

**District 5**  
**Monthly General Service Meeting**  
**MINUTES of November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Church of the Foothills**  
**19211 Dodge Ave. Santa Ana, CA 92705**  
**<https://District5msca09.com>**

**Zoom Info: <https://zoom.us/j/8970371755?pwd=WFdCdWFBVytCNzVpckROU2h6N0xKQT09>**  
**PASSWORD: 06101935**

**Opening**

**Hybrid Meeting called to order** by Vicki R., DCMC at 7:02 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

**GSR Preamble read by:** Greg A.

**District 5 Statement of Purpose read by:** Jim L.

**Rules read by:** Vicki R.

**Introduction of new GSRs and Alt-GSRs:** Anne K. / 902 Meeting in Villa Park

**Tradition 11:** Matt D.  
Volunteer for Tradition 12:

**Concept 11:** Lien L.  
Volunteer for Concept 12:

**Introductions of all in attendance – GSRs, District Officers and Visitors:** Visitors;

**Total Attendance: 19 Total (15 In-Person / 4 Virtual)**

**Celebrate Birthdays - November:** Lily W. - 20 Yrs

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**DCMC (Vicki R.):** Good evening, everyone! My name is Vicki R., an alcoholic, and your District 5 DCMC. I'm grateful to be surrounded by all of you sober 'being of service' alcoholics. Happy "GRATITUDE MONTH"!! Hopefully, your group has shown their gratitude by contributing a 7th Tradition to the GSO., O.C. Central Office, Area 09, District 5, and H&I. If they haven't done so yet, feel free to remind them. As of November 7th, the "PLAIN LANGUAGE BIG BOOK" (8.5"x11" – 192 pages) is now available for purchase in both a softcover book version and, wherever e-books are available, an e-book version. The listed price for the book is \$11.00. I was told that our Orange County Central Office has them on order. I have not heard yet whether they have received them. More information about the book can be found at the AAWS web store:

<https://onlineliterature.aa.org>

**1. 74TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE – FINAL REPORT:**

Requested hard copies have been received.

**2. AREA NEWS:**

I have received a draft version of their 2025 budget and will email a copy to the D5 members so that you and your group has an opportunity to review it prior to the Area's Dec. 8th ASC discussion opportunity. October meeting attendees were shared a rough draft of their "2025" calendar, but approved final copies have not been made available yet. Once I receive one, I'll review it to see if District 5 is noted as being the "host" for any of their monthly meetings. Due to the approval of a 4-location meeting site scenario, D5 will not be responsible for finding a meeting location. I am truly grateful for that!! They are in the process of putting together a bid packet proposal for the hosting of the "2028" Pacific Regional Forum. The 3 event locations that they are looking into are: Hilton Orange County (Costa Mesa), Hyatt Orange County (Garden Grove), and Hilton (Long Beach).

Lastly, a reminder that their "2024 Servathon" is being held on this Sunday, Nov. 17th at the Norma Hertzog Community Center in Costa Mesa. Flyers have been provided and are still available. I encourage all to attend this and learning "1951

General Service Conference- Nifty 50's Car Show & Sock Hop" service event. 50's costume attire is encouraged!

**3. GSB / AAWS / AAGV / NEWS:**

On Tues. Nov. 12 th , I received a copy of the 3 rd quarter "Unaudited Quarterly Financial Report" for GSB, AAWS, and AAGV. However, I have not had the opportunity to review it yet. I will email a copy to all D5 members.

This is what my 'Being of Service' calendar looked like since our Sept. 12th meeting:

Oct. 13th (In-Person): MSCA 09 ASC / Long Beach

Oct. 19th (Virtually): MSCA09 Archives Committee Meeting

Nov. 11th (Virtually): District 5 Steering Committee Meeting - Chaired meeting. There were seven (7) of us in attendance. We reviewed October's draft meeting minutes, discussed and decided upon old business, new business, and (due to meeting timeframe) the limiting of Standing Committee and DCM reports to three (3) minutes.

That's my report for now. An electronic version will be emailed out with the other provided District 5 reports. Are there any questions? If not, thank you for allowing me to be of service. As always...it's one of the reasons why I'm still sober today!

**Alternate DCMC (Arrielle T.):** No Report

**Treasurer (Greg A.):**

o Beg. Balance:	\$2,931.50
o Total Contributions:	\$ 316.84
o Reimbursement	\$ 0.00
o Total Expenses:	\$ 76.00
o End. Balance with Prudent Reserve:	\$3,172.34
o End. Balance without \$1,500.00 Prudent Reserve:	\$1,672.34

**Registrar (Kyle B.):** (Absent) Greg A. filled in for Kyle B. There were 15 people in attendance and 4 virtual for a total of 19 people.

**Secretary (Ryan P.):** Ryan P. went over the minutes for October and mentioned there were hard copies present. He asked for any errors or concerns from the room. Voicing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes as is. John R. made the motion and was seconded by Loren V. With all in favor, the motion passed. The minutes for October were approved. He also mentioned the minutes from July as they have been missing. He stated he is still working on them and will produce a copy for the following months meeting, in November.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Archives (Mitchell B.):** Good evening. My name is Mitchell. I'm an alcoholic, District five archivist. November is Gratitude Month. A quote from Bill Wilson - "Gratitude should go forward, not backward." I am grateful for the people I've met in A.A., grateful for receiving a gift of working on my sobriety, and grateful for an opportunity to share what I find about A.A. and our history. In his November 2023 letter to membership Bob W., General Service Office Manager, wrote "As a Fellowship, we celebrate and recognize November as Gratitude Month. This is a time when we A.A.s reflect on the many gifts and blessings sobriety has given us. The program of Alcoholics Anonymous encompasses many facets: our home groups, sponsorship, the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Fellowship among each other, service on many levels, and many more." On Sunday November 17 Area 09 will be holding the Annual Servathon, a service event open to A.A. members to learn about service committees and how A.A. share their service. Today I brought flyers about the first GSC held in 1951 In New York. One document is a summary of Advisory Actions for the first 38 delegates, including Clyde Walker from Southern California (now Area 05).

**Public Information (Chris W.):** Hello, my name is Chris W., and it is a privilege to serve on the District Five Public Information Committee as Chairperson. You have flyers for our Monthly PI business meeting. Staying PI Ready. The purpose of the Public Information committee is to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the still suffering alcoholic. We achieve this by making our presence known to the individuals, community groups and interested parties affected by alcoholism. We also have the task of keeping our own Fellowship members informed and up to date on events and activities serving Public Information. We meet each month 3rd Thursday at 5pm PST on zoom. Called "The PI Connection call" Opportunity to discuss and plan our efforts and celebrated PI Victories and successes. We will have a guest speaker with Public Information experience. And choose a variety of PI Topics that the committee is most interested in. There are open positions. Vice Chair, Secretary, Outreach, Panel Moderator, Panel Leader, Panel Chair, we are hoping for this to grow organically. At the October District 5 meeting I asked for any contact at schools. 3 people responded Thank you to each of you. I have followed up with each and continue the conversation along with 4 other contacts of the same nature. We are currently working on High School Panels Public information presentation. Just completed one 11-12-24 last Tuesday at Los Amigos High School. Here is the feedback from a Health Educator from Los Amigos High School regarding a Panel we did earlier this year: "Hello Chris, I am hoping to have your wonderful panel back into LAHS once again this semester. The

*empowering messages of recovery, respecting oneself and unconditional love sent that day are ones that all students should have the opportunity to hear. Thank you, Capri Masuda Health Education Psychology”*

After the recent Panel we had 52 questions and comments we are processing and that is just from Two class sessions. Other Panels will be scheduled at other High Schools. We will be attending various school board meetings to communicate that we are here and available to do more high schools. Orange, Villa Park, Tustin, Santa Ana.

**Grapevine (Chris D.):**

1. La Vina price increase as of January 1, 2025

The new price will be:

Print magazine

\$18.00 12 mos. / \$34.00 24 mos. / 36 mos. \$45.00

Digital: 12 mos. \$14.99

Please see me for all the prices.

2. Sober Women new YouTube playlist available.
3. Submit your story via Grapevine. See me for more details
4. Holiday season is here, please consider gifting a Grapevine subscription, to sponsee, newcomer, Rehab, Dr's office or facility of your choice. Tax deductible and a great gift.
5. AA Grapevine Half Hour Variety Hour podcast turns 3 years old this month. If you haven't heard any of the podcast, please select one for a drive, or some down time.

**Convention Liaison (Matt D.):** Upcoming Conventions:

- 5/2/25 - 5/4/25 Orange County AA Convention – Costa Mesa, CA ocaac.org
- 7/3/25 - 7/6/25 International AA Convention – Vancouver, B.C., CA aa.org

**H&I Liaison (Lana W.):** (Absent) John R. stepped in for Lana W. He stated that the H&I meeting meets every second Sunday at the Garden Grove Alano Club in Garden Grove, North Orange County. The institutions meeting is from 4 pm – 5pm and the Hospitals meeting is from 6 pm – 7 pm. If you have never attended the meeting, then you will need to show up fifteen minutes early for orientation. You must attend three times and have one year of sobriety before you can take panels. They need people who can clear a background check for institution panels because after Covid there were a lot of panels lost. Chris D. also mentioned that funds were down and asked for people to try to get H&I cans for their meetings. To receive an H&I can, your group must vote it in.

**Accessibilities (Open):** No report.

**C.P.C. (Open):** No report.

**Intergroup Liaison (Loren V.):** Loren V. stated that the treasure stated that they had to dip into the prudent reserve due to lack of donations. They elected five new board members, and our convention chair is one of those members. Events; AA 12 Traditions Workshop, Hosted by District 20 and all are invited to attend. November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 7 pm – 9 pm; Sober Sisters Weekend in the Bahamas January 7<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Newsletter (Open):** Vicki R. is working on the current edition to keep the newsletter going. This commitment is open.

**Website (Open):** Vicki R. is constantly updating the website, so be sure to check it out frequently for any new information. This position is open.

**GSR School (Kyle B.):** No Report.

**Literature (Steve C.):** No Report.

**Cooperation with Professional Community / CPC (Open):** No report

**Technology (Ryan P.):** No report.

**DCM – Sub District Reports**

**DCM East Orange (Steve C.):** No report.

**DCM West Orange (Open):** No report.

**DCM Santa Ana Alano (Open):** No Report.

**DCM Santa Ana (Open):** No Report.

**DCM Women's Groups (Pam T.):** Absent.

**DCM Men's Groups (Mitchell B.):** No Report.

**DCM North Tustin (Tyson H.):** No Report.

**DCM Tustin (Matt D.):** No Report.

**DCM Friendship Club – AM & PM (Chris D.):**

1. The chili cook off was a big hit on 11/3/24
2. Thanksgiving Potluck, meetings, fellowship, helping others that are in need during holiday season, Potluck begins at 12pm. Meetings will run throughout the day.

December 8, 2024, Holiday Boutique, come snag some great sobriety gifts, baked goods, craft Jewelry. Starts @ 12:30-4:00

4. Memberships are always available for \$55.00 per year, helps keep the club open and maintained, with your yearly membership, you can purchase a decorated brick displayed in parking lot with your sobriety date for just a one-time fee of \$40.00.

5. Come see the bright and newly remodeled club if you haven't already.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Continuance of Open Positions (**Vicki R.**) - Tabled till next month's meeting.

2. Purchase of T-Shirts

3. District 5 Inventory Update (**Vicki R.**)

Vicki R. thanked everyone that had already turned in their questionnaire. And asked for those who had taken them back to group last month, and had them this evening, to turn them in and/or email them to her. They will be compiled and the outcome will be reported to the group during next month's meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. District 5 2025 Financial Forecast Discussion (**Vicki R. and Greg A.**)

Vicki R: It is being brought up now because it was just finished and discussed in the Steering Committee meeting that prior Monday. It is better to get the process started now so that you are able to take it back to your groups and bring it back to us for next meeting so we can start January off. You will receive a copy and take it back to your group.

Unfortunately, there are no copies present. If you have a digital copy, please try to take it back to your groups. Hopefully they will all be completed and we can vote. Our contributions are down.

Greg A.: Shared about the Financial Forecast. He stated that we can take back the Financial Forecast to our groups so that they can see what is happening at District. We really need to try to get our contributions up and hopefully this will help.

Lien L.: Stated that her group struggles to pay the rent themselves.

Greg A.: Went over the suggested donation amount in the booklet and that it is covered by a sticker which makes it harder for people to know what to donate.

### **PROGRAM:**

1. Plain Language Big Book (**Mitchell B.**)

Mitchell B. stated that on November 1<sup>st</sup> General Service Office released a new book called the Plain Language Big Book. It is a tool to help read Alcoholics Anonymous: The Big Book. It is conference approved literature. He brought copies that could either be bought or, if you don't have the money, then he would give you a copy. Mitchell B. would like the GSRs to take it back to their groups for discussion. There is a quote that we use that is a principal which is a bar against all information which is proof against all arguments and cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance. And that is the principal of Contempt Prior to Investigation. The Plain Language Big Book was introduced and discussed across a two-year period which is unusual for literature. Mitchell B. looked at it when he was delegate last panel and Alex W. looked at it this panel and it was approved by unanimity which is more than 2/3 vote. Members had concerns about what it is and what it isn't. It is not a replacement for the Big Book. If you look at it, you look through it, it was written in a language that was more approachable. Not everything changed. Take it, read it and then take it back to your groups. The steps did not change. There is an appendix that helps in the back.

### **Questions, Concerns, Suggestions or Problems reported by Attendees: (Vicki R.)**

John R. made an announcement stating that the Tustin Rush Hour meeting will now be held 7 days a week at Church of the Foothills in Santa Ana in the main hall. The reason he came up and made this announcement is because the Tustin Rush Hour was held at the Ugly Mug in Orange off Glassell every Saturday and Sunday. Monday through Friday it was held at Church of the Foothills. He mentioned that there will still be an Ugly Mug meeting held on Saturday and Sunday for those who like going to the Ugly Mug.

**Volunteer GSR Report:** No Time.

Volunteer GSR Report (November): Chris W.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Chris D.

**Seconded by:** Loren V.

**Motion Passes**

**Meeting closed out with Responsibility Statement:**

**“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.”**

**IMPORTANT DATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DISTRICT 5 – DECEMBER:**

- **District 5 Steering Committee** .....Mon. 12-09-24 6:00pm  
 Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8970371755>  
 Meeting ID: 897 037 1755 // Passcode: 06101935
  
- **District 5 GSR ‘Hybrid’ Meeting** .....Thurs. 12-12-24 7:00pm\* - 8:30pm  
 \*6:30pm New GSRs Orientation (In-Person Only)  
 In-Person: Church of the Foothills – 19211 Dodge Ave., Santa Ana (North Tustin) 92705  
 Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8970371755>  
 Meeting ID: 897 037 1755 // Passcode: 06101935

**AREA 09 – NOVEMBER & DECEMBER:**

- **MSCA09 Service Manual Workshop (Ch. 12)**.....Thurs. 11-14-24 6:00pm – 7:00pm  
 o Chapter 12 / “A.A. Grapevine” – Paz P., General Service Trustee/AA Grapevine Director  
**MSCA09 Committee Sharing Session**.....Thurs. 11-14-24 7:15pm – 8:15pm  
 Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87366078505>  
 Meeting ID: 873 6607 8505 // Passcode: Area09p74

- **MSCA09 “2024 SERVATHON” - Hosted by D6**.....Sun. 11-17-24 1:00pm – 6:00pm  
 In-Person: Norma Hertzog Community Center – 1845 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627



- **MSCA09 Area Service Committee (ASC) - Hosted by D17**.....Sun. 12-08-24 9:00am – 3:00pm  
 8:00am: Registration and Continental Breakfast  
 In-Person: Lake Community Center – 310 W. Graham Ave., Lake Elsinore, CA 92530  
 Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89661666203?pwd=WQAQbswqxDwlCmbiMI852nxafbUJBA.1>  
 Meeting ID: 89661666203 // Passcode: P74service

Please visit [www.district5msca09.com](http://www.district5msca09.com) or [www.msca09aa.org](http://www.msca09aa.org) for additional information on upcoming events.