



# The Mid Southern California Area 9 Newsletter

The Monthly General Service Newsletter for Area 9 of the General Service Conference  
P.O.Box 51446, Irvine, CA 92619-1446 [www.msca09aa.org](http://www.msca09aa.org)

September 2006

MSCA Area 9 includes all AA groups in the counties of Los Angeles (South of Rosecrans Ave.), San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange.

## News from the Aug. 13 ASC

Attendees: We had 154 people attending the ASC.

Proposals: The ASC voted to put the following 4 proposals on the September 10 Assembly agenda for GSRs to vote on:

1. Archives Budget Increase.... It is proposed that the MSCA Archives Committee 2006 budget be increased by \$1000.00 so that the Area's Archivist may visit the GSO Archives to research the early history of the Area.
- 2 Servathon....It is proposed that we change the MSCA Guidelines, Article V, "Other Service Functions of the Area" B. Servathon, 2. "It is held in the fall of the year" be changed to read "2. It is held in the fall of the even-numbered years." This would have the effect of having a Servathon every other year instead of every year.
3. 2007 Area Meeting Schedule....It is proposed that the amended 2007 Meeting Schedule (shown on the last page of this newsletter) be accepted.
4. CEC Committee Budget Increase...It is proposed that the CEC Committee's budget be increased by \$300.00 to enable the CEC Committee to produce its brochures.

*...continued on page 2, col. 1*

## 2006 Pacific Regional Forum report

*By Mike M*

Friday I arrived at the hotel from the airport and met Bruce and Linda in the lobby where we sat and talked for a while before checking into the hotel. I picked up my registration later in the day, met with more people from our area and had some good conversation while we ate. At 7pm we filed into the Grand Ballroom to listen to presentations from the Chairman of the General Service Board, Leonard Blumenthal, our new Pacific Region Trustee, Madeleine P, Dorothy W, our new Trustee at large and Jeanne Woodford, a class A trustee. There were also some GSO staff members like Valerie O and Rick W. I'm in awe of the dedication of these people and their knowledge of our history and service structure. Later our new GSO Archivist, Amy F, was introduced, and she presented the new "Markings on the Journey" video. I had a chance to sit and talk with her and she is an impressive young woman with a love for AA and its history. Saturday morning I found some

*...continued on page 2, col. 1*

## Hello Everyone

*By Joe B*

I had the privilege to spend Sunday afternoon August 20th, in beautiful downtown Joshua Tree. It was a magnificent day for a drive up and into the high desert. I very much enjoyed the trip.

Part of my job description as Alternate Delegate to Mid-Southern California Area is that I am "Responsible for all special committees and subcommittees, workshops, and all special functions of the Area Service Committee." So I dropped in on District 30 to see if there was anything that I could do to help with the Servathon they are preparing to host. I am happy to report that District 30 is well on there way to hosting an exhilarating and informational Servathon, with a line up of some very extraordinary guest speakers and assorted Tradition and Service connected topics and material. I am excited about every thing they have planed and are continuing to work on, and wait with great anticipation for November 11th, when this event takes place in 29 Palms. District 30 is finishing up the flyers and will be making them and the maps available very soon. So keep your eyes and ears open, this is one event that you definitely will not want to miss!

As an added bonus to my trip Joseph M. invited me to his house on the rocky hill and gave me an opportunity to see all the scenery and wildlife he is always raving about. What a pleasant time I had for the twenty or thirty minutes I was able to spend there. I am now a little jealous of where he gets to have his coffee every morning.

As an added bonus, bonus! I was invited to the Living Sober Groups Pot Luck dinner. And for the first time in my life I had a chance to eat this marvelous concoction in a lasagna dish called cheese-burger pie! You can only image.

What an amazing Area we are privileged to live serve in, all of the wonderful people that span from the Ocean, the Mountains, the Low Desert and the High Desert. We really do live in paradise.

I love AA.

*@yourservice, Joe B.*

## MSCA Coffee Maker Needed

The MSCA needs someone to volunteer to make coffee for our monthly MSCA meetings. If you are interested, please talk to our Area Chair.

## News from Aug. 13 ASC ... cont. from page 1, col 1

Finance: We're above projections on MSCA income, and below on MSCA expenses.

Registration of group changes: When the GSO gets a new group or new GSR form, they send it first to the Area for confirmation before actually recording the information.

Our MSCA Chair, Craig, attended an interesting session on "chanting" at the Pacific Regional Forum, and has more information on it for anyone interested.

Our Alternate Delegate, Joe, has some presentation material from our new GSO Archives person, if anyone is interested.

Archives hours: The MSCA Archives Repository continues to be open from 10 am til 1 pm on Saturdays so that AAs can come view the collection of material depicting our AA general service history in Area 9.

Finance Committee: has a new acting chair (Joseph M) and new acting cochair (Shane). Confirmation of these two new trusted servants is planned for the September Assembly.

Treatment Facilities: The Treatment Facilities Committee has offered to do presentations for any group interested.

Newsletter Committee: The Electronic Media Sub-Committee announced it is about to start another forum topic web-based discussion. It will announce the new topic soon, and all are invited to participate in the ensuing on-line discussion.

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District 30 of Mid-Southern California Area 09

Would like to invite all A.A. members to the

### Mid-Southern California Area 09

## Servathon

November 11, 2006

at

**Joshua Tree Community Center**

6171 Sunburst Road

**Joshua Tree, CA 92252**

Doors open at 9:00 to 9:30 am coffee & donuts

Lunch at 12:00

Servathon lasts until 2:30 pm

If you would like to help with the set-up and such, please be there at 8:00 am. We would appreciate your help!!

This event is funded by your Group's 7th Tradition

## Pacific Regional Forum ...continued from p. 1, col. 1

friends from the area and we went to a local AA meeting and then to breakfast. Then it was back to the main ballroom for more presentations by Paul C, AAWS director, Greg M, GSO general manager, and Amy F. Greg as always gave a most complete report on GSO finances and it was great to hear the new audio clips coming from the archives.

After a break we heard from our Pacific Region delegates. It started out on a humorous note as the Alternate delegate from Alaska explained why he was filling in for the delegate who couldn't attend due to a bear breaking into his house. We alkies can find humor in almost anything. There were two presentations that caught my ear, Bruce's on rotation that probably made some uncomfortable and Keith H's on trusting the process which seems to be a rallying cry for many in our area. I seem to trust the process a lot more when it is not being run by bleeding deacons, but maybe that is a character flaw! The problems we face in AA are not new or necessarily unique in the world as I heard in many of the presentations. I felt joy seeing my many friends that I've met in general service from New York and our Pacific Region. There were presentations on the Grapevine and La Vina along with a workshop on the 2006 Conference theme.

To me the meat of these forums is sitting and talking one on one with GSO staff and other members attending the forum to get to know them and understand issues better. Second to that would be the opportunity to ask questions directly to Trustee's, Staff and Delegates from the Pacific Region. Oh I forgot the highlight of this forum for me, the 2 workshops I was privileged to attend. The first was on AA around the world and I got to say "WOW", such experience, strength and hope expressed so well by so many. This workshop got me fired up to do more and try to better express what "we" do. The next workshop was on our seventh tradition (one of my favorites), and, being fresh from seeing how our seventh tradition affects what AA is doing in the world, it was "interesting" to listen to differing thoughts on what our seventh tradition means. I heard of one group that has over \$20,000 in their bank account and uses it to give free dinners of prime rib to group members. My taste buds would like to be a member of that group but the need to carry the message I don't think would be served by my desire for a good meal. I spent very little time with my fellow officers except after the forum we drove around with Craig and Joe. Craig gave us a tour of Seattle where he used to live, and later we broke bread and spent some time before we got dropped off at the airport. All in all, it was great to have the privilege to attend the forum and learn so much.

*In love and service, Mike M.*

## Treatment Facilities Committee Update

By Phil L

My name is Phil L. and I'm your alcoholic MSCA Treatment Facilities Committee (TFC) Chairperson this rotation. I would like to share with you-all what we have been doing and what our goals are. The TFC has committed themselves to working on the goals listed below as taken from the General Service Treatment Facility Workbook and other service resources:

1. Make presentations to Treatment Facilities on what AA is and what AA is not, offer Temporary Contact services to assist clients leaving facilities and asking for assistance to become acquainted with AA in their home neighborhoods, and offer follow-up presentations to the facilities every four months or as requested by the facility.
2. Set up TF literature displays and videos at Treatment Facility presentations, Conventions, and Area Meetings. This is done in an effort to inform TF clients and staff, increase the volunteer base of the Temporary Contact List, and acquaint the fellowship with what MSCA and GSO services are available. In particular, we want to show the Hope Video which does an excellent job in a first person narrative way describing what AA is and what AA is not, what open and closed meetings are, what a sponsor is, what AA's primary purpose is, and describes in both a specific and a general way about the AA program and fellowship.
3. Create a list of Treatment Facilities that would include Treatment Facilities in Area 9 Districts (23), and list them by their District locations. To do this the TFC needs the help of all the districts in the MSCA to contribute their lists.
4. We have a TFC liaison to MSCA Committees to assist in our cooperation with their service efforts. These would include but not be excluded to: Correctional Facilities, Cooperation with the Professional Community, and Public Information Committees.
5. Create TF Presentation Service Pieces or Guides (based on the TF Workbook and local experience from other Treatment Facility Committees in MSCA and other Areas) for MSCA Districts to use in developing their TFC programs. We are seeking to develop web pages to be such a resource for District TFC's to develop a Temporary Contact lists and TF Presentations.
6. Develop and maintain Temporary Contact/Bridging the Gap program in providing a link to the national network of Temporary Contact/Bridging the Gap services. This would be done by maintaining and developing the list that is already in use.
7. Maintain a liaison relationship with the Hospitals and Institutions Intergroup (HIIG) Committee of Southern California. As the TFC Chair I have been attending the

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## TF Committee Update *...continued from col. 1*

HIIG Committee meetings regularly and am seeking to continue a partnership in service. I feel it is important for MSCA to respond to HIIG's recent resolve to work with General Service. I am becoming familiar with their service history and commitment of this H & I outreach service, how they function, and how we can cooperate with their efforts.

8. Write to the General Service Office with additional suggestions as they have requested. The TFC is maintaining contact with GSO and BTG service officers. Recently the GSO TFC wrote describing their intentions to provide a pool of experience as a resource to Areas and Districts and encouraging TFC Service Committees to write and share what they're doing in their service work.

We have these positions filled and active: Alternate Co-Chair, Area Committee Liaison, Convention and Local Services Liaison, Web Page Development Liaison, Treatment Facilities Presentation Liaison, and a District TF Lists Liaison within the MSCA TF Committee. We still need a willing servant to provide a TFC Secretarial services. Please email or call me or show up to our next TFC meeting next month to speak to me about making yourself available for this position. As the above goals are being sought by the MSCA TFC it also wants to become a resource for all District Treatment Facility Committees in MSCA to assist them in their efforts to provide services to: present information to treatment facilities in their location, assist in setting up temporary contact arrangements when asked, and become a resource to the AA Groups in their neighborhoods.

We are looking to districts to provide a pragmatic, working approach to addressing the TFC services listed above. District 11 has a very active TF Committee and is developing service pieces to assist them in doing Treatment Facility presentations. They were able to approach and obtain an invitation to do a presentation at Gibson House for Men in San Bernardino. The District had thought they would be doing the presentation to the staff but when the time came they were asked to do the presentation to the clients. It was reported that with all the confidence of a well oiled machine they made the adjustments and were able to talk with the group of clients about what AA is, about open and closed meetings, steps, and sponsorship. They fielded questions from the clients after the presentation and if the questions were a gauge of the clients' interest, the presentation was well received. The district presenters were asked by the treatment facility if they could come on a monthly basis, and would they like to attend a walk-a-thon activity that their facility and other facilities like them will be participating in during National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

....continued in column 1 of next page

## TF Committee Update....continued from last page

D11 is now preparing for making a TF Presentation to a third treatment facility this next month. Please let us know about your experience and hope and help us develop service pieces to assist other districts in their TFC efforts.

A little personal experience: When I went to PRAASA this last March I had little preparation for the numbered and varied examples of what service work in Treatment Facility Committees would look like. In AA, I have found that we are a fellowship that is creative, energetic and pragmatic. The examples of how Bridging the Gap and Temporary Contact Programs were described included every type of service configuration you've heard of: Central Offices, Intergroups, Districts, Areas, BTG Committees, and Contact Upon Release Committees. I have taken this to be a good sign that the Treatment Facilities Committees by any other name will continue to be of service. This last April the General Service Conference recommended that the scope of the Conference on Treatment Facilities read: "The purpose of a treatment facilities committee is to coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in treatment facilities and other non-correctional environments, and to set up means of 'bridging the gap' from the facility to the A.A. community."

Come on down and join us, or should I say just visit us... and let us know what you're doing to reach out to the Treatment Facilities in your neighborhood, or come out to volunteer to be a Temporary Contact. Want to know more? You can always email the TFC at [tf@msca09aa.org](mailto:tf@msca09aa.org)

*Thanks for keeping me sober...Phil*

### District 8 Presents: A General Service Workshop

Saturday – September 23rd, 2:00 – 4:30 PM

At the Corona Serenity Club - 525 South Corona Mall (951) 371-9273

#### Recovery - Unity - Service

1. What is "Service" in Alcoholics Anonymous?
2. What is "General Service" in particular?
3. Am I responsible to find out more?
4. How can I get involved?
5. Is it "Politics"?

#### The Workshop will Feature

1. Guest Speakers from Mid-Southern California Area 9 talking about their experiences in General Service.
2. Roundtables for sharing ideas about how to Help the still suffering alcoholic with the Program of AA.

Get answers to these questions from those that makes Service a part of their Program.

Coffee, Drinks & Snacks will be available.

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.

## Tradition 9 (long form)

*Our A.A. experience has taught us that:*

Each A. A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our overall public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

## Concept IX (long form)

IX Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders of A.A., must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

## New Finance Committee Chair

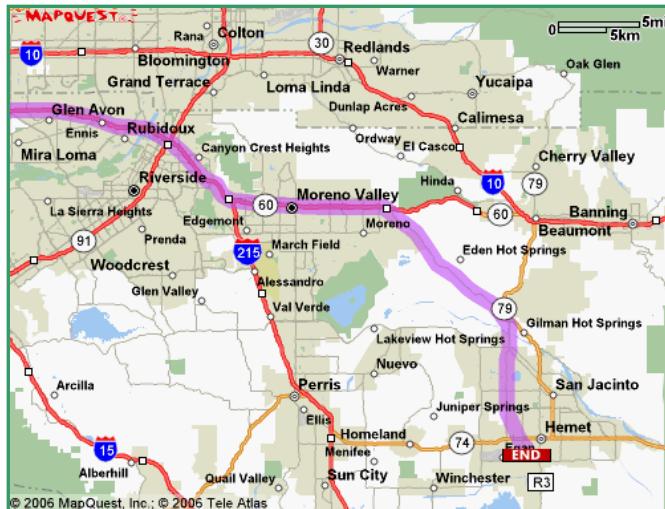
Congratulations to Joseph M, our new acting MSCA Finance Committee chair, and to Shane, our new acting MSCA Finance Committee Cochair.

## Seniors In Sobriety Conference

The Second Annual International "Seniors In Sobriety" Conference will be held May 8-11, 2007 at the Best Western Sedona Inn in Sedona, Arizona. Registration: \$30.00. Make check payable and send to: Seniors in Sobriety, PO Box 3190, Sedona, AZ 86340-3190. More information on the schedule, registration, etc. is on the flyer and on our CEC Committee webpage. See our MSCA CEC Committee or email [sisconf@msca09aa.org](mailto:sisconf@msca09aa.org) for more information.

# Heritage Day, Sunday, Oct. 15, 2006, 1-4 PM, Hosted by District 14.

## Come hear long-timers tell "what it used to be like!"

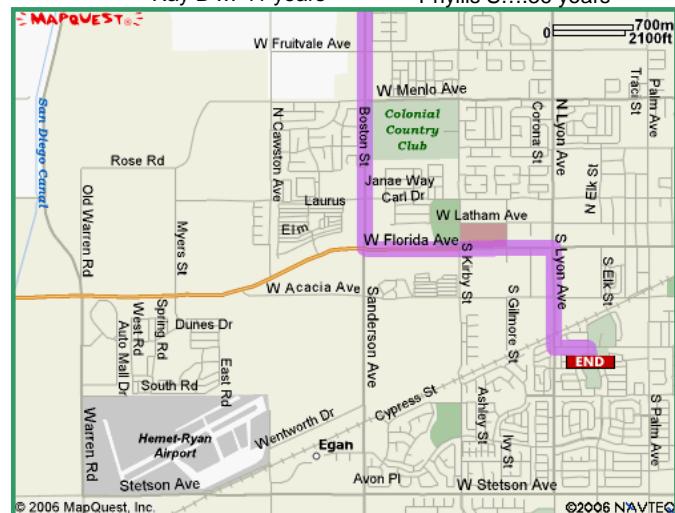


Rec room at Panorama Village, 1401 Teakwood Place – Hemet  
Take I-215 south to State Hwy 74 (Florida Ave) East on Hwy 74 to Lyon Ave South (right) to W. Mayberry Ave. and follow the signs

This year's participants have 160 years of combined sobriety.

Dave R...40 years  
Ray B ... 41 years

William S...43 years  
Phyllis S....36 years



Are you aware that the Mid-Southern California Area 09 is putting on the 1st ever

### Public Information Workshop for our area??

Well that's the truth. The MSCA 09 Public Information Committee is a bilingual committee and so it will be a bilingual workshop. We will also be showing VCR's "Young and AA" (both English and Spanish) and "Hope" and PSA's which will be available in about a week.

We are excited and thinking of new ideas to inform AAs & Professionals on subjects like Anonymity (we are an Anonymous program) and the fact that we are always willing to talk at schools and how it is supposed to be done, etc.

The flyer speaks for itself and in order to provide food, we are seeking people who love pot lucks-baking cakes/pies, salads, main dish for 4. This will be an informative and service oriented event sort of like a "Mini-Gathering".

Anyone who knows media people please, email me how I can get a hold of them and invite them to be a part of this event.

Although, it is not until October 28, 2006, I'd like to get started now. The program is designed, but the speakers are not in place yet. Thanks in advance for your help!! Thru love and service, Linda H., MSCA 09 PI Chair.

**PI Workshop, Saturday Oct. 28, 2006, 10 am – 2 pm**  
Sponsored by Area 9, hosted by District 17

Location: The Webb Center, Sun City Civic Association  
26850 Sun City Blvd., Sun City, CA 92586

Corner of Sun City & Cherry Hills Blvds

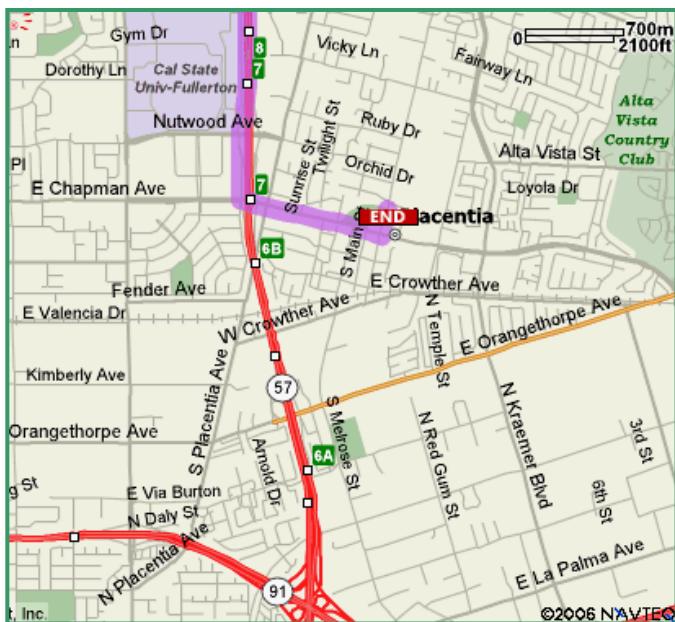
**AA and non-AA speakers, followed by an open forum.**  
Group participation encouraged. All Attendees: Please bring at least one person interested in Public Information.

Lunch will be provided.

For additional information, contact Linda H, Area 9 PI Chair or Chuck P, Dist 17 PI Chair

### ASC, Oct. 8, 2006 Hosted by District 24

**Backs Community Bldg  
201 N. Bradford Ave.  
Placentia, CA 92870**



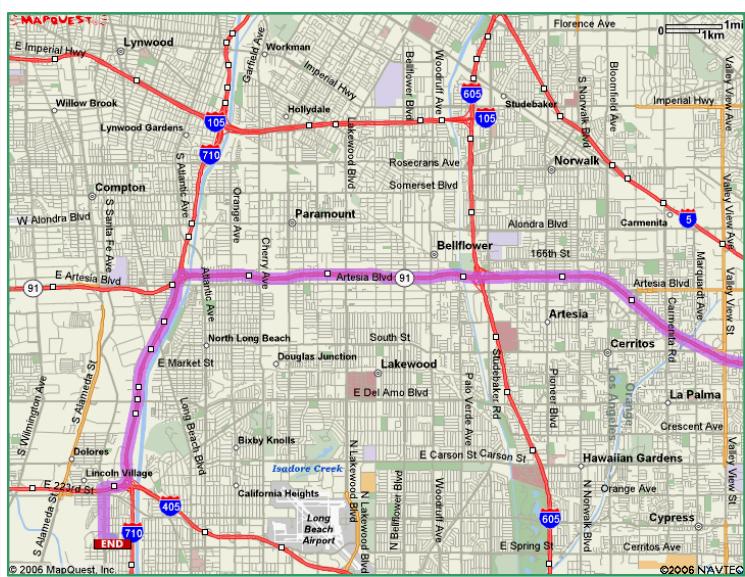
Directions: From the 57 Freeway,  
Go east onto Chapman Ave in Placentia.  
Drive .6 mi.  
Turn left onto Bradford Ave. Drive .1 mi.

## Sept. 10 (Sun.) Assembly (GSRs vote)

### 1545 W. 31st Street, Long Beach 90810

From the CA-91 turn South onto I-710 (S toward LONG BEACH). .3.7 miles

Take the I-405 N exit toward SANTA MONICA.0.5 miles  
Take the HUGHES WAY exit toward SANTA FE AVE.0.1 mi.  
Turn LEFT onto WARNOCK WAY.0.1 miles  
Turn LEFT onto SANTA FE AVE.0.8 miles  
Turn LEFT onto W 31ST ST.



The MSCA Assembly includes permanent committees responsible for conducting much of the AA business activity in the Area. We have Standing and Coordinate Committees. Chairs and cochairs of the Standing committees are listed below.

#### Panel 56 Area Standing Committee Chairs, Cochairs, et al.

Archives Chair...Pete B	Literature Cochair, Spanish ...Cesar F
CEC...Michael M	
CPC...Ernesto M	Newsletter Chair...Russ D
CPC Cochair, Spanish...tbd	Newsletter Cochair, Spanish...Raul C, acting
Convention Liaison...Gary M	Public Information Chair...Linda H
Convention Liaison, Spanish...tbd	Public Information, Spanish...Damien
Corrections Chair...Alex N	Registration...Ben, acting
DCM School...Jim B	Special Needs Chair...Rich W
DCM School Spanish Cochair.....Francisco D	Special Needs Cochair, Spanish....vacant
Electronic Media Sub- Committee...Nick M	Translation... Jesus O
Finance Chair...Joseph M, acting	Treatment Facilities Chair...Phil L
Grapevine Chair...Linda C	Webservant...Nancy R
La Vina Chair...tbd	
GSR School...Scott R	
GSR School, Spanish... Jose A	
Literature Chair...Patrick C	
Coffee person...vacant	
Sound Dude...Joseph M	

## Upcoming Events

Sept. 10 (Sun.) Assembly (GSRs vote) (Dist. 4) 1545 W. 31st Street, Long Beach 90810

Oct. 8 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Dist. 24) Backs Community Bldg, 201 N. Bradford, Placentia, CA 92870 (*The ASC will present proposals, but no vote will be taken on them*)

Oct. 15 (Sun.) Heritage Day, 1-4 pm, Rec Room at Panorama Village, 1401 Teakwood Place, Hemet, CA

Nov. 11 (Sat.) Servathon (Dist 30), 6171 Sunburst Rd., Joshua Tree, CA 92252, 9am - 2:30 pm

Dec.10 (Sun.) ASC Meeting (Dist 1). (*The ASC will vote on which proposals to put onto the Assembly Agenda*),

#### Schedule for most MSCA Assemblies/ASCs

9:30 am....GSR School

9:30 am....Delegate's Sharing Session

10:15 am....Committees meet

11:30 am....Lunch

Noon... **Main Meeting** (which normally includes introductions of new GSRs, Area officers' reports, presentation/ discussion/ voting on proposals, committee reports, other reports )

3:30...Adjournment

#### Proposed MSCA Schedule for 2007

*(not yet approved by Assembly)*

Jan. 14, 2007 Assembly	July 8 Foro
Feb. 11 ASC	August 12 ASC
Mar. ASC	Sept. 9 Assembly
Apr. 15 Pre-Conf. Workshop	Oct 14 Assembly
May 20 Assembly	Nov. 3 Servathon
June 10 ASC	Nov. 11 ASC
	Dec. 9 ASC

#### Panel 56 Area Officers

Chairperson: Craig S,  
chair@msca09aa.org,  
Delegate: Bruce H,  
delegate@msca09aa.org,  
Alt. Delegate: Joe B,  
altdelegate@msca09aa.org,  
Secretary: Oscar G,  
secretary@msca09aa.org,  
Treasurer: Mike M,  
treasurer@msca09aa.org,  
Registrar: Jason S,  
registrar@msca09aa.org,