



Santa Clara County Monthly Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 5

www.aasanjose.org

May 2007

Public Information is Twelfth Stepping

None of us now in AA would be sober if the first AA members had not worked hard at getting the message to us while we were still-suffering alcoholics. Today, more and more members, in the spirit of AA's co-founders, are finding the surprising joys of carrying the message to the alcoholics still suffering out there in "the public." This kind of twelfth step work is, of course, public information (PI) work. You, too, may wish to share its rewards in your own community. PI committees are almost always in need of more workers.

Helping out on any PI assignment means following in the footsteps of those early Ohio members who, in 1939, described their recovery – anonymously – to a reporter for the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, resulting in AA's first newspaper publicity. Because they did (see pp.20-22 in *AA Comes of Age*), the tiny Akron and Cleveland groups were swamped with newcomers, and hundreds of alcoholics recovered. That Fall, *Liberty Magazine* ran an article on AA called "Alcoholics and God," which attracted many suffering drunks to us.

Two years later, members in both the Ohio and the New York areas helped the Fellowship get its first really powerful publicity, the Jack Alexander article in the *Saturday Evening Post*. By talking freely about themselves (anonymously, of course), those early Alcoholics Anonymous PI activists helped attract about 6,000 newcomers to AA within only a few months.

Even publication of the Big Book was originally a kind of "public information." It made available to a totally unaware public a record of the recovery of our first members and the way they reached it.

Today, the public is so thirsty for information about AA that there are busy PI committees in almost every geographic area of the US and Canada – as well as in other countries. Many are large, including those operated locally by central offices; some are small; some are part of the area general service committees. There are also scattered PI contacts, individuals who do the best they can in remote, sparsely populated regions.

Clearly, AA's public information task is great and will not be completed in the foreseeable future. It will just grow bigger, so it is fortunate that we now have more tools than we once had to reach the sick alcoholic hiding out there in "the public"

AA conventions and banquets are often written up in hometown papers, with anonymity carefully guarded. Radio has always been a good medium for the AA message, and public service announcements are heard on many stations because they are placed there by PI workers. Also, many weekly radio shows about AA get aired. Television has been good to us as well, when properly used – as in showing the public service spots available from GSO, which avoids all problems with the anonymity traditions.

The Eleventh Tradition states, in part, "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion..." Unquestionably, alcoholics can be attracted to AA only if they read of us or learn about us in some way.

From Box 459, Vol. 53, No. 2 / Apr-May 2007

News and Notes from the General Service Office of AA

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LOCAL**Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC)**

The Santa Clara County PI/CPC Committee is part of our County Wide Intergroup Committee. These volunteer AA's, on the PI/CPC committee, are bringing the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the general public in various ways:

- Schools in Santa Clara County: Last year, literature was delivered to over 20 high schools and libraries. The middle schools, high schools and various college campuses also provide AA the opportunity to give presentations to groups of students.
- DUI classes: presentations by members about their recovery experience. This year, PI/CPC members gave numerous presentations to Multiple Offender classes and continue to have an ongoing commitment set up with one San Jose based program so far.
- Health Fair participation: PI/CPC members will host and staff a literature table (as invited) and talk to interested persons about AA.
- Communication: Each year letters are sent to the many media outlets that remind these very public forums of our need to be anonymous and the actual principle of anonymity, which is the individual commitment to the common good of AA. One of the goals of PI/CPC is to engage more deeply with some of the many professional groups such as Judges, Nurses, Doctors, Lawyers, and Educators. *(To name a few)*

If the PI/CPC committee sounds interesting to you, there are many forms of service available. A current project is getting 4th Edition hard cover big books into most libraries of all the Middle Schools and High Schools in Santa Clara County. There are a number of ways to do this:

- Your home group can donate books to the committee via Central Office

- You, as an individual AA member, can purchase a book at Central Office and leave it in the PI/CPC donation box (Central Office will acknowledge your donation)
- You can join PI/CPC and participate in delivering our Big Book to campuses
- Volunteers are always needed to do presentations at a wide range of groups and /or facilities.

PI/CPC is always looking for the Younger Clean and Sober crowd to help "Bridge" the age gap at these presentations to the younger audience.

Consider being a PI/CPC rep for your home group, to further spread their message. The **PI/CPC Committee meets** on the **First Wednesday Of Each Month** at **St. Timothy's Church in Mountain View** (at the corner of Grant Rd and Cuesta Drive), at **6:00 p.m.** (Check the inside of the meeting schedule.) Presentation Training sessions are held the 2nd Saturday of each month, 10:00 a.m. at Central Office. The training includes:

- The principle of anonymity
- What AA does, and does not, do – to clear up misconceptions about AA
- Types of AA meetings (open, closed, newcomer, men's' women's' etc.)
- The 12 steps and 12 Traditions
- Examples of how to provide your Personal Recovery experiences that lend to exhibiting how A.A. changes people's lives and still maintain your anonymity in the public arena.

If you have questions about this committee or an interest in joining, please contact either:

Darcy A. at todayarcy@gmail.com, or

Francisco at 16snowman@yahoo.com.

They will assist in getting you started. (Or you may also call Central Office for more information.)

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 25th of the month prior to publication.

REMEMBRANCES - AA MEETINGS IN RUSSIA

1989-1992

Winter 1989 I was asked if I would go to Russia as part of Creating a Sober World project. My initial reaction was "I can't." My teenage daughter was recently caught drinking on campus; my younger daughter was having serious problems in school. I went home, prayed, talked with folks and said "I have too!" ("Your job is to be at the place where you may be of maximum helpfulness to others... You should not hesitate to visit the most sordid spot on earth on such an errand.")

July 1 found me in the Moscow airport getting into the car of a man, who did not speak English, with a sign that had my misspelled name. Luggage was tied to the top of his car and we started down the freeway where he missed the exit and backed up! (And I looked at the sky and said, "I sure hope you know what you are doing!")

My task was to speak at "established" AA meetings and to talk with officials about prevention. It was an exciting time in Russia –passports of alcoholics were stamped, to identify them; Americans were just beginning to be allowed to stay in Russian apartments; and I was told to not say anything about God. However, one of the first evenings found a picture of Lenin looking down from the walls at me, while I talked with men in Red Army officers uniforms, Russian orthodox priests and some "normal" folks about the "hole in soul" of Russian people. (Russians are a very spiritual people!)

My first AA meeting was in Kiev. The meeting was conducted in Ukrainian with absolutely no visitors. My translator was an American AA member that was helping to start ("seed") meetings.

Once it was established that I was in recovery, I was warmly welcomed. (They sent away a group of psychologists that wanted to learn about AA.) The only major difference was that there was a huge tea pot! Our stories were the same – one woman shared hiding bottles in the washing machine - I hid mine in suitcases.

There were few meetings in those early days. AA material was translated by non AA members, which led to some mistranslations. The major site (and support) for AA in Moscow was "Narcological Hospital #17", where there was much interest in "western" treatment models and 12 Step meetings. (Russian models included things like complete blood transfers, hypnosis, and prison.) While attending AA meetings there, I met alcoholics sentenced to Siberia where, when they could not get alcohol, they brewed tea so strong it made them high. (We will go to any lengths!)

As I traveled five times to Russia between 1989 and 1992, I watched AA grow and blossom. In 1992 I celebrated my 10th AA birthday by chairing a meeting in Moscow. By now meetings had grown to rooms full of people with some open meetings, such as the one I chaired. But it was still Russia - they held the meeting for me to arrive (I was late) and my translator was a young, college student (non AA member). When I started "my name is Rosemary and I'm an alcoholic", she turned and stared at me. Obviously no one had prepared her for this assignment! Immediately a French woman (AA member) said, "I'll translate for you". It was an honor to bring our message of hope – that people (women!) can and do recover. Early in my recovery Jim R told me that I better sit down and fasten my seat belt - I was on the recovery rollercoaster. Little did either of us know where it would take me!

Rosemary T
Saratoga.



THE SET ASIDE PRAYER (for after a slip)

God, please set aside everything I think I know about myself,
The book, the 12 Steps, meetings, My disease, and you God,
That I may have an option and new experience with all those things.

Please help me see the truth.

AA SLOGANS

LIVE AND LET LIVE

It's NONE of my business!! How many times have I sat in a meeting, class or dinner party, and come to some lofty conclusion about how someone there should be doing something different. Never mind I don't know anything about them, many times, not even their name. Wow! God has a wonderful way (often painful!) to teach me about my arrogance. When I am critical, judgmental and self righteous, He usually shows me in a glaring snapshot how I am guilty of the very thing I am so fast to point out. Mind you, I don't say anything out loud, usually, but my crazy mind is very busy conversing with my lower self.

When I can let go of all that, take a deep breath and remember that the only person I can truthfully look at with a critical eye is myself, then I can remember that I live by a set of spiritual principles which keep me very busy minding my own business. I am reminded that recovery has taught me that I am responsible only for my own actions. When I pay attention to what is my "job", I am way too busy to get into anyone else's space unless I am invited.

The "Let Live" part of our little slogan reminds me to keep right sized in my attitude and the "Live" part reminds me to keep my own action clean and presentable.

Anna C. San Jose

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Boy oh boy! Way too simple for an alcoholic! At first glance I thought: Well, they must really be stupid to have to tell you the order of something, when they just said it was supposed to be first!

But like most things in AA, the impact of the simple things takes time to register. The first time I realized the importance of this simple slogan, was when I had three years of sobriety. I had made it a duty, that regarding relationships, I would only learn what was absolutely necessary. This to my great surprise resulted in disaster after disaster. I was sure it had something to do with her. After all, it had always been "her" fault.

At three years I found myself leaving a romantic relationship, just like others in the past. But this one was different. I felt everything! The worst of it all was that there was no place to hide. Within a very short time I felt enough pain to honestly consider asking for advice. My sponsor repeated the same thing I had heard in meeting after meeting. Just try to the next best thing, and remember: "First Things First." There are many things that helped during that emotional nightmare, but this simple tool was the cornerstone of regaining some sanity.

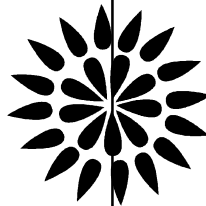
I found that most of my pain was in re-living the past and that projecting into the future. I could see where I had been a failure, and I was sure that I would continue to be one to the end of my days. The simple effort of staying present, in the moment; doing the next right thing; and remembering to do the first thing first, was enough to feel some relief. When doing the next first thing, I found strength and gratitude in what I had in that moment.

Most things of true spiritual power are basic and simple. To feel the connection to existence, to life, and to our higher power, the present moment is where it comes into focus. I found during this time that there was a great difference between knowledge and wisdom. Wisdom was knowledge that worked. It was experience obtained from living and not hiding, and then passing it on to the next alcoholic who needed to know. The simple wisdom of a proven slogan, had worked again.

Hugo S Los Gatos

THINK, THINK, THINK

When I asked a fellow AA where the phrase 'think, think, think' came from she responded with 'Think, think, think before you drink, drink, drink'. Ahh, then the phrase had meaning for me. But, 'Think, think, think about what?', I wondered. I've pondered this question for a while and concluded that I will think about three things before I take that first drink.



AA SLOGANS

First, I will **think** about the event that finally brought me to a place of surrender, the event that had me cry out for help and be willing to accept the help. For me, this was a car accident that resulted in my teenage daughter receiving minor injuries. I still get a sick feeling in my stomach when I **think** about that event and I consider that a good thing because it is helping to keep me sober today.

Second, I will **think** about the many stories I've heard in the rooms of AA. These stories remind me that I am an alcoholic and I will therefore never be able to drink like a 'normy'. The stories of members who have had some time of sobriety and then tried drinking again help me understand that this is a progressive disease. Almost everyone who has shared about coming back has said that it is harder to get sober the second time around and I know of many who have not been able to stay sober once they drink again. I take these stories to heart to help me remember that if I choose to take that first drink, I may not make it back at all. And I want to be here because these stories have shown me that I belong in the rooms of AA. I've found the place where I can be me and be accepted.

And finally, I will **think** about the life I have today. The peace, joy, serenity and self-respect I will relinquish if I take that first drink. My God has given me a life I cherish today. When I **think** about all I've been given by not drinking, it helps me realize that alcohol has nothing good to offer when compared with the gifts of my Higher Power. This helps me stay in the present with contentment.

In conclusion, before I take that first drink, I will **think** about my past experiences, the strength I receive from your stories, and the hope I have that my Higher Power will keep me sober and give me a life worth living.

Nancy L. San Jose

EASY DOES IT

I thought I knew what Easy Does It meant when I joined AA. It seemed self explanatory. As it turned out I had a lot to unlearn, relearn, and learn.

When I decided to try AA to help me cut back on my drinking, I had two teenagers, and a baby in diapers. I needed a more ordered existence because I always seemed to be in amazing chaos, or too tired to move. I had a broken on/off button. I would work madly with little sleep for a couple of days, and then I would crash for several days

At my second meeting I bought all the AA books that were for sale, and the secretary threw in a free copy of the

Grapevine. I planned on doing more reading than going to meetings because of my children, my husband, and my very busy life.

One day I was crying into a warm pile of clothes that were waiting to be folded or ironed because I had just dumped some soap into the dryer, and I was going to have to rewash them. Everything was in chaos: the teens were arguing, the baby was whining, the phone was ringing, and I needed a drink real bad. Instead of saying I was out, one of the kids handed me the phone. It was an AA friend asking me how I was doing. I described the whole scene, so she would see I really needed a drink. Instead she giggled and told me that she had dumped soap into her dryer more than once.

She had me go get my copy of As Bill Sees It and turn to page 20; we read it aloud together. It starts with the Serenity Prayer and then has a little meditation about not running from adversity nor trying to bulldoze our way through life because we only push up obstacles in front of us faster than they can be taken down. In other words, Easy Does It.

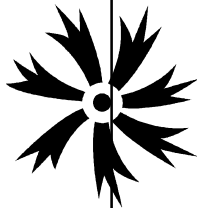
Learning to ease my way into things and asking God's help has certainly given me a more peaceful and serene existence. I haven't thought of killing myself nor checking into a "Home for the Bewildered" in years.

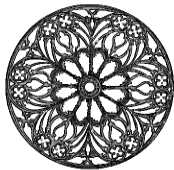
Peggy P, Sunnyvale

THINK, THINK, THINK

When I first saw that slogan I wondered what in the heck it meant. I could understand "Easy Does It" because I was a proponent of "heavy" does it! But 3 thinks! Are they trying to tell me I'm stupid or illiterate? I just put that slogan aside for future "thinking". Then one day I heard it at a meeting (where else), "DON'T STOP AT THE FIRST THINK"! Something clicked in my mind, "I got it"! If the thought arises that I'm cured or well enough to take that first drink, then I've got to "Think" that drink all the way through to the inevitable end, knee walking, puking, hopelessly drunk! Don't stop at the first think, or the second think because we are experts of justification. Go all the way to the THIRD THINK and say "whew, thank God I didn't take that first drink which would have meant my past would surely have become my future."

Frank (The grump) N., Milpitas





Meditation and AA

When I was newly sober, meetings kept me away from alcohol long enough to realize that I really needed to find a solution for my drinking. In my newly acquired body and brain, free from alcohol, I was able to realize this need for help. I got a sponsor and tried to work the steps to the best of my ability.

I was two years sober when I began to make an effort at setting aside a quiet time in the morning and in the evening for prayer and meditation. In my youth I had learned some breathing and other yoga techniques to help quiet the body and mind and I used these techniques when I meditated. I also prayed deeply and tried to make this a time to "improve my conscious contact with God, as I understood Him". I determined to meditate twice a day for a year. Slowly but surely, I felt my inner life heal.

I am so glad I started a practice of meditation, of getting quiet twice a day. In that inner stillness I found a positive antidote to the many negatives that seemed to steer into my life. Getting quiet in the morning helps me throughout my day. It helps me to remember that there is a solution for my life and it comes from an all powerful loving Father. Getting quiet in the evening ends my day in a way that is truly satisfying. I sought a solution to my life through alcohol. I found a solution through AA.

I have been meditating regularly now for 22 years. Four years ago I started a meeting where everyone sits quietly for 20 minutes and then we have a discussion. It is called the "Meditation Meeting" and is on Saturday night in Los Altos. It has had its ups and downs but is finally at a stage where it has a mind of its own. I could stop attending this meeting now and it would continue to thrive.

Starting this meeting and sharing my experience, strength and hope, including the large part that the 11th step has played and is still playing in my sobriety, has been and is a part of my service in AA. AA members can sit in a group on Saturday night and quietly approach God, as they understand Him, in any way that seems right to them. There is something about meditating in a group that magnifies the result of our efforts.

I attend two AA meditation meetings a week now, a Thursday night meeting in Los Altos, and the Saturday meeting. My daily meditations help to keep me on an even keel even in trying times

AA gave me a way of life I can live with. It taught me that "No human power could have relieved our alcoholism" and that "God could and would if He were sought".

Jim W
Los Altos



AA THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Paradox

I stood off and took a long look at life and the values I found in it: I saw a paradox, that he who loses his life does indeed find it. The more you give, the more you get. The less you think of yourself the more of a person you become. In AA we can begin again no matter how late it may be.

c. 2003 AAWS, *Experience, Strength and Hope*, p. 431

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Help Name the Newsletter

OUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS A NAME

Send your suggestions to:

office@aaanjose.org



Archives

1. In May of 1935 Dr. Bob and Bill W. met at the Seiberling gate house in Akron. Bill says that Dr. Bob was shaking badly so he told Dr. Bob that he thought he needed a drink which brightened Dr. Bob a bit. Henrietta Seiberling had arranged the meeting of the two men the day before as a result of Bill's attempt to find a drunk whom he could twelfth step. Henrietta had told Bill that Bob had tried so hard to stop drinking. She said he had tried medical approaches and the Oxford groups. Dr. Bob had agreed to meet for fifteen minutes but they talked until eleven o'clock. Bill had not had any success in his work with drunks so he had asked Dr. Silkworth for suggestions on how to approach the drunks. Dr. Silkworth had told Bill not to preach to the drunks but to share his experience and to tell them about the physical allergy. Dr. Bob was the first one with whom he tried this method. Dr. Bob had told his wife Anne to come in after about fifteen minutes and say there was a medical emergency which required his attention. She didn't honor his request.

2. In May of 1951 Bob R. went to A.A. because his wife told him that he had to stop "or else." Bob called the answering service in San Jose and went to his first meeting at the Sunnyvale Family Group. Later he began attending the East Side Family Group where he met Al and Bernice E., Dean McA., Sim H. and Jim H. and others. These members decided that they needed a meeting in Santa Clara so they started a meeting on Winchester and made Bob the secretary. Bob felt that he had not been sober long enough but they told him to do it anyway.

3. In 1940 Dr. Bob wrote the trustees to refuse Big Book royalties, but Bill W. insisted that Dr. Bob and Anne receive them. It was decided that they could not receive a salary for twelve step work but they could receive royalties for co-authoring a book.



COMING ATTRACTIONS

The June newsletter will focus on **Sponsorship**, the **Home Group**, and **Supporting AA as a Whole**. The Newsletter staff welcomes your experience on these subjects.

“Stepping Out In Sobriety” is a monthly feature that highlights activities we enjoy sober. You are invited to share your experience with the fellowship. Do you dance? Hike? Camp? Play sports? The staff looks forward to hearing from you!

Email your copy to office@aaanjose.org

Alcoholics Anonymous... How may we help you?



Telephone Calls Received During April

- Daytime at Central Office - 543
- Daytime 12 Step Calls - 10
- \Evening and Weekend calls - 307

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!**

SPEAKER MEETINGS

Weekender Speaker Meeting

Sundays at 6 p.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1735 Hecker Pass Road, Gilroy

Grapevine Speakers Meeting

Fridays at 8 p.m.

Presbyterian Church

San Tomas & Homestead, Santa Clara

Second Tradition Group of AA

Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Lincoln Glen Church, 2700 Booksin Ave, San Jose

Saturday Night Speakers—8 p.m.

Alano Club of San Jose

1122 Fair Avenue, San Jose

Remember We Deal With Alcohol

Saturdays at 8 p.m.

St. Mark's Church

1957 Pruneridge Ave., Santa Clara

Saturday Nite Live Group

Fridays at 8 p.m.

1388 S. Bascom at Stokes, San Jose

Speaker Meeting—VA Hospital

Sunday at 11:15 a.m.

3801 Miranda Ave., Palo Alto

Saturday Morning Fellowship

Saturday at 10 a.m.

United Presbyterian Church

Fremont & Hollenbeck, Sunnyvale

MEETING CHANGES

ALANO CLUB WEST MEETINGS

Are now being held at different locations, pending re-opening of the club. Please see their meeting schedule online at www.alanowest.org.

Deleted -

Surrender with Grace (men), Friday, 6:00PM, Pueblo de Dios Church, 3257 Payne Ave., San Jose

Big Book Discussion, Saturday, 5:00PM, Alano Club of San Jose

New Beginnings, Sunday, 3:00 PM, Freedom Fellowship, Moffett Central Shopping Center, 327 B Moffett Blvd., Mountain View

Sub "21", Friday, 8:15PM, St. Francis Episcopal Church, Willow Glen

Willow Glen AA, Friday, 8:00PM, St. Francis Church, Willow Glen

Freedom From Bondage, Thurs, 12:30PM, Unity Church, Morgan Hill

Changed -

Basic Big Book, Thursday 6PM, Alano Club West, now meeting at St. Francis Episcopal Church (basement), 1205 Pine, San Jose

In the Solution, Saturday 7:30AM, Alano Club West, now meeting at 1st Congregational Church, 1980 Hamilton Ave., San Jose

AA Topic Healing Circle (Women's), is now an OPEN meeting for men and women, with chips

Saturday Night Promises, Saturday, 7:00PM, new address at 1st Christian Church, 2890 Middlefield, Palo Alto

Basic AA Text Study, Tues., 7:00PM, Ujirani Resource Center, address changed to 591 King Rd, at Las Plumas

Happy Hour, Friday, 5:30PM, address changed to Willow Glen Baptist Church, Minnesota & Hicks

New -

Women's 12 Step Survival, Tuesday 7:30PM, Sobrato Family Transitional Center, 9345 Monterey Rd, Gilroy

Queer and Sober, Saturday 10:30AM, Billy DeFrank LGBT Center, 938 The Alameda, San Jose

Spiritual Awakening Group, Saturday 9:00AM (breakfast) 9:30AM meeting, Calvary Church, 16330 Los Gatos Blvd., Los Gatos

Basic 12 & 12, Monday, 6:00AM, Dennys Rest., 1390 1st St., at Cline.

The Way Out Big Book Study, Friday, 7:00 PM, Pueblo de Dios Church, 3257 Payne Ave.

Open A.A., Wednesday, 7:15 PM, St. Francis Episcopal Church, 1205 Pine Ave.

Mad Hatters, Tues., Noon, Saratoga Retirement Center, 14500 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga

Birthdays Contributions

Name	Years	Gift From	Birthday
Domoni C.	18	Rita R	02/21/89
Bill D.	25	Rita R, Mary Pat P	03/13/82
Bill C.	17		03/21/90
Kathy H.	6	Mary Pat P	03/22/06
Mike J.	3		03/25/04
Rise G.	17	Mary Pat P	03/26/90
Rene' W.	19	Mary Pat P	03/29/90
Pat G.	32	Mary Pat P	04/01/75
Evelyn M.	6	Pat G, Mary Pat P	04/01/01
Julie W.	1	Mary Pat P	04/01/06
Aileen B.	4	Rita R, Pat C, Mary Pat P, Pat G, Evelyn M	04/06/03
Jill B.	24	Bernadette P	04/09/83
Eddie R.	10	Bernadette P	04/09/98
Jerry H.	20	Addnl Cont, Margaret H, Colonel & Pat C	04/10/87
Big Daddy David R	18	The Colonel & Pat C	04/10/89
Tom N	24	The Colonel & Pat C	04/17/83
Chuck G	25	Addnl Cont, Colonel & Pat C, Mary Pat P	04/17/82
Bruce K	24	Addnl Cont, Pat C, Gene M	4/27283



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

For a total of

293 YEARS OF SOBRIETY

and for a total contribution **\$498.00**

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

May 2007

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2 Intergroup Meeting 8:00 PM	3	4	5 Secretaries Work- shop 10:00 AM
6	7	8	9 North County General Service	10	11	12 PI/CPC Workshop 10:00 AM
13	14	15 South County General Service	16	17	18	19 Archives Workshop 10:00 AM
20	21	22 H & I Meeting	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

LOCAL EVENTS

June 8-10 San Jose: NCCAA, Parkside Hall, www.nccaa.org

EVENTS NEARBY

July 12-15 South Lake Tahoe: Greater Reno Regional AA Campout, AACampout@aol.com.

July 13-15 Tehachapi, CA: Tehachapi Mountain Roundup, www.tehachapiroundup.com.

Aug. 30-Sept. 2 Los Angeles, CA: ICYPAA Conference, Westin Bonaventure Hotel, www.49thICYPAA.org

Aug. 31-Sept. 2 Monterey, CA: Monterey Bay Area Roundup, Conference Center, www.mbar.org

Oct. 19-21 Santa Clarita, CA: 4th Annual Santa Clarita Valley Convention of A.A., www.scvaaconvention.org

OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA

May 8-11 Sedona AZ: Seniors in Sobriety, Contact: WCGould@aol.com or 11203.ifs@earthlink.net

June 1-3 Sparks, NV: 18th Annual EDI Women's Retreat, mamadonnam@sbcglobal.net.

June 8-10 Pahrump, NV: Sober Fun in the Old West, Nugget Hotel, email Kay at nobbycat@sbcglobal.net

June 15-17 Merlin, OR: OCYPAA Campout 2007, contact Scott at 541-520-2975

August 4-6 College Station, TX: 21st Annual Aggeland Convention, inform@Aaggeland.com

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Please check the GSO website at www.aa.org for a full listing of gatherings in the United States and around the world.

IN MEMORIUM

Maureen K 28 years

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Profit & Loss

April 2007

	<u>Apr 07</u>	<u>Apr 06</u>	<u>Jan - Apr 07</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
3030 · Contributions-General	14,786.99	9,217.94	50,116.51
8010 · Literature Sales	5,544.73	5,049.03	22,441.66
8020 · Meeting Guide Sales	953.98	0.00	4,154.70
8060 · Newsletter Subscriptions	15.00	25.00	95.00
Total Income	<u>21,300.70</u>	<u>14,291.97</u>	<u>76,807.87</u>
Cost of Goods Sold			
5000 · Cost of Goods Sold			
5100 · Cost of Inventory Sold (Excl. Mtg. Dir. after 6/1/06)	3,638.07	3,466.51	14,839.83
5150 · Cost of Meeting Directories (After 6/1/06)	203.33	0.00	1,446.12
Total 5000 · Cost of Goods Sold	<u>3,841.40</u>	<u>3,466.51</u>	<u>16,285.95</u>
Total COGS	<u>3,841.40</u>	<u>3,466.51</u>	<u>16,285.95</u>
Gross Profit	17,459.30	10,825.46	60,521.92
Expense			
6010 · Alarm Service	177.00	177.00	354.00
6030 · Accounting and Legal Fee	475.26	594.37	2,304.17
6060 · Amortization of Improvements	0.00	0.00	3.25
6070 · Bank Credit card charges (Credit card costs and fees)	76.41	0.00	322.50
6120 · Computer Expenses	0.00	474.00	849.35
6140 · Conferences - Office Manager	0.00	0.00	96.27
6160 · Copier Expense	135.56	0.00	450.41
6190 · Depreciation Expense	0.00	0.00	1,363.25
6230 · Insurance - General Liability	0.00	500.00	319.16
6240 · Employee HRA Plan	788.37	2,398.67	3,028.70
6245 · Internet Access Charges	19.95	19.95	79.80
6330 · Office Expense	37.25	826.81	1,310.86
6360 · Archives (Archives)	0.00	0.00	-100.00
6380 · Payroll Taxes	494.45	520.39	2,328.91
6410 · Postage	20.00	0.00	878.70
6480 · Rent	2,280.60	2,217.25	9,059.05
6540 · Salaries - Office	6,259.51	5,837.54	25,301.76
6600 · Signing Services	200.00	200.00	600.00
7010 · Taxes and Licenses	0.00	0.00	60.00
7050 · Telephone	314.13	21.25	1,258.02
7060 · Travel	0.00	0.00	0.50
Total Expense	<u>11,278.49</u>	<u>13,787.23</u>	<u>49,868.66</u>
Net Ordinary Income	6,180.81	-2,961.77	10,653.26
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
8030 · Interest Income	244.30	176.52	972.34
Total Other Income	<u>244.30</u>	<u>176.52</u>	<u>972.34</u>
Net Other Income	<u>244.30</u>	<u>176.52</u>	<u>972.34</u>
	<u>6,425.11</u>	<u>-2,785.25</u>	<u>11,625.60</u>

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Balance Sheet

As of April 30, 2007

	<u>Apr 30, 07</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1010 · Petty Cash	225.00
1035 · Bank of America (Bank account)	11,329.15
1040 · Bank of America CD 5718 (8 mo. CD @ 4.79%, 9/24/07)	30,334.98 *
1041 · Bank of America CD 5931 (18 mo. CD @ 3.39%, 2/28/07)	14,837.93 *
1042 · Capital Preservation Fund (Treas. fund currently @ 4.45%)	<u>21,491.70 *</u>
Total Checking/Savings	78,218.76
Accounts Receivable	
1110 · Accounts Rec - Group Deposits	<u>-688.80</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	-688.80
Other Current Assets	
1250 · Literature Inventory	16,922.53
1310 · Prepaid Insurance	<u>1,191.00</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>18,113.53</u>
Total Current Assets	95,643.49
Fixed Assets	
1630 · Office Equipment	38,150.80
1640 · Office Furnishings - Asset	2,197.84
1641 · Less Accumulated Depreciation	-18,217.25
1680 · Leasehold Improvements	300.00
1681 · Less Accumulated Amortization	<u>-137.25</u>
Total Fixed Assets	22,294.14
Other Assets	
1860 · Deposits	<u>1,993.85</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>1,993.85</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>119,931.48</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2240 · Sales Tax Payable (Sales Tax Payable)	<u>482.34</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>482.34</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>482.34</u>
Total Liabilities	482.34
Equity	
2740 · Unrestricted Funds	95,777.91
3900 · Retained Earnings	12,045.63
Net Income	<u>11,625.60</u>
Total Equity	<u>119,449.14</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>119,931.48</u></u>

<p>* Our Prudent Reserve Accounts total: \$66,664.61 This represents 5.42 months of operating expenses. The Board established goal is 6 months operating expenses.</p>

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Group Contributions April 2007

	<u>Apr 07</u>	<u>Jan-Apr 07</u>		<u>Apr 07</u>	<u>Jan-Apr 07</u>
1 INV Freedom Fellowship 70940	0.00	140.00	Sun. Humbly Asked 8.00A 87	0.00	248.50
1 INV Fremont & Hollenbeck Group 70907	573.18	1,623.18	Sun. In the Basement 545	0.00	100.00
1 INV R and B Group 70972	212.00	925.43	Sun. Invaders Group 44	0.00	100.00
1 INV Saturday Nite Live Group 70905	382.97	2,699.21	Sun. Men's Underground Book Study 401	0.00	318.00
1 INV Spiritual Progress Group 70904	0.00	700.00	Sun. New People's Group 3	0.00	157.61
Birthday Contribution 00951	498.00	1,638.00	Sun. New Steps for Living 20	0.00	486.30
Fri. 12 Steps at Noon 303	70.00	140.55	Sun. Pass It On Group Los Altos 418	0.00	350.00
Fri. Big Book Study 8.00P Cupt 284	0.00	100.00	Sun. Sober in the Park 688	70.00	70.00
Fri. Easier Way Group 290	630.00	630.00	Sun. Speaker Meeting 18	97.00	277.00
Fri. East Valley Group 322	100.00	150.00	Sun. Spiritual Progress Group 8	0.00	73.65
Fri. Fireside Group 297	0.00	36.92	Sun. Spiritual Step Study Group 233	0.00	568.40
Fri. Happy Hour 652	0.00	200.00	Sun. Step by Step Group 5	70.00	70.00
Fri. In the Chapel 13	0.00	78.38	Thurs. Basic Big Book 710	0.00	100.00
Fri. Lesbians Living the Promises 349	0.00	70.00	Thurs. California Avenue Supper Group 715	0.00	461.00
Fri. Men's 4th Step Group 320	0.00	44.10	Thurs. Eleventh Step Meditation Mtg 276	0.00	115.50
Fri. New Nooners 859	0.00	110.00	Thurs. Evergreen Group 884	0.00	70.00
Fri. Saratoga Group 328	0.00	165.00	Thurs. Gay Men's Freedom 262	259.70	684.99
Fri. Saratoga Serenity Group 329	0.00	144.20	Thurs. Higher Power Hr Big Book Topic 871	0.00	630.00
Fri. T.G.I.F. Speaker/Discussion 298	949.90	1,187.75	Thurs. Just For Today 238	47.68	238.93
Fri. Women Preparing for the Weekend 691	159.60	159.60	Thurs. Los Altos Group 225	70.00	70.00
G Agnews Noon Meetings 70921	630.00	1,050.00	Thurs. Men's Single Problem Study 220	0.00	875.00
G Forged From Adversity Group 70957	0.00	482.50	Thurs. Mountain Miracles 882	367.50	735.00
G Gilroy Groups 70906	0.00	210.00	Thurs. South Valley Group See 1 INV 267	0.00	70.00
G Seeking Guidance Group 70976	1,260.00	2,238.00	Thurs. South Valley Men's 845	0.00	280.00
G South County Fellowship 70954	175.00	718.00	Thurs. St. Mark's Group 270	200.00	534.22
G Sunrise Group of Palo Alto 70963	0.00	270.00	Thurs. Sunshine Group 243	0.00	315.00
G Sunrisers Group/Carrows 70932	513.73	2,035.21	Thurs. There Is a Solution (Men) 732	0.00	180.00
G Third Tradition Women's Grp(The 70979	0.00	1,652.00	Thurs. What's Happening Today 552	74.97	321.22
G Winchester Fellowship 70960	342.44	342.44	Thurs. Women Sharing the Solution 519	48.30	242.90
Memorial Contributions	0.00	55.00	Tues. A Vision for You Women's 802	0.00	80.97
Mon. A.B.C. Women's Group 58	140.00	140.00	Tues. AA Literature Discussion Group 700	87.50	87.50
Mon. As Bill Sees It 6.00P 518	375.00	375.00	Tues. Attitude Adjustment 886	0.00	416.00
Mon. Attitude Adjustment/Tradition 321	350.00	350.00	Tues. Big Book Discussion Group 107	0.00	40.00
Mon. Downtown Steppers (Men) 392	130.90	130.90	Tues. Design for Living 200	0.00	196.00
Mon. Early Monday Night 68	0.00	614.92	Tues. Down to Earth Group 563	175.17	175.17
Mon. Grateful Live Group 535	207.90	517.30	Tues. Early Bird 129	0.00	140.76
Mon. HOW Group 71	0.00	210.00	Tues. Early Tuesday Group 119	0.00	195.96
Mon. Joy of Living Meeting 92	0.00	494.54	Tues. El Camino Group 108	71.20	108.66
Mon. Los Altos Men's Group 59	0.00	63.00	Tues. Freethinkers of the Valley 29	210.00	210.00
Mon. Men's Single Problem Study 89	465.00	465.00	Tues. Happy Destiny (Women) 109	287.01	287.01
Mon. Men's Single Topic Discussion 582	0.00	618.00	Tues. Los Gatos Tuesday Night 110	0.00	70.00
Mon. Midday Women's Group 91	279.13	415.00	Tues. Men's Topic Discussion 635	0.00	79.80
Mon. Shared Gift (The) (Women) 61	263.40	263.40	Tues. Palo Alto Men's Meeting 525	0.00	630.00
Mon. Signs of Sobriety 402	25.00	25.00	Tues. Palo Alto Step Study 752	155.00	295.69
Mon. Villages Group of AA (The) 406	0.00	185.00	Tues. St. Luke's Group 113	0.00	783.00
Personal 00911	501.95	764.26	Tues. Tuesday Night Saratoga Group 152	0.00	130.00
Sat. Big Book Study Group 503	0.00	100.00	Tues. Up the Creek - Daily Reflection 745	25.00	100.00
Sat. Cambrian Saturday Night 376	0.00	643.00	Tues. Veterans of Alcohol (open) 874	178.50	371.00
Sat. Get Up and Go (Women) 187	164.00	563.65	Tues. We Care Step Study 128	0.00	424.70
Sat. Grace Group of AA 352	375.00	375.00	Tues. Women's Topic Disc. Group	180.04	180.04
Sat. Gratitude Group 339	60.00	156.00	Unknown	0.00	515.30
Sat. High Hope 239	100.80	225.60	Wed. Attitude Adjustment 198	280.00	280.00
Sat. In the Solution 647	0.00	262.00	Wed. Chip Winners Group 168	0.00	175.70
Sat. Living in the Solution (Women) 33	0.00	30.00	Wed. Courage to Change 145	0.00	160.09
Sat. Meditation Meeting 39	0.00	70.00	Wed. Eleventh Step Group 167	0.00	70.00
Sat. Mountain View Group 350	0.00	175.00	Wed. Gay Alcoholics Living / Sobriety 742	0.00	91.00
Sat. Roots 344	840.00	840.00	Wed. Ladies Amethyst AA Study Group 749	268.75	268.75
Sat. Saturday Morning Los Gatos 777	0.00	700.00	Wed. Lodestar Group / Sober Thoughts 499	100.00	170.00
Sat. Second Tradition Group Spkr 721	0.00	404.50	Wed. Midweek Spiritual Progress 213	0.00	140.00
Sat. Think Tank (Men) 361	0.00	700.00	Wed. Open A A 00660	47.32	47.32
Sat. Trinity Group 370	0.00	100.00	Wed. Other Wednesday Nite (Men) 209	0.00	1,251.60
Sat. Women's Brunch 640	365.25	607.45	Wed. Serenity Discussion 210	200.00	459.00
Sun. Almaden Valley Discussion 30	0.00	41.31	Wed. Step Study (Women) LG 820	0.00	118.37
Sun. Attitude Adjustment 446	0.00	150.00	Wed. Steps & Traditions 893	26.20	187.20
Sun. Early Bird 429	0.00	36.89	Wed. Sundowners' Dinner Meeting 768	0.00	109.51
Sun. Early Spiritual Progress 7	0.00	175.00	Wed. Women on the Move 570	50.00	110.00
Sun. Get Well Group 17	0.00	210.00			
				14,786.99	50,091.51

SANTA CLARA COUNTY INTERGROUP COUNCIL

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

MAY 2, 2007

- Bill, Intergroup Chairperson, opened the meeting at 8:00pm, followed by A Moment of Silence, and the Serenity Prayer.
- Jeanmarie read the Definition of Intergroup.
- There were 48 voting representatives in attendance, 3 of whom were new reps.
- Bill read the Twelve Traditions.
- There were no corrections or additions to the Agenda.
- There were no corrections or additions to the Previous Month's Minutes.
- Intergroup Council's Treasurer's Report: Chuck G.

Beginning Balance:	04/04/07	\$136.00	Prudent Reserve	\$90
Contributions:	04/04/07	\$ 70.00		
Refreshments:	04/04/07	\$ 26.00		
Rent is paid to July 1				
Balance:	05/02/07	\$180.00	Prudent Reserve	\$90
- Announcements:
 - Lizz announced SCCYPAA'S upcoming Bigger Balls (dodge ball and softball) Challenge on May 19. She also reported the Rotation of Committees on June 2, and a conference based event in September.
 - Peter announced the 4th Annual "Founder's Day" Potluck and BBQ on June 10 in Mountain View, sponsored by the In the Basement Group and the Freedom Fellowship Group.
- Birthdays: Blythe, 2yrs; Bruce, 24yrs; Chuck, 25yrs; Rod, 2yrs; Marie, 9yrs.

Reports

1. Intergroup Chair: Bill D. introduced the three new Intergroup Reps., and described the Activities Committee idea of a "Take Your Sponsor to Lunch Brunch" event in July.
2. Central Service Board: Robbie R. discussed the most previous CSB meeting with only 3 in attendance. The board members decided that even if New York makes a change in the pricing policy on literature and books, IG would probably keep prices at their current level.
3. Central Office, Bruce: reported that April was a healthy month financially for IG because a lot of groups make their contributions on a quarterly basis. He took a question from Lenora about her group wanting to donate books to a high school. Peter said that CI/CPC would want to know about such donations so that proper acknowledgement may be made. Bruce then reported that Chuck is now the Archive Chair for the county, and that the committee welcomes new members and meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10am in the IG office.
4. CI/CPC, Dennis for Darcy: reported that the committee had been through a whole cycle of the drunk driving classes. He also reported that a presentation was made at Holy Spirit Church last Sunday. More presentations are coming up. CI/CPC welcomes new members and meets every 1st Wednesday in Mountain View.
5. Twelfth Step Committee
 - a. Daytime Office Volunteer Coordinator: Bruce reported that all shifts are filled, but alternates are always needed.
 - b. Nights and Weekends Diverter Coordinator: Maxine reported on open shifts, and said that the Diverter is going well.
6. Outreach Committee: Sally introduced the Invitations to Intergroup that the committee is distributing to the groups they visit. She reported that of the 608 groups to visit, 130 have been visited, and 16 no longer exist.
7. Newsletter Committee: Bernadette brought a flyer for reps to distribute inviting AAs to write for the Newsletter. The Newsletter is now online on the IG website.
8. Other Service Committee Reports:
 - Unity Day: Tom K reported that the program will be the same as last year and he will confirm everything next month. The theme for this year is "Are We Gong to Any Lengths?" Unity Day will be on August 26, from 9am to 8:15pm in Milpitas Community Hall. The flyer promoting Unity Day will be out by July when everything is settled. The Wednesday Night Men's Meeting usually provides dinner, and SCCYPAA is finding the morning speaker. Still

looking for groups to serve lunch to about 190 people. The next Unity Day Meeting will be on May 17 at Harry's Hofbrau at 6pm.

- Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous: Dennis reported that the next conference would be on June 10 at Parkside Hall (at the back side of The Tech Museum) in San Jose. SCCYPAA is helping out with the dance afterward.
- Hospitals & Institutions: Paul C. reported that the list he distributes lists for only those institutions that currently need help, and the requirements to be in service for those institutions.
- Bridging the Gap: No Report.
- North County General Service: Jeanne H. reported on the three-day Pre-Conference Assembly in which there were 12 participants from her district. The Post-Conference Assembly will be held on Cloverdale on May 12, and the agenda will be on literature change.
- South County General Service: Erica distributed flyers for the Post-Conference Assembly in Cloverdale, and said that South County is updating everything for the National Western District. She also reported that South County is forming an outreach committee to reach out to meetings that do not have GSRs.

Unfinished Business

Summer Potluck: Bill asked the group if there was any interest in pursuing this idea. There was none, and the matter was dropped.

Chuck made a request to increase IG's Prudent Reserve to \$300 in the event that IG would have to move. After a brief discussion, Dennis moved to approve the request; Peter seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Bill requested that the July IG meeting be rescheduled from July 4 to July 11 to avoid conflict with the Fourth of July holiday. Dennis moved to approve the request; Peter seconded the motion and the request was approved.

New Business None.

Open Forum

Service or Politics? – No discussion.

Are secretaries reading IG announcements to their groups? - A discussion followed about the different practices regarding the reading of IG announcements and information to various groups. Ron asked if it would be possible to include a phrase requesting that secretaries read the IG announcements as part of the written guidelines or suggested order of meetings that is printed in the meeting directory. Bill said he would include the topic on next month's agenda for further discussion.

What's on your mind? – Linda asked the question, "Are we doing enough for seniors in sobriety?" In the discussion that followed, Dennis said that CI/CPC takes meetings into retirement and rest homes, but they need to ask for the meetings to be brought in. Chuck said that the thing that concerns him most is a senior who may be hard of hearing. Someone asked if this would be a concern for H&I, and Paul C. replied that H&I is mandated to bring meetings to institutions in which people are not free to leave, such as hospitals, and jails and prisons. Robbie R. suggested meetings are brought to seniors who can't get out, but that usually the seniors or their families have to ask for it. People new to the area call Central Office and request meetings to be brought to them. Chris suggested that for the hearing impaired, meetings might consider using a microphone and amplifier, or using a sign language interpreter, as does the Signs of Sobriety Monday meeting at 6:30pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison S.

**Secretaries
Please read
to
Your
groups.**

**Diverter
volunteers
needed. Please
join this
important 12th
Step team.**

NOW AVAILABLE

Check out the new Grapevine books.

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format on our website at
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