your group.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for stepping up to the plate and representing your group. Your group's voice is what we are looking to hear. Without your help, we would not be where we are today.

Our Area Committee will be meeting new week. Normally we have a holiday dinner before the meeting and then handle little business. This year, no dinner. Our next Area Assembly will be on January 9th. If you would like a flyer or the Zoom link, I send to the Chair to place in chat. The flyer can be found on the area website, area8aa.org.

If you are interested, there will be a Virtual Regional Forum on December 19th. If you would like the link or the flyer, please let me know and I will send to you.

We want to wish each and every a very happy Holiday season.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service

Old Business:

1. **Virtual Groups Ad-hoc Committee Update:** Jean S. this ad-hoc committee has written a questionnaire for groups to fill out//Jean will be posting the bulk of the information that was gathered around this committee//we will wait until new members join in January.
2. **Status-Ad-hoc Committee Area Inventory on Communication**

This committee is in stagnation for the moment.

3. **New fillable Standing Committee Request/iAssignment Form-this is Bill's (registrar) form)** It is no longer a blind pick,we would like to post this in the chat so that DCMs can distribute this to their GSRs, please send these to JoAnn, alt. Chairperson, and then these will be used at January's Orientation Assembly//

New Business:

1. **Standing Committee involvement in Orientation Assembly:**

We will put most of the focus of this Assembly on the Area Standing Committees//And the Committees are hurting for members-some of which may be due to Covid//All of the Standing

Committee Chairs will address the Assembly about what their Committees do//and the Area Survey will also be looked at for this information//then there will be round tables for each committee where GSRs will be assigned//we will try to give GSRs a choice of committee round tables they would wish to attend//Committee chairs will take the info from the Area Inventory and develop questions out of that//3 roundtables of 20 minutes each//we would like the GSRs to find out that we have committees and what they do and to join one at the end of the day.// 2 Committee members will be at each table only so that GSRs can populate the tables not Committee members

2. DCM & Committee Chair Group Meetings

Consider having a group with the DCMs and Committee Chairs meet.//Think a session putting the two together would be great//Good Idea, as a new DCM I didn't always feel like i knew what was going on//Look forward to working with other Chairs//other areas have more than one Committee Chair and DCM training and/or workshops//Whenever people sit a round table collaboration happens, this would be a great way to get more collaboration.//As Webservent I dont fall into any of the categories but would like to be involved.//When do we have DCM training, never knew about it. Next one probably in February 2021?//

3. Motion: To Adopt the 10/20 Amended Structure and Guidelines: Ernest

https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Motion-to-Update-of-2017-Area-8-Structure-and-Guidelines_Dec-2020-2.pdf

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Area-08-SG-Oct-06-2020-1.pdf>

Ernest wants to thank the Area people who helped putting this document into existence//What are the Area S & Gs//Why was an update needed-we needed to align the duties of Area members better to what they do and we needed to add in the many motions that were passed since 2017//the document has logical organization//we first worked in 2017 to get descriptions of what Area members do//Treasurer info is not contained in the presented document//any concerns contact the Policy Committee via email//the Motion-to update Area 8's 2017 Structure and Guidelines//

Questions: do we compare the 2 documents (2017 vs 2020) We didn't do strike throughs because the wording is completely different than the old//there have been quite a few updates since the 2017 version, like the two new committees that have been added to the area//what's the difference in the wording that was in the motions//to see the changes between the 2 documents they need to be compared side by side//these are fluid documents and are obsolete the minute they are printed because of changes//the input in the new S & G could be a year old//what about the Officer's meetings-that's a casual thing not a business thing//this is meant to be helpful to future candidate for the various Officer positions//Have there been any changes

from October 6, 2020? No//this should be recommended to go to the Assembly to be considered//this is a beautiful, consistent document//Translation needs input from everyone to make sure spanish document is the same//Will amendments be done as they are voted on and passed at Area Assembly? Yes//

Does the ACM recommend this motion to go to the floor of the Assembly? Motion passed 27 in favor; 4 opposed//

Ways to get Groups more involved with the Budget Process already covered in Cheryl's report.

Events: Western Forum 12/19, Alkathon 12/31-1/1, Orientation Assembly 1/9/21

Respectfully submitted by Renee R. Area 8 Secretary

Next Assembly:

On Zoom

Orientation Assembly
January 9, 2021