



FOCUS: STEP 4: SEARCHING & FEARLESS MORAL INVENTORY

Step Four, as it is laid out in the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, is a brilliant tool. We know that the solution to our alcoholism is spiritual, and that self-examination is a key practice for nearly all spiritually enlightened people. But it is not a practice that is common to most human beings, and certainly not to those of us who have spent much time and energy dismissing aspects of our behaviors. Step Four is really very simple. And AA has given us a guide, the sponsor of our choosing, to walk us through it.

I loved that the Twelve Steps And Twelve Traditions explained that what were referred to as “defects of character” were actually God-given desires, called instincts. Knowing that these behaviors were a result of necessary drives that had simply exceeded their purpose was a much less bitter pill to swallow than believing that I was an inherently bad person. And these books of ours made it clear to

me that my current state of guilt and pain was simply the destination at the end of a road I never meant to choose, but didn’t have the tools to deviate from. Getting on the right road, however, would mean cleaning up the wreckage of my past, and the tangles of barbed wire in my soul.

I did as I was instructed and laid out my resentments, my fears, my sexual conduct and all other harms that I could think of. I used the questions posed in our books and chronologically looked at my life in chunks. I included incidents that were as far back as my childhood, before my drinking began. Every memory I could dredge up that didn’t produce a pleasant reaction went down on my lists. The first time through, my resulting lists were not easy to look at. They were longer than I’d imagined they would be, and I loved and cared for most of the people on my lists. Recognizing the harm that I’d done was agonizing

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MONTHLY TOPICS

Here’s lookin’ at you! Happy April, all you Aries and Tauruses (Taureans? I think that changes the meaning.) April starts off with April Fool’s Day, but did you know that it is National Humor Month (oh, ha ha!) and International Guitar Month? Spring is definitely in the air with Keep America Beautiful, Lawn & Garden, and Records & Information Management Month. Then they throw the game out the window with “No Housework Day on the 7th, teaming up with World Health Day and Caramel Popcorn Day? Scrabble Day is the 13th, so I’ll gear up. National Stress Awareness Day is the 16th, Volunteer Recognition Day is the 20th, and it’s Take Your Daughter to Work on the 24th. National Honesty Day is on the 30th.

The topics this month are the Fourth Step (month #4, you know) and Sunshine and Showers Bring May Flowers – or, into every life some rain must fall. See stories that start on this page and continue on pages 2-7.

Next month’s topic is Forgiveness vs. Holding Resentments or the Fifth Step (Admitted to God, ourselves, and another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.) Stories are due by April 19th. Thanks to all of you who have sent us stories these past months. You know we can’t do it alone. Send this month’s story to COIN@aasanjose.org or ODAATcoin@yahoo.com.

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HOW A DISTRICT CAN BEST SERVE ITS GROUPS

Presented at Pacific Region Service Assembly March 7th, 2014

Good afternoon. My name is Hiro, and I am an alcoholic. I am also Panel 64 DCMC (District Committee Member Chair) for Mid-Southern California Area 09, District 4, representing parts of Long Beach, Seal Beach, and Los Alamitos. It's a great honor to be here and present on this topic.

When researching the question of how a district can best serve its groups, I considered publications such as AA Comes of Age, The AA Service Manual Combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service, The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, and pamphlets such as The GSR (General Service Rep), The DCM (District Committee Member), The AA Group, and The AA Treasurer; and I rediscovered wonderful gems such as how the fourth tradition safeguards the right of every group to be wrong; and the 6th Warranty in Concept 12, which prevents us from enforcing any compliance or conformity with anything. I thought back to our area's new GSR orientation this past January, about the workshops we could provide, such as for the group treasurer or for writing submissions to the AA Grapevine; and the various ways in which we can teach the AA service structure, from Velcro Upside-Down Triangle displays and the Buck-in-the-Basket pamphlet, all the way to playing to each alcoholic's narcissism by letting them know that they COULD actually run Alcoholics Anonymous along with other groups, if they were properly represented,

But I'm getting ahead of myself. As an academic, it's second nature for me to over-research; and as an alcoholic, it's one of my defects of character to over-think anything to death. So, how can the district best serve the groups? Let's begin with basic, textbook GSR stuff. Broadly, from the top down, we can provide information about the district/area/General Service Office, from events,

concerns, issues, collaborations, news, conflicts, etc., to summaries of conference agenda items they may find compelling, intriguing, or important. That's if they even have a GSR.... And if they have a GSR, the district can help better prepare that GSR to provide exciting, informative, and perhaps, most importantly, BRIEF GSR reports. But that's just for the small minority of groups that are actually represented by GSRs at the district. Perhaps the focus could be on the tasks of the DCMs and DCMCs: those all-important visits to so-called "dark meetings" that have no representation, and getting them all fired up about active involvement in General Service.

And here's the thing: the wonderfully delightful thing is that it only really takes lukewarm interest from the group itself (a simple majority) plus the excitement and commitment of just one alcoholic at that group. It's kind of like when I pitch at a meeting, providing my experience, strength, and hope in a 2-3 minute share. I'm really speaking to one or two people in particular: the newcomer or the alcoholic who is still suffering in sobriety, who might get hope from my share, who might find strength in connecting to my story about sponsorship, the group, the program, AA as a whole, or God as we understand him who makes all of this possible, that they might get sparked by the fire of Alcoholics Anonymous.

There's one simple difference in my message: as DCMC, I'm speaking to those who have ALREADY found a solution and are now, perhaps without knowing it, dying for a new way to carry the message -- carrying the principles, not only of the Steps, but of the Traditions and Concepts. My late sponsor always brought me back to first principles, saying, "Remember to LOVE the alcoholic." And what better way to do that, than to stop short, and marvel, and give my experience strength, and hope about how General Service has rocketed this

alcoholic into the 4th Dimension.

One of the things that provided me early inklings of the kind of ecstatic joy that could be found in General Service was when I first heard Paul C. —former Class B (for Boozer) General Service Trustee—when he came to my home group to talk about the Concepts... which, he explained, exist so that the Spirit of AA can flow through the entire organization.... And I became intrigued at how that works, and what that means, and whether the Spirit of Alcoholics Anonymous can flow through me, too, through an understanding of the Concepts.

And now, here I am in front of all of you, and I can tell you, I'm not a Concepts Scholar by any means, but the Spirit of AA is flowing, baby, and I can feel it...and what a beautiful thing THAT is. And suddenly, as always, words become inadequate to tell you the full spiritual impact of my experience—but if we can carry one small part of what it feels like to be HERE, right now, surrounded by all these alcoholics for whom the obsession has been removed.

I mean, hold up! I'd like us all to pause, and savor this particular miracle: Look around and take a moment to take this in: Look at all the people here and consider... we're all here in this room for one reason and one reason only... we all LOVE Alcoholics Anonymous. I mean, wow! How beautiful is that? (OK: I'd love for us all now to consider: where would we be without the Traditions or Concepts? [shudder] what a TERRIFYING alternate reality!)

I remember at my first PRAASA (Pacific Region AA Service Assembly) last year in Boise, we had a special extended marathon business meeting, and our Chair, former Trustee Madeline P., quipped that we are the "Trekkies of AA." And right now, PRAASA 2014 is in the city that hosts the annual world-famous

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STEP THREE

Shortly after I entered the program, by way of a recovery facility, I got a sponsor and began the steps. I had no problem with the first and second steps. However, when I got to Step 3 I had great difficulty grasping the concept of "God as I understood Him." Believing in God was never a problem for me; I always knew there was a God. However, I always believed he had no interest or concern for me because, as I was taught, I was a nothing and worthless. I believed that God in his greatness would have no interest in something such as me.

I bugged my sponsor for several days about what that phrase, "God as I understood Him" meant. By this time my sponsor knew my story. I had grown up with a violent, raging alcoholic father. My life was miserable throughout my childhood. I never got a good word from by

father. So when my sponsor got tired of me asking him that same question over and over again he gave me an assignment. He told me to go home and get a paper and pencil and start writing on that paper. At the top, I was to write, "How I wished my father had treated me." Below that I was told to start listing characteristics such as loving, caring, supportive, gentle and so forth.

So, after a few days I went back to him with my list. He told me to scratch out the first line. In place of that I was to write, "What my God is." I grasped what he had shown me instantly. God, as I have since come to see Him, is the father I had never had. God had all those characteristics my father was incapable of. I know that God will always have my best interests covered. I have never wondered if He is there for me, I know He is.

I have been told, and I agree, that God is really too vast to understand. However, I understand that as my needs change from day to day, or moment to moment, God as I understand Him always changes to meet my needs at that moment.

I have gone through some difficult things since then and I know He is always there with my best interests in mind. Today I have no fear. I walk the path he has laid out for me, knowing that whatever the outcome is I will always be in a safe and loving place and I need have no fear of the outcome. By that I mean if it is His will that it is time for me to go to Him, that is fine with me. I have no fear of that time in my life. On the other hand if it is His will that I continue on with my life as it is, I can accept that also, again with no fear of the future.

Dennis F.

HOW A DISTRICT CAN BEST SERVE ITS GROUPS continued from previous page

San Diego Comic-Con, and here I am surrounded by all of you Pacific Regional service geeks for whom the obsession to drink has been removed, and for whom the love of AA grows deep and strong, and through whom the spiritual principles of the 12 concepts are exemplified... and how bewildering and astonishing it is that we get to be here together to WATCH the spirit of Alcoholics Anonymous flow through the entire organization.... I mean WOW!

That's the kind of message I want to carry! A message of excitement, of a joy of service, of a life worth living found in Alcoholics Anonymous. And how can the District best serve its groups? By passing along that fire in ANY way shape or form the groups can hear it.... From letting groups know that we'll respect how they practice tradition 4 by exercising their right to be left alone... to showing groups how they can be part of an even greater whole.

If we can carry THIS message of joy, service, love, freedom from self, and PURE DELIGHT in the service structure of AA... to any and all who'll listen...THIS, I believe, is perhaps the BEST way the districts can serve the groups. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Hiro S.

SEARCHING & FEARLESS MORAL INVENTORY continued from page 1

work. I walked through guilt and shame during and after doing the writing. I am grateful, grateful, grateful to my sponsor and my AA friends for helping me with that.

I did my best to find my part in each item I'd listed on my fourth step, but there were numerous places where my vision was skewed. Some, in fact, where I was totally blind.

Thankfully I was working with a sponsor who could point these things out to me. I have specific examples that I could share with you here, but I'll save those for next month when we write about Step Five.

If this all sounds like a terrible experience, effort put forth to simply dive further into that abyss of guilt and shame, fear not! The fifth step follows

the fourth in perfect succession and offers great relief. All you have to do is be open and honest about what's already over and done with. It's all fact that is already written in the universe, so don't let it have any power over you. Once you put the past in its rightful place, you can make the most of all of your tomorrows.

Ceased The Fight

BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE

This 1940 article was written by Fulton Oursler, then editor of *Liberty* magazine. If so, it is a follow-up to his 1939 article in that magazine called "Alcoholics and God" which helped AA become widely known (see Big Book pg. xviii). Of personal interest to me, it is an early, and perhaps original, use of the butterfly metaphor for recovery.

Down at the very bottom of the social scale of AA society are the pariahs, the untouchables, and the outcasts, all known by one exco-riating epithet -- relatives. I am a relative. I know my place. I am not complaining. But I hope no one minds if I venture the plaintive confession that there are times, oh, many, many, times when I wish I had been an alcoholic. By that I mean that I wish I were an AA. The reason is that I consider the AA people the most charming in the world.

Such is my considered opinion. As a journalist it has been my fortune to meet many of the people who are considered charming. I number among my friends stars, and lesser lights of stage and cinema; writers are my daily diet. I know the ladies and gentleman of both political parties; I have been entertained in the White House. I have broken bread with kings and ministers and ambassadors and I say after that catalog, which could be extended, that I would prefer an evening with my AA friends to any person or

group of persons I have indicated.

I ask myself why I consider so charming these alcoholic caterpillars who have found their butterfly wings in Alcoholics Anonymous. There are more reasons than one, but I can name a few.

They are imaginative, and that helps to make them alcoholics. Some of them drank to flog their ambition on to greater efforts. Others guzzled only to black out unendurable demons that rose in their imagination. But when they have found their restoration, their imagination is responsive to new incantations, and their talk abounds with color and light, and that makes them charming companions too.

The AA people are what they are, and they were what they were, because they are sensitive, imaginative, possessed of a sense of humor and awareness of universal truth. They are sensitive, which means they are hurt easily, and that helped them to become alcoholics. But when they have found their restoration, they are still as sensitive as ever; responsive to beauty and to truth and eager about the intangible glories of this life. That makes them charming companions.

They are possessed with a sense of humor. Even in their cups they have been known to say damnable funny things. Often it was being forced to take seriously the little and mean things of life that make

them seek escape in a bottle. But when they have found restoration, their sense of humor finds a blessed freedom, and they are able to reach a godlike state where they can laugh at themselves, the very height of self conquest. Go to the meetings and listen to the laughter. At what are they laughing? At ghoulish memories over which weaker souls would cringe in useless remorse. And that makes them wonderful people to be with by candlelight.

And they are possessed of a sense of universal truth. That is often a new thing in their hearts. The fact that this at-one-meant with God's universe had never been awakened in them is sometimes the reason why they drank. The fact that it was at last awakened is almost always the reason why they were restored to the good and simple ways of life. Stand with them when the meeting is over, and listen while they say the "Our Father." They have found a power greater than themselves which they diligently serve. And that gives them a charm that never was elsewhere on land or sea. It makes you know that God, Himself, is really charming, because the AA people reflect His mercy and His forgiveness.

I wish everyone could be in AA, and if everyone were, there would be no need for jails.

Big Book pg. 5

CHILD-FRIENDLY MEETINGS FOUND

Free To Be Me

Closed Women's Group
St Francis Episcopal
Pine at Newport.
Tuesday at 7:30 pm
Babysitting. Cost per child is \$2.
Potluck the last Tuesday of the month
Chip meeting.
Formerly at Church of the Chimes

Saturday's Reflections

United Methodist Church
17175 Monterey in Morgan Hill
Saturday from 9:00 - 10:00 am.

FOURTH STEP NOT YET SHARED WITH ANOTHER...

Writing it down is the beginning. I have a resentment against a couple of former bosses, and when I stare at the behavior I exhibited in each of those jobs that I initially thought I valued, I can see with far more clarity now, than I could at the time, that I had a great deal to do with their own attitude about pushing me out of the company. They almost had no choice.

My behavior at each company, which started out exemplary, became downright obnoxious and nasty towards my boss. I began talking about them behind their backs, whenever anything came up about my not measuring up to the tasks I was asked to do. Of course it was not MY fault: it was theirs. I can see many bricks in the wall that led me to create my own personal rift in my employment, and the more I lashed out at the boss, the deeper the hole became that I was personally digging.

There were no “between

times” conversations about bettering myself in the company – I just kept doing more and more things to alienate myself from the department heads I had to work with. I didn’t want to know how to improve; I just wanted to escape, change the way I felt, and get a NEW place to work where I won’t be “treated like this.” Sound like a drink was in order? Yes, looking back, that’s the kind of behavior I was exhibiting. Just pour me a quick one, Joe.

Fortunately I didn’t go out and drink. But I also did not learn how to become a better employee – I just changed jobs. And I did all right for two of them, and then a series of tough personal challenges came up which made me deviate from the job market and I pretty much decided to throw in the towel on the old career. When I ended up blowing a job I absolutely hated but it was easy and close to home and how could I miss because I’m

so smart...the ego just exploded, and so did that idea of a new career. My big-shotism got me tossed on my ear and left me devastated. How could this happen to ME???

God always has a plan, and I’m not the ruler of the world, so I need to relax and enjoy the ride. Now I’m looking to see how I can improve myself in this world of fast-paced business deals, younger and younger managers, and become teachable again. I have always liked to learn, hate to be tested, but I’ve proven to myself that I can do things I never thought possible, and I’m at it again. This time I’d like to see if I can work for another five or ten years and be able to travel around the world in my later years with the husband of my dreams. I’m looking forward to sharing my fifth step with my sponsor, then making direct amends wherever possible. It’s time to drop the gauntlet.

Anonymous

CHEYENNE’S CORNER

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2014-CheyenneC-SanJose

EDITOR'S BAG

I love April – spring is in the air, flowers are everywhere, even when you don't expect them, and love is all around us. Yes, difficulties still abound; we cannot escape life's pain -- some people are passing on, others are ill, in financial straits, getting over being sick, others are getting married or having children. All of these things are stressful, but we have a power greater than ourselves to rely on.

According to page 82 in the AA Way of Life (a reader by Bill), "Trouble Becomes an Asset," Bill says, "A.A. was born out of trouble, one of the most serious kinds of trouble than can befall an individual, the trouble attendant upon this dark and fatal malady of alcoholism. Every single one of us approached A.A. in trouble, in impossible trouble, in hopeless trouble. And that is why we came."

At this time in history a mere 73 years ago, Bill and Lois acquired the house in Bedford Hills, New York, that they later called Stepping Stones. They spent their first night there on April 11, 1941, affording them a measure of privacy for the first time since Alcoholics Anonymous was founded. (from the AA Timeline.)

We all have difficulties; in A.A. we can overcome them without taking anything. Sometimes recovery is a very, very long process – sometimes it looks as though another person "got well overnight." This is rarely the case, even

if it appears from the outside like their life may be rosy, we on the outside do not know the pain that another feels deep inside. Remember it is only through sharing our hurt and our joy with another human being that we become willing to receive the gifts that we have available in Alcoholics Anonymous. Fellowship and caring for each other are more valuable assets than I would ever have believed possible. Thank you for being a part of this "member-less" membership, and sharing your lives with me, in both reading and writing.

Fran



Topics Upcoming & Deadlines

May:	Forgiveness vs. Holding Resentments Step Five: Admitted Wrongs to God /Ourselves/Another Human Being	Due 4/16/14
June	Not a Glum Lot – Joy in Sobriety Step Six: Ready to Remove Defects of Character	Due 5/21/14
July:	Sponsorship – "The Other Human Being" Step Seven: Humbly Asked Him to Remove Our Shortcomings	Due 6/18/14

COIN Production — Address: COIN@AASanJose.org.
Editor: Fran U.; Design & Layout: Brian M.;
Photography: Richard U.

THE EDITORIAL STAFF HAS A NEW ADDRESS!!

To write to the COIN, send stories to either ODAATCOIN@yahoo.com OR the new email address at **Central Office:**
COIN@AASanJose.org.



THE HISTORY BUFF

Women in AA

In March we celebrated Women's History Month, a designation that evolved over the last century. The month-long celebration and focus on women's contributions to our nation began in 1911 when the first International Women's Day was celebrated in the United States. The first National Women's History Week was celebrated the week of March 8, 1980. In 1987, the United States Congress passed Pub.L. 100-9 designating March 1987 as Women's History Month. Since then, March has been a time to reflect on women's contributions to our country and our communities.

The AA community of Santa Clara County began in May 1941 when Mickey C. and Jim R. met for the first time at Jim's home at 1158 Crescent Drive in San Jose. These two men had been introduced the week before at an AA meeting in Oakland and learned they lived within blocks of each other in San Jose. They continued to meet at Jim's San Jose home until August 1941 when the first formal meeting place was secured at the YMCA in downtown San Jose at Third and Santa Clara Street. This group was called the "San Jose Group One."

It is not clear to me, yet, exactly when women began to show up at the San Jose Group One; but it is documented that because some of them did not feel accepted by the men of that group, a mixed meeting was started on Thursday nights in 1945. Ruth H. was one of its members and was very active in carrying the AA message to women confined in the county jail. Sue K. became her sponsor and together they worked to establish a regular meeting at the jail for women.

As a result of women coming in to AA, men were encouraged – by their wives – to start the first closed men's meeting. Some men may have attended these closed meetings to

keep the peace at home and others may have attended because they were having difficulty accepting women alcoholics into their regular meetings. Ironically, the first official meeting place for the original closed men's meeting was at the Women's Club located at 75 S. 11th Street in San Jose.

In the late 1940s, the number of women entering and staying in AA steadily grew. Many of them may have been wives of the alcoholic men who previously got sober. The first closed women's meeting started in 1950 at the downtown YMCA, where it met until 1953.

During the 1950s AA grew at great speed, as it did throughout the country. In 1963, San Jose Central Office was opened after much debate and with about \$350 in the bank. The office was located in the Old Porter Building on Santa Clara Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets. A telephone was installed and furniture was donated by members. At the time the office opened, there were 59 meetings per week in the Santa Clara Valley and each was asked to pledge \$10 per month to the office. The response was overwhelming and so it became possible to hire the first paid worker. Jane C. volunteered for the position and remained a paid worker at Central Office until 1983. During her tenure, the office was incorporated, a board of directors was elected, the office moved a few times, and AA continued to grow as more and more alcoholics were receiving the message of recovery.

In the early 1970s it was estimated the ratio of women to men in recovery was 1:4. By the early 1980s it was believed the ratio was closer to 1:1. Today there are 46 closed men's meetings and 41 closed women's meetings that meet each week in Santa Clara County. Thankfully, the opportunity for recovery is available for all and we owe so much to those who insisted that the doors be open to men and women suffering

from the disease of alcoholism.

Marty M. was the first woman alcoholic to attend the meeting that was held in Bill W.'s home in New York City. The year was 1939 and there were only two meetings being held in the country, one in Akron and one in Brooklyn at Bill W.'s brownstone. Marty's psychiatrist, who had run out of answers or suggestions on how to help her stop drinking learned of Bill W. and the birth of AA because he was asked to read and comment on one of the first manuscripts Bill wrote of Alcoholics Anonymous, the text we know of as the Big Book.

In 1939, Marty was taken from the sanitarium to the Bill W.'s home. In describing that night she later wrote, "There is another meaning for the Hebrew word that in the King James version of the Bible is translated 'salvation.' It is: 'to come home.' I had found my salvation. I wasn't alone any more." Her story can be read in the Big Book; it's entitled "Women Suffer Too."

A study of our rich history reaffirms that there are so many that contributed to creating and/or ensuring the opportunity for each one of us to find our way home. It also confirms the importance of our work today so as to ensure AA will be available for centuries to come for men and women suffering from alcoholism. So that they will know they are not alone and that the disease of alcoholism is treatable.

Annie K.,

Central Office Archivist

FOURTH STEP WISDOM

continued on previous page

"If You Want What We Have...
Do What We Do."

"Trust God - Clean House
- Work With Others."

Such wonderful words of wisdom which I heard very frequently when I first came in, and now quote myself...every time the time is right.

I can see sooo much clearer now... after I became as willing as only the dying can be, became willing to reach out and try to get a grasp on that life raft discussed in the Big Book. The key? Doing a Searching and Fearless Moral Inventory...of my life...of myself. After writing, writing, writing, doing what was suggested that I do.. I was able to see the obstacles, one of which was the torment of not having said I was sorry at the time of the infringement, because I was too drunk to do so, or may even want to do so, or even realize that that was the next right thing to do.

After the hard part was over, after I did my chart, made my calls, wrote my letters and met with those as I needed to, I became free to tackle

some things I had thought that I would have to live with my entire life. What do I mean? I mean the resentments I had no part in. Stuff I had no part in, did not cause, but that had hurt me, and continued to litter my thinking, my very being -- some things clear from my childhood.

Things concerning kids in my neighborhood, my parents, my friend's parents, my high school, high school friends, co-workers, my husband, my in-laws...even God. Not an overwhelming lot...but enough.

However, once I became obsessed -- so to speak -- in knowing the meaning of "free at last", in my life, I told God through my sponsor, in essay form, as she instructed me to do... about all "that stuff" that was taking up space in my mind, my emotions, my time and my energy in thinking about it when triggered. Gone are the dark times of being zapped with that stuff...and gone is the pain of it all. Of carrying these things around for such a long time and finally being able to enjoy the resulting freedom... to being burden free. Amazing! As the Promises say; "We will be amazed

before we are half way through."

Will have to add here that, to me, the most important aspect of the Fourth Step is the forgiveness. God's, that of others, and self forgiveness. Wow...Who knew???

I learned about living amends during this Fourth Step process also, learning that just by virtue of the fact that I don't drink, one day at a time...I am making living amends on a daily basis to any and all I might have hurt along the way, particularly my family; and now they watch me, one day at a timenot take that first drink... not worship my King, King Alcohol... anymore...yet one day at a time.

And one day at a time...I can continue to take personal inventory and when I'm wrong...promptly admit it, keeping my side of the street clean.

What a magnificent Step! What a life-changer! Thank you, God for the 4th Step and.... all of its facets.

Danette G., San Jose, CA.

APRIL SHOWERS - SONG WORDS BY B. G. DESILVA/ MUSIC BY LOUIS SILVERS - 1921

"Life is not a highway strewn with flowers, still it holds a goodly share of bliss; when the sun gives way to April showers, here's the point that you should never miss: (chorus)

"I have learned to smile when skies are gloomy, smile although my heart's about to break; when I know that trouble's coming to me, here's the happy attitude I take:

Chorus:

Though April showers may come your way, they still bring flowers that bloom in May. So if it's raining, have no regrets, 'cause if it isn't raining rain, you know, it's raining violets. And where you see clouds up on the hills, you soon will see crowds of daffodils, so keep on looking for a bluebird and list'ning for his song, whenever April showers come along."

I believe it, I try to live it, and I prac-

tice it to the best of my ability. Being able to play the piano and read and sing these words make them come to life. When I was a kid, my Sunday school music reflected being able to get into the "Joy, joy, joy, joy – down in my heart!" with exuberant singing.

Now I have many songs that I hold dear to me, because I've had a few loves in my life, as well as losses. My dad sang loudly as he was being wheeled into the hospice ward at the Veterans Hospital in Palo Alto, "Happy Days Are Here Again!" and although he was singing it in jest, I helped turn it into a positive way to leave us...because his "cares and troubles were gone – there'll be no more from now on."

And when I play some of the old songs from World War II that I know my folks used to listen to, I think of them in their youth, anticipating noth-

ing but good things as we all once did, and knowing that their lives had plenty of difficulties, too. The songs from that era in the 30s and 40s led to much optimism, to give people the will to live through the tough stuff. Shirley Temple was a huge motivator -- not only to bring people out to the movies, but to focus on the good things in life. We need to constantly be reminded that there is so much to be grateful for. As alcoholics, we need to be mindful of our ability to drive, walk, talk, and give of our time to others. We have so many privileges in our sober existences. Thank you, God, for Alcoholics Anonymous, and thank you, Alcoholics Anonymous, for God as we understand him.

FJSACDU

APRIL 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 2014	May 2014	1	2	3	4	5
1	1 2 3	SCCYPAA MEETING 6:30pm	PI/CPC WORKSHOP: 5:30 PI/CPC MEETING: 6pm OUTREACH MTG: 5:45pm Central Office INTERGROUP MTG: 7:30pm			SECRETARY'S WORKSHOP 10am, Central Office ARCHIVES WORK DAY 11:15am, Central Office
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	4 5 6 7 8 9 10					
9 10 12 13 14 15 16	11 12 13 14 15 16 17					
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	18 19 20 21 22 23 24					
26 24 25 26 27 28 29	25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
30 31						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			NORTH COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE MEETING 7:30pm			PI/CPC Workshop 10am, Central Office
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		SO COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE MEETING: 7pm				DIVERTER/12TH STEPPERS WORKSHOP 10am, Central Office
20	21 BRIDGING THE GAP 7:00pm, Hamilton & Leigh	22 H & I Committee 7:00pm 1980 E. Hamilton Ave., SJ	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

LOCAL EVENTS

April 12	Spring Dance 8:30-11:30pm: Serenity First Fellowship 304 North 6th St.@Julian, San Jose
May 18	31st Annual Bbq & Potluck: Frank Bramhall Park 1320 Willow Street, San Jose
June 8	11th Annual Language of the heart Women's AA Brunch, 11:00am - 3:00pm Holiday Inn, 6680 Regional St., Dublin

CALIFORNIA EVENTS

May 2-4	43rd Annual H&I Conference, Masonic Family Center, 1110 W. East Ave., Chico
July 17-20	25th Annual Serenity in the Sierras, Camp Richardson, Sout Lake Tahoe, CA

EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY AND GLOBE

April 18-20	Celebrate Sobriety 2014: Coast Plaza Hotel, Vancouver, BC, Canada: registration@celebratesobriety.ca
May 1-4	Coeur d'Alene, 3rd Annual CDA Convention, Coeur d'Alene Resort Hotel, Coeur d'Alene, ID, www.cdaconvention.org
July 11-13	2014 Pacific Regional Forum: Riverside hotel, 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise, ID

MAY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 2014	June 2014			1	2	3
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					SECRETARY'S WORKSHOP 10am, Central Office ARCHIVES WORK DAY 11:15am, Central Office
4	5	6 SCCYPAA MEETING 6:30pm	7 PI/CPC WORKSHOP: 5:30 PI/CPC MEETING: 6pm OUTREACH MTG: 5:45pm Central Office INTERGROUP MTG: 7:30pm	8	9	10 PI/CPC Workshop 10am, Central Office
11 Move your clock FORWARD one hour.	12	13	14 NORTH COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE MEETING 7:30pm	15	16	17 DIVERTER/12TH STEPPERS WORKSHOP 10am, Central Office
18	19 Bridging The Gap 7:00pm Hamilton & Leigh	20 SO COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE MEETING: 7pm	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 H & I Committee 7:00pm 1980 E. Hamilton Ave., SJ	28	29	30	31

Please send news and information about your group's activities before the end of the month so we can get them in the COIN.

We accept them in any form, but emailing a flyer is best:

aasanjose@comcast.net

Telephone Calls Received During March 2014

Daytime at Central Office.....**336**

Daytime 12 Step Calls.....3

(Evening 12 Step Call information is not available.)

An average of just over 8,000 hits are
made on our website each month!!

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

To all the members and groups who support us,
WE THANK YOU!

SPEAKER MEETINGS

Serenity Speaker Meeting

Sundays at 6:15

West Valley Presbyterian Church: 6191 Bollinger Rd., Cupertino

Grapevine Speakers Meeting

Fridays at 8 p.m.

United Presbyterian Church
728 W. Fremont Ave. (at Hollenbeck), Sunnyvale

Second Tradition Group of AA

Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Lincoln Glen Church, 2700 Booksin Ave, 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.

2634 Union Ave., 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

NEW

Knocking on Heaven's Door: Sat., 4PM, Cornerstone Fellowship
Group, 1600 Dell Ave., Campbell

Easy Does It: (women's mtg) Sat., 6PM, NTSI Building 275 North 4th St.
(near Julian)

First Things First: (women's mtg) Sun. 2PM, NTSI Building 275 North 4th
St. (near Julian)

**Sunday 11th Step: Sun., 7:30AM, South County Fellowship,
Friendly Inn, 17666 Crest Ave., Morgan Hill.**

**Rule #62 Men's Meeting: 6:00PM, Thurs., St. Francis Episcopal
Church, 1205 Pine Ave., San Jose..**

**Completely Out of Context: Wed., 6PM, DeFrank Center,
938 The Alameda, San Jose.**

CHANGED

Saturday Nite Live has Moved: Maple Leaf Plaza 2634 Union Ave., San Jose

Rincon Avenue Weekday Meetings: Mon.-Fri., 4PM, Holy Spirit
Episcopal Church, 41 W. Rincon Ave, St. Lawrence Hall, Campbell. Men's
Basic Book Study- 8PM Thursdays and Men's Basic Step Study - 8PM
Tuesdays, All 4PM meetings, are moving to St. Edwards/Good Samaritan
Episcopal Church, 15040 Union Ave., San Jose (near 85 & Union Ave.).
Meetings will start there on January 6, 2014.

South County District 40 GSR Meeting: 3rd Tues. monthly, Trinity
Episcopal Church, 81 N. 2nd. Str., San Jose. Meeting has moved to the First
Congregational Church of Christ, 1980 Hamilton Ave. at Leigh, San Jose.

Fireside Big Book Study: Tues, 8:15PM, San Jose Christian Reformed
Church, 5150 Camden Ave., San Jose. Meeting has moved to Joint Ventures
Churches, 6581 Camden Ave, San Jose.

**Primary Purpose Group-Beginners Big Book Workshop:
Morgan Hill Bible Church, 15055 Monterey Rd. (behind the
church), Morgan Hill..**

**The Family After: Wed., 12 noon, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral,
81 N. 2nd. Str., San Jose. Day has changed to Thursday..**

NO LONGER MEETING

Women's Meeting: Sat., 4PM, Alano Club West, 1555 S. 7th Street,
San Jose.

**As Bill Sees It: Wed., 8:30PM, South County Fellowship, Friendly
Inn, 17666 Crest Ave., Morgan Hill.**

Go with God: Mon., 8PM, 586 N. 1st Street, #230, San Jose.

PASSED ON... NOT FORGOTTEN

James L. passed away on March 19 of this year with 38 years
of sobriety. He will be missed by many of us in the valley.
January 23. 1936 - March 19, 2014

Birthday Contributions

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANT	YEARS	CONTRIBUTIONS	BIRTHDAY
Michele M.	20	Michele M.	03/01/1994
Bill C.	24	Susan S.	03/21/1990
Beth P.	26	Mel R.	03/16/1988
David W.	26	David W.	03/03/1988
David P.	44	David P.	03/15/1970
Mary F.	25	Mary F.	12/28/1988
Angela R.	6	Aileen B.	04/01/2008
Evelyn M.	13	Aileen B.	04/01/2001
Pat G.	39	Aileen B.	04/01/1975
Aileen B.	11	Aileen B.	04/06/2003

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!!

If you would like to participate or honor a friend, or Central Office. Birthdays are listed in recognition of contributions made to Central Office on a member's behalf, be it by themselves or a friend, this section (unless requested otherwise).

234 YEARS OF SOBRIETY!!

please use the birthday forms at your Meeting of contributions made to Central Office on a for a sobriety milestone and will be listed in

CLASSIFIED – HELP WANTED – ON-GOING

YOU ARE NEEDED !!!

Bill Wilson learned that in order to stay sober he had to work with other alcoholics. My sponsor sent me down to Central Office on the day I had six months, and told me to sign in as a 12th Step volunteer. I did, and I stayed sober.

Please pass the word at your meetings and to your sponsees that A.A. needs 12th Step volunteers with six months or more of sobriety willing to 12th Step and to return calls from suffering alcoholics asking for the hand of A.A.

Note the importance of this service: Recently a suffering alcoholic called the hotline at 7:00 a.m. The diverter worker who took the call spent two hours trying to find someone to take his call. The 12th Step worker was able to take the individual to his first meeting. We need YOU!



A. A. Needs Your Help!

We are in need of 12-Step volunteers. If you are available to take 12-Step phone calls and/or go out on a 12-Step call (although, never alone!), come to the workshop and sign up!

We are especially in need of Women 12-Step Volunteers

Every 3rd Saturday of each month
10 AM
Central Office
274 E. Hamilton Ave. Suite D., Campbell
408-374-8511

Intergroup Central Office

of Santa Clara County, Inc.

274 E. Hamilton Ave., Suite D

Campbell, CA 95008

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

San Jose, CA

Permit No. 3556

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



REMEMBER ...

PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL OFFICE
(any amount, to a maximum of \$3000.00 per year, please)
ARE CHEERFULLY RECEIVED AT:

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE

274 E. HAMILTON AVE., SUITE D

CAMPBELL, CA 95008

*(*your contributions are tax deductible)*



Intergroup Minutes: March 5, 2014

- Carol, Alternate Intergroup Chairperson, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM, followed by a Moment of Silence and the serenity prayer.
- Mary read the definition of Intergroup.
- Mary read the 12 traditions.
- New Intergroup Reps:
 - Lari, Spiritual Progress – Sunday 9:15 am
 - Beth, Gay and Women – Mondays 8 pm
 - Dale, Veterans of Alcohol North – Tuesday 6 pm
 - Mary, One Day at a Time – Every Day, 6 am
 - Mary, Palo Alto Women's Brunch,
 - Randy, Monday Men's Single Problem Study – Monday 8 pm
 - Nancy, St. Luke's Big Book Study – Monday 12 pm
 - Mike, Men's Closed AA – Saturday 8:30 am
- Visitors
 - None
- Birthdays:
 - Susan, 9 years
 - Vincent, 3 years
- 7th tradition.
- Corrections or Additions to the Agenda
 - Tommy O. updated his contact phone number 408.963.3233.
 - Cris T. the Unity Day Chair provided her contact phone number 408.425.1507.
- Corrections or Additions to the previous month's minutes (None/Minutes approved)
- Treasurer's Report Carol, Alternate Intergroup Chairperson announced that Joe B. will give the next Treasurers report in April.
- 45 voting representatives in attendance

Reports

Intergroup Chair, Gloria V.

- The Chairperson Gloria is out sick, so the Alternate Intergroup Chair Carol will be facilitating the meeting and she is glad everyone is here.

Central Service Board, Mike W.

The board met on February 27th. Mike stated that Central office is a non-profit entity that is exempt from paying income taxes. However the IRS requires that we complete and return the 990 form every year. Central office uses the services of Bowman Accounting Group to prepare this tax document. Linda Bowman came and explained to the Board the government requirements that a non-profit have to disclose. This helped all the Board members understand what the requirements were for Central Office as a non-profit. The Board also discussed the Central Office finances and reviewed literature inventory and for now we are in good shape. There was loving discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of investing in an app for Central Office to better serve the Santa Clara County Fellowship. The advantages for app are it is designed to be more interactive for user and the ability to disseminate ad hoc information. For instance if a member is searching for a meeting, the app might have the capability to determine the users location and providing a list of available meetings nearby. One side felt that central office had the resources to invest in an app that would better serve the fellowship. The other side of the argument states that developing an app requires special expertise and is not without considerable

development costs. Some research was conducted and app developers would want \$4,000 – \$5,000 as a deposit to begin the design. In addition, there will be continuous maintenance costs. The board also discussed that there are many apps currently available that do provide meeting location services and many of the functions that the Central Office app would. The Board concluded that they would present the ideas to Intergroup to determine if there was a strong interest to develop an app. Bruce also mentioned that he made arrangements to replace Cory, who will be moving on from working at Central Office. We are very happy for Cory, but she will be missed.

Central Office, Bruce

The big news this month is the departure of Cory, after 5 years of really terrific service to Central Office. Her last day will be Saturday, March 8 when she heads off to explore the world of water treatment. Please note the “good-bye” in the COIN.

Julie N. has been hired to replace Cory. We’re fortunate she could make herself available for this position. It’s something she really wanted. Please stop by the office to meet and welcome her. Starts in early March, either the 11th or 12th.

There are about a dozen Central Office Managers in Northern California and we get together a couple times a year to share information and experience. We met in Sacramento this past Friday and took advantage of the opportunity to talk with the CNIA Delegate about Central Office concerns. If you’d like more information about this, we can talk after the meeting.

And Central Office fairs well.

PI/CPC, Larry

Definition of the acronyms PI – Public Information and CPC – Cooperation with the Professional Community

On Feb. 25th 3 members did a presentation at a Health Class at Santa Clara University. The presentation was well received and we have been invited back on May 20th.

On Feb. 27th we had a table/booth at a Project Homeless Event in Sunnyvale.

Upcoming events: March 19th - DUI Court at San Jose State, we will have a table/booth onsite

April 9th – Health Class Presentation at San Jose State. (3 members will participate)

Opportunity for a table/booth at the Job Corp of San Jose (East Hills/White Rd.) - PI chair Larry will contact to fulfill request – brought to the floor by a member approached at an AA meeting.

PI/CPC training workshop is held 2nd Saturday each month, 10:00 am at Central Office.

Committee meets the first Wednesday each month at 6:00 pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church before the Intergroup meeting.

12 Step Committee, Bill D. Tommy O reporting.

The 12th Step committee is a list of men and women who are available whenever they came for the Diverters to reach out to for an alcoholic in need.

12th Step Committee Workshop - 3rd Saturday at Central Office at 10:00am.

Suggested sobriety requirement: 6 months

Daytime Coordinator, Mike M.

Bruce reporting. Shifts are full and they are doing well. Always looking for alternates.

Nights & Weekends Diverter Coordinator, Tommy O.

Diverter Chair responsibility is to manage over 100 people who have a shift throughout the month. Shifts range in time and length.

Most common call that diverters receive is:

1. Where is a meeting?
2. My parent is drinking too much, what do I do? – so we give Al anon number out a lot.
3. I am desperate for help, what do I?

We always need help, please remind your groups come to the workshop.

Reminder: Shifts are once a month for 3 – 6 hours; there are currently 3 open shifts.

Diverter Workshop – 3rd Saturday of the month at Central Office at 10:30 am
Suggested sobriety requirement: 1 year

Outreach Committee, Jessica

Thank everyone for the long process of signing in this evening. Really needed the update.

If there are changes are made to your meeting, please let Central Office know.

Outreach has 3 main functions:

1. Make sure meeting schedule is correct.
2. Educate groups about what Intergroup does and the different services and opportunities
3. Invite participation at Intergroup – we are not the AA police, each group is autonomous.

There is always a need for volunteers – Please see flyers.

Outreach Committee meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of the month at 5:45 at Central Office.

Orientation for new Outreach committee members is held at 7:00 before the Intergroup meeting.

COIN, Fran

We need a new Graphic design coordinator – need to be proficient In Design, that's what we use.

April: April Showers bring May Flowers! There is rain in life and problems, how do you deal with them in Sobriety? (or Step 4)

May: 5th step – Forgiveness

June – Not a Glum Lot

Please encourage the people with great verbal stories to submit their experiences in writing so that we can all hear about it.

Write stories or get your sponsee to write a story (in Word please, no Excel)

Update any outdated information the COIN in a timely fashion to get it in time to print

You can go to our website, aasanjose.org, to read COIN issues from previous years.

Submit your 300-400 word article in Word format to COIN@aasanjose.org OR to ODAATCOIN@yahoo.com.

Activities Committee, Robby W.

Intergroup Activities Chair puts on 4 events per year for Central Office. The spirit of this is to promote our 1st Tradition. All about uniting Santa Clara County as one.

Chili cook-Off – Saturday, March 22nd from 12 pm – 3 pm at Lincoln Glen Church –

We need chili teams, cornbread teams. Need volunteers.

\$60 for each chili team. \$40 for each cornbread team.

Chili Team Meeting Pre Event is March 7th at 6:15 pm at Lincoln Glen Church.

There is a \$10 suggested donation for the event. Tickets for the event will be available via presale and at the door.

Please announce at your groups - Volunteers are need for setup and clean up at Unity Day

Communications Committee,

No report. No chair at this time

New Business

Annette, Vice Chair of the Central Service Board, wanted to discuss the app for Central Office. The Central Service Board want the support or non-support of Intergroup. It could be a good service opportunity for Central Office. Should we pursue, we are open to suggestions. Would Intergroup want more information brought to the group? Please discuss this at your meetings, talk about it and see what the reaction is. This would be a first of its kind in the country.

(Brought up in Open Forum).

Old/Ongoing Business - None

Other Service Committee Reports

Unity Day – Chris T.

No report yet – first meeting is going to be March 11th.
Expect Service Position announcements in April.
Date will be announced next month.

NCCAA, Dennis

NCCAA 67th annual spring conference in San Ramon, CA – March 21, 22, 23 2014
Pre Registration is \$10 or \$15 at the conference - www.NCCAA.org

Hospitals and Institutions, Judith L-G

Contributions for 2013 were \$52,845.55. In January 2014 contributions they were \$4456.88.
“A penny a day for sobriety” – all contributions come from you, helps bring literature and the message in to hospitals and institutions.
New Facility: Crestwood Behavioral Psychiatric Center – Tuesdays at 6:45 pm, meeting only lasts 45 minutes, 3 people, no clearance required, 6 months sobriety.
Elmwood Men’s Jail – 50 more men needed. 3 meeting nights, have 7 areas where they need 3 men per area.
Salinas Valley State Prison can use 40 Men or Women are needed, Level 4 maximum security clearance is required.
H&I passed a proposal for reimbursement for those who travel for the business of H&I (committee meetings), similar to General Service.
Please see the H&I report – contact Judith with any questions
H&I meeting - 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the First Congregational Church of San Jose, 1980 Hamilton Ave. at Leigh, San Jose 95025. Next meeting is March 25th.

Bridging the Gap, Cindy, James D. reporting. Definition of Bridging the Gap Looking for female presenters to go into the jails, as well as men and women Spanish-speaking members.

Always looking for group reps!
BTG Committee Meeting – 3rd Monday of the month, 7:00 pm at First Congregational Church, 1980 Hamilton Avenue (Hamilton & Leigh), San Jose. Orientation at 6:45 pm.

North County General Service, Eric

At the last district meeting on Feb. 12th, discussion continued on a motion to submit a request to delete the phrase “of the opposite sex” from page 117 in the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.
After six months of discussion at the district, and an additional eight months of discussion at the group and sub-district level, the motion passed. The final vote was 25-2. The motion has now been placed on the agenda for the entire California Northern Coastal Area to discuss; I expect loving discussion to continue.
This is the busiest time in General Service calendar. Last month, proposals that could impact AA as a whole (formally known as Agenda Topics) were presented to the fellowship. These proposals will be discussed in April at the annual General Service Conference in New York City. Until then, the delegate representing CNCA is looking to hear the group conscience of groups in the area, which will be shared with her in April.
Most of the “hot topics” this year involve literature, including possible revisions to the pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship,” revisions to the text of the booklet “Living Sober,” and discussion about the proposed pamphlet on spirituality that includes stories from members who identify as atheist or agnostic.

Other topics include a review of current public service announcements, discussion about proposed changes to the Conference charter that clarify the process for the changes to the Twelve Steps or Twelve Traditions, and discussion about the Grapevine section known as "Alcoholism at Large."

Please talk to your General Service Representative and let him or her know what you think. To get more information about these agenda topics, feel free to attend the Agenda Topics Workshop, which will be held March 15th from 12 to 3 pm at Alano Club of San Jose (1122 Fari Ave.).

Thanks for letting me be of service

South County General Service, Larry

Eric just about covered everything.

April Area Meeting – BTG, H&I and PI/CPC meet from 11 am to 1230 pm. Happens once a year.

4 assemblies a year.

District 04/40 hosting the Elections Assembly this November, at the Scottish Rite Center.

Please help support your GSR, important time of year, hope to get group conscious, carry groups on the topics opinions to the delegate.

Agenda Topics Workshop – March 15th from 12 pm to 3 pm at the Fair Avenue Fellowship.

SCCYPAA, Jeff

Santa Clara County Young Peoples in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Have a year cycle on our committee, at the end of our cycle is ACCYPAA.

ACCYPAA – April 3 – 6th in Redding, CA at the Red Lion Hotel, rooms are \$100/night with reservation code. Elections for the committee are held after and the new term starts.

Co-Hosting – ACCYPAA Pump Up, Saturday, March 29th at 7 pm in Menlo Park. Address is 2650 Sand Hill Rd. Speaker Meeting and Game Night.

Open Forum

Saturday Nite Live has a few more events at their current location – Please see flyer in the back of the COIN.

Clean Up announcement – Gavin needs help with the coffee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm

10:16 AM
04/02/14
Accrual Basis

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Profit & Loss

March 2014

	Mar 14	Mar 13
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
3030 - Contributions-General	10,050.88	7,677.16
3050 - Group Insurance (Group premium payments)	60.00	0.00
8010 - Literature Sales	4,461.09	3,429.54
8020 - Meeting Guide Sales	904.50	538.50
8050 - Activities Committee	3,000.00	4,338.44
8060 - Newsletter Subscriptions	20.00	10.00
Total Income	18,496.47	15,993.64
Cost of Goods Sold		
5000 - Cost of Goods Sold		
5100 - Cost of Inventory Sold	3,128.46	2,479.20
5150 - Cost of Meeting Directories	1,234.84	193.86
5000 - Cost of Goods Sold - Other	0.00	0.00
Total 5000 - Cost of Goods Sold	4,363.30	2,673.06
Total COGS	4,363.30	2,673.06
Gross Profit	14,133.17	13,320.58
Expense		
6010 - Alarm Service	0.00	0.00
6015 - Activities Committee Expense	2,213.51	95.52
6025 - Central Office Events Expense	75.41	0.00
6030 - Accounting and Legal Fee	0.00	175.00
6070 - Bank Credit card charges (Credit card costs and fees)	12.77	42.09
6120 - Computer Expenses	0.00	144.81
6140 - Conferences - Exec. Dir.	59.61	0.00
6160 - Copier Expense	337.96	53.69
6190 - Depreciation Expense	236.00	236.00
6220 - Insurance - Worker Compensation	206.00	232.25
6230 - Insurance - General Liability	0.00	147.25
6240 - Employee HRA Plan	330.90	468.90
6245 - Internet Access Charges	60.00	29.95
6320 - Newsletter Expense	351.00	93.79
6330 - Office Expense	362.98	414.29
6370 - Office Paper Supply	599.61	0.00
6380 - Payroll Taxes	606.88	638.00
6410 - Postage	4.55	524.46
6430 - PI/CPC	90.23	50.00
6480 - Rent	2,153.90	2,090.55
6540 - Salaries - Office	6,812.13	6,864.49
6560 - Payroll Expenses	101.00	90.80
6600 - Signing Services	200.00	250.00
7010 - Taxes and Licenses	0.00	60.00
7050 - Telephone	155.44	207.16
7060 - Travel	0.00	40.39
9080 - Sales Tax (Sales tax paid on purchases)	0.00	0.00
Total Expense	14,969.88	12,949.39
Net Ordinary Income	-836.71	371.19
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
8030 - Interest Income	17.90	2.58
Total Other Income	17.90	2.58
Net Other Income	17.90	2.58
Net Income	-818.81	373.77

10:16 AM
04/02/14
Accrual Basis

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Profit & Loss

March 2014

Jan - Mar 14

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

3030 - Contributions-General	41,267.66
3050 - Group Insurance (Group premium payments)	525.00
8010 - Literature Sales	14,842.17
8020 - Meeting Guide Sales	2,515.00
8050 - Activities Committee	3,000.00
8060 - Newsletter Subscriptions	65.00

Total Income 62,214.83

Cost of Goods Sold

5000 - Cost of Goods Sold	
5100 - Cost of Inventory Sold	10,511.74
5150 - Cost of Meeting Directories	1,892.88
5000 - Cost of Goods Sold - Other	8.40

Total 5000 - Cost of Goods Sold 12,413.02

Total COGS 12,413.02

Gross Profit

49,801.81

Expense

6010 - Alarm Service	207.00
6015 - Activities Committee Expense	2,213.51
6025 - Central Office Events Expense	75.41
6030 - Accounting and Legal Fee	175.00
6070 - Bank Credit card charges (Credit card costs and fees)	250.46
6120 - Computer Expenses	0.00
6140 - Conferences - Exec. Dir.	59.61
6160 - Copier Expense	532.30
6190 - Depreciation Expense	236.00
6220 - Insurance - Worker Compensation	206.00
6230 - Insurance - General Liability	170.66
6240 - Employee HRA Plan	2,220.70
6245 - Internet Access Charges	489.60
6320 - Newsletter Expense	628.97
6330 - Office Expense	548.54
6370 - Office Paper Supply	714.62
6380 - Payroll Taxes	2,258.77
6410 - Postage	351.26
6430 - PI/CPC	136.74
6480 - Rent	6,398.35
6540 - Salaries - Office	21,352.14
6560 - Payroll Expenses	351.50
6600 - Signing Services	600.00
7010 - Taxes and Licenses	0.00
7050 - Telephone	466.50
7060 - Travel	0.00
9080 - Sales Tax (Sales tax paid on purchases)	126.79

Total Expense 40,770.43

Net Ordinary Income

9,031.38

Other Income/Expense

Other Income

8030 - Interest Income 55.23

Total Other Income 55.23

Net Other Income 55.23

Net Income

9,086.61

10:21 AM
04/02/14
Accrual Basis

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2014

Mar 31, 14

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1010 · Petty Cash	222.27
1020 · First Republic Bank (Checking account)	18,425.31
1021 · First Republic Bank CD 0429 (12 Mo. CD @ .1%, 08/12/2013)	17,562.96
1023 · First Republic Bank CD 3228 (12 Mos. CD @ .1%, 02/05/2014)	16,452.65
1025 · First Republic Bank CD 7266 (12 Mos. CD @ .1%, 01/06/2014)	20,100.27
1026 · First Republic Bank CD 7619 (12 Mos. CD @ .45%, 06/21/2014)	15,059.99
1027 · First Republic Bank CD 7681 (9 Mo. CD @ .5%, 01.29/14)	15,063.40

Total Checking/Savings 102,886.85

Accounts Receivable

1110 · Accounts Rec - Group Deposits	-2,301.95
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Total Accounts Receivable -2,301.95

Other Current Assets

1250 · Literature Inventory	23,758.94
1310 · Prepaid Insurance	2,659.31
1499 · Undeposited Funds	3,123.52

Total Other Current Assets 29,541.77

Total Current Assets 130,126.67

Fixed Assets

1630 · Office Equipment	30,259.02
1640 · Office Furnishings - Asset	7,757.80
1641 · Less Accumulated Depreciation	-34,935.97
1680 · Leasehold Improvements	300.00
1681 · Less Accumulated Amortization	-300.00

Total Fixed Assets 3,080.85

Other Assets

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

TOTAL ASSETS 135,201.37

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

2240 · Sales Tax Payable (due quarterly)	1,493.17
2600 · Unity Day	1,602.03

Total Other Current Liabilities 3,095.20

Total Current Liabilities 3,095.20

Total Liabilities 3,095.20

Equity

2740 · Temporarily Restricted Funds	10,842.08
3900 · Unrestricted Funds	112,177.48
Net Income	9,086.61

Total Equity 132,106.17

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 135,201.37

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Group Contributions

March 2014

	Mar 14	Jan - Mar 14		Mar 14
1 INV EarlyBird Group 70968	350.00	350.00	Ladies Amethyst AA Study Group 749 (Wed.)	0.00
1 INV Fremont & Hollenbeck Group 70907	0.00	350.00	Lesbians Living the Promises 349 (Fri.)	36.00
1 INV Fremont & Manet Group 70975	0.00	490.00	LGBT HappyDestinyGroup 621 (Sat.)	326.60
1 INV One Day at a Time 70903	621.25	2,621.25	LGBTQ Gay & Lesbian Topic Disc 516 (Sat.)	0.00
1 INV Saturday Nite Live Group 70905	70.00	210.00	Liquor Was But A Symptom 203 (Thur.)	0.00
1 Inv Seeking Guidance Group 70976	0.00	910.00	Los Altos Group 225 (Thur.)	0.00
1 INV South County Fellowship 70954	300.00	900.00	Los Gatos Chips 413 (Sat.)	134.04
1 INV Spiritual Progress Group 70904	1,300.00	1,300.00	Los Gatos Tuesday Night 110 (Tues.)	0.00
1 INV Winchester Fellowship 70960	0.00	25.00	Men's Closed AA Mtg. 687 (Sat.)	338.00
A Vision for You Women's 802 (Tues.)	100.00	100.00	Men's Group 97 (Mon.)	0.00
A.B.C. Women's Group 58 (Mon.)	120.27	120.27	Men's Honesty Group 26 (Sat.)	630.00
B.F.E.	0.00	597.16	Men's Single Problem Study Gp 220 (Thur.)	0.00
Back to Basics Saratoga Noon 151 (Tues.)	0.00	101.00	Midday Women's Group 91 (Mon.)	0.00
Beginners & Beyond LG 345 (Sat.)	0.00	100.00	Monday at a Time 208 (Mon.)	0.00
Big Book Speakers Group 289 (Fri.)	252.00	567.00	Monday Midday Meeting 714 (Mon.)	140.00
Big Book Step Study (Men) 325 (Fri.)	0.00	120.00	Mountain View Group 350 (Sat.)	0.00
Big Book Study Mlpts 347 (Sat.)	0.00	20.00	New Nooners 808 (Mon.)	35.00
Birthday Contribution 00951	194.00	1,138.00	New Steps for Living 20 (Sun.)	0.00
California Ave. Supper Group 715 (Thur.)	0.00	438.73	Newcomers, Oldtimers (Women) 769 (Sat.)	0.00
Cambrian Park Men's Group 567 (Thur.)	0.00	420.00	No Bull Big Book 655 (Fri.)	0.00
Cambrian Saturday Night (Chips) 376 (Sat.)	0.00	688.00	Pass It On Group 418 (Sun.)	0.00
Candlelight Group 380 (Sat.)	120.00	120.00	Personal 00911	105.00
Character Defect Freedom 201 (Tues.)	0.00	506.00	Plaza Del Rey Group 52 (Sun.)	119.00
Chip Winners (Chips) 168 (Wed.)	0.00	222.31	Queer and Sober 671 (Sat.)	0.00
Daily Reflections 432 (Thur.)	140.00	140.00	Recovery Roulette 326 (Thurs.)	0.00
Design for Living 200 (Tues.)	0.00	100.00	Roots 344 (Sat.)	332.48
District 40	0.00	165.20	Second Tradition Group Spkr 721 (Sat.)	0.00
Early Tuesday Group 119 (Tues.)	290.50	761.60	Serenity Speaker Meeting 533 (Sun)	0.00
East Valley Group 322 (Fri.)	0.00	150.00	Silver Serenity 517 (Thurs.)	70.00
Eleventh Step Meditation Mtg 276 (Thur.)	0.00	105.00	Single Problem Study (Men) 212 (Wed.)	486.82
End of the Line Men's Group 147 (Tues.)	0.00	156.80	Sisters in Sobriety 548 (Thur.)	0.00
Evergreen Group 884 (Thur.)	70.00	70.00	Sisters Seeking Serenity 858 (Wed.)	261.00
Fireside Big Book Study 809 (Tues.)	80.00	80.00	Sober in the Park 688 (Sun.)	0.00
Firing Line (The) 404 (Mon.)	0.00	700.00	Sober Mafia 204 (Sun.)	0.00
Friday Big Book Study 702 (Fri)	0.00	210.00	Sober Thoughts 499 (Wed.)	0.00
G Gilroy Groups 70906	280.00	280.00	Society of the Second Chance 305 (Tues.)	0.00
G Higher Power Hour 70952	462.00	462.00	Spiritual Awakening 813 (Tues.)	200.00
G Remember We Deal With Alcohol 70938	486.82	486.82	Spiritual Step Study 233 (Sun.)	0.00
G Sunrisers Group/Carrows 70932	426.21	1,279.73	Starting the Steps 753 (Fri.)	0.00
G Third Tradition Women's Gp, The 70979	301.76	923.99	Sundowner's Dinner Mtg (Chips) 768 (Wed.)	0.00
G West Valley Fellowship 70942	0.00	161.00	Truly Happy Hour 324 (Fri.)	312.13
Gay & Lesbian Sober Experience 896 (Mon.)	0.00	90.30	Tuesday Night Happy Hour 796	0.00
Gay & Lesbian Step & Trad GP 221 (Fri.)	0.00	98.00	Tuesday Night Men's Mtg 525 (Tues.)	0.00
Gay Alcoholics Living/Sobriety 742 (Wed.)	0.00	102.26	Tuesday Night Saratoga Group 152 (Tues.)	300.00
Gay Men & Women Together 85 (Mon.)	0.00	640.00	Unknown	0.00
Gay Reflections on the Solution 841 (Wed.)	0.00	60.00	Up the Creek-Daily Reflections 745 (Tue.)	0.00
Get Up and Go (Women) 187 (Sat.)	0.00	560.00	Villages Group of AA, The 406 (Mon.)	260.00
Happy Destiny (Women) 109 (Tues.)	0.00	874.00	Waves of Healing 526 (Mon.)	0.00
Happy, Joyous & Free 650 (Tues.)	0.00	68.00	Women's Brunch 640 (Sat.)	0.00
High Hope (Men's) 239 (Sat.)	0.00	150.00	Women's Topic Disc. Group 103 (Tues.)	0.00
In the Solution 647 (Sat.)	0.00	36.81	Women to Women 704 (Sat.)	0.00
Inspiration Big Book 195 (Wed.)	0.00	192.08		
Intergroup Council 80909	0.00	627.00		
			TOTAL	10,050.88

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Group Contributions

March 2014

	Jan - Mar 14
1 INV EarlyBird Group 70968	191.50
1 INV Fremont & Hollenbeck Group 70907	180.00
1 INV Fremont & Manet Group 70975	326.60
1 INV One Day at a Time 70903	78.00
1 INV Saturday Nite Live Group 70905	105.00
1 Inv Seeking Guidance Group 70976	128.09
1 INV South County Fellowship 70954	134.04
1 INV Spiritual Progress Group 70904	304.50
1 INV Winchester Fellowship 70960	338.00
A Vision for You Women's 802 (Tues.)	652.40
A.B.C. Women's Group 58 (Mon.)	630.00
B.F.E.	367.00
Back to Basics Saratoga Noon 151 (Tues.)	217.65
Beginners & Beyond LG 345 (Sat.)	166.35
Big Book Speakers Group 289 (Fri.)	140.00
Big Book Step Study (Men) 325 (Fri.)	320.00
Big Book Study Mlpts 347 (Sat.)	60.00
Birthday Contribution 00951	447.30
California Ave. Supper Group 715 (Thur.)	101.39
Cambrian Park Men's Group 567 (Thur.)	469.92
Cambrian Saturday Night (Chips) 376 (Sat)	161.18
Candlelight Group 380 (Sat.)	5,362.56
Character Defect Freedom 201 (Tues)	119.00
Chip Winners (Chips) 168 (Wed.)	141.00
Daily Reflections 432 (Thur.)	110.25
Design for Living 200 (Tues.)	332.48
District 40	1,856.43
Early Tuesday Group 119 (Tues.)	292.50
East Valley Group 322 (Fri.)	70.00
Eleventh Step Meditation Mtg 276 (Thur.)	486.82
End of the Line Men's Group 147 (Tues.)	123.87
Evergreen Group 884 (Thur.)	261.00
Fireside Big Book Study 809 (Tues.)	100.00
Firing Line (The) 404 (Mon.)	100.00
Friday Big Book Study 702 (Fri)	140.00
G Gilroy Groups 70906	179.00
G Higher Power Hour 70952	509.00
G Remember We Deal With Alcohol 70938	599.49
G Sunrisers Group/Carrows 70932	125.00
G Third Tradition Women's Gp, The 70979	100.00
G West Valley Fellowship 70942	312.13
Gay & Lesbian Sober Experience 896 (Mon.)	46.00
Gay & Lesbian Step & Trad GP 221 (Fri.)	347.00
Gay Alcoholics Living/Sobriety 742 (Wed.)	300.00
Gay Men & Women Together 85 (Mon.)	100.21
Gay Reflections on the Solution 841 (Wed.)	50.00
Get Up and Go (Women) 187 (Sat.)	260.00
Happy Destiny (Women) 109 (Tues.)	308.00
Happy, Joyous & Free 650 (Tues.)	515.69
High Hope (Men's) 239 (Sat.)	104.00
In the Solution 647 (Sat.)	252.00
Inspiration Big Book 195 (Wed.)	
Intergroup Council 80909	41,267.66

Santa Clara County Intergroup 2014 Calendar of Events

7th Annual Chili Cook-off

Saturday, March 22nd 12 noon – 3pm

Lincoln Glen Church

2700 Booksin Ave San Jose

28th Annual Old Timers Meeting

Date tbd in September

St Martin of Tours

7th Annual Sponsor Brunch

Saturday, October 4, 11am-2pm

Lincoln Glen Church

2700 Booksin Ave San Jose

Flyers with full details will be distributed prior to events.

**To volunteer for these events contact Central Office at 408-374-8511, or
Activity Chair Robby Willis at 408-373-2465, or robertdwillis@gmail.com.**

Visit our website at www.aasanjose.org