

District 23 GSR Meeting---July 2nd 2007
www.ccaadistrict23.com

1) Serenity Prayer-Lead by-Joanne

2) GSR Preamble-David

3) Welcome new GSRs

New: Jeff GSR– Junk Yard Dogs (Wednesday 8:00p.m.)

Kathy-GSR Harbor Group (Monday-Sunday 6:45 a.m.)

4) Review of June Minutes: Minutes approved

5) Treasurer’s Report- Marta (past treasurer) Jim (Newly elected Treasurer) [See Report]

The email address at the District 23 website for our new Treasurer Jim’s is now operational: Your group can contact him online to confirm that he has received your 7th tradition contributions to District 23 for General Service activities

treasurer@ccaadistrict23.com

Marta presented her treasurers report as usual at the beginning of the meeting to summarize the contributions from groups to the district and expenditures by various officers and Chairpersons in carrying out their priority service work. We thank Marta for her assistance regarding past reports and in facilitating Jim’s transition as our new Treasurer for District 23.

Jim presented his report in hard copy to the group for their review. It will be emailed with these minutes to detail the necessary steps he would need to take and questions which he would need to research in order to create a new account at our bank as a non profit organization. (See also the 6/27/07 Officers minutes for further background about why we were considering starting a new account) The new account will be at the same banking institution that District 23 has an account with at the present time. Jim reassured another GSR that he had referred to the AA guidelines from GSO regarding handling finances as it pertains to the matter at hand and assured us that we are not “cutting any corners” in this process.

Jim articulated the necessity of providing the bank with GSR minutes from this meeting to confirm that the District 23 GSRs voted to create a new bank account if that is what the GSRs wished to do..

A motion was made to create a new District 23 bank account and once it was established to transfer all of the funds from the old account into the new one. Motion passed

He will also have to provide the bank with the previous minutes which record the election of Jim as Treasurer and the election of Mara as DCM in order to transfer the signature cards to them. Until he could get all of the business formalities out of the way regarding this new account, the District would continue to use the old account and Marta will continue to sign the checks.

It was agreed upon to include in the GAP booklet for District 23 the process by which the new bank account was established for future Treasurers to eliminate any confusion and have all the necessary documentation on hand for bank officials.

6). Special Guest: Alberto E. from Sylmar - Alternate Delegate for Area 93

Mara introduced our special guest to the group. He explained to us his current responsibilities and the spirit of his present and previous general service work as a member in AA. Alberto started out by welcoming all of our GSRs and explained that it is the most important service work that can be done in maintaining the structure and foundation of our Fellowship. He relayed that in accordance to Concept 9 without GSRs the structure of AA worldwide as it now exists would not be here today for others seeking recovery from alcoholism. He emphasized that one of the main duties of a GSR is to try their best to attend as many area assemblies as possible to maintain Unity and correspondence within our Fellowship. By attending area assemblies GSRs carry your group’s conscious by voting on important topics discussed at these assemblies that will affect AA worldwide.

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In addition at these assemblies AREA Officers and Delegates are elected and decisions are made concerning changes to preexisting AA approved literature or proposals for new literature and books to be considered for approval at the GSO conference.

If you go to the next Area Assembly, Alberto mentioned you would see him at the new GSR orientation. Alberto expressed that he hoped that GSRs could make it their goal to attend all area Assemblies for AREA 93 since there are only 5 each year. As our AREA 93 Alternate Delegate he represents and serves an area which stretches from Burbank to Paso Robles. (See map at the District 23 website.) Alberto made it a point to tell us that the ***AREA 93 Assembly taking place in Oxnard on August 19th*** would be a great opportunity to get involved and better informed in regard to general service work. After that he said the next area assembly in November would be hosted in San Fernando Valley in Glendale. Alberto alluded to the fact that we are trying to make a bid to have an Area Assembly in Santa Barbara next year.

Alberto in addition to being Alternate Delegate to Area 93, serves as the liaison to Hospitals and Institutions (H & I) for Southern California. Alberto said that he takes the time to read all of the GSR and Officer reports for every District in Area 93 and appreciated the quality and frequency of correspondence with District 23 in relaying what we are accomplishing in regard to General Service work.

One of the questions asked of Alberto was what his roles in PRAASA was. Alberto impressed upon the group that his main goal as an officer for Area 93 is to assist every District DCM in attendance in acquiring all the information and advice they need to gain a better perspective of their role in the general service structure of AA Worldwide. This insures that if they decide to stand to be elected as an Officer for Area 93 they can be as effective as possible in their duties of corresponding and working alongside GSO offices in New York. Alberto pointed out the importance of reading certain general service literature such as AA Comes of Age and the AA World Service Manual in familiarizing oneself with the importance of being properly informed before attending PRAASA. He said that reading these books facilitates a GSRs service work and gives them increased appreciation of PRAASA and how essential they are in creating a solid foundation for recovery in the Fellowship at every level of service. Alberto was also asked about the Pacific Regional Forum coming up in August, 2008 in Spokane, Washington. Alberto informed us that he Forum was first started by an AA Trustee Jack Norris to bring New York GSO staff out to the local fellowship to share with them what AA does at GSO and to allow face to face discussion between local members and GSO staff. Forums take place every other year and help to maintain our principle of Unity.

7) DCM Report (Mara) (refer to officers minutes for June 27th) dcm@ccaadistrict23.com

A) Review Guidelines for # of Big Books to keep in prudent reserve.

Since Don, our Literature Chair, was out of town and couldn't be here, we tabled this issue until the next meeting. Mara let us know, though, that in pulling old Literature reports, it looks like Luis was going through a case of Big Books every 9 months – 1 year.

B) 3rd Legacy Elections for Alternate DCM

Since Sheila had given up her commitment as Alternate DCM, Mara defined the 3rd Legacy procedure and the duties of Alternate DCM. Gil was voted in as Alternate DCM per 3rd Legacy procedures. Congratulations to you Gil!

C) Do the GSRs wish to purchase 2007 PRAASA tapes (see officers minutes for June 27th for background)

After discussion, a motion was made that the District not buy the 2007 PRAASA CDs from Sheila. The motion passed. Alberto let us know that Area 93 purchases a set of CDs each year and that any District is welcome to borrow them from the Area. A GSR suggested that maybe the Area could make these accessible through the Area website. Mara will check with the Area 93 webmaster at the next ACM meeting on the 15th

D) Emailing Chairperson Reports Prior to GSR Meeting

It was motioned that all Committee Chairs that have internet access email their reports to the DCM no later than the weekend before each GSR meeting and in this manner we can begin to follow up on budget cutting only bringing 6-8 hard copies to each GSR meeting to hand out to new GSRs And /Or members who do not have internet access. Motion was passed. It was also mentioned that some members may not have Microsoft Word but be able to read PDF files, with that time the DCM will be able to convert those Word doc minutes for the member that has the PDF format, as we will do with the information on the website.

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8) Registrar- (Gil) registrar@ccaadistrict23.com

Gil started off his report by reiterating that all the information he gathered for the May District #23 Registered Unregistered Group /Meetings report is always a work in progress, and so still needs help from GSRs members who can help deliver the AA Group or Unregistered information request packets. – (Gil held up the two filled to the brim file folders that he keeps update with all the Groups/Meetings information or lack of information such as (time, group name, location, GSR, Secretary, and/or contact person.)

The idea of keeping this information current is vital because in this way we do not loose touch with other members who may not be GSRs but who are performing a vital service to their Group by being a secretary coffee person setup person etc in other words doing for work service that maintains that Group as a vital part of AA as a whole, maintaining our principles of Unity, Service and Recovery.

Gil again reiterated as he does each month that he always will need help from AA members (whether they are GSRs or not) in distributing his Groups information packets. These packets have in them Conference approved pamphlets and information for the Group to have and read as well as the request information. So, if anyone who desires it to help Gil take one or more of these packets could see him after the meeting that would be helpful. He has one member from KCB group who had taken a good number of those a few month back out to Goleta, and asked her group to help in the delivery of those to other Groups in Goleta. He explained that this was done and that now it was a matter of waiting to here from those groups without interfering with those groups timeline in completing the forms and getting them back to us. Remembering we can only inform groups of the importance of having their group registered and are only allowed to suggest the importance of staying in touch with one another by keeping essential information up to date.

Gil did explain at the same time that no group is obligated or coerced by the District to update, return registration forms. Ultimately the decision to update the groups information and /or be a registered group is the solely the responsibility of the group's members.

Gil has been able to get out five unregistered group packets but has not heard back from them as of yet. He also explained that , he had to delete *Two Groups* from the files of registered groups in District 23. Gil reminded everyone present that he can be also be contact thru our District #23 Website www.ccaadistrict23.com by going to the Registrars page.

Joanne, the P.I. (Public Information) Chairperson, explained she still had the update information packet requests two groups she said she would go visit one Summerland and the other a women's' group which is located in Carpentaria .

Q: One member asked if the Registrar is responsible for producing the local Santa Barbara Meeting Directory/ Guides plus was curious how long it takes to get changes made in the local meeting directory.

A: Gil explained that our local Central Office has always been responsible for producing the Meeting directory/Guides and his duties as registrar are independent of the work that Central Office does in providing information that information.

9) Committee Reports

5 minutes for presentations-----8 minutes for questions

A) Special Events: (Josh): absent

Mara mentioned to the group that she had contacted the Santa Barbara School District to inquire about how much it would cost District 23 to possible host an AREA 93 Assembly sometime early next year. She was waiting for a call back from the District for a rent quote and would further pursue this next month. The two sites she was considering for the Area Assembly bid were La Cumbre Middle school where the Area Assembly was held in 2000 or possibly at McKinley Elementary School which is located across from Santa Barbara City College on the Mesa.

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9) Committee Reports (continued)

B) Website (Kelly & Gil)-

webmaster@ccaadistrict23.com

Gil and Kelly were finally able to touch base and speak at length with each other in order for Gil to start making significant website changes to our Districts website. Kelly has been quite busy as of late but has provided his technical support to keep the site up and running. The Website and it's pages were designed by Gil and in turn he has been open to learning and becoming more proficient in those things that need to be done after the design process has completed, such as the artistic view, converting word documents into PDF files creating maintaining current and new aialis E-mails, so that AA members could contact Service Committee Chairpersons and Officers without having access to their personal email address. He will be learning from Kelly the procedure for downloading the site onto the provider and ultimately the internet after Gil uploads it to our personal District #23 FTP space.

Gil did verify with Kelly who our provider is for the domain and the cost per year which is approximately \$55 a year to keep the site up and running.

In the past, suggestions have been that we may change the word documents format into PDF format which would take up less space on the site and possibly be a quicker format to open.. Gil had said he would have had to purchase the program that it takes to convert those word documents into PDF, and recently he was contacted by an GSR that will provide him the necessary information to get that conversion program at a low or no cost. Gil explained that as soon as possible all the changes we have been doing at the creation level will be up and viewable, hopefully by the next GSR meeting.

On the new updated site will be our AREA 93 Delegate Debbie J's presentation on what happen along with her experience at the GSO Conference in New York for 2007 and in addition the website also will have the 2008 Conference Topic Workshop Questions.

Currently both of those topics are on and can be viewed on the AREA #93 website which can be accessed from a link on our own District 23 website.

Another feature we have discussed that may be prudent is adding a "catch all" forward account for email at our site so our current DCM ,Mara, as well as future DCMs will get a copy of all E-mails / Correspondence between AA members and the individual Chairpersons and Officers who have alias emails on this Service Site. This way no correspondence can "fall through the cracks" when chairs are rotating or have trouble accessing the internet, etc. We encourage the GSRs as well as our general membership to visit the site to learn more about General Service work as a whole in AA, as well as, locally here within the District #23 along with having access to see upcoming Service Events and Opportunities to be of assistance here in District 23.

C).P.I. Public Information- Joanne (See Report)

pi@ccaadistrict23.com

Joanne attended the PACT meeting earlier today which is held monthly for parolees that are newly released. P.I. provides introductory AA pamphlets oriented towards these men and women who are interested in our program of recovery. Joanne said she was able to assist many people at the PACT Meeting and passed out Parolee Packets and Meeting Directories to help guide alcoholics to meetings as soon as they are released.

In the last two weeks Joanne also mailed out 75 letters to local motels, hotels, and inns which ask if they are interested in receiving AA Meeting Directories to provide to guests who are interested in trying to find a meeting in the city of Santa Barbara. She also puts up AA fliers with pull off tags at local laundry mats that have the phone number of Central Office on them. ***If you are available to help Joanne post these fliers in laundry mats in your own area she would greatly appreciate your service.***

Audio Visual: *Joanne also had fliers she passed out to the group that listed all the GSO approved videos that are available on VHS tapes that can be presented by groups. If you are interested in getting one of these videos for your group to present as movie event to educate people about AA history, the creation of the 12 steps and 12 traditions or to just get introduced to Bill W. face to face please contact Joanne at the District 23 website at*

pi@ccaadistrict23.com

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C).P.I. Public Information- Joanne (continued)

Joanne brought to the attention of the group that she has served as the P.I. Chairperson for the last 2 and ½ years and has a busy schedule ahead of her. One of our GSRs, Stuart asked about what this commitment entailed since he has an interest in the position. Joanne gave a brief description of service duties she carries out in P.I. (serving as a representative for AA at PACT, participating in the Health Fair, stocking libraries with Big Books and Twelve and Twelve books, Audio Visual support, Public Service Announcements on Radio and TV, and other ways this position is utilized to reach out to alcoholics and the public as a whole so they know we are out there and how to get in touch with our Fellowship if they want help.) Stuart generously offered to take this commitment from Joanne and would meet with her so she could ease him into this service position giving him all the necessary information he needs to get started. Joanne and the group thanks Stewart for volunteering for this Chair on the District 23 Committee and will perform a 3rd legacy election next month. The group also thanks Joanne for all the time and effort she has freely and consistently sacrificed into carrying out her duties as P.I. Chairperson.

D).CPC Cooperation with the Professional Community- Gil cpc@ccaadistrict23.com

Gil started off by explaining the relationship that CPC (Cooperation With The Professional Community) has with PI (Public Information) and our District #23 Literature Committee and how they work alongside each other when reaching out to all the different agencies, facilities, and professionals that deal in the field of alcoholism. The reason being, that professionals who treat alcoholics (administrators, doctors, counselors, lawyers, psychiatrists, Judges etc) after being contacted by CPC either ask for a presentation to be made by CPC to heads of departments Doctors associations, nursing educators, principles, teachers etc or after meeting one on one with the CPC chair decide to add to and maintain AA information at their facility. Gil passes on the request for AA written information to PI and Literature, as well as Grapevine. One or all will do a follow up call and/or make a face to face appointment to find out how we can best meet the needs of that agency. We tailor each contact to meet their needs. CPC, PI as well as Literature and or Grapevine have an assortment AA pamphlets and or grapevine magazines they can hand out or can maintain.

Literature has more than one method of distributing information. One is called AA information packets or bundles that can be left and maintained on a weekly by weekly or monthly basis. The Literature Committee also has literature racks which they can set up and maintain with an assortment of AA pamphlets. The district can also provide Big Books, 12/12s, Daily Reflections as well as any other AA Conference Approved books and literature. All of this information sets up a good foundation of knowledge of A.A.'s Twelve Steps, it's Twelve Traditions as well as what AA Does do and what AA Doesn't Do in helping it's members which may be clients of that agency facility etc.

Over this past year CPC has communicated with a large number of professionals involved with the PACT program and has given them an ample supply of information. Gil referred to the Cottage hospital Health Fair where most of the participants their had been contacted and so little information was distributed due to that foundation. Gil said that CPC will change in focus. He said most of his effort will now be in reaching out to Teachers Administration and Doctors. Gil said he has found out they may be having information speaker luncheons coming up.

Gil's basic message was all is going well with CPC which includes written speaker presentations which can be used for sharing at these AA information presentations, as well as an up to date list of all CPC literature used in it's packets along with quantities on hand.

Gil said we are lucky here in district #23 to have several individuals that have made both CPC and PI presentations to an assortment of facilities. One of those is our current DCM Mara who had made a presentation to all the heads of the welfare departments including it's satellite department of Child Protective Services CPS, providing them with CPC information as well as PI AA information packets for their clients, which they will use in what that department calls CPS client intervention program for individuals who are encountering a family crisis or problem which may include Alcohol Abuse.

During Gils Committee presentation he tried to give the GSRs an overall synopsis of what a would be expected to do in carrying out the duties of a CPC Chairperson. He encouraged any member interested in getting a hands on community involvement carrying the message of AA here in District 23 to look at CPC as that avenue. Gil explained that CPC has most of its duties squared away for the next several months so it would be easy for anyone to step in and take the helm in working with the professional community.

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D).CPC Cooperation with the Professional Community- Gil (continued)

Naima asked if there was a official GSO description and write up or instruction manual for the responsibilities and criteria for CPC Chairperson. Gil did have the CPC booklet that has all the answers to any question she has and gave that to her. Alberto also added to the discussion that when you attend area assemblies that there are workshops that take place for all of the Chair positions that help enhance ones knowledge of what others are doing in their general service work.

It was also explained that beginning this month the Messenger will be including series of piece on what District #23 Service Chairs do in its service with our local District #23 Groups as well as within the community. This month it will start off with a succinct description of what Cooperation with the Professional Community does and who it works with.

E). Archives- Naima

archives@ccaadistrict23.com

Naima explained that she had no additional information regarding any new events or demands for literature that were not foreseen in our priority expenses. Naima did want the group to be aware that she will be setting up and working at the Archives display for the *upcoming 23rd Annual Santa Barbara Convention at the Elk's Lodge October 12th, 13th, and 14th*. She noted that she would have most likely request a small disbursement in funds to provide an additional 25 copies of **Passing it On** which gives a brief history of the genesis of AA in Santa Barbara and includes many stories of old-timers who graciously sacrificed a great deal of their time and energy to ensure that recovering alcoholics would be able to make it to AA meetings. *Mara also mentioned that any group in District 23 that is interested in AA history could borrow the Archives display by contacting her via email at the District 23 website. arcihives@ccaadistrict23.com*

F). Grapevine-Jennifer (See Report)

grapevine@ccaadistrict23.com

Jennifer provided a grapevine report for upcoming activities at the district level and also a Grapevine Calendar of Events for Area 93 since she agreed to become the Alternate Area 93 Grapevine Chair at the Lake Isabella Area Assembly in May. Jennifer hoped to attend as many AREA 93 events as possible to keep herself and our District informed of Grapevine events and workshops as our Alternate Area 93 Grapevine Chair.

In her report she directed our attention to new GSO approved Grapevine literature packets she had assembled to be distributed to any District 23 meetings interested becoming more familiar with our Grapevine Magazine. GSR's at the meeting were welcome to take these packets back to their home group or any other AA's that might be interested in becoming a Grapevine Representative. . This was done to better acquaint AA members with our monthly Meeting in Print as a tool in recovery and in addition to encourage AA's to register with her at the District 23 website.

An informal Grapevine Committee Meeting was held and it was decided by Jennifer to hold the first formal **Grapevine Committee Meeting on August 2nd at 7:00 p.m.** at her residence. She announced that she would be contacting all *registered* Grapevine reps via email prior to the meeting and that all others who are interested in taking on this as a new commitment were welcome!!. She encouraged anyone who had any questions regarding the upcoming *Grapevine Committee Meeting on August 2nd* or any other inquiries to contact her by phone at. **(805) 963 9730 or (805) 636-0796** or email her at the District 23 website grapevine@ccaadistrict23.com

Debbie J our AREA 93 Delegate had contacted Mara regarding how many new subscriptions had been generated in District 23 as of late. At the 2007 GSO General Service Conference in New York one topic that was focused on was bringing additional attention to the Grapevine magazine as an integral tool in recovery and becoming more enthusiastic in advocating members to subscribe to it.

Jennifer also said she would concentrate her energy on getting the Grapevine to any agencies or recovery homes that have previously requested this information from her.

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G) Literature- Don (absent)

literature@ccaadistrict23.com

Mara had been contacted by Don who was out of town and he informed her that he had provided a new group with start up literature. At the next GSR meeting in new business they would discuss how many Big Books to keep in prudent reserve. These Big Books are provided free of charge to groups that request them from District 23 if they do not have enough money in their groups prudent reserve after rent to buy these on their own when first getting off ground. If you want to help the District in distributing literature or restocking pamphlet racks at group homes or facilities please contact Don at the District website above or call him at 685-0143.

H) Accessibilities /Special Needs Committee - David R.

accessibility@ccaadistrict23.com

David explained that part of his duties as this Chairperson is that he helps provide transportation to AA members who cannot make it to meetings on their own due to temporary or permanent disabilities. David had recently visited Central Office downtown and expressed his hope that future Accessibly Chairpersons maintain communications with Tim at Central Office in coordinating their efforts in regard to providing transportation to meetings since many do not realize that District 23 provides this service for those who are disabled. He also clarified with Tim, that Accessibilities gives rides to those with disabilities or special needs, not to any member who doesn't have a car or a license. David desired to raise awareness of District 23's Accessibility services for those who are housebound, need rides because of disabilities or are relying solely on the telephone to communicate with others in our Fellowship. David currently possesses a list of reliable and responsible members, both male and female, to provide rides to meetings for those who cannot make it on their own resources. He can be contacted at his email address at the District website or by phone at **(805) 637-4439** if you know of anyone who wants to attend a meeting but do not have a means of transportation.

David mentioned that he is looking for someone to wishes to take over his responsibilities as Accessibilities Chair since he has acquired new employment that will not allow him to donate as much time as he has in the past. David's has held onto the chair beyond its required length of tenure and hopes someone who has the time and maturity for this Chair position fill his shoes.

I) Young Peoples Service Liaison Mandy

sbpaa@ccaadistrict23.com

Young Peoples Committee had elections in late May and has had a rotation in its service members so the list of contacts is not up to date as of yet. Mandy noted that they did elect a new Chairperson for SBYPAA and her name is Kristen. If anyone is interested in getting her number and getting involved please ask Mandy for her number or email us at the District 23 website to get in contact with her. As of yet we do not know who the new Liaison for SBYPAA is but we are appreciative for SBYPAA its cooperation with our District, especially Brian W and Mandy for keeping aware of all the events young people in AA assist in and also coordinate for District 23.

J).Central Office Liaison-Brian (absent – see report) centraloffice@ccaadistrict23.com

K) H & I Liaison (open)

Old Business (See DCM Report)

New Business-(none)

Birthdays in the Month of July

David 11 Years Sobriety
Chimene 18Years Sobriety

Alberto closed out the meeting with the Responsibility Prayer