

OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 7TH, 2025

****NO SMOKING OR VAPING ON CHURCH PROPERTY****

Meeting started at 10:00am

- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called the meeting to order, requesting all cell phones be turned off or silenced.
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to read: **"The Twelve Traditions"**.
 - Gina G. read the Twelve Traditions.
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to report on Tradition #6
 - Melanie R.G. did the report on tradition 6 which states "A C.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the C.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose."
- ⇒ **Chairperson** asked for an addict to give a report on the 7th tradition for next month
 - Liz M. volunteered to do the report on tradition 7.

Remaining GSO Meeting 2025 Dates: July 12th, August 2nd, September 6th, October 4th, November 1st, and December 6th

Location: Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church
2845 Mesa Verde Dr. E Costa Mesa CA, 92627 Suite 8

ARE THERE ANY JUNE BIRTHDAYS?

- ⇒ DAN S. JUNE 1ST, 1993 FOR 32 YEARS.
- ⇒ MELANIE R.G. ON JUNE 21ST, 2021 FOR 4 YEARS.
- ⇒ JENN C. JUNE 6TH, 2021 FOR 4 YEARS.
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** entertained a motion to affirm the new GSRs or confirm a new meeting, if any, as Directors of OCCA and arrange for them to receive a new GSRs packet.

New Meetings Petitioning to Join Area: None

New GSRs: Cierra for Live Free

- **Steve C. made a motion to affirm the new GSR. Seconded. Motion Passed Unanimously.**

- ⇒ **Secretary:** prepared to call role and remind members that "During Roll Call, when you hear your name, announce "Present", your current Position (if carrying more than one, state positions following this precedent: Officer, Delegate/Alternate, Committee Chairperson, GSR.) and if you are carrying a Proxy please announce your principal for the record."

- **Steve C. makes a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

⇒ **Chairperson's Report**

714.713.8280

- ⇒ **Vice-Chairperson's Report**

714.675.2731

- Melanie also provided clarification on routine expenditures that do not require a motion for approval, such as copies made for GSO business or minor pre-approved expenses (e.g., trophies or materials for events), provided receipts are submitted to the Treasurer.

- In addition, Melanie addressed the **Seventh Tradition**, reminding members that every meeting—including those embedded within larger events—presents an opportunity to collect contributions. She encouraged clear communication about the purpose of these donations, as transparency builds trust and supports greater generosity. She cited a recent example at the Change for Change event, where a clear explanation of how funds would be used led to strong support.

-Neelam A.-

- Report: Neelam A. passed around a master sheet for everyone to write their updated information. She also announced that she will be moving to Bakersfield and is looking for someone to take over her position.

- ⇒ **Treasurer's Report** -Betsy L.- 949.220.2504
- Report: Betsy L. reported that our filing is done except for state taxes which our accountant is working on.

Previous Balance	\$ 2701.65
Donations	\$ 2303.40
<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 1504.24</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 2257.81

Transferred To Savings	\$1242
Savings	\$600.86

- **Treasurer:** will ask for 7th tradition donations. OCCA Venmo: @betsy-Lyons-1 949.220.3504

- ⇒ **Vice-Treasurer's Report** -Donovan B.- 949.910.0901
- Report: No report.

- ⇒ **Structure and Bylaws Officer's Report** -Steve C.- 714.330.0416
- Report: Steve C. reported that the S&B Committee continues to work on several open referrals and is also reviewing and refining internal processes to improve accessibility, fairness, and democratic function within OCCA operations.
 - He emphasized the importance of proper financial handling and supported earlier comments by the Vice Chair. Steve C. reiterated that all legal and financial matters for OCCA fall under the purview of S&B, and reminded the group that:
 - At all times, **two individuals should be in custody of any funds** to ensure accountability and integrity. This policy protects both individuals and the organization.
 - OCCA must remain compliant with federal and state regulations, as all incoming funds are considered nonprofit revenue and are subject to reporting requirements set by the IRS and California Franchise Tax Board.
 - All funds received must first be reported, counted, and deposited by the Treasurer before any disbursements can occur.
 - Reimbursements should be avoided when possible. Instead, members are encouraged to submit **advance requests for funds**. This allows for proper approval by group conscience and avoids unauthorized spending.
 - He warned against incurring expenses without prior group approval, noting that there is no obligation to reimburse individuals for unauthorized expenditures.
 - Steve C. closed by stressing the importance of transparency, respect, and responsibility when handling fellowship funds, citing past issues in which misuse or mishandling of money created serious problems.
 - Clarification from Steve C. – Financial Oversight In response to a question, Steve clarified that the requirement for two individuals to maintain custody of fellowship funds means that both individuals must physically always handle and monitor the money together. For example, OCCA's treasurers are required to go to the bank together when depositing funds. One may hold the checks while the other holds the cash; both parties are responsible for counting and recording the total amount. This process, implemented during Chris' tenure, ensures accuracy and accountability. If discrepancies arise between counted and deposited totals, the issue can be immediately identified and addressed. He emphasized that having two people involved significantly reduces the risk of theft or error. While he acknowledged that misconduct could still occur if both individuals collude, in such rare cases, a change in personnel would be necessary—and, as he noted, that too could be viewed as part of a greater accountability process.

- ⇒ **Archivist's Report** -Alonzo M.- 714.715.0405
- Report: No Report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

- ⇒ **Group Relations Committee** - Dan S.- 714.403.8326

- Report: Dan S. reminded all GSRs of their responsibility to ensure that each group maintains accurate and complete literature, including the companion guide. He emphasized that literature is a valuable tool and encouraged GSRs to do their part in ensuring that every meeting has a full slate of approved books and materials, including OC chips.
- He also addressed the importance of financial support from individual meetings. Although slightly outside the scope of his official report, Dan noted: one of the smallest meetings consistently contributes the most, while some larger meetings, including those with many newcomers, contribute very little or not at all. He stated that less than half of the meetings are currently held at a sustainable level.
- Dan stressed that OCCA is a nonprofit organization and cannot rely solely on fundraising, depending on regular contributions from its meetings. Referring to the example set by Alcoholics Anonymous; he reminded the group that each meeting should contribute something monthly, even a small amount like \$10 or \$20. He concluded by urging groups to encourage even newcomers to give what they can, echoing the principle that "every little bit helps," and expressed a desire to see contribution numbers increase.
- **Nick B. made a motion was made for Gina G to take over group relations. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

⇒ **IT Committee** - Jason S. - 818.263.3500

- Hotline Sub-committee:

Total Calls:	15
Avg Duration:	1 Minute and 44 Seconds
Longest Call:	14 Minutes and 15 Seconds
Voicemail:	0

- Webservant Subcommittee:

⇒ **Hospitals and Institutions Committee** - Liz M. - 714.266.4081

- Report: Liz provided an update on recent and upcoming H&I (Hospitals & Institutions) activities:
- The first event of the year, a "God Shot" card draw held in May, was successful and brought in \$108. She thanked JJ for chairing the event.
- The next event is scheduled for Sunday, August 17, from 10 AM to 2 PM, and will be a hike. The committee is working on securing a speaker and finalizing the flyer. Once completed, the flyer will be distributed for promotion.
- Liz announced that the H&I Secretary position will be open starting in September, as Neelam will be stepping down in August. Members are encouraged to refer anyone who may be interested in filling this role.
- She reminded all GSRs to ensure that announcements for H&I donations are being made at their respective meetings. Some groups use a separate basket for H&I, while others designate a portion of the Seventh Tradition collection—either method is acceptable if it's communicated clearly to the group.

- **Liz M. made a motion to request \$200 for little big books. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

Public Information Committee - Jose A.- 714.615.1167

- Report: José A. provided updates on recent and upcoming Public Information activities:
- The next PI Committee meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday, June 19th at 5:00 PM.
- On Saturday, May 31st, Orange County PI collaborated with Inland Empire PI to represent Cocaine Anonymous at the Peddler Power Jamboree 2025, where they reached approximately 200 individuals and their families. This marked the first joint outreach event of José's tenure.
- Efforts are underway to expand collaboration with the San Gabriel Valley/Pomona PI committee, aiming to unify PI outreach efforts across multiple Southern California regions.
- On Saturday, June 14th, PI will host a booth at the Anaheim Alano Club Block Party, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- Additionally, José requested \$65 to order new business cards, due to high distribution volume and growing outreach needs.
- **Jose A. made a motion requesting \$25 for the booth fee, \$25 for a raffle gift and \$65 for new business cards for a total of \$115 for PI. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- The next PI Committee meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday, June 19th at 5:00 PM.

- On Saturday, May 31st, Orange County PI collaborated with Inland Empire PI to represent Cocaine Anonymous at the Peddlers Power Jamboree 2025, where they reached approximately 200 individuals and their families. This marked the first joint outreach event of José's tenure.

⇒ **Social Media Subcommittee Report:** -Angel G.- 714.369.4813

Report: Angel provided an update on the social media performance for the month:

- The main page received 4,200 views, with 87 interactions and 43 new followers gained.
- Current advertising campaigns are performing strongly:
 - The Cocaine Anonymous ad has reached 17,280 views to date.
 - A newer ad featuring the media flyer has received 2,653 views so far.

⇒ **CPC Subcommittee Report:** - Jenn C. - 714.605.0322

Report: no report.

⇒ **Unity Committee** - Jenn C. - 714.605.0322

- Report: The next Unity Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday at 8:30 PM. Members are encouraged to attend and get involved in upcoming events.
- A series of Unity events are scheduled for June:
 - June 14 – *Change for Change* event featuring speaker Chris West at Live Free.
 - June 21 – *Candlelight Meeting* hosted by Where the Frees Will Come Out.
 - June 22 – *Meeting of the Month* at Sunlight of the Spirit, typically a women's meeting but open to all genders on this date.
 - June 27 – *Paychecks* event.
- Collected \$571 from merchandise sales and change bucket brought in \$87 bringing the total to \$658 for the month of June.

⇒ **Activities and Fundraising Subcommittee**

Report:

⇒ **Literature Committee** - Matthew M. - 714.585.1829

- Report:
 - Number of Sales: \$66
 - Request for Funds: \$0

⇒ **Workshop Committee** -Nick B.- 949.382.9288

- Report: Nick B. reported that the May Fourth Step Workshop had three attendees, all of whom completed their Fourth Step during the session.
- The next workshop will be held on Friday, June 21, and the cutoff date to sign up is Wednesday, June 18. This deadline allows adequate time to prepare materials and purchase food.
- The \$25 registration fee covers breakfast, lunch, and all workshop materials, including a binder.
- Nick emphasized the importance of early registration, noting that printing binders is costly, and materials are only prepared based on the number of participants to avoid out-of-pocket expenses.
- The workshop is facilitated by Nick, with consistent support from Evan.

- Capo Beach Church: 25976 Domingo Ave, Dana Point, CA 92624
Call Nick B. 949.382.9288**

⇒ **Chip Committee** -Carlo P.- 714.587.1258

- Report:
 - Amount of Sales: \$111.25
 - Request for Funds: \$200
- Carlo P. made a motion requesting \$200 for chips. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES/ALTERNATES

- ⇒ **DELEGATE** -Nolan O.- 407.687.8656
- Nolan O. reported that there are no current updates regarding SR-14s, which outline the proposals that will be voted on at the upcoming World Service Conference. He noted that these typically have a 30-day turnaround and are expected to be released within the next month or two, ahead of the conference.
 - Nolan also informed the body that he has purchased his plane ticket for the conference and that he plans to book his hotel accommodation this month and will submit a separate request for funds for lodging at the next GSO meeting.
 - Nolan O. explained that we have \$6000 in our savings because that usually covers the amount for delegates.
 - **Nolan O. made a motion to request \$393.96 for a reimbursement for his plane ticket to conference. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- ⇒ **DELEGATE** -Steve C.- 714.330.0416
- Steve C. is requesting \$1,520 to cover his expenses for attending the upcoming World Service Conference. The total amount includes:
 - \$150 for conference registration
 - Approximately \$700 for hotel accommodation
 - \$250 per diem for meals (based on \$50/day)
 - Approximately \$400 for airfare
 - Max that can be requested is \$1500 so that's what Steve C. requested.
 - **Steve C. made a motion for \$1500 for the conference. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - Steve C. provided an in-depth update on preparations for the upcoming World Service Conference, with a focus on the SR-14s (Standing Rule 14 documents). He explained that SR-14s are submissions from World Service subcommittees that include any proposals or changes which may materially affect Cocaine Anonymous or the conference itself.
 - Steve shared that, from his position on the Structure & Bylaws (S&B) Committee, several last-minute proposals were submitted—some just before the deadline. Among them is a proposed amendment to the Conference Charter (not Article 10), which only requires a supermajority vote but may still be controversial despite being a minor wording change.
 - Once all SR-14s are received, Steve plans to host a delegate preparation meeting to thoroughly review the materials and ensure that Orange County's delegates are well-prepared. He stressed the importance of preparation, citing past issues where unprepared delegates undermined discussions by asking questions easily answered in the materials.
 - Steve emphasized Orange County's reputation for having highly effective delegates and noted that this level of dedication is why fundraising and supporting delegates is essential, and that Orange County has had a meaningful impact at the World Service level.
 - He concluded by encouraging everyone to thank their delegates and alternates, recognizing the significant effort they invest, and shared that this will be his final conference as a delegate.
- ⇒ **DELEGATE** -Melanie R.G.- 714.675.2731
- Melanie R.G. reported on her work with the Literature, Chips, and Format Committee, where the committee submitted four proposals to be considered for the World Service Conference floor. However, three of those proposals were rejected by the Trustees, resulting in only one being approved to move forward—a motion titled "The Power of Pl."
 - She noted that the remaining proposals will need to be resubmitted next year, delaying their consideration. Melanie also shared that the committee did not move forward with their most controversial proposal, which aimed to update some of the fellowship's language to be more inclusive.
 - In addition, Melanie is leading the development of a Glossary of Terms, a new project that will operate as a subcommittee of Orange County members under Literature, Chips, and Format. She thanked those who have volunteered.
 - Melanie also offered to host the upcoming SR-14 review meeting at her home and all are invited.
- ⇒ **ALTERNATE** -Liz M.- 714.266.4081
- Liz M. asked for clarification if she could be reimbursed for her flight. Steve C. shared that she could. Melanie R.G. said that last year Liz M. and her split the \$500 but this year Gina G. will be paying her own way, we could use that \$500 for Liz M.

- **Steve C. made a motion to approve the \$500 for Liz M. for conference. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

⇒ **ALTERNATE**

-Gina G.-

657.456.8178

- Gina G. confirmed that she will donate the \$250 of her part allotted to Alternate Delegates to go to conference as she is paying her own way.

BUSINESS

⇒ **Old Business**

⇒ **New Business:**

- Dan S. offered a printer for printing. There was a discussion on if it would be beneficial cost-wise to use the printer or continue getting our materials printed at a store.
- Next month Dan S. wanted to vote on a change to the S&B that a person can be the GSR for more than one meeting. Per discussion it was stated that it would be preferable to have a different GSR for each meeting but not required.
- Bill offered to sell T-Shirts at cost if we would like to have a shirt or turn around and fundraise the t-shirts.

⇒ **Chairperson** entertains a motion to Adjourn.

- Upon adjournment, **Chairperson** called for a moment of silent meditation and requests an individual to lead the GSO in a prayer of their choice.

⇒ **Meeting Ended at 11:14am**