

GSR Helpful Hints from Santa Clarita Area Service Committee (SCANA)

*If this is your first ASC meeting, **WELCOME!** If you've been here before, **WELCOME BACK!***

Either way, thank you for your service to NA!

What is a GSR?

From IP #2, *The Group*: "GSR... The most important facet of this position is to be the communicator for the group. The GSR is the vital link between the group and the rest of the fellowship. The GSR is the formal line of communication whose purpose it is to represent the group's conscience in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole. This duty requires the representative to provide information to the group about developments in the worldwide NA Fellowship and to share with the area any activities, strengths, or problems of the group. It is important that the GSR not break the chain of NA communication."

Why do we need an ASC?

From *A Guide to Local Service*: "Workhorse" of the service structure—maybe that's the best way to describe the area service committee. Most of the hands-on work of delivering NA services to the groups and the community occurs at the area level... All of these services require a certain degree of organization, the complexity of which could easily divert NA groups from the week-in, week-out task of conducting Narcotics Anonymous meetings for their members. Most of these services also require more money and manpower than any single group could possibly muster... And the service committee closest to home, the committee best situated to provide the most direct service to the groups and the community, is the area service committee."

Who's Who at the ASC?

ASC Chairperson – facilitates the ASC meeting, and attempts to help the meeting operate smoothly and respectfully

ASC Vice Chairperson – supports the Chairperson, liaises with the area sub-committees and stands in if Chairperson is absent

ASC Secretary – records what happens at the ASC in the form of minutes

ASC Vice Secretary – supports the Secretary and stands in if Secretary is absent

ASC Treasurer – maintains the ASC bank account, receives donations, pays the bills, keeps a record of all financial transactions

ASC Vice Treasurer – supports the Treasurer and stands in if the Treasurer is absent

Regional Committee Member (RCM) – the link between the ASC and Southern Cal region of NA

Regional Committee Member Alt – supports the RCM and stands in if the RCM is absent

ASC Subcommittee Chairpersons – including Hospitals & Institutions (H&I), Phone Lines/ Public Information (PL/PI), Literature, and Activities

Other ASC trusted servants – including Regional Convention Committee Liaison, Sponsorship behind the Walls Representative, and Youth Subcommittee Representative

GSR Packet

The SCANA has determined that each new GSR is entitled to a packet containing important and helpful material. We encourage you to check with your group or the past GSR for this packet, or if that fails to provide you with these materials, request a new packet from the ASC Literature Person.

Before the ASC meeting begins...

Literature Order & Group Donations

Upon arrival at the ASC meeting, please complete all the necessary arithmetic and fill in all the relevant blank spaces on the order form and money order. Give the completed literature order form and ASC donation to the ASC Vice Treasurer. If there is no group literature order, simply submit your group's ASC donation. The ASC Vice Treasurer will pass along your literature order to the Literature Person. Literature can be picked up at the completion of the ASC meeting.

ASC Report Table

Written reports, last month's ASC minutes, and today's ASC Meeting Agenda are located on the table in the back of the ASC meeting room. Pick up one copy of the minutes and agenda, and a copy of each report. Occasionally, there is mail for each group (The NA Way Magazine, etc.). Be sure to check for your group's mail.

Also on the table you will find copies of blank GSR Announcement Sheets. These sheets are designed to help GSRs identify and report to their group issues of importance. You are encouraged to use it in your role as GSR.

During the ASC Meeting...

The ASC meeting follows the ASC Meeting Agenda. The majority of the ASC meeting consists of verbal and written reports from the NA groups and ASC subcommittees. You will notice that each subcommittee has bulleted highlights or "issues of importance" at the beginning of their report. These are items that your group probably will find important. Of course, you are free to make your own notes on additional items, as you see fit. Also, make a note of what ASC service positions are open for announcement at your group. At the end of the ASC meeting the list of issues of importance will be reviewed, also any matters that need group direction will be identified.

After the ASC Meeting...

Literature Order

When you pick up your literature order after the ASC meeting, the literature bag will include a receipt. Prior to leaving the ASC check the literature received against your literature order form. Check with the Literature Person if any errors are found. Also in the bag will be SCANA meeting schedules, and copies of flyers for upcoming NA events; these are intended for display on your group's literature table.

Back at the Group...

Use the GSR Announcement Sheet as a resource for your GSR Report, announcing the issues of importance.

At your Group's Business Meeting...

Be prepared to give your report on the ASC meeting, including highlights from each report presented at the previous ASC meeting and anything else that you think is noteworthy. Make sure that any motions to be voted on by the group are brought up at the group's business meeting. Take the necessary steps to prepare the group's literature order and ASC donation. You are now ready for the next ASC meeting.