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# OCCA REGULAR GSO MEETING MINUTES

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MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called the meeting to order, requesting all cell phones be turned off or silenced.
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** read the "CA Preamble".  
Cocaine Anonymous is a Fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others recover from their addiction. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using cocaine and all other mind-altering substances. There are no dues or fees for membership; we are fully self-supporting through our own contributions. We are not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution. We do not wish to engage in any controversy and we neither endorse nor oppose any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay free from cocaine and all other mind-altering substances, and to help others achieve the same freedom.
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called on a member to read: "**The Twelve Traditions**".
- ⇒ **Chairperson:** called on an addict to report on Tradition #3
  - Matt A. fills in for Frank P. to do the report on Tradition 3 which states "The only requirement for C.A. membership is a desire to stop using cocaine and all other mind-altering substances."
- ⇒ **Chairperson** asks for an addict to give a report on the 4<sup>th</sup> tradition for next month.
  - Russ E. volunteered.

**Remaining GSO Meeting 2026 Dates:** April 4<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup>, September 5<sup>th</sup>, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup>, December 5<sup>th</sup>

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

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## ARE THERE ANY MARCH BIRTHDAYS?

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None.

- ⇒ **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:** K.D. for "When the Fiends Come Out and Recover" and Kim O. for "Paycheck"

- **Melanie R.G. made a motion to accept the new GSR, K.D. for "When the Fiends Come out to Recover". Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Melanie R.G. made a motion to accept the new GSR, Kim O. for “Paycheck”. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Melanie R.G. explains that our secretary Neelam A. has stepped down due to other priorities in her life. As Vice Chair Melanie R.G. is the member of large for the Executive Board meaning that she will fill in for the secretary position until we find a new one.

⇒ **Secretary:** prepared to call roll 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.”

⇒ **Secretary:** calls the roll and announces quorum.

- **Present:** Chris J., Melanie R.G., Betsy L., Gina G., Russ E., Angelina T., Carlo P., Russ S., Amy G., Nick B., Dave W., Kim O., K.D., Michelle D., Isis M., Adam A., Katie S., and Travis M.
- **Absent :** Frank P., Marcus M., Jason S., Nolan A., Matt A., Matt S., Cierra J., Mathew M., and Jenn C.
- **Quorum:** 18 present, quorum is 12.

⇒ **Secretary:** Passed the Master Contact list for any changes or updates to the Roll, Schedule, and Website.

⇒ **Chairperson:** entertained a motion to accept the minutes for the last GSO meeting.

- **Russ E. made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

⇒ **Parliamentarian:** reminded members to “To keep things orderly, when wishing to engage in debate/make motions, you will be placed on a list after being acknowledged by the chair, it will then be your turn to debate or make motions when you are called upon relative to your spot on the list. When in debate, please state if you are in favor, not in favor, or asking a question. For any questions of procedure, call for a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry (waiting till someone is done speaking) to ask the Parliamentarian directly.”

## BOARD OFFICER'S REPORTS

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⇒ **Chairperson's Report**

- Chris J.-

714.713.8280

- Report: Chris J. announced that the Secretary position is open, as well as the Literature Chair position. Marcus is willing to continue helping with literature, but the group is still looking for someone who meets the time requirements. GSRs were asked to take these openings back to their groups and announce them.
- Secretary Requirements: one year of sobriety, 6 months of service at the GSO (area) level, some experience with secretarial skills (Word type documents, attention to detail.)
- Literature Position: at least 1 year of sobriety.

⇒ **Vice-Chairperson's Report**

-Melanie R.G.-

714.675.2731

- Report: Nothing to report currently.

⇒ **Secretary Report:**

-VACANT-

- Report: Melanie explained that the Secretary position is a substantial but manageable commitment, now supported by a transcription app and AI tools, so strong dictation skills are less important than attention to detail. The Secretary prepares minutes and agendas, maintains the roll sheet, updates the meeting schedule (coordinating changes with the webmaster), and it's a great way to learn the inner workings of

OCCA; Melanie offered to fully train anyone interested. She also noted they are printing fewer schedules due to lower demand, took a hand count to estimate how many are needed, and thanked the previous Secretary, Neelam A., for 14 months of service.

- ⇒ **Treasurer's Report** -Betsy L.- 949.220.2504
- Report: Betsy reported she transferred \$500 into savings. Savings are untouched at \$4,501.52
  - Betsy said that just today through the Venmo receipts connected to the "Pancake breakfast" and the "Chili Cook Off" they had already received about \$ 1,003, expected to increase by the end of the meeting.
  - Betsy has the minutes from the last meeting and will bring them to the bank with the goal of getting the paperwork for all the officers to sign and update who has access to the accounts.

Previous Balance	\$ 947.78
Donations	\$ 1,391.40
Disbursements	\$ 1,586.27
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 752.91</b>

- **Treasurer:** will ask for 7<sup>th</sup> tradition donations. OCCA Venmo: betsy-Lyons-1 949.220.3504

- ⇒ **Vice-Treasurer's Report** -Jessica M.- 714.381.0037
- Report: Nothing to report currently.

- ⇒ **Structure and Bylaws Officer's Report** -Frank P.- 714.514.4150
- Report: Matt A., Vice Chair for S&B reported that the committee has begun its housekeeping review with four members, ensuring documents are current and accurate, and has completed internal guidelines except for adding a clearly defined referral-review process, which they will meet again this month to include.
  - The next S&B meeting is scheduled for March 28 at 9:30 a.m., with additional housekeeping sessions possible; anyone interested may attend, request to be added to the S&B WhatsApp, and obtain a service manual from Matt.

- ⇒ **Archivist's Report** -Gina G.- 675.456.8178
- Report: Gina reported that World Service archives are currently focused on conference preparation and internal document approvals, and she reminded members that the World Service website hosts an extensive document library and an online history of CA for anyone interested. Chris added that anyone with CA-related archival materials should bring them to Gina for possible preservation.

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## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

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- ⇒ **Group Relations Committee** - Amy G.- 909.261.7368
- No report currently. Thank you for bringing donuts Amy!

- ⇒ **IT Committee** - Jason S. - 818.263.3500
- Hotline Sub-committee: Melanie reads the report that Jason sent in. Jason has updated the website. Melanie reminds the group that the IT committee needs help, particularly with the website, keep an eye out for anyone with an interest in tech.

Total Calls:	8
Avg Duration:	1 minutes and 31 seconds
Longest Call:	9 minutes and 57 seconds
Voicemail:	None

⇒ Hospitals and Institutions Committee - Russ E. - 714.396.2796

- Report: Russ reported that H&I is running well and is always in need of speakers, and shares information via an H&I WhatsApp group, asking members to announce these needs at their meetings.

- **Russ makes a motion to request \$100 for Little Big Books for H&I. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

⇒ Public Information Committee - Russ S. - 912.314.3275

- Report: Russ turned the Public Information report over to his vice chair, Matt, who described two recent PI campaigns in Fountain Valley/Westminster and Laguna Hills where about 80 business cards and 25–30 flyers were distributed to police stations, libraries, and community centers. Matt also reported that PI applied for a booth at the one-day Tustin Street Fair & Chili Cookoff (June 7).

- **Matt made a motion requesting \$75 to cover the booth fee pending application approval. Seconded. Passes with unanimity. (Later withdrawn)**

- Matt reported updated information on the cost of having a booth at the Orange County Fair: \$450 for a three-day weekend plus \$120 for required insurance, for a total of \$570, compared to a previously cheaper and longer run. He noted that about 1.4 million people attend the fair annually (roughly 60,000 per day), so the potential exposure for CA is significant, and PI already had \$200 previously approved, prompting his initial request for an additional \$370. During discussion, members asked about dates and past participation, and one person observed that although CA had a booth for three consecutive years, we don't believe they came into CA through the booth. Some suggested sharing the idea in the GSO group chat and possibly using Venmo donations to help. Because applications had only just opened and there was still time to explore funding options and approval, Matt withdrew the motion for additional funds for now, with the intention of revisiting it later if appropriate.
- Matt announced a PI barbecue in June (date TBD), chaired by Amber, to build fellowship, explain PI, and recruit members, noted the need for a Booth Coordinator to research local event opportunities (using tools like ChatGPT and consistent follow-through rather than high technical skill), and reminded everyone that PI meets on the first Monday of each month, with the next meeting expected on April 6 at 8 p.m.

⇒ **Social Media Subcommittee Report:** -Chris W.- 714.980.1186

- No report, Chris W. not present.

⇒ **CPC Subcommittee Report:** - Vacant -

- Report: Still looking for someone to fill this position. CPC stands for Cooperation with the Professional Community.

⇒ **Unity Committee** - Angelina T. - 657.342.0470

- Report: Angelina reported six contestants are signed up for the chili cookoff, each paying a \$50 entry fee, with \$150 (half of the \$300 in entry fees) going to first place and a donated \$50 prize for second place. The event will be held at Wakeham Park on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a check-in table, balloons to mark the area, tickets available at the event, and a flyer to be reposted in the GSO chat to encourage attendance.

- **Angelina made a motion to allocate \$215 for food and supplies (including hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, drinks, decorations, and ice). Seconded. Passed unanimously.**

- The last Change That Counts meeting raised \$293 (still to be converted from coins and turned in), and the next event will be held at the Paycheck meeting in Dana Point on March 20 at 6:30 p.m. with Yasmin from Moreno Valley as the speaker, with details available on a flyer in the GSO chat.
- The pancake breakfast was a well-attended, fun event with about 34 people present and a strong talk from speaker Chet; it brought in \$698.01 in donations and tickets against \$238 in food and supplies, netting roughly \$460, with some bulk purchases intended for future events. Angelina also covered an additional \$37 out of pocket and chose to donate that amount rather than request reimbursement.
- Chris reported that he had personally purchased a Blackstone grill (retail value about \$1,000) on sale for roughly \$220–\$250, intending it for CA events, and requested \$300 to reimburse the cost of the grill, cover, and accessories so the fellowship could own and store it in the area storage unit (replacing an older small barbecue).

**Melanie made a motion to reimburse Chris for \$300 for the grill. Seconded. Passed unanimously.**

- After the meeting, members planned to visit the storage unit to gather items for the chili cookoff, organize space for the new grill, and likely discard the old barbecue.
- Betsy noted that although extra supplies had been purchased for the pancake breakfast, Angelina is treating the additional \$37 as her personal donation and will not request reimbursement. For the chili cookoff, Angelina was advised to keep enough of the entry fees in cash to pay the \$150 first-place and \$50 second-place prizes on site, then reconcile total income and payouts with Betsy afterward, and Chris will provide his receipts to Betsy later.

⇒ **Activities and Fundraising Subcommittee** -Nolan O. - 407.687.8656  
 • Report: Absent.

⇒ Literature Committee - Marcus K.- 479.305.9708  
 • Report: Jessica filling in for Marcus said she totaled roughly \$56, no request for funds at this time and plenty in stock.

⇒ Workshop Committee -Nick B.- 949.382.9288  
 • Report: Nick reported that the February Fourth Step Workshop had six attendees and went well. The next workshop is scheduled for March 21st, with the sign-up deadline on Wednesday, March 18th. Max capacity is 8, 3 are signed up. He asked that the workshop be announced at meetings. Nick explained that the workshop, facilitated by him and Evan, is held in person, costs \$25, and includes breakfast, lunch, and a binder with all necessary materials for the Four Step process.

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

⇒ **Chip Committee** -Carlo P.- 714.587.1258  
 • Report: Russ Reports for Carlo: Still waiting on Arizona to send the last chip order, which was placed late.

Amount of Sales: \$50  
 Request for Funds: None

**WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES/ALTERNATES**

⇒ **DELEGATE** -Melanie R.G.- 714.675.2731

- Melanie serves as Vice Chair of the World Service Literature, Chips & Format Committee, which meets monthly on the third Sunday at 10 a.m., and reminded everyone that any member—not just delegates—may join World Service committees.
- She thanked her Glossary of Terms Subcommittee (Betsy, Frank, and Chris West), noting the glossary is nearly complete and will be sent off soon and she also serves on the WSO Board Translation Committee to help ensure Spanish-language needs are met.
- Current literature work includes projects like "12 Steps & 12 Concepts Illustrated," "12 & 12 in Light of Our Experiences," the newly completed "Power of PI" pamphlet, and an in-development pamphlet on chronic illness and necessary medications that, while somewhat controversial, is intended to offer sponsor guidance (not medical advice) in response to multiple fellowship referrals.

⇒ **DELEGATE**

-Gina G.-

657.456.8178

- Gina reported that World Service archives are preparing for the conference, updating internal documents, and expanding an online archive/museum that showcases items from the physical collection, and she encouraged groups to send materials like T-shirts, hats, and posters for possible inclusion.

She is also conducting oral history interviews with early members (including Pablo, early PI workers, and founding Orange County CA members such as Chris and Frank) and shared that, although she was once too self-focused to notice much of this work, she now deeply values preserving the fellowship's history.

⇒ **ALTERNATE**

-Vacant-

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**BUSINESS**

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⇒ **Old Business**

⇒ **New Business:**

- No new business.
  - Chris reminds the group that the alternate delegate position is still open, please announce it.
  - Melanie asked Betsy whether the funds would allow for a contribution to World Services as we have not done one for some time. Betsy still needs to reconcile last year's records, including voiding two checks but believes we will be stable.
    - **Melanie makes a motion to donate \$200 to World Service. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**
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⇒ **Chairperson** entertained a motion to Adjourn.

- **A Nick B. made a motion to close. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Upon adjournment, Chris J. asked for a moment of silent meditation and requested Russ E. lead the GSO in a prayer of their choice.

Meeting ended at 11:03 AM