

INTERGROUP MEETING MINUTES

September 1, 2021

Intergroup Chair:

Jaye S. jayezdaisy@yahoo.com

- Jaye S., Intergroup Chairperson, opened the meeting at 7:30 pm followed by a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. Stefanie read the definition of Intergroup. Theresa read the Twelve Traditions.

New Intergroup Reps:

- Patti – Bowers Fellowship
- Stefanie – Women’s Step Topics
- Theresa – Sufficient Substitute

Visitors

- Michael D., Liaison from Soledad Prison
- Jeff D.
- Jim M. (will be IG Rep for R&B in October)

Birthdays:

- Dave P., 15 years
- Jaye, 7 years
- Jim M., 15 years

Corrections or Additions to the Months, Minutes or Reports

(none)

Corrections or Additions to the Previous Month’s Minutes

(none)

IG Treasurer’s Report – Alexis W.

- Currently have \$1240 in bank
- Tonight’s collection: \$43

7th Tradition Contributions

Alexis Winslow, Treasurer

408-712-1182

winslowalexis2@gmail.com

- Venmo: @Alexis-Winslow-1
(last 4-digits of my phone # 1182-if needed on Venmo)
- Mail Check: 375 Oleander Drive, San Jose, CA 95123
Payable to: Alexis Winslow
- Please notate on Venmo or check: For Intergroup

REPORTS

Nominating Committee

Report from Robby

(Gloria Vallejo and Mary Mccoy)

One person to represent the Central Service Board, the Recording Secretary, and the Alternate Recording Secretary

Please mention need for this committee to have nominations. Would like to have 2 more names to vet.

Central Service Board Chair Member Requirements

Central Service Board members requirements (<https://aasanjose.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/By-Laws1.pdf>):

- 5 years continuous sobriety,
- US Citizen,
- Resident of Santa Clara County,
- Intergroup experience
- Business experience, IT, Finance, HR are ideal
- This board oversees the operation of Central Office a non-profit business with paid employees
- 2 year commitment

Central Service Board

Central Service Board: Elected Group board members that oversee Central Office Operations. Report by: Chair, Carole (408) 621-9300,

Email: caroleruvalcaba@gmail.com

7th tradition help keep the central office open.

CSB- Treasury Report for July – Find full details for the IG minutes & financial reports on the website at:

<https://aasanjose.org/co-intergroup-financials-and-minutes>

Central Office Report

Here's the report I gave at the IG meeting yesterday. In the future, I will send it to you in advance of the IG meeting.

The contribution page on the www.aasanjose.org website has changed. The four ways to contribute are now listed separately:

- Group Contributions
- Individual Contributions
- AA Birthday Contributions
- Faithful Fivers

In the past when making group contributions, there was a field to enter the group name or number. There is now a drop down list showing the names of the groups. This was done so that we can accurately capture the group information for contributions. If your group is not listed, please let Central Office know and we will add your group to the list.

Please look at your groups' meetings on the website to make sure they are correct. When the new meeting directory is printed, we want to make sure it is accurate.

IT / Website Coordinator

Phil (408) 656-2236

Here is the link to the new/updated meeting form. Please give this to your groups and meetings to share and get your meeting listed on the <https://aasanjose.org> website!

<https://aasanjose.org/new-updated-meeting-form>

Glenn E. has been helping sober.glenn@gmail.com

Virtual Solutions

Joe Nunez

<https://aasanjose.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Overview-Planning-Meetings1.pdf>

September 2021 Report:

The purpose of this committee is to be able to provide resources on www.aasanjose.org to help autonomous groups make autonomous group decisions during the current Covid-19 pandemic. The resources provided will relate to in-person meetings, online meetings, online/in-person (hybrid) meetings, and Covid-19 public health resources.

Please refer to the links on the Overview Tab of the "Future In Person Meetings" on the www.aasanjose.org website for more info directly from The County of Santa Clara and The State of CA. As a reminder where there is a difference between the county and the state public health orders, the more restrictive order must be followed. You will also find more information to help your meeting/group navigate reopening In Person meetings.

The link for "Hybrid Meetings" has information to help your group/meeting navigate resources on how to run a Hybrid Meeting should your meeting choose to do so.

You may want to work with your General Service Rep and look over the document we created titled "AA Group Inventory for the COVID-19 Era". It is a great resource for your group to either utilize or reference if you are interested in doing a group inventory. As a reminder a Group Inventory helps the group/meeting evaluate how well they are fulfilling their primary purpose to help alcoholics recover through A.A. 's suggested Twelve Steps of recovery.

<https://aasanjose.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Group-Inventory-for-the-Covid-19-Era.pdf>

Some feedback we have heard is that traditionally the GSR is responsible for heading the group inventory. Since every meeting/group is autonomous, and with these extraordinary circumstances, we believe that the group/meeting should discuss and decide for themselves who should best lead this.

This is NOT a full group Inventory; it has been tailored based on Covid-19 topics. It is meant to be either used as is or a starting point for your groups/meetings to use at their discretion.

We would like to ask the General Service Liaisons to please make sure and share this info from the website with General Service.

Also feel free to post this inventory on any Santa Clara AA Social Media groups to help spread the word. For example, I know a lot of groups have created Facebook Groups, this would be great info to pass along so that members who may not attend business meetings have access to these resources.

Feel free to contact the committee at aasjvsc@gmail.com with any questions. We are also asking you to share best practices and learnings your group may have had in regards to Hybrid meetings. We want to be able to share this info with other groups/meetings looking for meetings that have actually had success in regards to Hybrid meetings.

Lastly, a reminder to utilize the "NEW/UPDATED MEETING FORM" <https://aasanjose.org/new-updated-meeting-form> to list a new or update a current meeting. This new form asks for new information not previously requested that will allow AA 's Central Office of Santa Clara County to create and maintain more accurate meeting guide listings, and to keep your group better informed about upcoming events.

Diverter/Web Hotline/12 Stepper Workshop

Carol B. -- Diverter Chair, carolbuchser@aol.com or text 650/743-5023

Katy F. -- Web Hotline Chair, sccwebhotline@gmail.com

Blake B. -- 12 Step Chair

Santa Clara County Intergroup has 3 service committees dedicated to responding to the alcoholic still suffering. The Diverter, our phone hotline, The Web Hotline, answering chat requests from www.AAsanjose.org and the 12 Step Committee introducing the newcomer to AA one on one. All of these service positions require a working knowledge of the 12 steps and 12 traditions. We can especially use anyone with multiple language skills.

Diverter

Diverter Volunteers provide after-hours phone coverage, as well as daytime phone coverage. Other AA fellowships may call this service the 24-hour hotline or the AA hotline. We call it the Diverter because in the late 70s-early 80s we had a call-forwarding machine called The Diverter. Incoming calls are diverted (or forwarded) to a person who is on call. Diverter shifts are once a month for an average time of 3-4 hours. You can take your shift wherever you happen to be: at home, on a Zoom meeting, at dinner, or out of town. The service term is at least 1 year, but many serve longer. The Diverter sobriety requirement is 1 year.

Open Diverter Shifts:

- 5th Thursday, 7-10pm starting 9/30
- 5th Friday, 6-10 am starting 10/29

Trainings are every 3rd Saturday at 10am

- Upcoming Training: September 18th @ 10am
Meeting ID: **172 445 181**
Passcode: **019237**

Service Requirements:

Diverter = 1 yr sobriety

Web Hotline = 1 yr sobriety

12 Stepper = 6 mos sobriety

My name is Carol B, an alcoholic and the current Diverter Coordinator presenting on behalf of Neil G, our daytime Diverter Coordinator, Katy F, the Web Hotline chair and Blaze B, the 12-Step chair.

Santa Clara County Intergroup has 3 service committees dedicated to responding to the alcoholic still suffering--the Diverter, our after-hours phone hotline as well as the daytime phone hotline; the Web Hotline--answering chat requests from www.AAsanjose.org; and the 12-Step Committee, introducing the newcomer to AA one on one. All of these service positions require a working knowledge of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. We can especially use anyone with multiple language skills.

First, the Diverter. Diverter volunteers provide after-hours phone coverage as well as the daytime phone hotline. Other AA fellowships may call this service the 24-hour hotline or the AA hotline. We call it the Diverter because in the late 70s-early 80s we had a call-forwarding machine called The Diverter. When our Central Office is closed, incoming calls are diverted (or forwarded) to a person who is on call. Diverter shifts are once a month for an average time of 3-4 hours. You can take your shift wherever you happen to be: at home, on a Zoom meeting, at dinner, or out of town. The service term is at least 1 year, but many serve longer. The Diverter sobriety requirement is 1 year.

Current open diverter shifts are the fourth Thursday of the month from 7-10pm starting September 23, the fifth Thursday (which happens only four times/year) from 7-10pm starting September 30, and the fifth Friday (which happens only four times/year) from 6-10:00am starting October 29. Please raise your hand or message me in the chat or come to the training workshop to sign up.

Next, the Web Hotline. In August 2020 we launched the Web Hotline service. From 8am to 8pm, visitors to www.aasanjose.org can open the chat bubble and type questions. The pool of Web Hotline volunteers answers these requests using Slack, an application available on a computer and smartphone. Web Hotline volunteers set their own schedules and answer incoming chats if available. There is no service term. The sobriety requirement is 1 year.

Finally, the 12-step committee. To be a 12th Stepper means we try to carry AA's message to alcoholics as it is stated in AA's Step 12. When the phone diverter or the web hotline has a person who wants to speak with someone further, the volunteer will call you with that person's name and number. You'll call them and get to spend more time with them to build a relationship. We then invite and meet them at a virtual meeting and introduce them to our fellowship. This is a great service position that works around your availability. Once you go to the workshop, your name stays on the 12th Step List. The sobriety requirement is 6 months.

We offer a joint training workshop for all of these service positions on the third Saturday of each month. Your attendance can get you three service positions at the same time. The next workshop will be Saturday, September 18, 10:00 am on Zoom. I have posted the information in the chat; it is also on the calendar of events at www.aasanjose.org.

Take Away: Please let your group know these service opportunities are available, providing an easy way to help another alcoholic, whether it's a newcomer, a person with long sobriety who is struggling, or just someone trying to find the next meeting. Training workshops are offered monthly. Are there any questions?

Secretary Workshop

Cheryl (408) 838-4188

This Saturday at 10:00 am

Secretary Workshops are held on the 1st Saturday of the month via zoom. Information is posted on the main website at

https://aasanjose.org/events/category/virtual/2021-01/?tribe_events_cat=virtual&tribe-bar-date=2021-01

Trainings are held on the 1st Saturday of the month at 10am.

The next training will be held Saturday, September 4.

Outreach Committee

Outreach Committee needs an Outreach Committee Coordinator!

Outreach Committee Coordinator: Coordinate the monthly Outreach Committee Workshop, held the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:45pm (prior to the Intergroup meeting) The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to encourage each meeting in Santa Clara County to have an Intergroup Rep. Committee members attend physical meetings (or Zoom meetings) to recruit Intergroup Reps. Attend the monthly Intergroup meeting to give a report on the Outreach service and ask for volunteers to attend meetings and recruit Intergroup Reps. Assist in maintaining the accuracy of the Santa Clara County Meeting Guide by reporting to central office any changes to individual meeting details, or meetings which are no longer in existence.

Sobriety Requirement: 2 years

Term: 2 years is preferred

Activities Committee

Activities Coordinator needed!!! Reach out to Jaye if you are interested in becoming an activities coordinator!

It is a svc commitment that requires quite a bit of work—there is a 2 yr sobriety requirement. Gloria V. would be happy to speak to you about the commitment and expectations.

Duties include: Coordinate and oversee activities sponsored by Intergroup. Act as responsible party for budget and communication of events to Santa Clara County. Also sit on ad-hoc committees for additional special activities as directed by Intergroup Chair.

Events website: <https://aasanjose.org/events/category/virtual>

Newsletter Committee

Geena Louise, Editor of the COIN

I GRs please post the following info in your meetings. AA Related Announcement:

The COIN is the monthly Central Office Intergroup Newsletter. Who writes for the COIN? YOU DO!

We need more articles for the October issue with topics Step 10, Tradition 10, Perseverance, or any sobriety topic. Articles due by the 20th of this month. Please write! It's as much fun as it sounds.

<https://aasanjose.org/writing-for-the-coin>

Please email or call the COIN Editor, Geena Louise, with questions at coin@aasanjose.org or 408-823-6040.

AA Inventory Committee

Austin R. (408) 391-0637 / austinrobinson@gmail.com

<https://aasanjose.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Group-Inventory-for-the-Covid-19-Era.pdf>

Who Participates in an Inventory?

- Active IGRs or their alternates if primary IGR is unavailable
- IG Elected Committee Members (Chair, Alt-chair, treasurer, recording secretary, etc)
- Intergroup Committee Members (Diverter, 12th step, Web/Tech, Web Hotline, Outreach, Activities, Nominating, Newsletter, Ad-hoc)
- Central Service Board Members
- Tradition 8 Office Staff & Central Office Volunteers (diverter/web hotline volunteers)

Note: Initially it was discussed to only hear from the IGR community, but it was agreed that the more participation (concept 4) and information (tradition 2) that we can gather the better. It was also discussed to open the doors to anyone and everyone. However, there were concerns about the practicality of this. For regular inventory purposes, it was recommended that we employ group delegation through their representatives (concepts 1&2).

Given that it's been multiple years since the last intergroup inventory, should our next inventory be open to more members than just the list above? What about previous holders of these positions whose experience might be valuable to hear, or the member-at-large whose home group isn't able to elect an IGR at this time?

- Concerns about having a chaotic inventory, practicality of hosting too many people
- Inventory length is also a concern, if a lot of members attend
- Would need a strong facilitator to ensure that information is not repeated and opinions/consciences are shared with love and tolerance

Note: Unsure at this stage if this is the right course of action. Will solicit feedback from the intergroup representatives.

When should Intergroup have their next inventory?

- As early as January, given intergroup election and holiday season. The more time the better, so that groups can carefully consider and discuss questions, then inform their IGRs.

Note: The possibility of doing something sooner was discussed. While possible, the likelihood of having an effective and comprehensive inventory process would be at risk. If the groups feel strongly about this one way or another, please share that information with the committee and/or the intergroup chair.

When should Intergroup consider holding inventories?

- One perspective is every 2 years, another perspective is every 5 years.

Note: Chair's discretion/right of decision might be the best option here.

Where should intergroup hold its next inventory and should it be online only? In-person only?

Hybrid?

- One option discussed and considered was to do a survey.
- Given the state of affairs with the pandemic, it was suggested that we could likely cooperate with a local group's facilities that has previously hosted Intergroup/Central Office events in the past. The group has strong hybrid meeting functionality which seems to be the best option at this point in time; to ensure we are as inclusive and accommodating to as many members as feasible.

Note: We need to figure out the when before the where.

Who should facilitate the inventory and what role does a facilitator play?

- One view was that the facilitator does a lot the organization, planning, and guiding of the inventory process from who participates to question selection.
- Another view was that the facilitator only conducts the inventory itself.
- Finally, another view is that the the Facilitator helps committee review our plan to ensure nothing is missed

Note: There are ample qualified trusted servants available to help here. Need to figure out the When and Where first.

What questions should be on our next inventory? Is there a process to solicit feedback from groups and members? How are questions selected? How many should be selected?

Note: Discussion item for next committee meeting, hoping to receive inputs from IGRs, groups, and/or members at large.

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORTS

H&I

Hospitals and Institutions - carries the message of AA into jails, prisons, rehab facilities, hospitals, and other settings where alcoholics can't get out to a meeting. Interested in helping out? Call 408-877-4464 Thanks! Larund408@gmail.com Lisa Rund

Contributions can go to www.handinorcal.org

Bridging the Gap

Bridge the Gap always needs people to chair 👍. Video or in person opportunities. Thanks

PI/CPC

From Francine B., PI/CPC Liaison & Chair

A.A. in Action – a workshop for Professionals

Eventbrite Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/165106719643>

WHEN: Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 10am & 6:30pm (90-minutes) with both A.A. and Al-Anon providing brief presentations followed by 5 panelists from the professional community.

WHO: This event is expressly for professionals in healthcare, human resources/trade unions, educators, court systems/corrections/probation, law enforcement, faith leaders/clergy, government/social services

WHAT: There will be a brief presentation about A.A. as well as Al-Anon, followed by 5 panelists who will speak about A.A. – this event will be video-recorded and posted to YouTube afterwards.

- English to Spanish Translation will be provided
- At the June 26th, CNCA 06 Area Assembly it was voted to release \$12,500 for the 8 broadcast emails to 50,000 professional contacts in Northern California.
 - The Email List Vendor was so impressed by our efforts to inform professionals, they provided us with an additional 35,000 email contacts for a total of 85,000 professional emails
- Jeff Wine, GSC Staff Coordinator, is involved and has reviewed all that we have planned.
- Eric (alternate delegate and Area PI/CPC Sharing Session Chair) and Teddy (past delegate) have been helping to review and edit email invitations to the professionals
 - Sound bites of 1-3 minutes are being provided by each of our 5 panelists for inclusion in the emails sent 85,000 professionals

Newcomer Nights - September is Recovery Month! – Title: *What is AA?*

WHEN: Thursday, September 30, 6-8pm, via Zoom

WHO: This will be offered to the general public and is for anyone who thinks they might have a problem with alcohol (interested family & friends are also welcome to

attend). An open invitation will be offered via newspaper/radio/TV/social media via public service announcements.

- English to Spanish Translation will be provided

WHAT: There will be a 15-minute PowerPoint presentation on Alcoholics Anonymous, a 10-minute presentation on Al-Anon, immediately followed by an A.A. panel.

- 3 sober members will share:
 - What brought them to A.A.,
 - How they achieved sobriety, and
 - Why they keep coming back.
- An open Q&A will follow.

Friends and family will be invited to go to a special Al-Anon break-out room to hear from members of Al-Anon about how their program works + a Q&A.

URGENT NEED: FOR DONATIONS OF GRAPEVINE & LA VINA

WHEN: Immediate need for more than 50 subscriptions to our meeting in print for 9 homeless facilities where rates of alcoholism are more than 60%!

WHO: To support the homeless who are in facilities that offer long-term housing for the chronically homeless.

WHAT: Price of \$28.97/subscription for the Grapevine

Price of \$14.45/subscription for La Vina

Sober and Free

Joe Nunez

<https://www.soberandfree.org>

Business Meeting

7:00 PM

First Unitarian Church

160 N. 3rd Street, San Jose

(Before 8:00 PM Meeting)

Come and grab one of these fine positions:

- The Steering Committee and minimum lengths of continuous sobriety shall be:
- Conference Chair - 5 years
- Conference Vice-Chair- 4 years
- Treasurer- 3 years
- Secretary - 2 years
- Communications Chair - 3 years
- Al-Anon Chair

District 04 - Santa Clara North County

Pris J. DCM/Alt DCMC (RightSized2011@gmail.com)

- Last month, we had a very interesting presentation by an Area Officer present on How the AA Archives process works. I highly recommend this presentation because we learned so many Archives for instance that each group is allocated a spot for their Archives. Do you know what's contained in your archives?
- This year's November 6—The Inventory Assembly is being hosted by District 04. As such so we have formed a committee and ARE brain-storming ideas for some fun activities, so we hope to see you there!
- Our district had an election for a new H&I Representative – GSR Bev will be our new rep
- We are in the midst of forming a budget committee in preparation for the end of year budget activities
- Dist 04 hosts a Service meeting. Come and join us on select Sundays for the “Bringing the A.A. Service Manual to Life” service meeting. Our next event is Sunday, Sept 12.

Kathi F. — Pacific Region Trustee

Chapter 9: The General Service Board

Sunday, September 12, 5- 6pm Pacific Time

Zoom ID: 497 810 6507