

Date: 9/30/2026 6:00 pm EDT

In attendance: Ruth & Debbie, Deborah & Jon, Ann & Scott, Jim irw Linda, Jennifer & Buddy, Robin irw Donna

Minutes from 8/12/2026 meeting approved

Corrected Minutes from 7/15/2026 meeting approved

Summary

Convention Minutes and Technical Updates

Ruth opened the meeting and led a serenity prayer. The group approved corrected minutes from 7/15, addressing spelling errors in Gali Beh and a name correction for Mike and Liz. Ruth reviewed key issues from the previous convention, including PayPal registration problems and the decision to have only one Zoom-enabled session per time slot, with scholarship attendance limited to Zoom. She suggested to the RCA board that they explore using Omni's audio-visual services for equipment rather than relying on volunteers for technical support.

Board Meeting AV Equipment Planning

The group discussed the need for audio-visual equipment and professional support for upcoming board meetings during the convention. Anne and Ruth agreed that the board should contact the AV team to discuss options and costs for covering both Friday and Sunday meetings, particularly for interactive sessions involving elections and trustee business. Jim shared insights from a recent virtual convention about the importance of good microphone connections and camera aiming for remote participants.

RCA Scholarship Guidelines Discussion

The group discussed scholarship guidelines for RCA meetings, with Anne and Ruth agreeing that financial requirements would be too intrusive for a 12-step group. They decided to implement a verification process where scholarship applicants would need to provide information about their RCA group attendance, including the meeting name and group contact couple, to be verified by the group's leadership. The discussion also covered handling walk-in participants, with Jon sharing feedback from the Denver event where about 30 local people attended after seeing signs, and Ruth proposing the creation of a newcomer committee to handle such situations.



Meeting Host Training and Communication

The team discussed training additional people to host meetings, with Robin volunteering to help with Zoom technology training. They debated using WhatsApp for communication during the convention, with Anne sharing positive experiences from previous events where it helped quickly fill canceled workshop slots. The group agreed to follow up with Gali about WhatsApp implementation details, and discussed the need for a forum to share best practices and successful strategies for making groups work effectively.

Organizational Growth and Outreach Planning

Ruth discussed plans to grow the organization by sending monthly updates to their 600-person email list and requested volunteers to help create newsletters or questionnaires. The group discussed reaching out to group contact couples across different regions, with Jim offering to provide contacts for the outreach committee in his region covering Virginia, New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. Jennifer noted that their Richmond group has become more international with members from Israel and Germany, making it challenging to maintain local participation. The discussion concluded with plans to reach out to the Growing the Fellowship committee for ideas on how to better promote and grow the organization.

Convention Planning and Speaker Priorities

The team discussed convention planning priorities, with Jim emphasizing that securing presenters should be the top priority before other activities like auctions or scholarships. Ruth confirmed that Liz and Debbie are working on finalizing the workshop schedule, which will include up to 8 sessions total (4 morning and 4 afternoon slots) across multiple rooms. The group agreed that speaker couples could present remotely if they cannot attend in person, particularly for older couples with significant recovery experience, though they want to limit remote presentations to one or two couples to maintain in-person speaker credibility.

Convention Speaker Planning Discussion

The team discussed finding speakers for an upcoming convention, with Robin suggesting couples like Barton and Rebecca who have been in the program for 20 years and are experiencing health challenges that prevent travel. They agreed to consider both in-person and virtual speakers, with one room set up for Zoom participation. The group confirmed the next team meeting will be held on October 28th at 6:00 PM, and Ruth announced that hotel reservations are already available on the website.

2027 RCA Convention Committee
Minutes September 30, 2026
(Generated by Zoom AI)

Next steps

Anne

- Send Ruth the contact information for Mona and David (Outreach Committee chairs).

Buddy

- Send Christine (new RCA web team member) another invite and update for the next meeting, and direct her to the admin page for agendas and minutes.

Robin

- Help train people to be Zoom hosts/co-hosts for the convention, including both technical and meeting-hosting aspects.

Ruth

- Connect with the Omni audio visual group to the RCA board.
- Update the scholarship JOT form to include the questions provided by Anne and Debbie, to serve as a pre-approval process.
- Reach out to John (the treasurer) to ask him to contact Gali Beh regarding WhatsApp use at the Denver convention, and request a summary of pros/cons and how to set it up.
- Reach out to the Trailblazers and start sending monthly email updates about the 2027 convention, including requests for program ideas and speakers.
- Reach out to the Outreach Committee (via Mona and David) to coordinate outreach to RCA groups and potential newcomers.
- Reach out to the Growing the Fellowship committee (via John) to brainstorm and coordinate outreach to newcomers and public relations efforts.
- Consider reaching out to Maggie (of Maggie and Mark) about assisting with administrative tasks (agenda, minutes, etc.) for the committee.
- Forward Robin's email to Anne, as requested.
- Ask John to follow up with the couple who disputed the PayPal charge and ensure receipt of their check refund.

Collaboration

- Anne and Debbie: Draft a short set of questions (e.g., how long in RCA, which meeting, group contact couple, how scholarship would help their coupleship) for the scholarship JOT form, and send to Ruth.
- Joh (Deborah): Take the request for Growing the Fellowship committee involvement in outreach and brainstorming to their next committee meeting.
- Liz and Debbie: Finalize the workshop schedule and list of presenters, and share with Ruth for posting on the website.
- Attendees: Send suggestions for speaker couples (especially experienced/older couples, including remote options) to Debbie or via the program email.