



# Santa Clara County Monthly Intergroup Newsletter

Volume I - Issue Six

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

June 2006

**Concept 6** – *On Behalf of AA as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.*

We have seen that the “final responsibility and ultimate authority” for AA’s service activities rest with the AA groups (Concept 1), but to carry out this responsibility they must delegate to the Conference (Concept 2). The Conference, in turn, must delegate administrative authority to the General Service Board of Trustees.

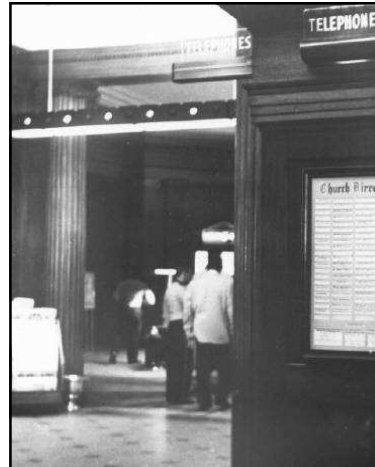
The Trustees have the legal and practical responsibility for the operation of AA World Services, Inc. (AA publishing, the General Service Office and Grapevine). These entities have a significant annual combined cash flow. The Trustees are also responsible for AA’s public information activities. They are the guardians of AA’s Twelve Traditions. They are responsible for carrying the AA message to other countries around the world (*the Big Book is now published in 67 languages*).

Bill Wilson made the point that although “our objective is always a spiritual one, nevertheless our World Service is a large business operation.” “Indeed”, he says, “our whole service structure resembles that of a large corporation.”

- The AA groups are the stockholders;
- the delegates represent them, like proxy-holders, at the annual meeting;
- the General Service Board Trustees are actually the directors of a “holding company;”
- And this holding company (the General Service Board) actually owns and controls the two ‘subsidiaries’ (AA World Services and the AA Grapevine) which carry on the services.

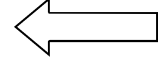
“This very real analogy makes it ... clear that, like any other board of directors, our trustees must be given large powers if they are to manage the ... affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

The NCCAA Summer Conference is in Sacramento on July 7-9. Saturday morning, July 8, you will have the rare opportunity to hear Jim Estelle, Class A (nonalcoholic) Trustee-emeritus (nine years as Trustee and six years as Chairman of the General Service Board of Trustees) share his many years of experience with AA.



**Happy  
Birthday, AA!  
June 10, 1935**

Lobby of the Mayflower  
Hotel, Akron



## A talk with Bud T....

I asked Bud if it is important to remember June 10th. Bud looked at me and said, “Why of course it is. It is by remembering our past that we understand how we got here.”

“You remember the story, right Scott?” “We read it together in Dr. Bob and the good old timers. Bill was at the Mayflower Hotel wanting a drink but chose to make a phone call instead. He spoke with Walter Tunks and ended up speaking with Henrietta Sieberling who persuaded Dr. Bob and Anne to come and meet with Bill. A bond was formed between two alcoholics and finally on June 10th, 1935, Dr. Bob took what would be his last drink and started making amends. Dr. Bob and Bill began to look for another drunk to help and the work was underway.

Many great teachers throughout history all the way through the Washingtonians and the Oxford Group have had words of value for alcoholics. But on June 10th, 1935, Dr. Bob and Bill Wilson began to do the work of what is now known as Alcoholics Anonymous.

On May 16th, 2006 two alcoholics sat on a couch in Santa Clara and talked of the magic and the mystery they have witnessed together in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous. Bud T said, “To those who know, no explanation is necessary. To those who do not, no explanation is possible.” The two men sat and remembered the past and realized how their lives had been transformed into something better. They felt connected to the past, to each other, and to the millions of members of Alcoholics Anonymous throughout the world today.

It is important to remember June 10th, 1935.

## Ask Auntie Alkie

Dear Auntie Alkie:

Do I REALLY have to do 90 and 90 to stay sober?

Bewildered in Berryessa

Dear Bewildered:

You don't REALLY have to do anything except don't drink one day at a time and do your best with the steps! People suggest 90 meetings in 90 days because there is a belief that it takes about 90 days to accept new ideas. People suggested to me that I try the program for 90 days and if I didn't want it after that my misery would be gladly refunded! They also said I would have saved enough money for a really good binge! I went to way more than 90 meetings in 90 days after I found out that I could go to as many as I could fit into a day and I didn't need permission!

Dear Auntie Alkie:

I got sober in another location and we were taught that non-AA events were not to be announced as part of an AA meeting. At many of the meetings I go to they announce retreats, BBQ's, fund raisers, etc. When I mentioned it was contrary to my understanding of the Traditions people got mad at me. I even brought this up at a steering committee meeting and they said they were going to keep doing it the way they were doing it. What do you think about this? As a matter of fact you had a retreat announcement in last month's newsletter.

Traditionalist in South County

Dear Traditionalist:

You are absolutely correct about non-AA announcements and I apologize that we put a retreat in the upcoming events! Thanks to your input it won't happen again!

This issue has come up fairly often over the years and some groups ask for non AA announcements before the meeting begins, others have a bulletin board for this type of announcement. Sometimes a group will invite people to continue the meeting at lunch or coffee after the meeting in a restaurant in the area. So far as dances, picnics, etc. go if there is a meeting as the core event, the meeting can be announced and a comment made about a dance following or a picnic, etc. If it is a conference or convention, Round-up, etc. It is an event that includes meetings, workshops on steps, traditions, etc, therefore it is appropriate to briefly announce it and leave information on the literature table.

We need to be vigilant about our Traditions. If someone doesn't work the steps they will probably get drunk. If we ignore our traditions, soon AA will be gone like so many other good things we have gotten careless with. (See page 5 for Tradition 6)

Dear Auntie Alkie:

People keep telling me to stay in the "now" but we have to plan ahead if we live in the real world!

Practical Person



Dear Practical:

This seems like a true paradox! Actually we do need to plan ahead but we need to leave the results in God's hands and be flexible with outcomes. If you plan to fly to New York on Tuesday at 7:00 AM and the flight is changed to 8:00 AM, no problem! You have time to meditate or have a glass of orange juice! When things don't go as you planned look for something good to appear!

Dear Auntie Alkie:

Where do you get your information when you answer our letters?

Chris in Cupertino

Dear Chris,

Same place most people do: I ask other people, I look things up in AA books and literature and I rely on my experience over the years. I welcome different opinions and appreciate hearing about it if someone has an alternate response. So if you read something you disagree with, let me know. One of best living tools we can develop is the ability to disagree without being disagreeable.

Dear Auntie Alkie,

I keep hearing at meetings that Central Office needs 12 step-pers. What are they and what do you have to do to be one?

Worried I'm missing something.

Dear Worried,

Try not to worry but you are missing something! You're missing the opportunity to carry a message of hope to people who call Central Office for help and the wonderful gifts that come with it! When all else fails, working with others saves the day!

There is a list that the phone volunteers access to see who is available to call someone back. If you would like to be a 12 stepper you need 6 months of sobriety and a phone! Call Central Office to enroll!

## Be Careful!!!

Some time ago a former SC County Superior Court Judge was placed in jail for violating the terms of his electronic monitoring sentence. He was banned from drinking alcohol, including NyQuill which contains 25 percent alcohol. Here is the alcohol content of other over the counter medication and some kinds of liquor. Be sure you check labels!

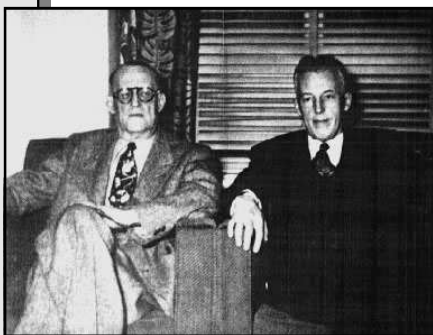
Dimetapp	2.30 %
Robitussin	3.50 %
Beer	3.80 %
Formula 44	10 %
Dristan Cough	12 %
White wines	approx. 12 %
Red wines	approx 14 %
Formula 44 D	20 %
Hall's	22 %
NyQuill	25 %
Dessert liquors	40 - 50 %
100 proof alcohol	50 %



Source: San Diego State University DUI program

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Dr. Bob & Bill

## What Did I Do Today?

I've been around for quite awhile,  
 Helping to spread AA  
 I've worked like hell since I first came in,  
 But, what am I doing today?

What about that pitch? It was kinda' long.  
 But I really told them how  
 I worked the program when I first came in,  
 But how am I working it now?

Will I still get up from a soft warm bed  
 When someone is in trouble?  
 Will I grab my coat and Big Book  
 And get there on the double?

Have I forgotten the early times  
 When AA was still new to me  
 Or have I been around so doggone long  
 That AA is old hat to me?

Have I become one of those "Senior Saints"  
 Sober and satisfied?  
 Have I forgotten when I was sick  
 And when I damn near died?

Do I want to look at this now  
 Or forget it and hide it away?  
 Just for the heck of it, let me see,  
 What DID I do today?

Have I slipped into complacency,  
 Do I leave Service for others to do?  
 Is this the spirit of AA?  
 What about helping the one that is new?

My favorite show is on tonight,  
 Or maybe I'll go to the game.  
 Where would I be if when I was new  
 The oldtimers had done the same?

I know that I have a perfect right  
 To work my own AA  
 But 'll call my sponsor, and I know she'll ask  
 What did you do today?

Thanks, Penny P.

## Step 6: WERE ENTIRELY READY TO HAVE GOD REMOVE ALL THESE DEFECTS OF CHARACTER

### Step Six

My first experience with step 6 was when I was six months sober. I went home after my 5<sup>th</sup> step and meditated. I was perfectly willing to have God remove my defects of character, the problem was I had limited information. What I know today is my part is owing to my God what, where, when, I am in my defects, whether in thought, word or actions.

In the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* it states this is the step that separates the women from the girls. This means a level of spiritual maturity has been reached, if I am willing to use this step beyond my drinking. ("Entirely ready underlines the fact that we want to aim at the very best we know or can learn.") I love the sentence in the 12 and 12 that lets us know the "difference between striving for a self-determined objective and for the perfect objective which is of God" equals the difference between the women and the girls. This is a life long process.  
Fran H.

### Step Six

How many times at meeting level have I heard phrases to the effect of, "well, the Big Book doesn't say much about the sixth step, so it is probably not as critical as the others." To be sure, if we have taken the first five steps with another person, a lot of the groundwork for step six has already been laid. However, by the same token, step six is just as foundational to the remainder as its predecessors have been; investment here pays handsome dividends. For example, step six says, "We were entirely ready to have God remove all *these* [emphasis mine] defects of character." The word "these" obviously refers to the defects uncovered by the foundational work done in steps four and five.

Being afflicted with procrastination, the words like "entirely" and "all" are somewhat troublesome, but foundation for these has been laid in the previous steps as well. Take the Third Step Prayer we said, from Page 63 of the Big Book, for instance, "take away my difficulties in that victory over them may bear witness. . ." Even though the words "entirely" and "all" are not explicitly present in this prayer, we are addressing the prayer to God, to whom the concept of "half measures availed us nothing" is already clearly understood. Therefore, by saying that prayer, we have implicitly asked him to "*entirely* take away *all* my difficulties so that. . ." Fortunately for me, he seems to have done some of them more quickly than others and some of them in stages. I believe if he had taken all of them completely away, immediately upon my request, there would not have been much of me left to keep standing. It was this vital piece of information, along with an incident I shall describe shortly, that unlocked for me the mystery of step six. I had heard that the steps are "numbered so that guys like me could figure out which one to do next," but I

had not understood that they are linked. They are linked, not only to each other, but also to the awesome power of the principles underneath them; the principles of, 'Trust God,' 'Clean House,' and 'Help Others.'

The incident which opened my eyes happened at a Friday noon step study meeting in 1988. I had been sober for one year at that time, and my sponsor was chairing the meeting. He was getting ready to move halfway around the world because of his job. I was devastated. This man had taken me diligently, candidly, and transparently through all of the steps. As we entered the meeting, I opined that I did not see how it was going to be possible for me to replace him. He quipped, "For you it will be easy. Just stand out in the middle of El Camino Real, and flag down traffic. The first person who stops will stand a 50% better chance of running your life than you have so far." That kind of blunt honesty was his forte, and, because of it, I was perhaps a bit more attentive when he started talking on the sixth step. Keep in mind that he and I had been over this material several times previously. However, when he started reading from the, "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," I experienced a sensation somewhat akin to been bonked in the forehead with a basketball.

Here it is 18 years later, and, writing about it, it comes back with the clarity of yesterday. He read, "This is the step that separates the men from the boys." I was several months away from my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday and the crystal clarity of that phrase penetrated the veils of self-centered self-evaluation under which I had been giving me, instead of God, most of the credit for the results of the steps I had taken to date. As the remainder of the group continued to read and ponder out loud various passages in this chapter, I heard phrases such as, "Having been granted a perfect release from alcoholism, why then shouldn't we be able to achieve by the same means a perfect release from every other difficulty or defect? This is a riddle of our existence, the full answer to which may be only in the mind of God. Nevertheless, at least a part of the answer to it is apparent to us." (P. 64) I also witnessed the hope in people who talked about "lack of perfection" and "measuring sticks by which we estimate our progress" and "the urgent thing is that we make the beginning, and keep trying." (P. 68)

While that meeting--dedicated to the study of the sixth step--was not exactly a "burning bush phenomenon," it was certainly a foundational plank in a continuous, progressive recovery which has seen me restored to right relationship with God, my family, and my community.  
Kevin C



## Tradition Six

"An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose. "The sixth of our Twelve Points of AA Tradition is deemed so important that it states at length the relation of the AA movement to money and property. This Tradition declares in substance that the accumulation of money, property, and the unwanted personal authority so often generated by material wealth comprise a cluster of serious hazards against which an AA group must ever be on guard.

Tradition Six also enjoins the group never to go into business nor ever to lend the AA name or money credit to any "outside" enterprise, no matter how good. Strongly expressed is the opinion that even clubs should not bear the AA name; that they ought to be separately incorporated and managed by those individual AAs who need or want clubs enough to financially support them.

We would thus divide the spiritual from the material, confine the AA movement to its sole aim, and ensure (however wealthy as individuals we may become) that AA itself shall always remain poor. We dare not risk the distractions of corporate wealth. They have become certainties, absolute verities for us.

Thank God, we AAs have never yet been caught in the kind of religious or political disputes which embroil the world of today. But we ought to face the fact that we have often quarreled violently about money, property, and the administration thereof. Money, in quantity, has always been a baleful influence in group life. Let a well-meaning donor present an AA group with a sizable sum and we break loose. Nor does trouble abate until that group, as such, somehow disposes of its bankroll. This experience is practically universal. "But," say our friends, "isn't this a confession of weakness? Other organizations do a lot of good with money. Why not AA?"

Of course, we of AA would be the first to say that many a fine enterprise does a lot of good with a lot of money. To these efforts money is usually primary; it is their lifeblood. But money is not the lifeblood of AA. With us, it is very secondary. Even in small quantities, it is scarcely more than a necessary nuisance, something we wish we could do without entirely. Why is that so?

We explain that easily enough; we don't need money. The core of AA procedure is one alcoholic talking to another, whether that be sitting on a curbstone, in a home, or at a meeting. It's the message, not the place; it's the talk, not the alms. That does our work. Just places to meet and talk, that's about all AA needs. Beyond these, a few small offices, a few secretaries at their desks, a few dollars apiece a year, easily met by voluntary

contributions. Trivial indeed, our expenses!

Nowadays, the AA group answers its well-wishers saying: "Our expenses are trifling. As good earners, we can easily pay them. As we neither need nor want money, why risk its hazards? We'd rather stay poor. Thanks just the same!

*reprinted with permission of The AA Grapevine, Inc.*

### My self-inventory regarding Tradition 6

1. *Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital? (Or raise funds for any alcohol-related venture)*
2. *Is it good for a group to lease a small building?*
3. *Are all the officers and members of our local Alano club familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs," which is available free from GSO?*
4. *Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?*
5. *Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?*

## Ask Bill: Have the Traditions been widely embraced?



When they were first written in early 1946 as tentative guides to help us hang together and function, nobody paid any attention except a few "againers" who wrote me and asked what the hell they were about.

Nobody paid the slightest attention but little by little as these Traditions got around we had our clubhouse squabbles, our little rifts, this difficulty and that and it was found that the Traditions indeed did reflect experience and were guiding principles. So they took hold a little more and a little more so that today the average AA coming in the door learns at once what they're about, about what kind of an outfit he has really landed in and by what principles his group and AA as a whole are governed.

*Excerpt from a conversation with Bill Wilson in Fort Worth, TX, 1954*

*(Continued from page 2)*

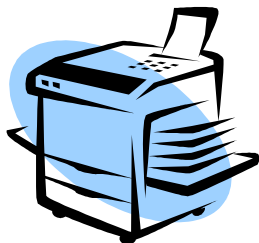
Dear Auntie Alkie:

I sometimes make contributions to United Way and other similar organizations but I would prefer to help AA. Is there any way I can make tax deductible contributions ? Grateful in San Jose

Dear Grateful,

Thank you for reminding us that contributing to AA is a great way to express our gratitude for the blessings so many of us have received in sobriety. Your Central Office here in Santa Clara County, as well as GSO in New York both require your continued support and your contributions are not only most welcome (especially since the purchase of a new copier at Central Office) but are also tax deductible. A reminder—contributions to Central Office, like GSO are limited to \$2,00 per year. You must also be a member of AA in order to contribute.

Speaking of a new copier...stop by and see our new acquisition and have a cup of coffee! We are now able to print the newsletter and meeting schedules so we can now print smaller quantities, save money and update the schedules in a more timely fashion. Your trusted servants are always looking for ways to better serve you!



### A Most Successful Paint Party

The office looks great—a first rate paint job. So many gave of their time, their effort, and their resources, beginning on Thursday when super volunteer Bruce came in to help ready the office for painting, and ending on Saturday, when painter Ken G. and his guys, Dave and Steve, helped clean up and put the final touches on everything.

In between we had many painters, visitors and hobnobbers lending their labor and advice. Thanks to all.



A special thanks to Bob and Wilda C. for their generous donation of the paint and to Ken G. who provided his invaluable expertise, tools, and effort.

### PROBLEMS OTHER THAN ALCOHOL

At my home group meeting, our GSR announced that an important issue would be discussed at the next business meeting—medications. It appears that some AA members were telling those on prescribed medications they were not clean and sober. In some instances the individuals stopped their medications, resulting in some doctors telling their patients to stop attending AA meetings.

I told our GSR that I take prescribed medications, and the combination of meds and AA has enabled me to stay out of psych hospitals for quite some time. Without my meds, I would not have been able to use the AA tools, attend meetings, get a sponsor, and work the 12 steps, resulting in becoming an all-around healthier person.

There was quite a discussion at the business meeting, with a number of AA members sharing that they take prescription meds. I personally do not feel guilty for taking meds, because I know I would not be alive today if it was not for the combination of meds and AA. I believe that as AA members, it is important for us to support our brothers and sisters who suffer from grave mental and emotional disorders, because we deserve the same chance for recovery and happiness that our healthier brothers and sisters have. Our hand has to be out there when someone reaches out, as it was for us. We cannot be judgmental about who is clean and sober. If someone is abusing their meds, they know it and it will catch up with them. When a newcomer taking prescription meds is going to meetings and working the steps with a sponsor, we have no right to exclude them; we are not doctors.

If my sponsor had cut me loose because I took meds, I probably would not have stayed in the program, and eventually I would have died out there. She recently moved away, but left me with many wonderful gifts. One of the best gifts we can give a newcomer, especially one who suffers from grave mental and emotional disorders, is acceptance—which is the key to everything.

Sue M—San Jose

**There is a motion before our General Service Area, CNCA, to ask GSO to publish a pamphlet for those with grave mental and emotional disorders. You will hear more about this subject from your GSR in the coming months. We will also provide updates about this subject in future editions of the Central Office Newsletter.**

For reference information, read the pamphlets, *Problems Other than Alcohol* and *“The AA member—Medication & Other Drugs* which are on the literature rack at your meeting, or can be purchased at Central Office.

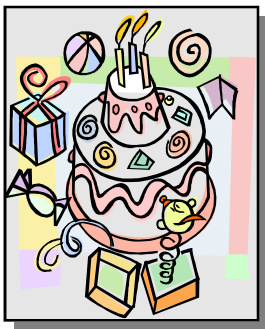


# May Birthdays Contributions

Name	Years	Gift From	Birthday
Chuck G.	24	Pat C.	04/17/1982
Matthew G.	3		04/27/2003
Anonymous	14		04/30/1992
Walt P.		In Memoriam, "His Poker Pals"	05/08/1986
Walt N.	10		05/15/1996
Gene B.	39		05/18/1967
Marion F.	21		05/18/1985
Bill T.	14		05/19/1992
John F.	20	Pat G.	05/24/1986
John F.	15	Ward A.	05/24/1991
Megan B.	4	Anonymous	05/21/2002
Mike M	14	Pat G	May 25, 1992
Bud T	49	Pat G., Pat C. & Gene M.	May 27, 1957
Peggy Z	32	Aileen, Anonymous, Pat G., Pat C. & Gene M.	May 29, 1974

## IN MEMORIAM

- Bert W., beloved member of the Winchester and Bowers fellowships, passed away on May 16, 2006 after a long bout with cancer.
- George S., a long term member of the Sunnyvale lunch meetings passed away on March 13. George was a devoted member of the fellowship and loved carrying the message.
- Virginia P. "Cookie" passed away on 5/12/06  
With 11,826 days of sobriety (32.4 yrs)
- Cathy O. passed away on May 17, 2006



The Birthday Plan has been a part of the AA tradition since the 1955 Conference. Individual contributions help ensure that the AA message is carried from one member to another. Members may express gratitude for sobriety through contributions to their Central Office. Some members send a dollar for each year of their sobriety. Others use a figure of \$3.65, a penny a day, for each year. Some give more, but not to exceed \$2,000 per year. We appreciate your dedication to carrying the message.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For a total of

**262 YEARS OF SOBRIETY**

and for a total contribution of \$230.00

If you would like to participate or honor a friend, please use the birthday forms at your Meeting or Central Office.

**INQUIRING REPORTER WANTS TO KNOW...**

**What brought you to the General Service Post Conference Assembly?**



Service is 50% of my program. Dr. Bob said this program is summed up in two words: "love and service". Service outside the group level such as General Service perks me up spiritually and socially, and helps me to be "a part of" AA.  
 Marcene V

To always be in the middle of AA and to give back because I have received so much.  
 Susan F

I am in service first and foremost to stay sober! I was told that my chances of staying sober permanently increased if I got into service. I didn't want to get involved in General Service because of bad information. I wanted to see for myself what a GSR did. It has been a wonderful experience and I sing the positive praises to others that may have a negative view of General Service.  
 Lee C

I am in service as a result of wanting to become more involved and to make a commitment to myself to get into service. It is keeping me closer to AA rather than just going to meetings.  
 Pixie P

To give back what I've been freely give.  
 Sandra S

To keep sober, to offer myself to others and to AA. AA has changed my life. I want to make a difference.  
 Katie H

Keeps me part of my own sobriety, giving back insures my connection to AA.  
 Brent S

Because I want AA to always be there for the incoming suffering alcoholic.  
 Michelle M

I've been sober a while and have always done service at my home group. I felt it was time to do something a bit bigger and still keep my home group services.  
 Patty P

I first got into service because y'all needed the help. Then I started learning AA needs help a lot less than I need to be helped. I now know that my best service position is what you need done, not what I think I can do best. I have established priceless relationships and learned so many things that have helped, both within AA and out.  
 Brian K



**Telephone Calls Received During February**

Daytime at Central Office	530
Daytime 12 Step Calls	12
Evening and Weekend calls	477

Evening 12 Step Call information is not available.

**WHEN ANY ALCOHOLIC, ANYWHERE, REACHES OUT FOR HELP, I WANT THE HAND OF A.A. TO BE THERE. AND FOR THAT: I AM RESPONSIBLE.**

Groups contributing to your Central Office make it possible to provide telephone service and coverage so that someone is always available to the caller in need. We also have a listing in the white and yellow pages of the phone books for all the cities in Santa Clara County.

**WE THANK YOU!**

**MEETING CHANGES**

**Deleted—**

- Road To Recovery, Alano East, 1122 Fair Ave. Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, 8:00 AM
- Fair Avenue Fellowship — all 3:00PM meetings
- Solutions For Today, Robin's Nest Wed. 6PM
- Vietnamese, Asian American Center Fri 5PM
- New Life, Korean Help Assoc. Sat 7 AM
- Lakewood Group, Sunnyvale Fri. 8:15 PM
- This Group has merged with "You Have A Choice Group" also meeting in Sunnyvale, Friday 8:15 PM, Fremont & Hollenbeck
- Survivors, Los Gatos Masonic Hall, Sunday 1PM

**Moved—**

- Palo Alto Men's Meeting Tuesday 8:00 PM
  - New Address: Grace Lutheran Church 3149 Waverly, near Loma Linda
- As We See The Solution, Thurs. 12:00 noon
  - New Address: Masonic Hall, 131 Main St. -Los Gatos
- Eastside Step Study, moved, Alum Rock Methodist Church, 30 Kirk Ave. Sun8:30 AM

**Changed:**

- Sandia Big Book Study, Wed. Sunnyvale, Time changed to 7:00 PM

**New:**

- Spanish Speaking AA, Mid Peninsula Alano Club, Wednesday, 7:00 PM
- Sweet Sobriety, Alano East, 1122 Fair Avenue, Sunday 2:00 PM
- Big Book Discussion (closed), Alano East, 1122 Fair Ave., Saturday, 5:00PM



# Secretaries Please Read To Your Group!

Can you spare a few hours each month to take calls from people who really need our help? You would be a great fit for one of the **diverter** shifts. **Call Joyce H. at 699-4489** or Central Office to volunteer.

From Intergroup Central Office

*Secretaries, please be sure you have given your address to Central Office so you will receive updates, notices, and the newsletter. Please make a note in your meeting book so the next secretary will follow up.*

The **Secretary's Workshop** is held the first Saturday of each month at Central Office—10:00 a.m. New or experienced, young or old, this is an excellent way to hone your skills and stay in touch with Central Office. Call for more information—374-8511.

**This is the only  
way we can  
communicate  
with AA members  
in Santa Clara  
County!**



Central Office is in need of **12 Step** volunteers. 6 months sobriety required.

Want to find anonymous fame? Join the newsletter staff!

Email [office@aaanjose.org](mailto:office@aaanjose.org) if you are interested! Express your creativity!

# June 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Secretary workshop; Paint party at Central Office
4	5	6	7 Intergroup Meeting Outreach Comm. PI/CPC Comm.	8	9	10 PI Workshop
11	12	13	14 North County General Service Meeting	15	16	17 Newsletter Committee
18	19	20 South County General Service Meeting	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 H & I Committee	28	29	30	

## SCCYPPA

presents their Independence Day Picnic

### “TRUE INDEPENDENCE OF THE SPIRIT”

Sunday, July 2, 2006, Noon—2PM (picnic and BBQ)

2:00—3:00PM Speaker Meeting (speaker TBA)

Willow Street Frank Bramhall Park (corner of Camino Ramone and Willow Street)

Hamburgers, hot dogs, and vegetarian options provided by SCCYPAA

PLEASE bring your favorite side dish

Call Michelle C., SCCYPAA Events Chair, for more info: 408-416-7861

The Santa Clara County Monthly Intergroup Newsletter is published by the Santa Clara County Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. Opinions expressed are the writers', not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. Publication of any article does not imply endorsement by Alcoholics Anonymous of Santa Clara County Central Office, except when Conference-approved publications are quoted. Quotations from AA books and pamphlets and the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions are reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc.; quotations and cartoons from *The Grapevine* are reprinted with the permission of AA Grapevine, Inc.

Contributions from AA members are welcome and will be printed as space allows. Submissions can be sent via email or should be typed or neatly handwritten. The editors reserve the right to edit content for length, clarity, and relation to AA Traditions. All material, including announcements, should be submitted by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.

# SANTA CLARA COUNTY INTERGROUP COUNCIL

## MINUTES MONTHLY MEETING

June 7, 2006

- Xavier, Intergroup Chairperson, opened the meeting at 8:02 pm, followed by A Moment of Silence, and the Serenity Prayer.
- Gene read the short Definition of Intergroup.
- There were 37 people attending.
- Ron read the Twelve Traditions.
- There were no corrections/additions to the agenda.
- There was one correction to the previous month's minutes: The Outreach Committee has accounted for 53, not 73 as reported in last month's minutes, of the 93 meetings with whom Intergroup has lost touch.
- Intergroup Council Treasurer's Report: Chuck G.

Beginning Balance:	05/03/06	\$92.51	Prudent Reserve: \$90.00
Contributions:	05/03/06	\$60.00	
Refreshments:	05/03/06	\$26.68	
Contributions to Central Office:		\$44.00	
Balance:	06/07/06	\$81.83	Prudent Reserve: \$90.00
- Announcements: Freedom Fellowship in Mountain View is hosting a Founders Day BBQ on Saturday, June 10 at Sylvan Avenue Park in Mountain View, from 11am to 4pm.
- Birthdays: Ron, 2yrs; David, 17 yrs; Peggy, 35 yrs; Jim 20yrs; Karen, 17yrs; Glenda, 8 yrs; Sally, 12yrs; April, 6yrs.

### Reports:

1. Intergroup Chair – Xavier
  - a. Attended the Unity Day Committee meeting; report later in these minutes.
2. Central Service Board – Mary Pat
  - a. Central Service Board met on May 25. Income was the focus of concern. Prudent reserve is down because of new copier. Focusing on income vs. expenses. Central Office is a business. The Board is concentrating on income strategy ideas, such as Birthday Contributions, newsletter subscriptions, the Outreach Committee's success in attracting more involvement with Intergroup by more Santa Clara County groups.
3. Central Office – Bruce
  - a. The Painting Party last weekend was a resounding success.
  - b. The new copier is performing very well. It had its first paper jam at 36,000 copies!
  - c. Printing the new meeting guides on the new copier is cost, storage and time efficient.
  - d. The Outreach Committee is a standing committee. Its purpose is to foster communication with the groups. Asking reps to consider joining the committee or asking members of their groups to join as a service commitment.
  - e. Reported on a newcomer stopping by Central Office after hours when he and Pat G. happened to be there.
4. PI/CPC – Francisco
  - a. Two positions are available: Vice Chairs for both Public Information, and Cooperation with the Professional Community.
  - b. Presentations made last month to Monroe Middle School, Calaveras High School, and DeAnza College. They will have an info table at the Cupertino Health Fair on June 10.
  - c. This committee is becoming connected with SCCYPAA, which is very good as young presenters will be more effective at high schools.
  - d. Peter presented a budget proposal to provide funds for books and literature to be placed in all public high and "continuation" schools in Santa Clara County. There were many questions about the budget, the process of how to deliver the books and literature, and who would be responsible for what in the process, including monthly maintenance of the inventory. Gene

proposed that the proposal be tabled until a clear, detailed plan is presented in writing at a future IG meeting. Peter seconded the motion, and the proposal was tabled.

5. Twelfth Step Committee – no rep.
  - a. Daytime – Friday late afternoon shift is open.
  - b. Nights and Weekends – Shifts are available.
6. Outreach Committee – Paul C
  - a. Sixty-one of the 93 meetings have now been contacted.
  - b. Looking to add more groups to attend IG meetings. If all groups in the county participated, all of Central Office's money problems would be solved.
  - c. New members, especially women, are needed on this committee. If interested, call Paul at 408-358-2464.
  - d. This committee will participate with Central Office at Unity Day.
7. Newsletter – Pat G.
  - a. Good feedback on the newsletter. Upcoming articles include one on the Outreach Committee by Paul C. and one by Pat G. in July about how there are no politics in Intergroup. The focus of the newsletter in June is AA birthday (Founding); in July it will be Freedom; and in August it will be Unity.
  - b. People are subscribing to the newsletter! \$5/year!
  - c. A vote will be taken on the new name for the newsletter at Unity Day.
8. Other Service Committee Reports
  - Unity Day – Xavier.
    - Unity Day is requesting \$650 from IG.
    - Serious concern about Alanon participating as a sponsor of Unity Day was expressed. Nobody seems to know how this came about, but it appears there was some sort of communication problem in the planning of sponsorship.
    - Xavier proposed having quarterly meetings of all committee chairs with Unity Day chair for information and communication purposes only.
  - Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous – Brian K.
    - Conference will be July 7-9.
  - Hospitals and Institutions – No report.
  - Bridging the Gap – No report.
  - North County General Service – Brian K.
    - Francisco, the Delegate who gave a report at the Post-Conference Assembly last month, will give the same report at Unity Day.
  - South County General Service – Bill M.
    - Karen McG. Has resigned as rep to move to east coast. A 3<sup>rd</sup> legacy election is scheduled in two weeks to elect one of two candidates
    - Three people from Japan are coming to a district meeting, one of whom is a past trustee
  - SCCYPAA – Michelle
    - There are three positions for reps for Intergroup, North County General Service and South County General Service.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

NEW BUSINESS - NONE

OPEN FORUM – NONE

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison

**INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**May 2006**

	<u>May 06</u>	<u>May 05</u>	<u>Jan - May 06</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
3030 · Contributions-General	8,156.93	7,525.93	51,927.75
8010 · Literature Sales	5,811.96	6,629.48	30,128.70
8060 · Newsletter Subscriptions	15.00	0.00	490.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>13,983.89</u>	<u>14,155.41</u>	<u>82,546.45</u>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>			
5000 · Cost of Goods Sold			
5100 · Cost of Inventory Sold (Excl. Mtg. Dir. after 6/1/06)	4,023.81	4,844.40	20,331.07
<b>Total 5000 · Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<u>4,023.81</u>	<u>4,844.40</u>	<u>20,331.07</u>
9040 · Literature Inv Adjustment	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total COGS</b>	<u>4,023.81</u>	<u>4,844.40</u>	<u>20,331.07</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	9,960.08	9,311.01	62,215.38
<b>Expense</b>			
6010 · Alarm Service	0.00	0.00	354.00
6030 · Accounting and Legal Fee	120.56	1,591.44	4,364.02
6120 · Computer Expenses	0.00	0.00	748.00
6140 · Conferences - Office Manager	0.00	0.00	1,352.65
6150 · Unity Day Expense	-60.00	-110.00	-60.00
6160 · Copier Expense	66.98	0.00	133.47
6190 · Depreciation Expense	0.00	0.00	243.25
6230 · Insurance - General Liability	0.00	0.00	1,672.75
6240 · Employee HRA Plan	549.70	0.00	2,948.37
6245 · Internet Access Charges	19.95	19.95	99.75
6330 · Office Expense	71.17	161.30	2,027.86
6350 · Office Furnishings - Expense	0.00	0.00	62.87
6370 · Office Paper Supply	138.11	0.00	317.96
6380 · Payroll Taxes	349.01	462.76	2,769.91
6410 · Postage	401.40	9.30	1,133.51
6480 · Rent	2,217.25	2,153.90	11,022.90
6540 · Salaries - Office	6,135.93	5,121.40	30,375.79
6600 · Signing Services	200.00	160.00	1,050.00
7010 · Taxes and Licenses	0.00	0.00	60.00
7050 · Telephone	21.75	338.56	490.05
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>10,231.81</u>	<u>9,908.61</u>	<u>61,167.11</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-271.73	-597.60	1,048.27
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Income</b>			
8030 · Interest Income	193.78	119.89	988.03
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>193.78</u>	<u>119.89</u>	<u>988.03</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>193.78</u>	<u>119.89</u>	<u>988.03</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-77.95</u></u>	<u><u>-477.71</u></u>	<u><u>2,036.30</u></u>

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2006

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1010 · Petty Cash	225.00
1035 · Bank of America (Bank account)	25,752.11
1036 · Bank of America CD 5247 (18 mo CD @ 2.47%, 3/17/06)	12,247.13 *
1039 · Bank of America CD 5717 (12 mo. CD @ 3.73%, 1/23/07)	14,579.10 *
1040 · Bank of America CD 5718 (12 mo. CD @ 3.73%, 1/23/07)	14,593.76 *
1041 · Bank of America CD 5931 (18 mo. CD @ 3.39%, 2/28/07)	14,364.83 *
1042 · Capital Preservation Fund (Treasury fund @ 3.63%)	3,158.96 *

Total Checking/Savings 84,920.89

Accounts Receivable

1110 · Accounts Rec - Group Deposits	24.19
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Total Accounts Receivable 24.19

Other Current Assets

1250 · Literature Inventory	16,414.34
1310 · Prepaid Insurance	125.00

Total Other Current Assets 16,539.34

Total Current Assets 101,484.42

Fixed Assets

1630 · Office Equipment	16,962.19
1640 · Office Furnishings - Asset	2,197.84
1641 · Less Accumulated Depreciation	-13,855.00
1680 · Leasehold Improvements	300.00
1681 · Less Accumulated Amortization	-124.25

Total Fixed Assets 5,480.78

Other Assets

1860 · Deposits	1,993.85
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Total Other Assets 1,993.85

TOTAL ASSETS 108,959.05

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

2240 · Sales Tax Payable (Sales Tax Payable)	721.11
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Total Other Current Liabilities 721.11

Total Current Liabilities 721.11

Total Liabilities 721.11

Equity

2740 · Unrestricted Funds	95,777.91
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	30.00
3900 · Retained Earnings	10,393.73
Net Income	2,036.30

Total Equity 108,237.94

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 108,959.05

\* Our Prudent Reserve Accounts total: **\$58,943.78**

This represents 5.35 months of operating expenses. The Board established goal is 9 months operating expenses.



10:08 AM  
06/07/06  
Accrual Basis

**INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.**

**Group Contributions**

May 2006

	<b>May 06</b>	<b>Jan-May 06</b>		<b>May 06</b>	<b>Jan-May 06</b>
1 INV Freedom Fellowship 70940	70.00	433.40	Sat. High Hope 239	0.00	410.20
1 INV R and B Group 70972	311.58	1,361.58	Sat. Living in the Solution (Women) 33	60.00	60.00
1 INV Saturday Nite Live Group 70905	0.00	1,006.78	Sat. Men's Honesty Group 26	0.00	392.00
ACYPA	628.75	628.75	Sat. Morning Fellowship 381	0.00	60.00
Birthday Contribution 00951	303.00	2,123.50	Sat. Morning Los Gatos 777	0.00	630.00
Copier Contributions	500.00	900.00	Sat. Mountain View Group 350	0.00	194.87
Fri. 12 Steps at Noon 303	60.00	170.00	Sat. Saturday 6PM Meeting 413	0.00	136.50
Fri. Big Book Speakers Group 289	0.00	34.04	Sat. Think Tank (Men) 361	0.00	1,400.00
Fri. Easier Way Group 290	0.00	519.80	Sat. Trinity Group 370	0.00	43.66
Fri. East Valley Group 322	-20.25	250.00	Sat. Women's Brunch 640	0.00	351.57
Fri. Fireside Group 297	0.00	41.00	Sun. Almaden Valley Discussion 30	0.00	150.00
Fri. Gut Level Group 288	0.00	70.00	Sun. Eastside Step Study 45	0.00	63.00
Fri. In the Chapel 13	0.00	25.00	Sun. Get Well Group 17	0.00	175.00
Fri. Lakewood Group 332	0.00	97.30	Sun. Humbly Asked 8.00A 87	210.00	210.00
Fri. Lesbians Living the Promises 349	85.05	194.21	Sun. Invaders Group 44	0.00	100.00
Fri. Living Solutions 728	0.00	101.63	Sun. Living Sober 21	241.81	311.81
Fri. No Bull Big Book 655	0.00	140.00	Sun. Men's Underground Book Study 401	0.00	115.00
Fri. Saratoga Group 328	152.00	341.00	Sun. New Steps for Living 20	0.00	310.84
Fri. Saratoga Serenity Group 329	0.00	315.00	Sun. Pass It On Group Los Altos 418	0.00	257.95
Fri. Starting the Steps 753	0.00	100.00	Sun. Plaza Del Rey Group 52	0.00	70.00
Fri. Women Preparing for the Weekend 691	0.00	143.50	Sun. Progress Not Perfection 229	0.00	245.00
G Agnews Noon Meetings 70921	0.00	1,405.95	Sun. Sizzler Group 27	0.00	280.00
G Cornerstone Service Group 70908	0.00	1,206.40	Sun. Speaker Meeting 18	0.00	130.00
G Forged From Adversity Group 70957	301.00	1,109.60	Sun. Spiritual Step Study Group 233	0.00	850.00
G Fremont & Manet Group 70975	0.00	560.00	Sun. Step by Step Group 5	0.00	70.00
G Higher Power Hour 70952	0.00	490.00	Sun. Sunday Night Recovery 23	100.00	100.00
G Milpitas We Care Group 70934	664.11	664.11	Thurs. Basic Big Book 710	0.00	140.00
G Seeking Guidance Group 70976	0.00	1,015.00	Thurs. California Avenue Supper Group 715	0.00	315.00
G Serenity First Fellowship 70902	25.00	100.00	Thurs. Campus Group 234	0.00	344.00
G Sober & Free Conference 70928	0.00	397.20	Thurs. Eleventh Step Meditation Mtg 276	90.30	90.30
G South County Fellowship 70954	140.00	700.00	Thurs. Evergreen Group 884	0.00	70.00
G Sunrise Group of Palo Alto 70963	0.00	238.00	Thurs. Evergreen Women 36	0.00	110.00
G Sunrisers Group/Carrows 70932	520.95	2,206.31	Thurs. Fireside Men's Book Study	0.00	282.67
G Third Tradition Women's Grp(The 70979	757.00	1,585.00	Thurs. Free to Be Me (Women) 736	105.00	105.00
G Winchester Fellowship 70960	0.00	483.51	Thurs. Gay Men's Freedom 262	0.00	291.20
Intergroup Council 80909	44.00	44.00	Thurs. Just For Today 238	105.00	210.00
Memorial Contributions	201.00	361.00	Thurs. Los Altos Group 225	0.00	140.00
Mon. A.B.C. Women's Group 58	0.00	181.70	Thurs. Men's Single Problem Study 220	0.00	1,314.00
Mon. As Bill Sees It 6.00P 518	0.00	169.40	Thurs. Mountain Miracles 882	0.00	392.00
Mon. From Within 863	0.00	150.64	Thurs. Noon Discussion 272	0.00	331.55
Mon. Grateful Live Group 535	0.00	483.00	Thurs. Pathfinder 543	20.00	65.00
Mon. HOW Group 71	0.00	363.00	Thurs. Rincon Men's Fellowship 567	280.00	280.00
Mon. Los Altos Men's Group 59	0.00	172.00	Thurs. Sisters in Sobriety 548	0.00	115.00
Mon. Los Gatos Big Book 664	0.00	30.00	Thurs. Sober Times 227	0.00	151.20
Mon. Men's Group 97	98.00	308.00	Thurs. Spiritual Progress 269	0.00	350.00
Mon. Men's Single Problem Study 89	0.00	300.00	Thurs. St. Mark's Group 270	0.00	230.61
Mon. Midday Meeting 714	0.00	70.00	Thurs. Sunshine Group 243	0.00	74.00
Mon. Midday Women's Group 91	274.50	392.76	Thurs. There Is a Solution (Men) 732	0.00	482.20
Mon. Signs of Sobriety 402	0.00	25.00	Thurs. What's Happening Today 552	0.00	569.10
Mon. South Valley Women's Surrender 88	0.00	60.20	Thurs. Women Sharing the Solution 519	0.00	381.50
Mon. Villages Group of AA (The) 406	115.00	610.00	Tues. 12 Steps & HOW (Women) 25	0.00	224.00
Personal 00911	50.00	392.14	Tues. AA Love & Tolerance Big Book 416	0.00	100.00
Sat. Cambrian Saturday Night 376	273.00	875.00	Tues. Back to Basics Saratoga Noon 151	0.00	185.50
Sat. Early Bird 414	160.00	160.00	Tues. Big Book Discussion Group 107	71.00	180.90
Sat. Grace Group of AA 352	0.00	323.40	Tues. Caring & Sharing 148	0.00	40.00

10:08 AM  
06/07/06  
Accrual Basis

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.  
**Group Contributions**  
May 2006

	<u>May 06</u>	<u>Jan-May 06</u>	<u>May 06</u>	<u>Jan-May 06</u>
Tues. Design for Living 200	0.00	70.00		
Tues. Down to Earth Group 563	139.00	139.00		
Tues. Early Tuesday Group 119	194.60	194.60		
Tues. El Camino Group 108	0.00	261.32		
Tues. End of the Line Men's Group 147	0.00	629.28		
Tues. Freethinkers of the Valley 29	0.00	280.00		
Tues. Gay/Lesbian AA Big Book Disc 146	218.62	218.62		
Tues. Happy Destiny (Women) 109	0.00	856.20		
Tues. Los Gatos Tuesday Night 110	0.00	140.00		
Tues. Men's Basic Step Study Group	75.86	415.86		
Tues. Palo Alto Men's Meeting 525	0.00	140.00		
Tues. Palo Alto Step Study 752	139.20	348.60		
Tues. St. Luke's Group 113	0.00	700.00		
Tues. Tuesday Night Saratoga Group 152	145.48	277.48		
Tues. Veterans of Alcohol (open) 874	0.00	210.00		
Tues. We Care Step Study 128	0.00	315.00		
Unknown	0.00	906.66		
Wed B.F.E. Book Study (in residence)	0.00	750.00		
Wed. Chip Winners Group 168	177.37	421.57		
Wed. Gay Alcoholics Living / Sobriety 742	70.00	70.00		
Wed. Inspiration Big Book 195	0.00	150.00		
Wed. Jaywalkers	0.00	43.40		
Wed. Lodestar Group / Sober Thoughts 499	0.00	100.00		
Wed. Men's Freedom from Alcohol 606	0.00	350.00		
Wed. Midweek Spiritual Progress 213	0.00	350.00		
Wed. Noon Discussion 177	0.00	140.00		
Wed. Other Wednesday Nite (Men) 209	0.00	1,124.20		
Wed. Serenity Discussion 210	0.00	760.22		
Wed. Step Study (Women) LG 820	0.00	156.80		
Wed. Women on the Move 570	0.00	98.00		
	<u>6,873.82</u>	<u>37,245.62</u>		