

# **General Service Representative**

## **TOOL KIT**

### **District 1 Area 9**

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**Welcome to General Service!**

You are now the voice of your Group's conscience and their link to A.A. General Service. You will represent your Group within your District and Area at General Service functions and you are a conduit between your Group and the General Service Conference and the entire General Service Structure.

“The strength of our whole A.A. service structure starts with the Group and with the General Service Representative (GSR) the Group elects. I cannot emphasize too strongly the GSR's importance.” — Bill W.

“Remember, Bill, let's not louse this thing up. Let's keep it simple!” — Dr. Bob

### **The GSR 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.

### **About District 1**

District 1's monthly meetings are held at the Kiwanis Club on the second Thursday of every month. We hold our Executive Board meetings on the fourth thursday of every month. There is a Concepts workshop held at 6:00pm, followed by GSR orientation at 7:00pm. At 7:30pm we hold

our regular monthly business meeting of District 1. An Area General Service Assembly is held every second Sunday of every month at rotating locations throughout Mid Southern California. The Area service assembly links all of Area 9 Districts together to discuss carrying the A.A. message and also to share the business and experience of Mid Southern California A.A. and A.A. as a whole. Many Groups encourage their GSRs to attend these Area Assembly meetings by helping to defray some or all of the cost. (See page 22 of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group”, found in your GSR Kit.) At the Quarterly, the Area 9 Standing Committees hold meetings monthly on Sunday. The business meeting is held on Sunday with Committee reports, and voting on motions is carried out.

### **District 1 and the A.A. Service Structure:**

- District 1 is divided into sub-districts.
- Your individual A.A. Group is part of one of these sub-districts.
- District 1 is one of the Districts in Area 9.
- Area 9 is one of 93 Areas in the US and Canada.
- Each of the 93 Areas elects a Delegate who attends the General Service Conference, occurring annually in New York.

### **About Area 9**

Service to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous shall be the primary purpose of General Service in the Mid-Southern California Area.

#### **The Area Service Committee (ASC)**

An M.S.C.A. committee that is made up of Area Officers, past Delegates, D.C.M.C.'s, alternate D.C.M.C.'s, D.C.M.'s, other District Officer's, Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and

Co-Chairs. There is a minimum of two A.S.C. Meetings between each regular Assembly. The Area Service Committee has the following purpose:

1. Identifying, defining, and discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues.
2. Obtaining the consensus of each District and its Groups.
3. Acting as an advisory Committee to the Assembly, Executive Committee and Delegate.
4. Establishing the agenda for the next assembly.

#### **The Area Assembly**

Membership includes the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, other Area Officers, all currently serving G.S.R.'s, D.C.M.C.'s, Alternate D.C.M.C.'s, D.C.M.'s, Alternate D.C.M.'s, other District Officers, and Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co chairs.

The Assembly is the mainspring of the Conference structure and is the representative voice of the movement expressing itself. It is the gathering of the G.S.R.'s and the A.S.C., which deliberates upon and enacts resolutions concerning service matters brought before it. Its responsibilities include:

1. Electing and supporting the Area Officers, including a Delegate to the General Service Conference.
2. Being an interim repository, through its G.S.R.'s, of the collective group conscience of the Area.
3. Seeking substantial unanimity in all important decisions.
4. Strengthening A.A. as a whole and carrying the A.A. message the best way possible in the M.S.C.A.

#### **The GSR's Duties**

- Commit to the position for 2 years.
- Attend your monthly General Service District Meeting.
- Joining a District Committee is recommended.
- Attend the Area 9 Assemblies.
- Report back the information from these General Service meetings to your Group (see page 4).

- Bring information about upcoming workshops, conferences and other District and Area General Service events back to the Group and invite them to participate.
- Advise your Group's secretary and treasurer in matters concerning Group monetary contributions.
- Act as a contact person between the Group and the District.
- Obtain the group conscience on General Service items and carry your Group's vote to your District or Area. (See page S26 in the A.A. Service Manual for more details.)

### **Checklist Of Things To Do**

1. Attend your district's meeting every month.
  - A. Find a service sponsor. Introduce yourself to your DCM and/or DCMC, and have them help you.
  - B. Register with your district registrar. They will need your name, address(including zip code), phone number, name and location of A.A. group you represent, and the group ID # if possible.
  - C. Ask for information about Area meetings and GSR training material and/or meetings.

- D. Obtain a current calendar of area meetings/functions.
  - E. Pick up Area newsletters and any other information for distribution to your group.
2. Attend Area Assemblies and other Area Meetings.
- A. There are three regular service assemblies a year, with an election assembly every other year. All GSR's vote at regular assemblies. There are attendance requirements to vote at the election assembly.
  - B. Between each regular assembly, there are at least two Area Service Committee meetings(ASC's). GSR's do not vote at ASC's, but are encouraged to attend and participate.
  - C. The Pre-Conference Workshop is held each year prior to the General Service Conference in April.
  - D. The Mid-Southern California Area(MSCA) has at least two other functions to attend each year, the Foro and the Servathon.
3. Attend your group meetings regularly.
- A. Give reports regularly and make yourself available to all group members.
  - B. Be your group's voice at the district and area.
  - C. Keep the "Two-way" link strong.
4. Get an alternate GSR to assist you.
- A. Work with your alternate and teach him/her the things you've learned.
  - B. Have your alternate fill in for you if you cannot attend one of the meetings. An alternate GSR doesn't have a vote, but can in your absence.
5. Become a member of an Area Standing Committee(optional).
- A. The standing committee's meet in the morning before each AASC and regular Assembly. There are twelve to choose from.
  - B. You can represent your district as a member of one of these committee's. It's a great way to be "a part of" and learn more about service, making you a better GSR.
6. Become familiar with the following suggested reading material:
- A. The AA Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service
  - B. The 12 Traditions in the "12 and 12"
  - C. AA Comes To Age
  - D. Box 459



- E. Area Newsletter
- F. Pamphlets:
  - i. The GSR May Be The Most Important Job In AA
  - ii. Circles Of Love Service
  - iii. Self-Supporting Through Our Own Contributions
  - iv. Your AA General Service Office
  - v. The AA Group
  - vi. AA Tradition- How It Developed
  - vii. The Twelve Traditions Illustrated
  - viii. The Twelve Concepts Illustrated

**For More Guidance — Service Sponsorship:**

It is highly recommended that each GSR find a Service Sponsor to help with additional questions and problem solving. Ask an experienced individual in General Service to be your Service Sponsor or to suggest someone who would be a good Service Sponsor for you.

**How to Make a GSR Report**

It's important to get your Group used to hearing a GSR report. We suggest that you report briefly during the Secretary's Report when there is a call for A.A. related announcements. Break down the information you get from the monthly General Service District Meetings and Area Assemblies into short bullet points. Commonly, you will only need to report one or two of these bullet points each week. During the Group's regular business meeting, give a more in-depth report. If there are important and/or lengthy items that require an informed group conscience, such as getting the conscience of the Group on Conference Agenda Items for your Delegate and the General Service Conference, you may want to hold a separate business meeting to discuss them and vote. If so, it is best to plan for and announce this business meeting, as well as the topic to be discussed, at least 1-2 weeks beforehand so members can think about them and plan to

attend. The suggestions above are guidelines to help you be successful. Use the approach that best suits you and your Group's needs.

### **The GSR Report**

(Adapted from a handout developed by District 6,MSCA 09)

One of the main duties of the GSR is to keep their Group informed, and the primary instrument is the GSR report. A GSR report should be given as often as the group conscience dictates. It is the responsibility of the GSR to provide information in a timely, informed, and concise manner. What follows are some suggestions for a successful GSR report.

The GSR report should be kept simple and short. Stand up. Speak clearly. Maintain eye contact with your group. Show enthusiasm. When you take your report seriously, your group will also. When you practice a program of attraction, the group's ears will perk up.

A simple GSR report has five basic segments: introduction, purpose, topic, service opportunity, and closing. Depending on how much time is spent on presenting a topic, a good GSR report can

be done in as little as one or two minutes. Remember the three service B's: Be Enthusiastic, Be Brief, and Be Seated.

#### Introduction

Say who you are and express gratitude that you serve your group. Minimize abbreviations and specialized vocabulary since people tune out things they don't understand. Example: "My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am delighted to be your alcoholic General Service Representative!"

#### Purpose

Tell what General Service is and what we do. Don't assume that everyone knows. There is a lot of misinformation, ignorance, and prejudice in the fellowship regarding General Service. Example: "AA's purpose is to carry the message of recovery, and General Service carries the message in ways that individuals and groups can't, in order to preserve the future of Alcoholics Anonymous." You might provide further illustrations such as publishing literature, negotiating with the prison system for meeting privileges, etc.

#### Topic(thinking of this as a Teaser Trailer)

Talk about what is going on in General Service, not what is going on in General Service meetings! Be a messenger of hope, service, and unity, not a messenger of confusion, annoyance, or disagreement(when you come to better understand the Concepts, you will come to experience what seemed before like arguments and politics as loving discussion in the service of determining the best possible future for AA). Tell what various committees are doing. Example: An update on the next edition of the Big Book, or a progress report on the public service announcements the Public Information committee provides to local cable tv companies.

#### Service Opportunity

Let your Group know there are always opportunities to help. A member of your Group may have a particular interest, expertise, or desire to perform one of the many services. Part of your mission is to help others to be of service.

#### Closing

Tell your Group you are available after the meeting if they have any questions, and thank them sincerely for the opportunity to be of service.

**District 1 Committees/Contact Information**

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

Grapevine

Literature

Public Information (P.I.)

Accessibilities

Newcomer Orientation

Website

Finance

District Meeting Service Commitments:

Clean up

Cyber/Internet

Hospitals & Institution Committee Liaison (H & I)

Intergroup Liaison (Central Office)

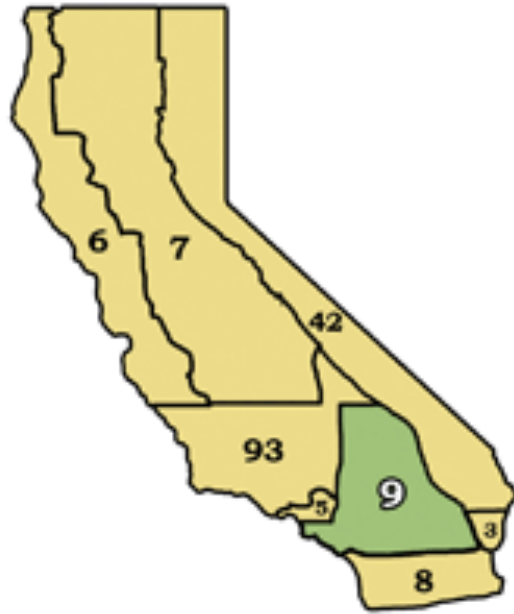
Setup

**A.A. Website Addresses**

District 1	<a href="http://mscadistrict1.org">http://mscadistrict1.org</a>
Area 9	<a href="http://www.msca09aa.org/">http://www.msca09aa.org/</a>
South Bay Central office	<a href="https://asbco.org/">https://asbco.org/</a>
Grapevine	<a href="http://AAgrapevine.org">AAgrapevine.org</a>
Alcoholics Anonymous:	<a href="http://AA.org">AA.org</a>

**Area 9 Map**

Mid-Southern California Area 9 (MSCA) is of service to the communities of Orange County, Riverside County, San Bernardino County, and a portion of Los Angeles County (the portion that is south of Rosecrans Ave.).



42 = Part of Nevada  
3 = Part of Arizona

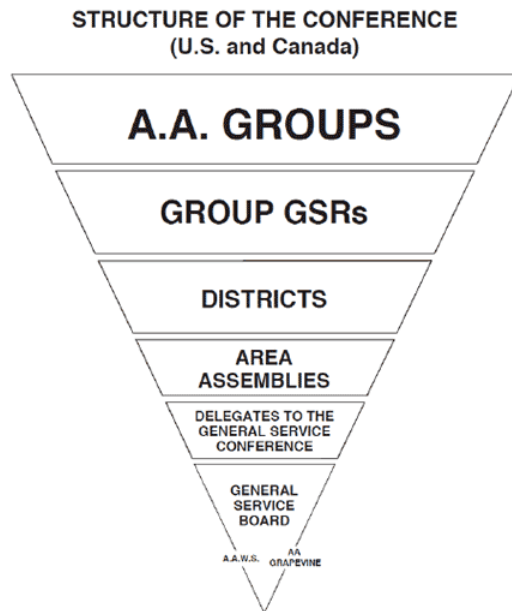
### District 1 Map

**Cities in District:** Gardena, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes, Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance

**Alano Clubs:** Southwest Alano Club (Birch), South Bay Alano Club, Torrance Lomita Alano Club



The Inverted Triangle



The General Service organizational chart is represented by an inverted triangle. (See page S16 in the A.A. Service Manual.) The delegation of authority starts at the top with the Groups, then to the Districts, then to the Area. The Area elects a delegate to represent the Area at the annual General Service Conference in New York City. At the bottom of the triangle are two non-profit corporations: A.A. World Services, Inc. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc. They are overseen by the General Service Board, which is comprised of 21 Trustees

**What You Receive from GSO: The GSR Kit**

After your GSR registration is received by the General Service Office, you will be mailed an information packet known as the GSR Kit. We suggest you read through these items.



The packet contains the following (Note: Literature can be viewed and is available for purchase at aa.org).

**Books:**

The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service (B-31)

**Service Material:**

List of Kit Contents Memo to you, the new GSR (F-57)

Concepts Checklist (SMF-91)

Traditions Checklist (SMF-131)

A.A. Group Information Change Form (F-28)

Your A.A. General Service Office (F-6)

Self-Support: Where Money & Spirituality Mix (F-3)

Self-Support Card (F-42)

Corrections Correspondence (F-26)

The A.A. Group Treasurer (F-96)

Group Contribution Envelope (FR-2)

Birthday Contribution Envelope (FR-5)

**AA Grapevine Resources:**

A.A. Grapevine Today (One page flyer)

A.A.Grapevine.org (Postcard)

**Pamphlets:**

Twelve Concepts Illustrated (P-8)

Twelve Traditions Illustrated (P-43)

GSR: General Service Representative (P-19)

Grapevine and La Viña (P-52)

The A.A. Group (P-16)

Inside A.A. (P-18)

Circles of Love and Service (P-45)

**Catalogs/Order Forms:**

Literature Catalog (includes A.A.W.S. and AA Grapevine materia)

**Addresses and Functions of Service Entities General Service Office**

1. Carries A.A.'s message worldwide.
2. Has a rotating manned desk corresponding to each named Standing Committees throughout the A.A. General Service structure.

3. Prints A.A. Conference Approved literature
4. Hosts the Annual General Service Conference where the business of A.A. for Canada and the U.S. is conducted.
5. Arranges for all International Conventions
6. Incurs rent and various office expenses The General Service Office PO Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10164-0371

### **Mid Southern California Area 9 Address and Functions:**

1. Electing and supporting the Area Officers, including a Delegate to the General Service Conference.
2. Being an interim repository, through its G.S.R.'s, of the collective group conscience of the Area.
3. Seeking substantial unanimity in all important decisions.
4. Strengthening A.A. as a whole and carrying the A.A. message the best way possible in the M.S.C.A.
5. Identifying, defining, and discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues.
6. Obtaining the consensus of each District and its Groups.
7. Acting as an advisory Committee to the Assembly, Executive Committee and Delegate.
8. Establishing the agenda for the next assembly.

### **Coordinate Committees & Hospital and Institution Committees**

*"Those Coordinate Committees, which are part of the Area structure but completely autonomous including: Intergroups, Central Service Committees and Y.P.A.A. Committees."*

1. Provides an office, phone answering services and meeting information for all the local Groups.
2. Gathers information and prints the "Where and When."

3. Funds all local Intergroup Committees.
4. Incurs various office expenses.
5. Provides local literature sales.

### **Intergroups & Central Offices**

*“The local Intergroup office is not a part of the General Service structure. However, the local Intergroup addresses are included here for your convenience. Include Group Service Number, Group name and District on all checks.”*

All South Bay Central Office (310) 618-1180

They meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm, in 1411 Marcelina Ave. Torrance Ca. 90501

### **Hospital and Institution Committees (H&I)**

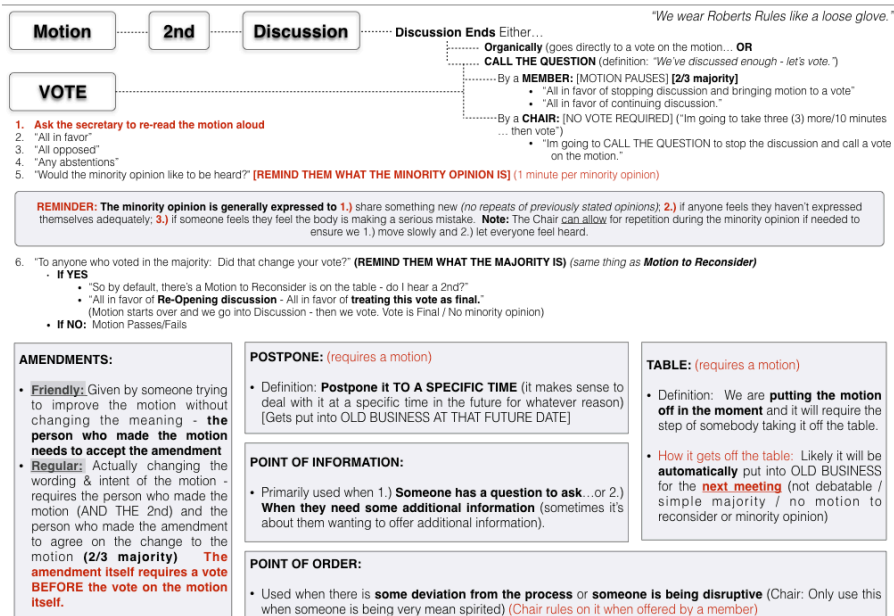
All South Bay H. & I.

They meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Club ~ 702 11th Place, Hermosa Beach, CA.

### **Business meeting operations**

*General Service business meetings generally follow Robert’s Rules of Order, modified and informed by the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts of A.A.*

## Roberts Rules of Order (Basic) - A.A Edition



### Meeting Terminology

**Chair** – The presiding officer.

**Floor** – When a motion is “on the floor”, it is the topic to which the Group should direct its attention. When a member “has the floor”, he exercises his right to speak and should be given attention.

**Motion** – A formal proposal by a member in a meeting that the Assembly, District or Committee take certain specified action. The motion must be placed on the agenda, in advance, by a District Committee Member (DCM) or Committee Chair.

**Pending** – A motion that has been made before the body, but not yet disposed of, is said to be pending or “on the floor”.

**Question** –When a member exclaims “Call the question!” ~~They~~ are calling for a vote on the pending motion.

Deleted: they

**Standing or Ad Hoc Committees** – Standing Committees are permanent committees with elected chairs. Ad Hoc Committees are temporary committees appointed by the Chair to explore a specific limited agenda.

**Table** – Tabling a motion delays further discussion and voting until the motion is once again brought to the floor

### **M.S.C.A. Language**

*A glossary of terms frequently used in General Service activities*

A.C.Y.P.A.A. ~ All California Young People in A.A.

A.A.W.S. ~ Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Alternate ~ A service worker who, at Group, District, or Area level, assists, supports, a designated office holder, and substitutes in the office holders’ absence.

Area ~ A geographical division within a state or province. A conference delegate represents an Area.

Area Service Committee (ASC) ~ An M.S.C.A. committee made up of Area Officers, past Delegates, D.C.M.C.'s, alternate D.C.M.C.'s, D.C.M.'s, other District Officer's, Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs. There is a minimum of two A.S.C. meetings between each regular Assembly. The Area Service Committee has the following purpose: Identifying, defining, and discussing Area, District and Group problems and issues. Obtaining the consensus of each District and its Groups. Acting as an advisory Committee to the Assembly, Executive Committee and Delegate. Establishing the agenda for the next assembly.

Archives ~ A collection of A.A. memorabilia usually maintained by a committee.

A.S.C. ~ Area Service Committee.

Assembly (ASA) ~ Membership includes the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, other Area Officers, all currently serving G.S.R.'s, D.C.M.C.'s, Alternate D.C.M.C.'s, D.C.M.'s, Alternate D.C.M.'s, other District Officers, and Standing and Coordinate Committee Chairs and Co-chairs. The Assembly is the mainstream of the Conference structure and is the representative voice of the movement expressing itself. It is the gathering of the G.S.R.'s and the A.S.C., which deliberates upon and enacts resolutions concerning service matters brought before it. Its responsibilities include: • Electing and supporting the Area Officers, including a Delegate to the General Service Conference. • Being an interim repository, through its G.S.R.'s, of the collective group conscience of the Area. Seeking substantial unanimity in all important decisions. • Strengthening A.A. as a whole and carrying the A.A. message the best way possible in the M.S.C.A.

Box 4-5-9 ~ A bimonthly publication of the General Service Office. It includes many items of interest and is available online and via free subscription from the Alcoholics Anonymous website [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). Developed and maintained by M.S.C.A Area Literature Committee pg 6

Conference ~ The General Service Conference. This can mean: 1. The structure involving committee members, G.S.R.'s, and Delegates in the United States and Canada. 2. The annual meeting of Delegates each April in New York.

C.F. ~ Correctional Facilities Committee. Formerly part of the Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) Committee, which split into two entities: Correctional Facilities and Treatment Facilities

C.P.C. ~ Cooperation with the Professional Community. C.P.C. committees at the District, Area, Trustee, and Conference levels help carry the message to professionals who work with Alcoholics.

Delegate ~ The person elected every other year to represent the Area at the annual Conference meeting in New York and to bring back to the Area the results of that meeting.

D.C.M. ~ A member of the District Committee elected by the G.S.R.'s, usually represents a sub district within a district. In Spanish speaking Districts the District leader is a D.C.M.

D.C.M.C. ~ District Committee Member Chair, a member of the District Committee elected by the G.S.R.'s to represent the entire district and to coordinate service activities within the district.

District ~ A geographical division within the Area, sometimes divided into sub districts, represented by Committee Members.

E.M.C. ~ Electronic Media Committee

F.C. ~ Finance Committee

Foro de M.S.C.A. ~ Held in the summer of each year, its purpose is to focus on General Service topics.

General Services ~ Fellowship-wide services, performed by anyone in the General Service Structure (G.S.R., D.C.M., Delegate, etc.).

G.S.O. ~ General Service Office (In New York), which provides services to groups in the U.S. and Canada.

G.S.R. ~ General Service Representative; an A.A. member elected by the Group to voice the Group's opinion in discussions at the Area level, and to vote for the District and Area Officers and the Delegate.

G.R. ~ Grapevine Representative; the Group or District or Area contact with the Grapevine office. Developed and maintained by M.S.C.A Area Literature Committee pg 7

H. & I. ~ Hospital and Institution Committee.

I.C.Y.P.A.A. ~ International Conference of Young People in A.A.

M.S.C.A. ~ Mid-Southern California Area.

P.I. ~ Public Information; P.I. Committees at the District, Area, Trustee, and Conference level help carry the message by working with the media.

P.R.A.A.S.A. ~ Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly. The Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly held each year in March in one of the fifteen Areas of the Pacific Region. A weekend of sharing experience with our counterparts from all the different Areas in the Pacific Region, and staff members from G.S.O. A great opportunity to learn more about General Service.

Pre-Conference Workshop ~ A workshop for the entire M.S.C.A. where we form discussion groups and talk about agenda items for the coming General Service Conference. This is of great value for our Delegates in preparing Areas for the Conference.

Region ~ A grouping of several Areas from which a Regional Trustee comes to the Board of Trustees. There are six Regions in the U.S., two in Canada.

R.L.V. ~ La Viña Representative; the Group or District or Area contact with the La Viña office.



M.S.C.A. Servathon ~ Held in the fall of each year, it's purpose is to focus on one or more of the Twelve Traditions and all aspects of A.A. service work.

Third Legacy ~ Recovery and unity are A.A.'s first two Legacies. Our Third Legacy is Service, the sum total of all A.A. services, from a twelfth step call to A.A.'s coast-to-coast and worldwide service activities.

T.F. ~ Treatment Facilities Committee. Formerly part of the Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) Committee, which split into two entities: Correctional Facilities and Treatment Facilities

Trustee ~ The usual term for a member of A.A.'s General Service Board. There are 14 Alcoholic Trustees (Class B) and 7 Nonalcoholic Trustees (Class A).

Twelve Concepts ~ As the Twelve Steps are to personal RECOVERY and the Twelve Traditions are to the preservation and UNITY of Alcoholics Anonymous, so are the Twelve Concepts to General SERVICE. They are a set of principles intended to provide service to A.A. and the still-suffering alcoholic. They also protect the structure by which such service is made possible.

#### **The Twelve Concepts For World Service (Short Form)**

1. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
2. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.
3. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staff, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”
4. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.
5. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.
6. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

7. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

8. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

9. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

10. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

11. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staff, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

12. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action. Copyright © 1962 Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. All rights reserved

**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.

**A DECLARATION OF UNITY**

This we owe to A.A.'s future; To place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united.

For on A.A. unity ~~depends~~, our lives, and the lives of those to come.

Deleted: depend