

Alt-Delegate Report / May 2024 ACM / SDIAA-Area 08

To my Esteemed Servant Peers,

I have spent the last month tending to my liaison commitments, as all of our Area officers do. My monthly schedule, outside of my normal General Service activities, includes San Diego H&I, Southern California H&I Inter group, C.P.C., San Diego Coordinating Council, Program Committee of SD Coordinating Council and a meeting of the North American Alternate Delegates. I attended my first H&I Conference in Bakersfield on the weekend of May 3rd through 5th. As it always has, my service commitment in the Area has expanded my world beyond measure. I equate it to the roots growing on a tree; spreading wide and entrenching themselves even deeper into the Fellowship.

There are several events happening over the coming weeks, some that are the result of cooperation between local service entities and entities throughout our Region. The first of which is our Four Area DCM Sharing Session on Saturday, June 1st, which you will hear a report about later on at tonight's meeting. The event will be held at a location within one of the remote communities of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Pala Indian Reservation. Members from the other three General Service Areas will be traveling long distances to meet with us in our neck of the woods; Area 05-Southern CA (or Los Angeles), Area 09-Mid-Southern CA, and Area 93-Central CA. This should afford us a great opportunity to interact with those who's experience in service and A.A. share some commonalities and also vary from ours. It is important for as many members as possible in our Area to attend and participate with this year's sharing session being so close to home.

Our annual Unity Day/Founder's Day picnic is taking place exactly one week later on Saturday, June 8th at Harry Griffen Park in La Mesa. The gathering will offer it's usual fare; food, speakers, games, and fellowship. Both ASL and Spanish Oral Interpretation will be provided from 12:30 to 2:30. I have handpicked the MC, who I am certain will provide a few laughs. I urge every Area Standing Committee that can be represented at this event to take the time to communicate within and to plan for this. It is one of the rare opportunities for members who are unfamiliar with what the Area does locally, to be connected with these services, and maybe... just maybe... get involved. I am pleased to also report that members from our Hispanic A.A. community will be participating and have offered to grill carne asada. Sometimes, it feels that even though all in our community share a primary purpose, there is a divide when it comes to serving and fellowshiping together. This divide is not just based on language, but sometimes attitudes, emotions, and ideas.

Finally, our Post Conference Assembly is in two days, where Richard and I will be reporting on the results of the General Service Conference. The details of those aside, it is important for DCMs to take some time at the assembly, or in their subsequent District meeting, to coordinate with their GSRs on reporting back to their Groups. Doris N. shared with GSRs at the GSR School before the April assembly on her experience with this. We also provided a template on how to create and organize a report. Reporting back to the Groups is important because it helps keep them informed, and hopefully engaged, throughout the entire Conference process. One of the grievances aired by the Groups in recent years is about not feeling fully informed of the goings on in A.A. World Service. The next responsibility to fall in the hands of the Groups will be the submission of agenda items for next year's Conference. Richard and I will be going over this at the Area Committee Meeting and District visits over the next few months. Thank you all for your continued commitment to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Adrian O. - Alternate Delegate of Area 08/SDIAA - Panel 74