

*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*

*Revised 2017*

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**"A.A."** on the cover symbolizes us as anonymous members in the population always ready to carry the message of recovery. Many AA pamphlets carry "A.A." on the cover to communicate with alcoholics in need. The same approach is used in this pamphlet with hopes of helping G.S.R.s to

**learn more about A.A. General Service.**

**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 . . .

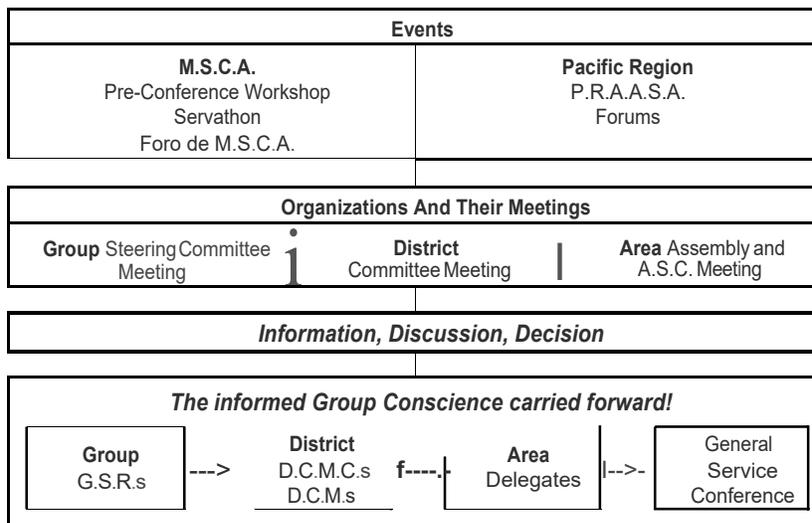
*"The strength of our whole A.A. service structure starts with the General Service Representative the Group elects."*

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!***



By attending meetings and expressing your Group Conscience you are helping to keep A.A. strong and pass that strength along to future members. Attending Service meetings is as important to the life of A.A. as attending Group meetings is to your life in recovery.

### Group Steering Committee Meetings

Many Groups have Steering Committee or business meetings which conduct routine business matters and report back to the Group. Upon occasion the Group votes to express its Group Conscience on A.A. matters. The G.S.R. carries the results of the Group Conscience to the District and Area meetings.

Group Steering Committee Meetings•	
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Take Group Conscience on issues that might affect the Group or A.A. as a whole</li> <li>- Discuss questions about Group practices</li> <li>- Nominate candidates for Group Office</li> <li>- Discuss other Group business</li> </ul>
Member-ship	Group Officers and Members
Meetings	As established by Group Conscience
• Not all Groups have Steering Committees	

### District Committee Meetings

Districts hold meetings for G.S.R.s where you will learn about your District. In this way Groups are able to communicate with each other. At these meetings you will become informed of items to be discussed at the Assembly so that you will be prepared to take part.

#### District Committee Meetings

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Take the Conscience of Groups in the District on matters that might affect the Groups or A.A. as a whole</li> <li>- Elect D.C.M.C., Alt. D.C.M.C. and D.C.M.s to the Area Service Committee (A.S.C.)</li> <li>- Elect District Standing Committee Chairs</li> <li>- Discuss and act on service needs</li> <li>- Maintain communications between groups, the Area, and A.A. as a whole</li> </ul>
Member-ship	Customarily G.S.R.s, D.C.M.C., Alternate D.C.M.C., D.C.M.s and Alternates, Past D.C.M.C.s, District Officers, and Chairs of District Standing Committees
Meetings	Usually each month

### 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 District 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identifying, defining, discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues</li> <li>- Obtaining the conscience of all Districts</li> <li>- Advisor to Assembly, Executive Committee, and the Delegate</li> <li>- Establish Agenda for the next Assembly</li> </ul>		
Member-ship	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                     Past Delegates                      D.C.M.C.s                      Alt. D.C.M.C.s                      D.C.M.s                      District Officers                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                     Area Officers                      Standing Comm. Chairs/Cochairs                      Coordinate Committee Chairs and Directors                      GSRs are nonvoting participants                 </td> </tr> </table>	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
	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 discussed, 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 Committee to deliberate upon and enact resolutions concerning service matters		
Member-ship	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                     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                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                     Standing Committee                      Chairs/Cochairs,                      Coordinate Committee                      Chairs/Directors                      (Intergroups, Central                      Service Committees,                      Y.P.A. Committees)                 </td> </tr> </table>	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. Committees)
	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. Committees)	
Lifetime voting members: Past Delegates 'Nonvoting members: Alternate G.S.R.s			
Meetings	Three Assemblies per year, minimum		

## Typical Area Meeting Format

<b>Premeeting Activities</b>	
9:30a.m.-10:30a.m.	Delegate's Sharing Session
9:30 a.m.-10:30a.m.	G.S.R. School
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Standing Committee Meetings	
*AA Grapevine/La Vina	*G.S.R. School
Archives	• Literature
• Convention Liaison	• Newsletter
*Cooperation with Elder Comm.	• Public Information
*Cooperation with Prof. Comm.	Registration
Correctional Facilities	• Special Needs
• D.C.M. School	*Treatment Facilities
Finance	
11:30 a.m.-12:00 noon Lunch	
<b>Opening Procedure (Noon)</b>	
Opening prayer	
Tradition for the month, Long Form, Eng. and Sp.	
Concept for the month, Long Form, Eng. and Sp.	
G.S.R. Preamble	
Statement of Purpose and Membership	
Introductions:	
Past Delegates	New D.C.M.C.s
New G.S.R.s	Guests
New D.C.M.s	
<b>Area Meeting</b>	
Seating of the Executive Committee	
Approval of prior Area meeting minutes	
Delegate's report	
Standing Committee reports: (See list above.)	
Old business	
New business	
Executive Committee reports:	
Alternate Delegate	Treasurer
Chair	Registrar
Secretary	
Ad hoc committee reports	
Celebration of A.A. birthdays	
Coordinate Committee reports:	
Central Office Committees	
Intergroup Committees	
Young People in A.A. Committees	
Announcements	
Recap of meeting actions	
Closing prayer	
Adjournment	

## 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.

**General Service Conference.** We have talked a lot about the Group Conscience-because you, as G.S.R., are the custodian of that Group Conscience. The thoughts and opinions expressed in Group Consciences are pooled at the District meetings you will be attending, and pooled again at the Area Assemblies. The A.A. Group conscience finally comes to a focus-for one long week each spring-at the General Service Conference. Our Delegate carries our M.S.C.A. Group Conscience, along with the Right of Decision, when attending the Conference. The Conference is A.A.'s way of keeping our Fellowship strong and healthy by looking for weaknesses to be corrected and new challenges to be met.

## **SERVICE STRUCTURE**

This pamphlet describes the Mid-Southern California Area Service structure. The Area is the part of Alcoholics Anonymous service in which you personally will be most involved. It is in the Pacific Region. There are 93 Areas in the Conference, 79 in the United States and 14 in Canada. We fit into the overall A.A. Service structure as described below.

### **Mid-Southern California Area**

The Area is divided into 24 Districts with each District being served by an elected District Committee Member Chair (D.C.M.C.), or District Committee Member (D.C.M.) in the Spanish-speaking Districts. In 2006 there were 1,808 A.A. Groups and 56,075 members reported in the Area. In that year the M.S.C.A. was the largest Area in A.A. membership and second largest in A.A. Groups in the Conference. The M.S.C.A. was tied at 56th with the Northwest Texas Area in per capita contributions (\$3.33) and fourth largest in total Area contributions (\$197,202.68).

With the rapid growth in numbers of A.A. members and .A. Groups in the M.S.C.A., it was necessary to add the D.C.M.C. position in English-speaking Districts to maintain the integrity of the original Districts without interfering with effective communications between the A.A. Groups (through their G.S.R.s) and the District Committee Member (D.C.M.). D.C.M.s serve Subdistricts within Dis- tricts. Spanish-Speaking Districts do not use the Subdistrict structure; their District leaders are D.C.M.s.

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

Area Officers (Continued)	
Position	Duties
Alternate Delegate	Assist, substitute for the Delegate when required Responsible for special committees, workshops and special functions of the A.S.C. Maintain liaison with A.S.C., Intergroups/Central Service and all other permanent committees Work closely with the Area Chair Assume the duties of the Area Chair when that officer is absent
Chair	Conduct Area meetings. Plan/publish agenda Appoint ad hoc committees Function as Administrative officer of the Assembly Maintain a healthy Area structure Assist Districts when needed
Secretary	Record/distribute Area meeting and Executive Committee minutes. Maintain roster and mailing list; distribute roster. Maintain Assembly records
Treasurer	Conduct Area financial business; Maintain fiscal records; Provide financial reports; File Tax forms; Serve on Financial Committee
Registrar	Maintain Group records up-to-date Locate Groups when needed Schedule visits of officers

### Area Committees

The M.S.C.A. Assembly includes permanent committees responsible for conducting much of the A.A. business activity in the Area. They are Standing and Coordinate Committees.

### Standing Committees

There are 15 M.S.C.A. Standing Committees. Individuals standing for Committee Chair are elected by the Assembly. (Some committees elect their own Chair.) Each Standing Committee drafts its own guidelines for approval by the Assembly.

Area Standing Committees (15)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AA Grapevine/La Vina</li> <li>Archives</li> <li>'Convention Liaison</li> <li>'Cooperation with Elder Comm.</li> <li>'Cooperation with Prof. Comm.</li> <li>Correctional Facilities</li> <li>' D.C.M. School</li> <li>Finance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>' G.S.R. School</li> <li>'Literature</li> <li>'Newsletter</li> <li>'Public Information</li> <li>Registration</li> <li>'Special Needs</li> <li>'Treatment Facilities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish-speaking Cochairs</li> </ul>	

### Coordinate Committees

Coordinate Committees are part of the Area structure but are completely autonomous.

Area Coordinate Committees (16)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Office Committees (9)</li> <li>• Intergroups (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young People In A.A. Committees (3)</li> </ul>

### 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
Ccmite 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 <i>Comm:</i>	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.

**Eligibility to Office (Continued)**

<b>Eligibility for Election to Area Office</b>	
DCMCs, Alt. DCMCs Past DCMCs, Past Alt DCMCs DCMs, Past DMCs Past District Officers	With one year of service in one or more of these offices Regularly attended Area meetings in the past year. (Determined by the Executive Committee if necessary)
Area Officers	Excluding Delegate and Past Delegates
Chairs, Cochairs of Standing Comm. and Spanish-Speaking Cochairs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AA Grapevine/La Vina Archives</li> <li>*Convention Liaison</li> <li>*Cooperation with the Elder Community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cooperation with the Professional Comm. Correctional Facilities</li> <li>*D.C.M. School Finance</li> <li>*G.S.R. School</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Literature</li> <li>*Newsletter</li> <li>*Public Information Registration</li> <li>*Special Needs</li> <li>*Treatment Facilities</li> </ul>
Chairs/Directors of Coordinate Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently serving in Office, or</li> <li>• In office in the past 12 months</li> </ul>

**Suggested Continuous Sobriety**

Area Guidelines have suggested continuous sobriety values to be eligible for election to Area office which are equal to/greater than those suggested in *The A.A. Service Manual*.

<b>Suggested Continuous Sobriety</b>			
Delegate	6 Years	Secretary	5 Years
Alternate Delegate	6 Years	Treasurer	5 Years
Chair	5 Years	Registrar	5 Years

**Eligibility to Vote**

Members of the M.S.C.A. Assembly are eligible to vote in Area elections as shown below.

**Voting Members of the Election Assembly**

Area Officers	D.C.M.C.s, Alt. D.C.M.C.s	Other District Officers
G.S.R.s	D.C.M.s, Alt. D.C.M.s	

Chairs and Cochairs of Standing Committees

Chairs/Directors of Coordinate Committees

- Currently serving in office, or
- In office within the past 12 months

Lifetime voting members: Past Delegates

**NOTE: In order to be eligible to vote, members of the Assembly must have attended, in their respective capacities, at least one Assembly or A.S.C. meeting in the past year.**

**Elections**

The Assembly in October of odd-numbered years elects six Area officers. The Assembly in January elects all English and Spanish-speaking Standing Committee Co-chairs; (Some committees elect their own Chairs.)

### Third Legacy Procedure

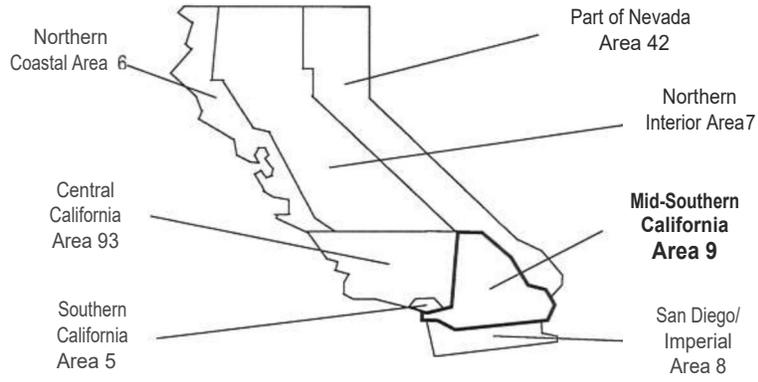
The Third Legacy procedure used to elect the six M.S.CA officers is considered unique with AA. The names of all eligible candidates---Except those who state they are unable to serve---are posted on a board. Written ballots are used to vote. The first candidate to receive two-thirds of the total vote is elected. If no candidate receives that vote, lots are drawn from a hat to determine the winner. The balloting sequence is shown below. All actions for each ballot are listed in separate boxes. Action statements in bold italics, information items identified with bullets(\*).

Third Legacy Procedure	
<i>First candidate to receive 2/3 of the total vote is elected</i>	
Ballot	Action
<i>If no First Ballot winner-a second vote is taken</i>	
<b>2</b> <i>If no Second Ballot winner-a third vote is taken</i>	
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The top two candidates remain</li> <li>• Second place ties remain with top candidate</li> <li>• Candidates with <b>LESS THAN 1/5</b> of the total vote are withdrawn</li> </ul> <p><i>If no Third Ballot winner-a fourth vote is taken</i></p>
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The top two candidates remain</li> <li>• Second place ties remain with top candidate</li> <li>• Candidates with <b>LESS THAN 1/3</b> of the total vote are withdrawn</li> </ul> <p><i>If no Fourth Ballot winner-the Chair asks for a motion, a second and a simple majority vote to go to a fifth ballot</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the motion fails-Go to the Hat</li> <li>• If the motion carries-Go to a fifth vote</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The top two candidates remain</li> <li>• Second place ties remain with top candidate</li> <li>• Candidate with <b>SMALLEST TOTAL</b> is withdrawn</li> </ul> <p><i>If no Fifth Ballot winner-go to the Hat</i></p>
<b>THE HAT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The top two candidates remain</li> <li>• In case of first place ties: All those tied remain</li> <li>• In case of no first place ties: Top candidate and tied second place candidates remain</li> </ul> <p><i>Lots are drawn by the teller</i> <i>The first one "Out of the Hat" wins</i></p>

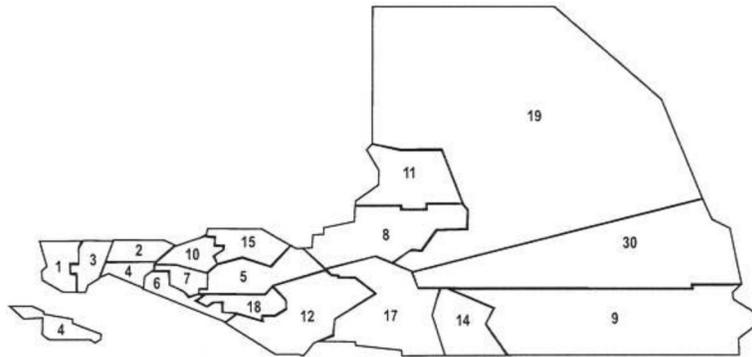
### AREA STRUCTURE and G.S.R. MATERIAL

The following pages give some examples of the types of service material that is available. The answers to your questions will be found in the abundant supply of A.A. literature. When searching for answers or information you will find that your best friend will be the catalog, A.A. Conference Approved Literature and Service Material.

### California Areas



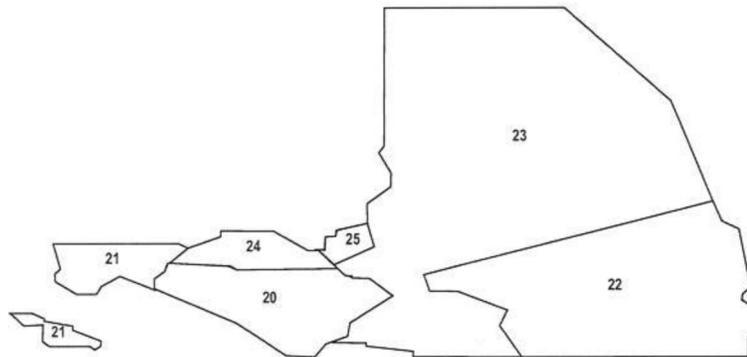
### M.S.C.A. English-Speaking Districts



The English-speaking district structure has 18 Districts.

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



The Spanish-speaking district structure has six Districts.

### M.S.C.A. Divisions

Mid-Southern California Area districts are formed into geographic divisions to ensure the consideration of driving distance in the fair rotation of hosting Area meetings. The following divisions are used.

M.S.C.A. Divisions											
Divisions	Districts										
Western	1	2	3	4	6	7	21				
Central	5	8	10	12	15	17	18	20	24	25	
Eastern	9	10	11	14	30	22	23				

### Abbreviations

<p><b>A.A.</b> Alcoholics Anonymous</p> <p><b>A.A.W.S.</b> Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.</p> <p><b>A.M.S.C.</b> Area Media-Sur de California</p> <p><b>A.O.C.Y.P.A.A.</b> All Orange County Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous</p> <p><b>A.S.C.</b> Area Service Comm.</p> <p><b>C.O.</b> Central Office</p> <p><b>C.E.C.</b> Cooperation with the Elder Community</p> <p><b>C.P.C.</b> Cooperation with the Professional Community</p> <p><b>D.C.M.</b> District Committee Member</p> <p><b>D.C.M.C.</b> District Committee Member Chair</p> <p><b>E.A.B.</b> Editorial Advisory Board [AA Grapevine]</p> <p><b>G.S.B.</b> General Service Board</p> <p><b>G.S.C.</b> General Service Conference</p> <p><b>G.5.O.</b> General Service Office</p> <p><b>G.S.R.</b> General Service Representative</p>	<p><b>GV AA</b> Grapevine</p> <p><b>GvR AA</b> Grapevine Representative</p> <p><b>H.A.C.Y.P.A.A.</b> Harbor Area Cities Young People in A.A.</p> <p><b>H.&amp;.I.</b> Hospitals &amp; Institutions</p> <p><b>I.R.Y.P.A.A.</b> Inland Region Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous</p> <p><b>L.C.M.</b> Local Committee Member (Same as D.C.M.)</p> <p><b>M.C.D.</b> Miembro de Comite de Distrito</p> <p><b>M.S.C.A.</b> Mid-Southern California Area</p> <p><b>P.I.</b> Public Information</p> <p><b>P.R.A.A.S.A.</b> Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly</p> <p><b>P.S.A.</b> Public Service Announcement</p> <p><b>R.L.V.</b> La Vina Representative</p> <p><b>R.S.G.</b> Representante de Servicios Generales</p> <p><b>S.C.</b> Southern California</p> <p><b>T.F.</b> Treatment Facilities</p> <p><b>W.S.M.</b> World Service Meeting</p> <p><b>Y.P.I.A.A.</b> Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous</p>
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M.S.C.A. Service Events	
Event	Held
Area Standing Committee Chairs Election	January
Archives Open House	Spring
Pre-Conference Workshop	Spring
Founders Day	Summer
Faro del A.M.S.C.	Summer
Heritage Day	Fall
Area Officers Election [Oct, Odd-Numbered Years]	October



### **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. SeNice 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 Rep-resentative (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.**



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

Task	Done
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advise A.A. of Your New G.S.R. Status</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get a copy of the <i>A.A. Group Information Change Form</i>. Contact G.S.O. New York, <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a>. Click: (1) Services for Members, (2) A.A. Change of Group Information, (3) A.A. Change of Group Information .pdf. The form will appear. Print two copies.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete one form. Fill in "old information" so prior G.S.R. can be removed from the record. Fill out "new information" including your data as new G.S.R. Update other data. See Chapter 2 of <i>The A.A. Service Manual</i>.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make copies for: G.S.O., Area 9, home District, local Central Office and your group records. Mail forms as soon as possible.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make all future routine group information changes promptly the</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep Your Group service number close. It may be found in the <i>Western United States A.A. Directory</i>.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The G.S.R. is mail contact with G.S.O. and is listed in the A.A. Directory as group contact. G.S.R.s keep groups informed of</li> </ul>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attend Group Steering Committee Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively discuss group business. Record the group conscience, carry it to District/Area.</li> </ul>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attend District Committee (G.S.R.) Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find out the time and place of the District G.S.R. meeting. The Central Office meeting directory</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend G.S.R. School at Dist/Area meetings. This helps to learn about General Service.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce yourself to the D.C.M.C. (District Committee Member Chair). [The leader of the District Committee.]</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find General Service sponsors. Ask for help in General Service and service literature.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use A.A. service material and current events to give brief monthly reports to your Group.</li> </ul>	

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

Task	Done
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attend Area Service Comm. Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are a nonvoting participant in the A.S.C.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a report of the committee meetings to your Group to keep members informed.</li> </ul>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attend Area Assemblies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of your most important tasks is to carry your Group's conscience to the Assembly and vote as guided by the Group Conscience.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report Assembly activities and A.A. news to your Group.</li> </ul>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attend Other Area Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn more about General Service and the Mid-Southern California Area by attending the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area Election: Officers</li> <li>Area Election: Standing Comm. Chairs</li> <li>Archives Open House</li> <li>Foro del A.M.S.C.</li> <li>Pre-Conference Workshop</li> <li>Heritage Day</li> <li>Founders Day</li> <li>Servathon</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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

Task	Done
<p align="center"><b>Learn How to Give a G.S.R. Report</b></p> <p>Suggestion: Give the most information in the shortest time possible. Try 1-3 minute reports. Give 5-10 word statements of fact, and be prepared to give additional information. Develop your report well prior to the meeting. Sound interesting. Supplement report with some additional printed information.</p>	
<p align="center"><b>Collect, Read and Use Helpful Documents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>The A.A. Group</i> [Pamphlet]</li> <li>- M.S.C.A. Guidelines</li> <li>- M.S.C.A. Standing Comm. Guidelines [Var.]</li> <li>- District Guidelines [Home District]</li> <li>- District Standing Committee Guidelines [Var.]</li> <li>- Local Intergroup Newsletters</li> <li>- <i>A.A. Tradition-How It Developed</i> [Pamphlet]</li> <li>- <i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions</i> [Book]</li> <li>- <i>A.A. Conference Approved Literature and other Service Material</i> (Catalog)</li> <li>- <i>Service Material List</i> [Free]</li> <li>- <i>The A.A. Service Manual</i></li> <li>- <i>A.A. Guidelines</i> (1 set of 16 free from G.S.O.)</li> <li>- Subscribe to <i>Box 4-5-9</i> [G.S.O. Bulletin]</li> <li>- Subscribe to the <i>AA Grapevine</i>, [AA Journal]</li> <li>- Report on the <i>Annual Meeting of the General Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous</i> <span style="float: right;">Service</span></li> </ul>	
<p align="center"><b>Learn A.A. Service Addresses</b></p> <p><b>G.S.O.</b> - www.aa.org A.A. World Services, Inc. Box 459, Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163</p> <p><b>AA Grapevine</b> - www.aagrapevine.org AA Grapevine 475 Riverside Drive New York, NY 10115</p> <p><b>Area 9</b> - www.msca09aa.org Mid-Southern California Area P.O. Box 51446 Irvine, CA 92619-1446</p> <p><b>Districts</b> - Click (1) www.msca09aa.org (2) Districts, Maps. etc. (3) District number. - Check Central Office directory</p> <p><b>Central</b> - Call local Central Office</p> <p><b>Offices</b> - Check local Central Office directory</p>	

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

	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.

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

12	Aliso Viejo Capistrano Beach Coto de Caza Dana Point Ladera Ranch Laguna Beach Laguna Hills	Laguna Niguel Laguna Woods Lake Forest Mission Viejo Modjeska Canyon	Rancho Santa Margarita San Clemente San Juan Capistrano Silverado Canyon Trabuco Canyon
14	Aguanga Anza Banning Beaumont	Cabazon Hemet Homeland Idyllwild	Juniper Flats Romoland San Jacinto Winchester
15	Anaheim E. of 55, N. of 91 Anaheim Hills	Brea La Habra	Placentia Yorba Linda
17	Canyon Lake Lake Elsinore Lakeland Village Menifee	Murrieta Perris Rancho California	Sun City Temecula Wildomar
18	Costa Mesa	Irvine	
19	Adelanto Apple Valley Barstow Dagget Helendale	Hesperia Hinkley Lenwood Lucern Newberry Springs	Oro Grande Phelan Trona Victorville Yermo
30	Johnson Valley Joshua Tree Landers	Morongo Valley Twentynine Palms	Wonder Valley Yucca Valley

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

20	Costa Mesa Huntington Beach Lake Forest	San Clemente San Juan Capistrano Santa Ana	Tustin Westminster
21	Avalon Bellflower Carson Compton Gardena	Hawaiian Gardens Long Beach Norwalk Paramount Rancho Dominguez	San Pedro Signal Hill Torrance Wilmington
22	Blythe Cathedral City Coachella Desert Hot Springs	Indio Mecca Palm Desert	Palm Springs Thermal City Yucca Valley
23	Corona Lake Elsinore Mira Loma Moreno Valley	Ontario Perris Riverside	Rubidoux San Jacinto Temecula

**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)t**

Each year the A.A. World Services staff prepares a report on the annual meeting of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. 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.

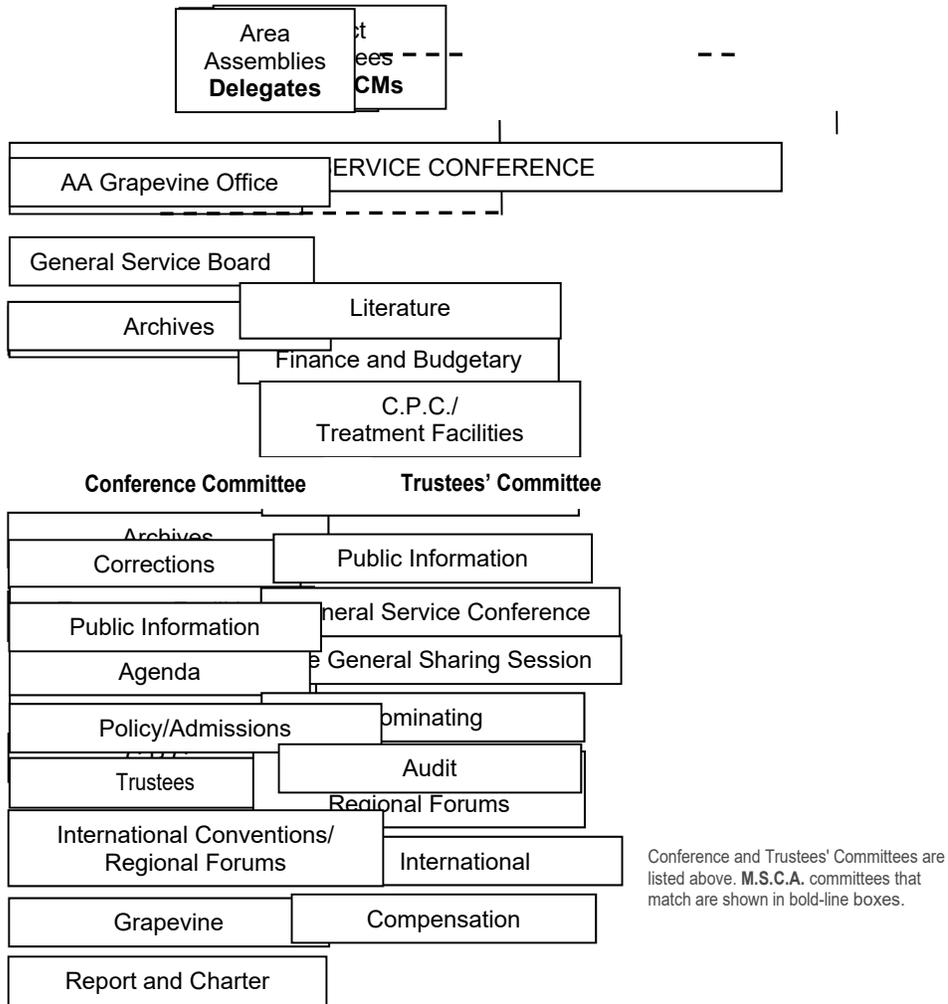
2d	Number of groups reported	1,808
3d	Number of groups contributing	793
59th	Percent of groups contributing	43.9%
4th	Total group contributions	\$186,527
1st	Membership	56,075
57th:j	Contributions per capita	\$3.33
17	Individual member contributions	\$4,491
30th	Memorial contributions	\$75
18th	Special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

:j:Tied with Northeast Texas Area.

tReprinted 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.*

**General Service Conference Structure  
The Group Conscience Path to the Conference**



Developed by the  
Mid-Southern California Area  
Literature Committee