

Terms and Abbreviations

AAWS – AA World Services.

Accents – Monthly newsletter published by CNIA.

ACM – Area Committee Meeting held once a month.

BTG – Bridging the Gap, the committee responsible for meeting the newcomer from a treatment facility or jail at their first AA meeting.

CNIA or **Area** – California Northern Interior Area 07.

DCM – District Committee Member

Delegate – An elected Officer and our direct voice to and from GSO.

GS – General Service.

GSO – AA General Service Office in New York City, NY.

GSR – General Service Representative, ideally each group has one.

H&I – Hospitals and Institutions takes meetings and literature into those facilities.

LCM – Local DCM, sometimes necessary when a District is so large that it is split into smaller, or “local,” Districts.

PI/CPC – Public Information responsible for radio, TV and printed information about AA to the outside world, and Cooperation with the Professional Community works with doctors, counselors, clergy, judges, probation and parole personnel, etc., to inform them what AA is and does.

YPAA – Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous.

General Service Information Pipeline

The **AA Group** is represented by its **GSR** who takes information to and from **District** meetings where the **DCM** can forward and receive pertinent info to the **Area Delegate** who also carries information to and from **GSO** in New York and **AA World Services**.

This is how and why each AA member and every AA Group affects AA as a whole.

How to Contact and Learn More About CNIA

◆ Your GSR, DCM, meeting schedule and your local website are all good sources. You can also find information:

◆ On-line at:
www.cnia.org

◆ By mail to:
CNIA Chair
PO Box 161712
Sacramento, CA 95816-1712

◆ Send *contributions to:
CNIA Contributions
PO Box 161712
Sacramento, CA 95816-1712
*Please include your Group's name and group number on the 7th Tradition contribution checks.

◆ ACMs and assemblies are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month. The ACM is at the East Yolo Fellowship, 1040 Soule Street, W. Sacramento. Take I-80 to Jefferson, go South to Jackson, go East to Soule and turn right.

CNIA
California
Northern
Interior
Area 07

and
Why Should We Care About CNIA?

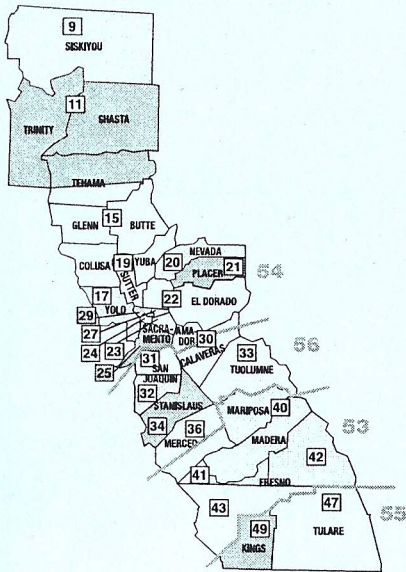
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A simple guide to  
**CNIA General Service in Alcoholics Anonymous**



[www.cnia.org](http://www.cnia.org)

## Where is CNIA?

### California Northern Interior Area 07 District Map



CNIA is one of six A.A. General Service Areas in California. From the Oregon border south to Kings and Tulare Counties, in the central valley is our geographical area. CNIA contains 29 active Districts including 4 Spanish Language Districts.

## What Does CNIA Do?

Simply put, CNIA is your link to AA as a whole. Each District's Committee Member (DCM) shares information from their local meetings, some of which is forwarded to the AA General Service Office (GSO) in New York. Our direct voice to GSO is the Area Delegate. The Delegate also reports to the Area what has come from GSO – information about Alcoholics Anonymous such as the Annual Conference Report or what's happening with Literature, the *Grapevine* and *LaViña*. We will also learn when a new edition of the Big Book is being considered and what is happening through AA World Services, etc.

Four meetings per year are Assemblies held at various locations within our Area and generally require some travel.

Every two years new officers are elected at the Area Election Assembly. The officers are Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chair, Alt. Chair, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Registrar.

DCMs and GSRs are also elected in your Districts to serve 2-year terms.

Each two-year term is called a Panel, whether it is at Area or District level. For instance, the term for 2008-2009 was Panel 58. 2010-2011 is Panel 60. This number refers to the number of years since the first General Service Conference was held.

## Who Should Attend the Monthly CNIA Meetings?

**Any and all AA members are welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings.**

All District Committee Members (DCMs) and elected Area Officers are expected to attend the Area Committee Meetings (ACM) and Area Assemblies. The AA groups are encouraged to financially support their GSRs to attend the Assemblies as part of the GSR's job. DCMs are financially supported by their Districts.

Appointed position chairs who may choose to attend the ACM are the *Accents* publisher, Archives, Grapevine and Literature Chairs who are appointed by the Area Chair.

Other committee chairs or liaisons are E-Services, Finance, Translation, Bridging the Gap (BTG), Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC). Hospitals and Institutions (H&I), the YPAAs, and Central Office liaisons are also likely to attend the ACMs and Assemblies.

## Why Should We Care?

In recovery it is important to practice all three sides of our AA triangle – the Three Legacies: Recovery, Unity and Service. Bill W. writes, "Our Twelfth Step, carrying the message, is the basic service that the AA Fellowship gives; . . . AA is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die."<sup>1</sup>

Service takes many forms – helping with the meeting, making a 12-Step call, literature, good publicity, representing your home group as the GSR, and so on.

Alcoholics Anonymous has a lot more to offer than most people realize and getting involved in General Service can be an invaluable enhancement to our sobriety. To actually witness and take part in the business of AA helps us to understand the incredible scope of AA around the country and around the world.

<sup>1</sup> Excerpt from *The AA Service Manual and The Twelve Concepts of World Service*.