

**San Diego-Imperial Area Committee Meeting
December 17, 2020 Minutes**

Meeting held by ZOOM due to a State & Federal mandate of not holding gatherings of more than 50 persons and the personal safety of each Committee Member

Zoom Meeting ID: 231 178 354 password: iluvacms

Area Committee Meeting

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

Meeting Called to Order

The Committee was called to order at 7:00 pm by Blaine, Area 8 Chair-, with the Serenity Prayer. Followed by the Declaration of Unity. Introductions were offered for any new DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, and their Alternates. Guests and visitors also stood up. All were welcomed to the Area Committee.

*Declaration of Unity: This we owe to AA's Future; To place our common welfare first;
To keep our Fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives of
those to come*

Registrar's Report: Bill S.: on Registrar's webpage there is a form for new DCMs to fill out and GSRs//all the forms are available//PDF files can be filled out and saved as a file to be attached and emailed back//I will be posting all groups registered with GSO, with their numbers
Quorum was met.

Introductions of any new members to the ACM:

Approval of the November 2020 Area Committee Minutes:

Minutes are emailed out in both English and Spanish to all DCMs, Chairs, and Officers and their alternates. DCMs and Chairs please send the minutes out to your committees and GSRs. If you are not receiving the minutes and would like a copy emailed to you, please email the area secretary, Renee R. at secretary.area8sd@gmail.com Please keep your information updated with the Area Registrar.

- *It is time effective to submit your monthly report to the Area 8 Secretary via email at secretary.area8sd@gmail.com*

- December ACM Minutes; were approved unanimously

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-Challenge2020-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

Two minute Liaison Committee Reports: Joann Z.-not present

- Coordinating Council-SD: Pete: outgoing chair of the CC//our last meeting was the 910th//we voted on our budget which was passed unanimously//rescind the meeting guide app ad-hoc committee and we made a motion to join the meeting guide app//elections for our new chairs and committee members
- North County Intergroup: Mike M.: Two items:

1. All business between members and North County Central Office Staff is being conducted via phones and email. Contactless delivery/pick-up of literature is available by appointment only.

2. A virtual "Traditions Breakfast" event is being held on Sunday, March 21, 2021 from 9:20 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

- Oficina Central Hispana-SD: N
- Oficina Intergrupul Condado Norte: Marcela-
- Oficina Central Sur, Chula Vista NO longer active
- GSDYPAA:.
- NSDYPAA Andy:
- Native American Liaison: Wolf:
- East County Intergroup:

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/Assignment 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//

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.

Birthdays since last ACM-(11/19) Flint 24 yrs; John 28 yrs;

Break-8pm-8:10pm

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 Adopts 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//

- 4. 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

DISTRICT REPORTS (Districts submitted reports digitally or on report form) 2 min. - Even districts report this month.

District 1: Brian-

District 2 :Jeremy- 6 people attended the meeting//no elections or rotations of positions//

District 3:John:

District 4: Chuck P.:(Maureen incoming DCM:) we are still recruiting a new secretary//we are struggling with participation and getting new GSRs to be on Committees

District 5: Dave F

District 6: Natalie: Maire is taking over as DCM in January//I will miss you all//we also have a problem with participation//

District 7 Allison:

District 8: Angelina-we are struggling//outdoor meetings had to close up and return to Zoom//outdoor church meetings are still ok.

District 9: Lorie W.

District 10: Paul K.: we had 1 GSR show up//I will be rotating out to be the IT Chair//I can't be the DCM too/I will continue to help the district out.

District 11: Linda-

District 12: Cindy: Kevin

District 13: Ronnie;

District 14: Patrick;

District 15: Marcela:

District 16: Ted: Diane alt DCM-we had a passionate discussion on excess funds//Ted will be back next month

District 17: Santiago;

District 18: Carlos: we are very happy and continue to pass the message//we do not have a lot to share but we are there for the new alcoholics that are coming in//despite the restrictions that are in place//we are not asking for financial support-thank you for all those who have called to offer funds

District 19: Adrian O.

District 20: Flint N: nothing to report even tho they still have face to face meetings in his district

District 21: Rick;(Wigs District Summary:

- Rick L., our DCM, opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Birthdays:

- There were no Birthdays in November.

Last Meeting's Minutes:

- November's Minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

- Dave presented the November Treasurer's report which was approved as submitted.
- Ending balance is \$1,897.73.
- We sent a contribution to GSO for \$2,500.
- We sent a contribution to the Gold Can Fund for \$1,000.
- Our prudent reserve is suggested to be \$450.00.

Registrar:

- Updates to our D-21 Roster are taking place due to the recent elections.

ACM Report:

- Current bank balance at the Area is about \$27,503.60.
- GSO can still use our help. Please keep the \$3.60 challenge going. Go to aa.org.
- Delegate's Report is on the Area 8 website.
- All Area Standing Committees need participation. Anyone can be on the committees.
- Next Area Assembly is the Orientation Assembly on Zoom, January 9, 2021.

Old Business:

- No requests from Newcomers for Big Books and 12x12s last month.
- Please remember to let newcomers know D-21 has these books to offer.

New Business:

- Discussed upcoming Holiday Season, New Year's Alkathon and the Orientation Assembly on 9 Jan 21.
- Gathering information on good Zoom meetings occurring around the globe. Will collate and publish.
- Suggested next Guest Speaker: Paul C. David B. will coordinate.

Guest: Vito, CPC Chair

Vito gave a brief bio of his qualifications for AA. He signed up to be his group's GSR, which led to his current service position. He stressed the importance of having a service sponsor. He signed up to be on a committee – and landed on the CPC committee. As chair, Vito connects with Diana Lewis, staff at GSO for CPC, who provides the information and materials for any professional shows in our area. Our area CPC Committee provides the staffing of the booths we have at the area shows. Vito assured us that the service work was fun. These days the committee meetings and the professional outreach is done on Zoom. They have PowerPoint presentations that can be adapted to any outreach. The latest presentation was done at UCSD, and was very successful – especially because the attendees were provided with lunch by the school. We reach out to many, and get a small return response. If you want to participate, the committee meeting is the last Monday of the month; the information is available on the Area 8 Website.

Vito has also been reaching out to CPC Committees in other Areas; which he has found to be very rewarding.

Thank you for your great presentation, Vito!

GSR Roundtable:

- Good discussions. Main observation is that attendance is declining with the exception of the RBEBers. One Group was concerned that GSR's sending emails to members regarding updates might infringe on anonymity. Determined it was not and that it was an effective way to keep Group members informed. One of the Groups is splitting into two. Will get the new one Registered and a GSR.

The next District 21 meeting will be at 6:30pm on 7 January, 2021 at the *Peñasquitos Lutheran Church in Carmel Mountain Ranch*. If it remains closed, we will meet via Zoom. Instructions will be sent out to all as part of the Agenda.

Joke of the Month:

"An old woman mistook me for an employee at the supermarket.

She asked, "how much does just one AA battery cost?"

I had one in my pocket, but it was dead. I handed it over and said, 'Here, no charge.'"

District 22: Lynda

District 23: Darryl:

Standing Committee Reports:

Accessibilities: Robert/Jeffrey: The Accessibilities Committee has continued to meet and address any concerns with Area 8. Last month we held elections for new officers and I'm proud to announce that I was elected Chairperson including other dedicated members who were honored to serve with me for the next term of 2021 and 2022.

The Sign Language Fund balance as of today 12/17/20 is \$5375.94. This is without Area 8's contribution of \$5302.00 and December's monthly contributions. The following are the year-end balances for the past three years;
2019 \$4435.11

- 2018 \$2632.31
- 2017 \$4366.56

Since I sent out the letter last month to Districts requesting contributions for the Sign language Fund, contributions have come in and our fund has been replenished. As per our original proposal, the Accessibilities Committee would like to return the funds to the Area so the other committees and groups that made requests also can be funded.

I look forward to 2021 and I am excited to collaborate with districts and committees on creating Workshops and other ways to continue to carry the message to the alcoholics that we are yet to meet. Thank you. Jeffery D

Grapevine/La Vina Committee: Lynn E- TheGV/LV Committee submitted an order to replenish its inventory stock using reallocation funds from the Area Assembly. We were also funded for translation services to rebuild critical relations with the Spanish-speaking Districts' La Viña committees and the Representantes de La Viña in Area 8. In the past 6 months of reviving this committee, we have done deep dives and our financials, record keeping, inventory and Structure and Guidelines and done repairs where needed. Our focus for early 2021 will be re-establishing ties with the La Viña committees and Area standing committees, building our committee membership, planning our year's activities, and exploring new ways to use Grapevine and La Viña tools to carry the message during this time of COVID .

PLEASE PASS ON THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO YOUR MEETINGS:

THE ANNUAL GRAPEVINE -- LA VINA ON NOW THROUGH DEC 31!!

- Select pairs of books are on sale (2 different titles) - one regular price, the other 25% off
- Free shipping on any orders of books and materials. See: <https://store.aagrapevine.org/>
- If you are a current Grapevine magazine subscriber, you should have received a subscription sales order form to buy 1 print subscription and get a 2nd for 50% off. (This does not apply to La Viña subscriptions which are already subsidized.) A great gift for sponsees and friends or to support in-person meetings.

Carry the Message Project: Give a 12-step gift. Donate a subscription of “our meeting in print” - the Grapevine (Eng) or La Viña (Span) - to members in remote areas, the Armed Forces, hospitals or medical institutions, and more. Subscriptions go to members who have requested but cannot afford one. This is especially critical now when H&I cannot visit these facilities in person due to COVID. See:

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message> or
<https://www.aalavina.org/lleve-el-mensaje>

La Viña News The cost of La Viña print subscription will increase \$2.50 beginning in January 1. A **La Viña Complete Subscription** that includes print, online and access to the newly completed La Viña archives is now available. See:

https://www.aagrapevine.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/AAGV_2021_Pricing-and-Shipping_Changes_ENG-SP.pdf
 La Vina has a new website with a new look and digital access to the La Vina archives.
www.aalavina.org

Please Help Us Locate The Grapevine To-Go Boxes The GVLV is missing 2 (possibly 3) Grapevine To Go Boxes. The GVLV asking if Area GSR's could check at their meetings to see if anyone is aware of the meeting possessing one of our committee's missing Grapevine To-Go Boxes. These are fabric-covered banker's boxes containing 15-20 Grapevine-published books with an inventory sheet. They are usually loaned to meetings for a couple months. The box has probably been with the meeting at least a year or two.

Archives-John B.

IT: Chuck M.

Armed Services: Tiffany-

Finance: Joshua; Joshua is rotating out this month and have no person available to replace him yet//the Committee is in need of a Chair

Translation: Richard: thank you all for allowing us to be of service!

Literature: Sasha.: The committee has not met since our last ACM meeting. At the previous

meeting it was voted on that the committee have a laptop solely for

the committee. I have purchased one and am submitting a check request

for \$214.54. This is for the laptop and a year's subscription of

Microsoft office.

Thank you all for your service. Happy holidays and many blessings your ways.

NCAIC (H&I): Michael H.: The North County H&I committee is currently conducting weekly virtual panels for all of its facilities and is conducting limited in-person panels as facilities and health orders allow. We held elections for Board positions in Nov and have a new Chair, Jackson M. To contact Jackson, or for more information on panels, contact us at northcountyhandi@gmail.com.

Policy: Ernest D The Policy Committee has completed its update of the Structure and Guidelines. We spent the meeting preparing for the December ACM including talking points and the motion itself. If the motion is passed, we will present our motion of updating the 2017 Structure and Guidelines at the January 2021 Orientation Assembly.

In addition, the altChair requested, and the Committee agreed, to tackle updating the GSR Manual. We will start this effort once the work of the 2020 Structure and Guidelines is complete.

Newsletter: Roxane R. published 5 times a year along with the Assembly-published on the glide//I am not receiving any feedback on the Newsletter and wonder if anyone is reading it?//the first one was published in September with a message about a Chinese meeting//we are going to start Zooming the meeting in January/Renea will have an article in the next newsletter//we meet the 4th Wednesday in the evening//we would like participation from the area.

SD H&I: Gerry S.: H&I Orientation is on the 3rd Thursday of the month on Zoom, there are a few in person meetings and a few Virtual meetings

Young People's (YPAACC): Kim W...: currently without a chair//felt like they were not getting support from the Area//felt they were being asked to do many things from Area without any support//

Closing: Responsibility Pledge and Serenity Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Panel 70 Area Secretary : Renee R. and Cecil L. Alt Secretary

Next Assembly:

On Zoom

Orientation Assembly
January 9, 2021

