

Central California Area Assembly

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VICKI B
Delegate
delegate@aaarea93.org

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS – AREA 93
PMB# 140
606 Alamo Pintado #3 Solvang, CA 93463
www.aaarea93.org

DEBBIE J
Alternate Delegate
altdelegate@aaarea93.org

ALBERTO E
Chairman
chairman@aaarea93.org

JESS A
Secretary
secretary@aaarea93.org

KEN S
Treasurer
treasurer@aaarea93.org

PEGGY D
Registrar
registrar@aaarea93.org

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES February 20, 2005 Goleta Valley Community Center 5679 Hollister Avenue, Goleta Ca.

CCAA Chairman, Alberto E called the meeting to order at 9:00am and led in the Serenity Prayer. Art read the 12 Concepts in English, and Sergio read them in Spanish.

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary Report – Jess A

Jess took roll call and gave report on forms available.

Roll call:

DCM's/Alternates - 22; DCMC's/Alternates - 2; Committee chairs/Subcommittee chairs - 7; CCAA Past Delegates - 2 ; CCAA Officers: 6, Sound Dude - 1 ; Guests - 3 ; Archivist – 1 : **Total - 44**

Registrar Report – Peggy D

There are group updates in the box at the back of the room. Please take them back to the GSR's and groups to check for accuracy. The new directories will be printed in May. Please return the correct information to me by April 15th. This will go into the Western States and World directories. I have updated information for more than 100 groups since January 16th. So far, I am actively doing registrar work at the rate of 15 hours per week.

Treasurer Report – Ken S

I have distributed copies of the income and expense report and the group contribution report. They cover January and most of February. The current bank balance is \$18,644.31. Our contributions are up \$2,300.00 compared to the same period last year but it's too early to tell if this is a trend. I had some trouble with Spanish translation of the reports but I will get that solved by the assembly. I'm still learning the job and getting everything transferred as it is a bit tedious. I have purchased a new notebook computer for the treasurer for \$1,925.00 and it's setup and working. I was able to visit District 23 this month and was able to answer a lot of questions. I learned a lot and will be looking forward to my next visits.

Chairman Report – Alberto E

I did my first official visit to the Gold Coast Combined Districts; thank you Richard and Ken.

Also, the new District No. 14 invited me to one of their meetings; I gave them information about the need for a Spanish interpreter; thank you Jose.

My home district also invited me to one of their study meetings.

And I want to apologize to District 20 in Ridgecrest, but because of my work I could not visit them. I will work something out later, to do their scheduled visit. Debbie suggested maybe have a Unity Day on a weekend, and ask all the officers to be present.

Debbie and I traveled to Santa Maria on February 11, to do the required walk through of the facility. When we talked to the lady in charge, she told us that the parking is going to be free. You only need to tell the guard at the gate that you are going to the AA meeting.

One other thing I did, I emailed Tony Izquierdo, Tony Leija, Fernando Becerril, Armando Lomeli and Melvin Morales about the need we have for a Spanish Interpreter. I think this is our best source to find someone.

Alternate Delegate Report – Debbie J

Since we last met, I have attended my first meeting with Southern Ca. H&I – The H&I Conference this year is April 29, 30, May 1st at the Doubletree Hotel in Orange. Vicki and I will be moderating a meeting at 10:30 pm on the Friday night. I have brought flyers for the event. I really am looking forward to learning more about H&I.

I have been busy planning the pre-conference workshop for Saturday March 19. Registration is at 9:30 and we will begin promptly at 9 a.m. There will be presentations and roundtables throughout the day. I would like all of you to remind GSRs to read through the pamphlets “The AA Group and Too Young”. “Too Young” is not available in Spanish and one thing we will be attempting to look at is whether this pamphlet might be needed in Spanish. We will have dinner on site beginning at 5:30. The price of the dinner is \$16.00 per person and must be repaid. You can give me your checks payable to CCAA to reserve your spot. I have sign up sheets for all the DCMS to take back to their Districts. MY address is on the top of the agenda. You can mail me your checks or give them to me at PRAASA if you'd like. Please contact all your GSR's and give them the opportunity to attend the dinner, after dinner, we will have a meeting and Eva Sanchez, our guest from New York, will be the speaker. We will end the day about 7:30 or 8pm.

Then Sunday, we will again begin at 9am promptly and have one final panel of presenters and open microphone discussion. The pre-conference workshop will end about 10:15 or 10:30 at which time the assembly will begin.

I have contacted many of the people who will be presenters but would still like the name of some GSR's from Districts 6 (our host district!), 22, 13, 10, 7, and 14. Traditionally, we try to have presenters that have never made a presentation at a pre-conference before. I have asked all the DCM's to give me names of GSR's and many of you have replied.

So I am really looking forward to the pre-conference workshop and will be asking for your help and support as I continue the planning.

Delegate Report – Vicki B

Amazing, that is what I have experienced so far. I have been your Delegate for 50 days now and the amount of information I have been sent and processed is almost overwhelming. Key word there almost, I have found it so fascinating that I just get right through it. We have a full agenda today and I do not want to take up too much time and yet there is a lot of information I would like to pass on. First let me remind you to check your DCM folders, you will find a few copies of the opinion polls along with your regular information. Please take these back to your district meetings and make more copies for the GSR's to hand out to their group or fill out for themselves. Also I would really like it if each one of you here takes a few minutes to answer at least one of the questions.

I had the pleasure of listening to Joe V one of our past delegates give a talk at the San Fernando Valley Convention. When they ended up with extra time Susan graciously asked me to say a few words. Luckily I had just completed our Area Service Highlights for the General Service Conference and it gave me a chance to practice my 2-minute pitch. I ran over on time so I have to keep working on it. Most importantly in my pitch I mention that our Archives committee is interviewing & taping old-timers, afterwards a woman came to me that has 34 years and asked how to get in touch with the committee, she would like to be interviewed, so I got her name and number and have passed it on to Val, our Archives chair.

I went to my final H & I Intergroup meeting and introduced Debbie, our Alt-Delegate. I thanked them all for their hard work and especially for allowing us to be included in their information process. They have asked me to lead a panel at the upcoming H & I convention at the end of April, discussing how H & I and General Services work together.

I attended the DUH meeting in Santa Paula and distributed the translated Spanish Polls. Also I gave out copies of the request from GSO for Spanish Language stories to be included in the 3rd edition of the Spanish Big Book. I brought extra today it explains how to submit and a reminder that the deadline is September of this year.

GSO sent us two thank you letters for our contributions, one for the delegates cost last year and one for our deposit on this years conference. Annually GSO sends out a letter to each Delegate regarding Anonymity Breaks at the Public Level with helpful hints on how to contact the member. I made copies and gave to Laurie our P.I. chair for future reference. GSO's Treatment Facilities Desk is asking all areas to respond to a questioner on reaching out to professionals & treatment facility activities. They are trying to take their own inventory and need our help. I have given this to Art, our CPC/TF chair; his committee is going to be busy. Also the Executive Editor of the Grapevine wants us to know and pass on the February issue has a special section on 'Getting Sober Over Sixty' Armando, our Grapevine/La Vina chair now has more information on this.

The final board weekend before the conference took place January 29 & 30. Phyllis, our Pacific Regional Trustee puts together an outstanding report with information you may not hear elsewhere. If anyone would like to get a copy just send me a request by e-mail and I will forward. She promptly sent out her report and this gave me heads up on what I might expect for the final agenda items. So when I received the final agenda and the Conference Literature Committee's agenda changed from one item to eleven items I was somewhat prepared. Debbie has distributed copies of the Final Conference Agenda please take some time to review. If there is anything you want more information on send me an e-mail and I'll send you the background. I'm asking all of you to help me be the best-informed delegate so I can serve you well.

Now planning report backs. I would really like to encourage you to get your neighboring districts together for a special Delegate Day. Pick a day, serve food, have fellowship & enjoy. This will not only save wear and tear on me I would like to see it be an exciting day of information exchange.

Last out of all the information I received this month I would like to pass on what was most rewarding for me to hear. If you remember last month I reported that there were 300 members in correctional facilities waiting for outside contact. Well as a result of The

Grapevine publishing this information, the Corrections Correspondence Service now has zero inmates waiting for contact and a substantial waiting list of outside A.A. members wanting to be linked with inmates has now been created. Thank you all for letting me experience this wonderful world of AA

Jeanine R gave a brief report on PRAASA 2006.

DISTRICT REPORTS

District 1: George R. DCM:

We're all getting use to our new positions and starting off with the basics of our new duties. We started an ask-it-basket for group problems, suggestions for district activities and GSR concerns. PI is placing literature into Police substations and we are looking into placing literature at Urgent Care clinics. We still are looking for a date for a AA matinee and adding speakers on the history of AA in the San Fernando Valley. We are also working on hosting and assembly in the future.

District 2 (Spanish District): Gonzalo Q. DCM: No Report **District 3 (Spanish District): Fernando B, DCM: No Report**

District 4 (Spanish District): Melvin M. ALT DCM:

In our first business meeting, we had 7 GSR's present and 3 Alternate GSR's, 4 Chairs and 5 members of the steering committee for a total of 21 in attendance (Some GSR's have dual jobs). In our February's report meeting we had 7 GSR's, 1 Alternate GSR, 6 chairs, 1 central office liaison, 1 guest and 4 members of the steering committee. The GSR's voted and approved a motion to purchase a total of 15 of the new 2005 Service Manuals for our study meetings. The conference polls were handed to the GSR's and suggested to take them to their groups. Also the GSR's decided to get the telephone service back, now that we have our new meeting place. We are visiting one group every Thursday, having study meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday, reports meetings on the 2nd Wednesday and business meetings on the 4th Wednesday. We are also having structure study meetings on the 2nd Monday of every month, with special guest speakers, our area chair and our past Alternate DCM. We are asking the GSR's to make plans to attend PRAASA and are planning to rent a mini-van for seven and already have three rooms reserved at the hotel in Tucson. So far, 6 members have confirmed to assist. At our next business meeting we will be discussing the whereabouts' of our DCM. We have not seen him in over a month and we have been informed that he is in his country. The DUH and district #3 visited our district on January 26th.. The site for the May 15th Area Assembly is already secured. Both districts 3 and 4 will be planning the event. Our new district address is 14967 Paddock Avenue, #7, Sylmar, CA 91342.

District 5 (Spanish District): Jesus F. DCM:

We are visiting three groups per week, in order to motivate and inform, regarding the activities of the district, and to register the new GSR's. There are two district meetings per month. One is for business items and the other is for information, and two study groups.

District 6 (Spanish District): Silvano L. DCM:

The district has 9 groups and we visit one group per week. The district meetings are held the 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month. Chairs have been appointed for PI, Literature, La Vina, and we are trying to fill the other committee's.

District 7: Mona W. DCM:

January Assembly went well. We voted in an Alt DCM, Lydia V, and Treasurer, Mitchell C.

District 8: Danny G. DCM:

Our District had our election this last moth and Danny G was elected to serve as the DCM.

District 9: No Report

District 10: Dave P. DCM: No Report

District 11: Michelle L. DCM: No Report

District 12: Roy F. DCM:

I was elected the new DCM for district 12 on February 17 at the Thursday night 8pm meeting in Camarillo. We are trying to get more groups in District 12 to get involved by voting in GSR and DCM's so they are better represented. I will be going to PRASA in March and looking forward to it.

District 13: Dan M. DCM: No Report

District 14: Jose H. DCM:

In our last district meeting, the GSR's were informed of the upcoming PRASSA, and PRASSA 06. We discussed the third edition of the Spanish Big Book. The district meets twice a month and one night per month for a concept study. The district is presently working on the Foro. We had a visit from the Area Chair Alberto, and Sergio from the HUD.

District 15: Amanda P DCM: No Report

District 16: Susan P DCM:

Our district along with District 11, hosted the GSO presentation at the San Fernando Valley AA Convention on Saturday, January 29, 2005. Districts 1 and 17 also participated in the event. There were about 45 attendees. The speaker at the meeting was Joe V, sharing his story, describing General Service work, with the importance and growth opportunities of General Service work. Area 93 current delegate Vickie B also gave a brief presentation on the upcoming conference and her area update to the conference. Our districts extend our thanks to both of you for your support and making yourself available at this event. A traditions play was also presented which was educational and fun. The General Service Office emailed the play to us. The players were from Districts 1, 11 and 16. There were two practice sessions prior to the event and I think that the cast had the most fun putting this together. For anyone who would like a copy of the play, I can email the play to you. At the AFVAA Convention, we also had a General Service table, manned by volunteers from the four San Fernando Valley districts. Thank you Robert, Area Literature Chairperson, for making the General Service literature available and for bringing the display to the event. District 16 has been asked by the National Council on Alcoholism and the San Fernando Central Office to give th orientation to people who have been ordered to attend AA meetings by the court system. This is a weekly event, held every Thursday at 5:30 and held at the National Council on Alcoholism office in Van Nuys. District 16 representatives attended last Thursday and will be responsible for providing the presenters at these orientations for three of the four weeks each month. This service opportunity is available to all GSR's and AA members who wish to participate in this service opportunity. Please have any interested parties email District 16 at aaarea93.com Districts 11 and 16 are currently researching an alternate meeting location. We hope to be at another facility by our April meeting We =will keep you posted.

District 17: Jeff J. DCM:

As a new DCM, I am looking for new ways to bring the group conscience to the Area as to encourage GSR's participation in matters affecting these groups. We are looking at reformatting our meetings to include a discussion period with emphasis on group concerns, concept studies and district level activities. We will be discussing bidding and hosting an area assembly in our district. Hopefully we will win a bid for one of the assemblies in 2005. A number of our GSR's will be traveling along with our DCM and alternate to PRAASA 05 in Tucson. On average the number of GSR's in attendance is about 17. The number of GSR's currently on our roster is 28, representing about 25% of the registered groups in our district. I hope to help expedite growth in our district, but have been satisfied with the amount of involvement from our existing GSR's. In January we had a second vote which passed our first stand alone District 17 Guidelines and Policies. This was a need ever since our separation from the combine districts. This has been in development over the past year. Our G&P also includes a provision to fund the DCM and alternate to PRAASA and the Pacific Regional Forums.

District 20: Phil K. DCM: No Report

District 21: Eric S. DCM: No Report

District 22: John M. DCM:

Our district met Sunday, February 13, 2005. That is the second Sunday of the month. Other district service entities including the Central Office and District Convention Committee also meet on the second Sunday We have had new GSR's join us this month and last month. It is great to see new participants in General Service. Peggy D, Area Registrar also visited. This month our District DCM and Alternate DCM are planning to attend the 4 area DCM Sharing session. The first Saturday of March (3-5-05), our district Grapevine Committee will present a "Grapevine Gathering", and topics of discussion and presentation to include: How to become a Grapevine Rep; How to write and submit to the Grapevine; Grapevine history; Subscription information. The next weekend our district is planning to send the DCM and 2 GSR's to PRAASA in Tucson. Our Alternate DCM will not be available to travel that weekend so she will stay home and hold our district committee meeting.

District 23: Gil E. DCM:

District Changes: We had several changes in officers and committee chairs. Due to changes in her work schedule, Dawn felt sh had to give up her Alternate DCM position along with CPC chair so as not to hinder the District, but will still participate when possible with CPC projects. Mara, who currently acts as our Recorder and Grapevine Chair, felt tht she will not be able to give both service positions 100%, but that she could give 150% to the Recorder position along with assisting the DCM as District officer. After discussion with me and talking it over with the out going Alt DCM, we felt that Marta and Mara with their combined service experience and sobriety time, would be feasible way to cover all the variety of important responsibilities of the Alt DCM as far as backing up the Current DCM. Our PI chair Arno rotated out and Joanne stepped in. We have three members who are considering CPC, Accessibilities and Grapevine chair positions. ***Committee Activities:*** CPC – Dawn gave a CPC presentation to Center for

Change staff and clients. They have invited her back and requested more information regarding AA. We also have a local Therapist who has requested information about what AA does and doesn't do. Literature – Our Literature chair has put a rack in the local Alano Club per their request. Grapevine – The Grapevine committee continues to recruit new Grapevine Reps and now is up to 7 members. They met last month to discuss presentation and history of the Grapevine. Archives – Archives chair continues to try to retrieve district 23 archives materials. She brought a Pre-publication Big Book to a presentation of Bills Own Story by a local group. **Coming Events:** The time and date and location for the Delegate Day has been finalized and will take place on May 7th, from 10am – 1pm at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Burtness Auditorium. I will have fliers at the next Area Assembly. All members of Area 93 are welcome to com, relax, eat and enjoy listening to Vicki's report. **Conference Topics/Questioners:** I worked with a number of GSR's to compile these topics and questions into a packet. I also met with our Delegate so she could review the contents for any further changes, after going over the suggestions an making a few changes in the packet, I feel the District now has come about by a consensus from our trusted servants. In order to assist the GSR's and to make it easier for them in presenting the information, we prepared a complete exhibit packet. In includes the cover sheet explaining the reason for the topics and questions and how to get their feedback to the DCM or Delegate. Copies of Concept 1, 5, 9, World Service illustrated and background info regarding to 12 & 12 and Too Young pamphlets from past Conference Reports, plus a display sign which should act as a protective holder of the Master copy of their Groups packet. **Fellowship Day:** District 23 had a fellowship day to receive feedback for the delegate. **S.B.Y.P.A.A:** The district wrote a letter of support for their up coming bid for the 2006 ACCYPAA convention. District 23 would like to thank Ken S for his district visit, and thank John R for running the video "Bills Own Story" at one of the local groups.

District 24: Marie M. DCM:

We are planning an activity in April. We are not sure what we are going to do, but the District has too much money and we are trying to figure how to spend it. Some groups are shifting there donation to GSO and the Area. We will be sending our Alt DCM to PRAASA and have groups sending three GSR's. We also formed a committee to bring the district guidelines up to date.

District 28: Hardy O. DCM: No Report District 50: No Report

District 52: Dave M. DCM:

The Central office is open 6 hours per day at 500 S. Broadway, Santa Maria. We are sending DCM's and Alternates along with 4 GSR's to PRAASA. We are combining with District 22 on a Delegate report back meeting.

District 53:

No Report.

District 59:

No Report

Gold Coast Districts; 8, 9, 12, 13; Richard D. DCMC:

We have two new DCM's. Roy F and Danny G. We are working with PRAASA 06. We are also working with DCM's in getting new GSR's and we have 3 persons committed to PRAASA in Tucson.

United Hispanic Districts: Sergio V. DCMC:

The DUH had a visit from Vicki B, who spoke about the third edition, and the upcoming pre-conference in Santa Maria. We discussed upcoming PRAASA, and a new computer and copier. We visited district's 4, 5 and 14. We are scheduled to visit 3, 6 and 2. We are encouraging GSR's to attend the Area Assembly's, and to participate in upcoming events. The district visit will be February 27 in district 2.

OLD BUSINESS

ITEMS:

1. Report regarding ACM Meeting place: (Armando, Sharon, and Mary Ann)

This item was tabled.

2. Webmaster Position:

Debbie clarified and gave a brief history. This item was tabled.

3. Assembly Schedules/ACM Schedules – 4 per year?:

Jeanine clarified and gave a brief history. This item was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEMS:

1. Funding PRAASA 2006 Chairperson to PRAASA 2005:

Motion #1: Area 93 to reimburse PRAASA 06 chairperson to PRAASA 05 planning meetings, not to exceed \$500.

25 yes; 0 No

Motion Passes

2. Spanish Interpreters – Former interpreter no longer available:

Reports are to follow. This item was tabled.

3. 4 Area Sharing Update – Jeff J (Report)

Jeff expressed his thanks for being asked to be involved in this event, along with Susan P of District 16. Jeff gave an explanation on what the 4 Area Sharing Session is; “The purpose is to aid DCM’s in carrying out their responsibilities and to inform each other on service related topics. The sharing session encourages an exchange of ideals and cooperative efforts between neighboring Areas. Jeff also explained the format of the round tables and how topics are chosen. *Update:* The planning committee met again in Irvine on Saturday, February 12, 2005. All Areas were represented. Logistics are covered for this event and the “last minute” names of moderators will be submitted this week. Areas 5, 9 and 93 have submitted their moderators. When I talked with our Area Officers and our past Delegate, many of them were quick to respond. The two table moderators for Area 93 are Jeanine R and Alberto E. Also, I inquired as to how much stress on our budget it would be to hire another (local) interpreter. The consensus among those present was to not hire any additional, but to ask our Spanish speaking districts in our respective Areas to have available at least one volunteer interpreter per Area. Recorders are not pre determined, but each Area is responsible to have available two recorders. This is a great opportunity for your Alternate DCM’s. The time, address and directions are on the flyer. Be sure to pick one up before you leave. It is this coming Saturday, February 26. Registration is at 9:30am and the event ends at 4:00pm. The topics are as follows: How to attract alcoholics from under represented population; How to better attract and orient new GSR’s; How to delegate responsibility in your District; The GSR as the guardian of the twelve traditions; Successful District workshops; Duties, goals and responsibility of the DCM; How to keep GSR’s interested and active; How to get groups interested and involved in General Service. Jeff reported that the flyer with all the information is also available on the Area web site, at aaarea93.org

4. Grapevine/La Vina – Make them two separate committees:

Debbie gave the background and history.

Motion #2: Guidelines and Policies to write verbiage on forming two standing committees for Grapevine and La Vina.

26 Yes, 0 No

Motion Passes (GL&P to have verbiage prepared for next ACM)

5. Letter of Support for bid of ACYPAA 2006 Conference – Brian W:

Brian requested a letter of support from Area 93, for SBACYPAA to host the next conference.

Alberto took a sense of the Assembly and the request was approved. Jess A Recording Secretary to write and provide letter of support.

ASSEMBLY TO DATE OPEN FLOOR SHARING ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE

Upcoming Events – 4 Area Sharing Session; Feb. 26/PRAASA; Mar 11-13 Tucson AZ Workshop/Assembly; Mar 19,20; Santa Maria

Alberto asked for a Motion to adjourn and a motion was made, along with a second.

The assembly closed with the Responsibility Declaration, and the meeting ended.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jess A
Area 93
Recording Secretary