

**Orientation Assembly (Hybrid) Minutes
Area 08 San Diego-Imperial Alcoholics Anonymous
Saturday, January 14, 2023**

*All Assembly audio is recorded for the purpose of compiling accurate meeting minutes.

St. Michael's Church
Holy Family Center Building
15546 Pomerado Road, Poway, CA 92064

8:00 - 8:45 New GSR School / Orientation -Richard O., Alt. Delegate

8:30 – 9:00 Registration – At the Church – Please register at the tables at the entrance of the building

On Zoom – You will register upon entering the Zoom meeting

FOR THE ASSEMBLY on Zoom - Meeting/ Reunión ID: 863 9194 1442

Password / Contraseña: a8 assembly

09:00 Call to Order - A moment of silence followed by the SERENITY PRAYER - Adrian O. - Chair

DECLARATION OF UNITY -“This we owe to AA’s future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.”

09:05 Opening Roll Call -Angelina S. - Registrar

- Roll Call determines quorum.
- DCMs, GSRs and Committee Chairs have voter status.
- Alts may vote if their officer, chair or GSR is not present.
- When called upon DCMs respond with the number present including self, from the district. For example, 1+5 is one DCM + 5 GSRs.
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09:20 TRADITIONS: in English - Jamie R.is reading; in Spanish – Efren is reading

[THE TWELVE TRADITIONS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS](#)

[Las Doce Tradiciones | Alcoholics Anonymous](#)

09:30 Introductions: New GSRs, DCMs, Committee Chairs, Alternates, Past Delegates, Guests - Adrian O. - Chair

We have a total of 51 new members in general service!!

37 new GSRs and 4 new Alt GSRs; 3 new DCMs and 2 new Alt DCMs; and 5 new Committee Chairs. For a list of who they are follow this link: [**Orientation Assembly/New Members**](#)

Our Legacy members and Guests were: Joel - past delegate, panel 60 and past Pacific Regional Trustee; Jerry S.- past delegate, panel 70; Roxane, past delegate panel 68; Mareta - past delegate, panel 49, Area 05 and past Trustee at Large, U.S.; and Marco-past delegate, panel 44.

09:40 Secretary Report –Rose P. – Secretary

- Minutes of the November Budget Assembly
- Short talk to new GSRs regarding saving the digital copy of their minutes as a reference for their group reports.
- The minutes were approved.

09:45 Treasurer Report Lynn E., Area 8 Treasurer

https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Treasurer-Report_Informe-del-Tesorero-2022.pdf

Sticking to the budget was explained; see submitted report.

The upcoming **Treasurers' Workshop, in March**, sponsored by the Finance Committee will be especially good for group and district treasurers. Learn about bank accounts, keeping records, and plenty more. Information will be posted soon on the Calendar of Events on **area8aa.org**.

End of the Year Summary Document –

https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/End-of-Year-Financial-Summary_Resumen-Financiero-de-Fin-de-Año-2022.pdf

Lynn pointed out to the GSRs how to use this table for their reports. There are summaries of what was spent and what our contributions were.

90% of our budget was spent and that was GOOD.

She pointed out that expenses minus contributions left us with a balance.

Q: Why does the money sent to GSO vary so much? \$21,500.00 was sent last year and that was a record amount. The amount sent was based on our contributions and what we did not spend.

GSO needed financial support. They had salaries and rent during COVID. We were saving money on rent and transportation. It worked out.

Structure and Guidelines has a formula for what we send to the GSO.

1. We take our cash on hand. lets say, \$25,000.00
2. We subtracted the Prudent Reserve. \$5,000.00
3. We take our Reallocation funds, which were voted on at the Budget Assembly in Nov, '22. The three projects that we invested in came to \$9,100.00.
4. Our balance was \$10,888.00

Reallocation Funds: Extra money was reallocated to Area 12 step work and 12 step support. We were able to spend 99.5% of what was reallocated.

\$619.00 was sent to GSO.

09: 50 Alt Delegate Report - Richard O. - Alt. Delegate – Richard submitted his report

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Alt-Delegate-Report-Jan-2023.pdf>

- job description of the Alt Delegate
- personal rewards
- Upcoming events
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09:55 Delegate Report - Monty C. - Delegate

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Delegate-Report-2023-Orientation-Assembly.pdf>

Monty's report is on the conference and the work involved in the conference.

Instructions on how we all participate in the conference agenda items:

<https://www.area8aa.org/sdiaa/area-information/delegates-corner-secured-gsc2022/>

PW: keeptrudging

- New Big Book and 12+12 have been printed with covers that match the jacket. They are available at Central Office
- Next International, 2025, in Vancouver, Canada. Deal with any issues you may have re: crossing an international border.
- One flier will be printed to inform all the districts of the upcoming PreConference Workshops.

10:05 Chair Report - Adrian O. - Chair

https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Chair-Report_Orientation-Assembly-2023_Area-08-SDIAA.pdf

Adrian's poem to the members re: general service:

Here we gather for the first time this year.

To my newest fellow Servants, please have no fear.

May your experience today be all it should be.

Please give this a chance and do not flee.

You've been elected by peers in your Groups, Districts, and Committees.

The same process is taking place in many other hamlets and cities.

As the voice of your Groups, you help shape our society.

Ensuring that ALL have a chance at sobriety.

Your presence at the District and Assemblies is vital

The right of Decision, Participation, and Appeal, to you we entitle.

The job of safeguarding A.A.'s future belongs to all of us.

For this Great Responsibility, to you we now entrust.

(I suggest we bring it to our meetings - Rose P.)

10:10 Introduction to Area Practices 🍷

Finances – How they work + Q&A- Lynn E.

When you send contributions be sure to use your Group's #. Not the San Diego Central Office number, the GSO # which starts with 4 zeros-Netsweet.

Venmo or Paypal - what happens when an individual uses their personal Venmo account to collect 7th tradition money? Will the IRS be interested in how much you are collecting and for what reason? Will it be regarded by the IRS as business expenses? So far we don't have clarity on this. Be cautious.

Will AA be ultimately adding an area that is entirely online? and if so, how can we contribute?

Two finance workshops are coming up. Check the calendar on area8aa.org.

- **Where Money & Spirituality Mix** - Jerry S. - Past Delegate, Panel 70

Cited District 19's Concepts Boot Camp - money and spirituality mixed

The transformative quality of Jerry's service work in District 19/Area 8

Money serves our primary purpose - 12 step work, transportation, literature

"The spirit of responsibility defines our attitude towards money" - from The Traditions, a Grapevine book.

Jerry's home group did an inventory together and spent money on renting a venue and providing food for everyone.

"Don't be afraid to spend the money" - We are responsible.

- **Group, GSR, and DCM Registration – Why is this important?** Alan R. - Alt. Registrar

Registration is important primarily for the newcomers and for GSO as they notify them.

We need addresses and contact info that is correct and current.

Why are the GSRs the most important part of our structure? Because you are the ones at our groups (over 900 groups in our area) and you bring their word forward. You carry the message from the district, area, and GSO to them.

11:00 Call for Resumes: Area Webservant - Adrian O.

We missed the deadline on asking for resumes for the webservant

our current webservant's term of office has been extended to Dec. 2024

It's a four year appt.

11:05 NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW – A Roadmap of Motions at the Area Level - Adrian O.

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Area-Motion-Flow-Chart.pdf>

MOTION of Support – Bryan H. / Adrian O.

This motion was introduced at the December ACM, 2022, by Bryan H. He was on the agenda under New Business.

We will consider a proposed Agenda Item from Area 58. It reads as follows:

SDII Area 8 supports the proposed agenda item from Area 58 for the 74th GSC to translate specified A.A. approved literature into American Sign Language.

It is proposed that AA World Services and the General Service Office make a plan to begin translating critical AA literature into American Sign Language.

The literature priority list has been identified from a survey of deaf AA members taken 11/02/2022. The priority list includes Big Book personal stories in the upcoming 5th edition, Pamphlet #16, the AA group: Where It All Begins, Pamphlet #19, GSR, General Service Representative, and the AA Service Manual.

Bryan's very informative talk about the importance of this motion, about American Sign Language and about access for deaf alcoholics and deaf group meetings is posted in Google Drive. [Bryan H. on Translation of AA Literature to American Sign Language](#)

Motion passed 121 in favor/ 1 opposed. Minority Opinion: He is concerned that these new AA concepts will not be translated accurately in ASL.

11:50 BIRTHDAYS - A.A. birthdays since 11/12/22 Richard O, our Alr Delegate stood in for Cheryl, Alt Chair. **362 years of sobriety!!**

Adrian-7 yrs, Sutton-32 yrs, Liz-27 yrs, Terri-34 yrs, Joey-4 yrs, Harper-5 yrs, Rick Lee-45 yrs, Heidi-3 yrs, Christine 25 yrs, Bruce-8 yrs, Vanessa-14 yrs, Connie- 23 yrs, Carmen-31 yrs, Maureen-21 yrs, Brian-1 yr, Nancy-17 yrs, Richard R-11 yrs, Hank-2 yrs, Efren-34 yrs, Heidi-10 yrs, Kendall - 4 yrs.

12:00 12 CONCEPTS read in English - Marianne S. and Spanish - Blanca.

[THE TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE](#)

[LOS DOCE CONCEPTOS PARA EL SERVICIO MUNDIAL](#)

01:15 0 LUNCH – 45 Minutes ALL of US

1:25 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS – (Introduction and Q&A

We will experience a mock general service conference at our next assembly.

The committee is still working on the details and we will all get more information on this.

01:35 UNITY – Our Second Legacy - Monty

Understanding the roles of the Coordinator and the GSR in the Area Assembly & Local Intergroups -

What is their purpose, how can they work together? Monty

<https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-Mock-General-Service-Conference-Assignments-Layout-1.pdf>

How does the role of Coordinator relate to the role of the GSR? - Blaine

https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/1-GSR_Coordinator1.14Assembly.pdf

The Intergroup is the Central Office. It is where the **Coordinating Council** meets. The Coordinating Council has its own standing committees. Your group Coordinator attends the Coordinating Council meetings at the Central Office and reports back to your group.

https://www.area8aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2-GSR_Coordinator1.14Assembly.pdf

Why is it Important that Intergroup and the Area Service Structure be Connected? –

Linda R., Liaison from the Intergroup to Area 8.

- The Area connects us to GSO in NY.
- The Intergroup is our direct contact to our groups.
- Central Office's phone service is the direct link to anyone looking for a meeting or support.

The Role of the Coordinating Council Chair – Andrew K.

- Andrew is the new Chair of the Coordinating Council. The chair makes sure there is an informed group conscience on council issues.
- The role of the Council Chair conducts the order of the Central council meetings.
- The Council deals with the fellowship of AA at the local level.
- Their committees handle the fellowship at the local level. The office sells AA literature. The Central Office manager usually brings office issues to the Council.
- Many groups do not have a coordinator. We want to bridge the gap that no alcoholic suffers here in our area. We want to man the phone at the Central Office. We want to spread the word about the resources at the Central Office.
- GSRs deal with AA issues.
- Monty, our Delegate, and Judy, our Central Office manager, are having regular meetings.
- Judy writes a draft of the agenda for the council meeting and the Council Chair collaborates with her to draw up the final agenda.
- On the last Friday of every month one of the Intergroup committees hosts an open house.
 - January 27th - Program committee. February 24th will be the Public Information Committee.
- Ques. about the volunteers for the phone answering. Can we come back and do it at the Central Office instead of at home?
 - Ans; YES. The Central Office has a lock box for volunteers who want to come in for phone answering service.
 - A new GSR who is in real estate sales offered an upgrade for the lock box system.

02:10 PRAASA – Fri. 3/3/2023 – Sun. 3/5/2023 – Los Angeles, CA - Juan O. - MCD Distrito 15

My experience at PRAASA and what it has meant to me in my general service journey.

- Two PRAASAs were attended - GSR **and the other**
- This year at the L.A. PRAASA I look forward to attending the DCM roundtable.

02: 15 AREA 08 ASSEMBLY BIDS - 3 districts are needed to sponsor.

Area 8 has 5 assemblies per year. Our first 3 Assemblies have sponsors. The last two are in need..

- Election Assembly – Saturday, September 23rd 2023 - Districts 8, 19, and 15 volunteered.
- Budget Assembly – Saturday, November 11th 2023 - 16, 12 and one more is needed.

02:40 Area Standing Committee Round Tables - Introductions & Assignments, Standing Committee Chairs: Accessibilities, Archives, Armed Services, CPC,(Contact with the Professional Community), Finance, Grapevine/La Vina, H&I-(Hospital and Institutions) North County, H&I-(Hospital and Institutions)San Diego/Imperial, Information Technology, Literature, Newsletter, Policy, Translation, YPAACC (Young Peoples'AA Coordinating Council)

- Standing Committees have set up tables for members to investigate and ask questions. 25 mins have been set aside for this experience.
- All members present at the assembly dispersed and chose committees to investigate.

03:15 Ask It Basket

- an announcement instead of a question: Carmen is the new Liaison for the Hispanic Womens' Workshop (HWW).
- Martha is the Alt Liaison for the HWW
- **Where do GSRs register their group?** They register their group with their District Registrar or the DCM or if all else fails, get to the Area Registrar.

03:30 Adjourn with the Responsibility Statement -

"I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

NEXT ASSEMBLY is the PreConference Assembly,: Saturday, April 1, 2023 @ 9:00 AM

respectfully submitted by

Rose P., Area 8 Secretary, Panel 72

Nihura M., Alt. Area 8 Secretary, Panel 72