

Mid-Southern California Area

WHAT'S
IT ALL
ABOUT?

“Welcome G.S.R.s”

Approved by the Mid-Southern California Area Assembly 1992

*Revised 2000
Revised 2002
Revised 2005
Revised 2008*

Developed by the
Mid-Southern California Area
Literature Committee

**M.S.C.A. Spanish-Speaking District Cities
Continued District 24**

24	Anaheim Buena Park Fullerton	Garden Grove La Habra Orange	Placentia Tustin Whittier
25	Adelanto Banning Colton	Fontana Hesperia Rialto	San Bernardino Victorville

**Mid-Southern California Area
Contributions (2006)†**

Each year the A.A. World Services staff prepares a report on the annual meeting of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anony-mous. The results of the report get a lot of attention throughout the Fellowship from interested members. The document also serves as the "Annual Report" for A.A. business and financial matters.

A double page spread in the report is dedicated to an analysis of Area Contributions. It presents a picture of the contributions of all the Areas. The Mid-Southern California Area information from the report is shown below. Column one shows Area 9 position in relation to the Conference.

2d	Number of groups reported	1,808
3d	Number of groups contributing	793
59th	Percent of groups contributing	43.9%
4th	Total group contributions	\$186,527
1st	Membership	56,075
57th‡	Contributions per capita	\$3.33
17	Individual member contributions	\$4,491
30th	Memorial contributions	\$75
18th	Special contributions	\$5,730
7th	Special meetings contributions	\$352
4th	Total Area 9 contributions	\$197,202.68
63d	Per capita contributions	\$352

‡Tied with Northeast Texas Area.

†Reprinted from The 57th Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference of A.A., p. 80 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

The Serenity Prayer
*God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can,
and wisdom to know the difference.*

WELCOME G.S.R.s

You have one of the most important jobs in A.A. As the elected General Service Representative (G.S.R.) of your Group you are the key to the unity of A.A. and—most important—the Custodian of the Traditions. The words of Bill W. describe it best . . .

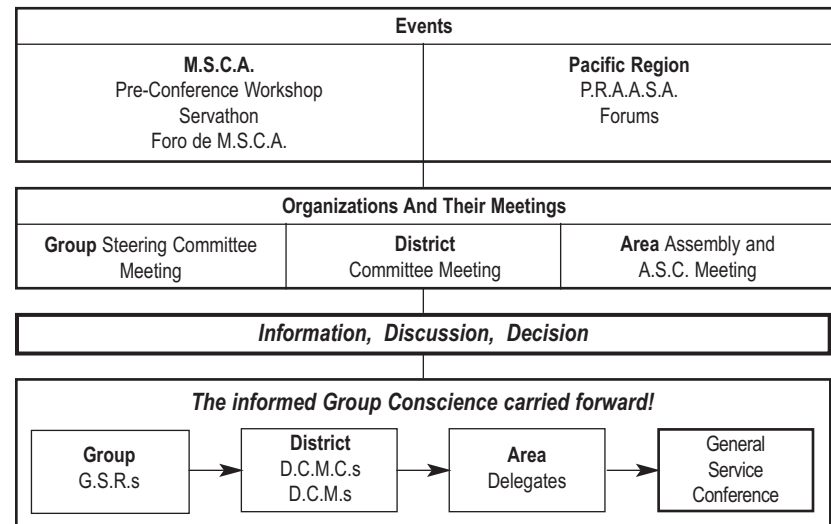
*"The strength of our whole A.A. service
structure starts with the General Service
Representative the Group elects."*

Please use the helpful G.S.R. *Getting Started Checklist* on pages 15-17.

SERVICE MEETINGS

During your term as a G.S.R. you will be attending a number of District and Area meetings. Your first General Service meeting will be a lot like your first A.A. meeting . . . confusing. However, it has been found that continued attendance at service meetings and the study of available literature, such as *The A.A. Service Manual*, will clear up this confusion and service will quickly become very rewarding. You should find your Service Sponsor helpful. If you don't have one, ask your D.C.M. and D.C.M.C. about service questions. If you don't know who and what these people are, you soon will.

An Informed Group Conscience



An informed G.S.R. keeps A.A. alive and well!

M.S.C.A. English-Speaking District Cities

1	Gardena Hermosa Beach Lawndale Manhattan Beach	Palos Verdes Est. Rancho Palos Verdes Redondo Beach	Rolling Hills Rolling Hills Estates Torrance
2	Artesia Bellflower Cerritos Compton, S. of Rosecrans	Hawaiian Gardens Lakewood, N. of Carson Long Beach, N. of Carson	Norwalk, S. of Rosecrans Paramount
3	Carson Dominguez	Harbor City Lomita	San Pedro Wilmington
4	Avalon Belmont Shore Bixby Knolls Lakewood, S. of Carson	Long Beach, S. of Carson Los Alamitos Los Altos Naples	Naval Station Long Beach Rose Park Rossmoor Signal Hill
5	Cowan Heights Lemon Heights Orange	Orange Park Acres Santa Ana	Tustin Villa Park
6	Balboa Corona Del Mar Fountain Valley	Orange Park Acres Santa Ana	Seal Beach Sunset Beach
7	Garden Grove Midway City	Stanton	Westminster
8	Calimesa Cherry Valley Corona El Cerrito Mentone	Mira Loma Moreno Valley Norco Oak Glen Pedley	Redlands Riverside Rubidoux Woodcrest Yucaipa
9	Bermuda Dunes Blythe Cathedral City Coachella Desert Center Desert Hot Springs Eagle Mountain Indian Wells	Indio Indio Hills La Quinta Mecca North Palm Springs Palm Desert	Palm Springs Rancho Mirage Ripley Sky Valley Thermal Thousand Palms Whitewater
10	Anaheim, W. of 55, S. of 91	Buena Park Cypress	Fullerton La Palma
11	Big Bear City Big Bear Lake Bloomington Blue Jay Colton Crestline Crestpark	Devore Fawnskin Fontana Forest Falls Grand Terrace Highland	Lake Arrowhead Loma Linda Muscoy Rialto Running Springs San Bernardino

English-Speaking Districts Continued.

Area Service Committee (A.S.C.) Meetings

Issues to be decided at Assemblies are first introduced at A.S.C. meetings so D.C.M.C.s and D.C.M.s can bring them to their District meetings for discussion with G.S.R.s. The G.S.R.s take the issues to their Groups and bring back their Group Conscience to the next District meeting. The Dis-tribt consciences are brought to the A.S.C. meeting. Discussion and voting takes place. If approved, the issue can be taken to the Assembly.

Area Service Committee Meetings		
Purpose	- Identifying, defining, discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues - Obtaining the conscience of all Districts - Advisor to Assembly, Executive Committee, and the Delegate - Establish Agenda for the next Assembly	
Member-ship	Past Delegates D.C.M.C.s Alt. D.C.M.C.s D.C.M.s District Officers	Area Officers Standing Comm.Chairs/Cochairs Coordinate Committee Chairs and Directors GSRs are nonvoting participants
	G.S.R.s are encouraged to attend.	
	In the absence of their principals, Alt. D.C.M.s and Coordinate Committee designated representatives are voting members.	
Meetings	Two meetings between Assemblies, minimum (Usually 6 meetings per year.)	

Area Assemblies

The Area Assembly is a meeting of District members within the M.S.C.A. As a G.S.R. you are a voting member of the Area Assembly. ***It is your responsibility to carry your Group conscience to the Assembly.*** Therefore, attendance at the District meetings, where the Assembly agenda is discuss-ed, is very important. Your D.C.M.C. or D.C.M. will give you Assembly dates and locations.

Area Assemblies		
Purpose	A meeting of G.S.R.s and the Area Service Com-tee to deliberate upon and enact resolutions concerning service matters	
Member-ship	Area Officers G.S.R.s, Alt. G.S.R.s* D.C.M.C.s Alt.D.C.M.C.s D.C.M.s, Alt. D.C.M.s District Officers	Standing Committee Chairs/Cochairs, Coordinate Committee Chairs/Directors (Intergroups, Central Service Committees, Y.P.A.A. Committees)
	Lifetime voting members: Past Delegates *Nonvoting members: Alternate G.S.R.s	
Meetings	Three Assemblies per year, minimum	

**G.S.R.
Getting Started Checklist**

Task	Done
<p align="center">Attend Area Service Comm. Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are a nonvoting participant in the A.S.C. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standing Committee meetings are held before District and Area meetings. Take this opportunity to learn about them. Arrive early, pick a committee meeting and participate in the activities. Stay with one committee for good learning experiences. Become one of their officers and help work on projects. You will quickly feel at home in General Service. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a report of the committee meetings to your Group to keep members informed. 	
<p align="center">Attend Area Assemblies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are a voting member of the Assembly. Alternate G.S.R.s are also members of the Assembly but may vote only in the absence of the G.S.R. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of your most important tasks is to carry your Group's conscience to the Assembly and vote as guided by the Group Conscience. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is important to learn about the Right of Decision (Concept III) and understand that you may change the Group's planned vote if other information is learned at the meeting. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report Assembly activities and A.A. news to your Group. 	
<p align="center">Attend Other Area Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn more about General Service and the Mid-Southern California Area by attending the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area Election: Officers Area Election: Standing Comm. Chairs Archives Open House Foro del A.M.S.C. Pre-Conference Workshop Heritage Day Founders Day Servathon 	

**OTHER SERVICE MEETINGS
Open to All A.A. Members**

Pre-Conference Workshop. Provides Group information to the Delegate prior to the General Service Conference in New York. Informs the G.S.R.s, officers, and others present about issues of concern at the forthcoming Conference. Held in the spring of the year.

Servathon. Focuses on one or more of the Twelve Traditions and all aspects of A.A. service work. Held in the fall of the year.

Foro del A.M.S.C. The growth of the Spanish-speaking population and membership in Alcoholics Anonymous in the Mid-Southern California Area has brought opportunities for all members to become active in General Service work. The Foro del A.M.S.C. has been established to afford another means for all A.A. members to participate in the mainstream of Alcoholics Anonymous service. The purpose of the Foro del A.M.S.C. is to focus on General Service topics. It is held yearly in the summer and is attended by members from all communities, Groups and Districts throughout the Area.

P.R.A.A.S.A. (Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly). A Pacific Region-wide Assembly to discuss A.A. issues and matters. For the first time newly elected Delegates meet with and learn from Delegates who have been serving for a year. This Assembly also provides an opportunity for G.S.R.s, and District and Area officers to pool their information and share their views on issues to be discussed at the Conference. Areas bid to host the event.

Forums. Regional Forums are sponsored by the General Service Office in cooperation with the Delegates of the Region and are held every other year—each time in a different Area. They are attended by the Regional Trustees, the Delegates, Past Trustees, several members of the General Service Board of Trustees, G.S.O. staff workers and members of A.A. World Services, Inc. and the AA Grapevine. The purpose is to bring the General Service Office to you. The Forum acquaints G.S.R.s and other service-interested members in the Region with the activities, accomplishments and plans of the service personnel associated with the General Service Conference and—equally important—keeps G.S.O. informed of grass roots sentiments and opinions in the Region.

The G.S.R. Preamble

We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A.

We realize the ultimate authority is a loving God as he may express Himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our Fellowship.

Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our group and A.A. as a whole.

Welcome Aboard

We hope that you will experience what most of us in General Service within the Mid-Southern California Area feel to be a very rewarding way of giving back a little of what has so freely been given to us. We hope that you will become an active, involved G.S.R. As one G.S.R. said in an earlier edition of *The A.A. Service Manual*.

“You now have the opportunity to open the door to worldwide A.A. so that your group can enjoy the benefits of the whole Fellowship.”

Bill W. left a personal message to you as a G.S.R. He wanted to be sure that you understood the critical nature of your G.S.R. job.

“The strength of our whole A.A. service structure starts with the group and with the General Service Representative (G.S.R.) the group elects. I cannot emphasize too strongly the G.S.R.’s importance.”

Responsibility Declaration

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

I am responsible.

General Service Structure United States and Canada	
Segment	Structure
General Service Conference Regions (8)	UNITED STATES • Pacific • East Central • Northeast • Southwest • West Central • Southeast CANADA • Eastern Canada • Western Canada
Pacific Region Areas (15)	CALIFORNIA (6 Areas and part of Nevada Area) • Mid-Southern Calif. • Central Calif. • San Diego/Imperial • Southern Calif. • Northern Interior • Northern Coastal
	• Alaska • Idaho • Utah • Arizona • Nevada • East Wash. • Hawaii • Oregon • West Wash.
M.S.C.A. Districts (24)	Please see page 12

Spanish-Speaking Area Structure

The Mid-Southern California Area has one of the largest Spanish-speaking populations in the Conference. The Area’s Spanish-speaking structure is expanding to accommodate the growth of this community in A.A. and in the Area. District numbers 20 to 29 have been reserved for this growth. There are six Spanish-speaking Districts that cover the entire Mid-Southern California Area. (See P.12.)

AREA ASSEMBLY

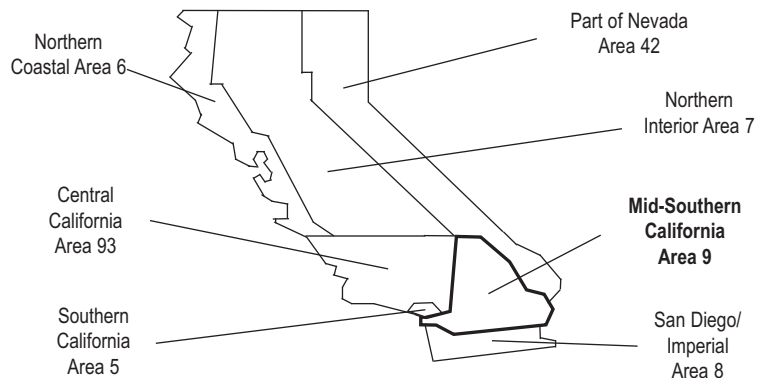
The M.S.C.A. Assembly has six officers (Executive Committee) including the Delegate. They are elected during odd-numbered years. They serve two-year terms beginning January first of even-numbered years. Replacements for vacancies are appointed by the Executive Committee subject to confirmation by the Assembly.

Area Officers

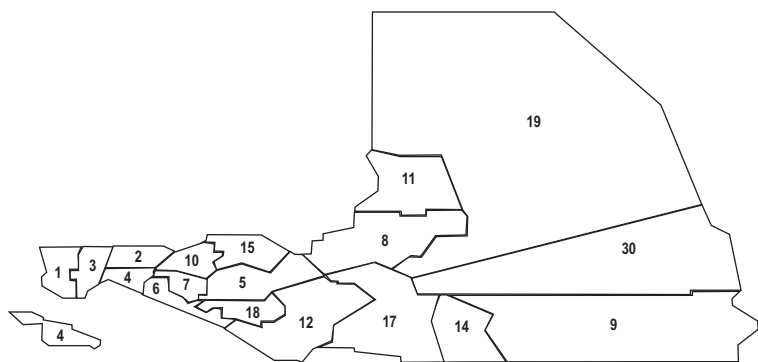
Area Officers	
Position	Duties
Delegate	Provide the leadership to build a sound service structure Attend the General Service Conference - Carry and express the Area Conscience - Vote on all questions - Act in the interest of A.A. as a whole - Report back to the Area Maintain contact with G.S.O. and the G.S.B. Serve on a Conference committee Attend Assemblies, A.S.C. meetings, Area events, P.R.A.A.S.A., and Pacific Regional Forums

Area Officers Continued.

California Areas



M.S.C.A. English-Speaking Districts



The English-speaking district structure has 18 Districts.

M.S.C.A. Spanish-Speaking Districts



The Spanish-speaking district structure has six Districts.

Coordinate Committees (Continued)

Central Offices/Intergroups (12)	
CENTRAL OFFICE/INTERGROUP	LOCATION
All South Bay C.O.	Torrance
Desert Intergroup C.O.	Cathedral City
Harbor Area C.O.	Long Beach
Inland Empire C.O.	Colton
Morongo Basin C.O.	Joshua Tree
North Orange County C.O.	Fullerton
Oficina Central Hispana Valle de Coachella	Indio
Off. Integ. Hispana del Sur de la Bahia	Gardena
Oficina Intergrupala de Orange County	Santa Ana
Orange County C.O.	Santa Ana
Temecula C.O.	Temecula
Victor Valley C.O.	Apple Valley

Young People In A.A. Committees (3)	
Y.P.A.A. COMMITTEE	LOCATION
All Orange County Y.P.A.A.	Costa Mesa
Harbor Area Cities Y.P.A.A.	San Pedro
Inland Region Y.P.A.A.	San Bernardino

Other Committees

Hospitals and Institutions Committees (7)	
H.&I. COMMITTEE	LOCATION
All South Bay	Hermosa Beach
Coachella Valley	Rancho Mirage
Comite de Instituciones del Sur de la Bahia	Gardena
Harbor Area	Long Beach
High Desert	Apple Valley
Inland Empire	San Bernardino
Orange County	Garden Grove
Southern Calif. H.&I. Intergroup Comm.*	Various meeting sites.

* Not included in total.

ELECTION ASSEMBLY

In October of odd-numbered years, you will perform one of your most important functions as a G.S.R. by taking part in electing a Delegate from the Mid-Southern California Area as our representative to the General Service Conference. Other Area Officers will also be elected.

Eligibility to Office

The number of Assembly members who are eligible to office is quite large. This gives the Assembly a good field from which to choose the Area officers. Each eligible member must state if they wish to stand for election. Included in those eligible to Area office are: 24 District leaders and any alternates; D.C.M.s of the subdistricts; numerous District officers; five of the Area officers (not Delegates or Past Delegates) all English and Spanish-speaking Standing Committee Cochairs; and 16 Chairs or Directors of Coordinate Committees.