

A Publication of the Intergroup Central Office of Santa Clara County

# MONTHLY **NEWSLETTER**

Volume 28 Issue # 24

The Santa Clara Intergroup Central office supports the fellowship of Alcoholic Anonymous in Santa Clara County from Palo Alto to Gilroy. Come visit us at:

274 East Hamilton Ave. Suite D Campbell, CA 95008 408-889-1001

email: info@aasanjose.org

You can now subscribe to THE COIN here:

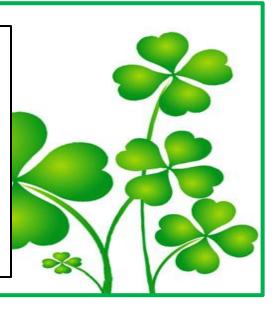
https://aasanjose.org/#join-email



**MARCH** 2024

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

- ✓ Third Step/Third Tradition
- ✓ Member's Corner
- March VolunteerOpportunities
- ✓ AA Santa Clara Financial Group Contribution Update
- **✓ Upcoming Events**
- √ February Birthdays
- ✓ AA Santa Clara Intergroup Resources



#### √ THIRD Step:

"Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him."



# ✓ THIRD Tradition:

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."



~Third Step AA Prayer~
(Page 63 – A. A. Big Book)
God,
I offer myself to Thee
To build with me and to do with me as thou wilt.
Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do
thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power,
Thy Love and
Thy Way of life, May I do Thy will always!

Hope In Recovery through Love, Light & Laughter ~patty~



#### **MEMBER'S CORNER**

A heartfelt thank you to Jennifer M.L. for our March writing contribution! I am also sharing my reflection on a wonderful meeting. We love to hear about a celebration, a poem, or a story that brings inspiration to recovery!

I welcome your feedback on The COIN - please share your thoughts at the link below. Jeanine M., The COIN Editor: coin@aasanjose.org



"Humbled I am as I lay in what I describe as a comfortable cot of a bed, just five days after being released from the hospital. It feels as if I am going backwards while nearing 15 years of not drinking a lick or sip of alcohol. The alcohol induced nightmares of old dating back to 1991, are enough to keep me sober. With no desire whatsoever to turn to that liquor or beer, near or far. It's been quite a ride I must admit."

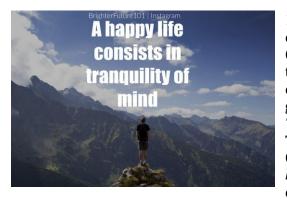
"I find myself rhyming with a poetic comedic tone when I write or speak. A coping mechanism that I have acquired; to live my life without anger, wrath, regrets or resentments. I attended a great comedy show in 2021 for my 50th Birthday and 12th year of recovery and sobriety from alcohol. I am having positive memories of that event in Georgia now. While thinking of this topic discussion of the Third Step in Alcoholics Anonymous. I'm turning my will over. And I don't mean the steering wheel of my vehicle. Toward a higher power that I know is in charge of my life in all perspectives, GOD"

"All Praise and Thanks to God. I cannot do anything without God. I have felt and seen

the power of God with numerous examples. I read Holy books as affirmations. I talk to people who provide Angelic confirmations. With 14 years, 8 months and 89 days of recovery and sobriety from alcoholism. At that time, it was God who led me to the hospital in January 2024 where I stayed for eight days. To provide Spiritual, Emotional, Physical and Mental Health cleansing, assistance and repair. I surrendered myself then and even now as I address these needs in a residential setting for thirty days. "

" There is the Third Step in Alcoholics Anonymous: "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him." There is also the Third Step Prayer, so needed and divine. I reflect on the plural form in this step and think of togetherness and connectivity. Questions then come to mind. What does one do if they, he, she, we, you, our, I, us or them are alone with no support? Next question. What does one do if they do not believe in God or a Higher Power? These are two of many questions I pose in hopes that a future writer or author will address and answer in further Coin Newsletter issues. Grateful for this opportunity. All the best to everyone. Peace and blessings,

*Jennifer M.L.* 



I love our program in Santa Clara County because it continues to offer vibrant opportunities for fellowship. On a recent Saturday in February, I attended a meeting that sparked a renewed joy, inspiration and hope. I was one of the 170 members of our AA community who gathered in Willow Glen to honor our "Old Timers/Long Timers" - members who have 20 to 50 years of sobriety. The term "Old-Timers" came from the 5th AA Convention in St. Louis, where Bill W. stated that "AA had come of age" with members having achieved continuous sobriety for 20 years.

The cookies were homemade, the laughter was infectious, and I hugged friends who I have not seen in a while. With candor, humor and passion, over 20 "Old Timers/Long Timers" of our Santa Clara AA community shared their experience, strength and hope. The Topic was "What has made you stay in the Program?" We alcoholics love our inspirational quotes and our "Old Timers/Long Timers" shared many -- below are a few of the gems I heard:

- ★ The 3 P's Power, People and Program. It makes life worth living.
- ★ This program showed me the Person I could become.
- ★ I never knew all my talents and what I could become till I stayed.
- ★ Religion and Spirituality are not the Same Thing. The Peace Comes.
- ★ There are so many ways to find pleasure other than Alcohol.
- ★ I stayed and got to the other side of my problems.
- ★ I now know how to treat people and myself – with compassion, respect and patience.
- ★ I now know how to let go of resentments I am so much happier.
- ★ Bless those around me, continue to change me.
- ★ Getting drunk it just doesn't work.
- ★ I get to be the comforter.
- ★ Focus on the Program not the Problem.
- ★ I thought I would rather die than not be cool. I am way cooler now.
- ★ The three legs of the Recovery Stool Recovery, Unity, Service.
- ★ Survival Come on in.

- Two reformed Drunks together can have a profound effect on others. I have seen it, shared it.
- ★ Freedom from alcohol is freedom to live and love.
- ★ This Program gives me hope.
- ★ Grasp Spirituality there is no end to where that will take you.
- ★ I listened to the Old Timers they tell the truth.
- ★ I learned the practice of Spiritual development is a promise – it is true -I don't have to drink again.
- ★ From Yale, to jail, to Park Avenue, then a Park Bench – I found purpose I never knew I had.
- ★ Stay Vigilant do what we tell you to stay sober just stay.
- ★ I ask God every morning to help me: 1. Listen 2. How to Show up and provide Service 3. Have Gratitude 4. Pray and Meditate – I have a much better day and a life worth living.
- ★ As I have healed, those I love, have, too.
- ★ Sponsorship, sponsorship, sponsorship.



Please join me in heartfelt gratitude for our Old Timers/Long Timers
Jeanine M., The Coin Editor

#### **✓ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



There is a volunteer match for you here in Santa Clara County! Below please find a description of volunteer opportunities. You are always welcome to attend a Service Committee Meeting!

Detailed information can be found at: <a href="https://aasanjose.org">https://aasanjose.org</a>

Another great way to learn about Volunteer Opportunities is to attend the monthly Intergroup Meeting – the first Wednesday of every month.

#### Next Intergroup meeting: Wednesday, March 6th - 7:30 to 9:00 Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3151 Union Ave, San Jose

- Outreach Volunteers
   Intergroup's liaison with groups and meetings
- Diverter Volunteers
   Providing after-hours phone coverage
  - **12 Step Volunteers** *Phone and visitation contact with callers in need*
- Daytime Phone Volunteers
   Takes all incoming calls to Hotline
- Activities Committee
   Organize many great activities
- Technology Committee
   To make sure we all get the word
- Website Committee
   Help with current and future website needs
- Intergroup Representative (IGR)
   Represents the group at the

Represents the group at the Intergroup meetings and reports to the group

 General Service Representative (GSR)

Represents the group at District meetings and reports to the group

 PI/CPC Committee Representative

Our information voice to the general public and professionals

 H&I Committee Representative

Carrying the message to those confined to correctional and mental health facilities

 BTG Committee Representative

Helping alcoholics just released from hospitals, treatment centers or correctional facilities transition to A.A. in their local community

Grapevine Representative
 Provides the Grapevine for the group
 and advises on items available from
 Grapevine



SANTA CLARA COUNTY INTERGROUP 2024 PRESENTS

16th Annual

## Chili Cook-off

DATE &TIME

Saturday, April 27, 2024 10:30- 2:00 PM



CONTESTANTS:

#### **BRING/HEAT!**

TROPHY Winners & BRAGGING Rights! For the

Best Homegroup Chili Teams

1<sup>ST</sup>, <sup>2ND</sup>, <sup>3RD</sup> Place

#### Register TODAY!!!!

Space is limited to the first eighteen groups that register

Each group will receive \$150 for supplies

Milpitas Community Center 457 E. Calaveras Blvd. Milpitas, CA 95035



ATTENDEES:

#### YOU BE THEJUDGE!

- · Doors open at 10:30 AM
- · Suggested donation \$15.
- Sample & vote for your favorite chili
- · Enjoy cornbread, dessert, coffee
- Get to know your fellowship
- · Fantastic AA speaker meeting

To register a chili team or volunteer contact: Gary M. or Central Office (408)889-1001

SIGNUP TODAY!

The highly anticipated, festive Chili Cook-off needs your help! Please call the Central Office today to learn about volunteer opportunities!

#### JOIN





#### **FAITHFUL TWENTY-FIVERS!!!**



#### Who are The Faithful Twenty-Fivers?

❖ The Faithful Twenty-Fivers are members of our Santa Clara County A.A. community who provide a vital contribution of only \$25.00 per month (or any amount you choose!) to help "carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

#### Where do contributions go?

- ❖ All contributions go *directly* to support our A.A. programs in Santa Clara County:
- The 24 Hour Hotline
- 12 Step Calls
- Meeting Schedules (online and Print)
- Sales of Literature and Sobriety Coins
- Affordable Group Insurance Umbrella
- Publishing of monthly Newsletter
- Support of Outreach, Activities and Intergroup Committees
- Maintain, protect and display archive materials
- Maintenance of the Website
- Advertising of Fellowship Groups
- Printing for Groups
- Cooperation with other A.A. services such as General Services and H&I
- New Secretary and Diverter Workshops and many other workshops

How do I contríbute?

https://aasanjose.org/product/faithful-fiver

#### PI/CPC

#### Help carry our message of recovery

Did you know that 70%1 of AA members come from outside referrals? If you're a member of AA, the public outreach division of Santa Clara needs your help! To get started, simply join our monthly meetings on Zoom, and introduce yourself! We can't wait to see you there.

#### We meet the first Sunday of every month:

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm | New member intro

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm | Committee meeting

Meeting ID: 840 2847 4194

Passcode: 1935

Learn about PI/CPC: bit.ly/sjpicpc-members

Contact us: sipicpc@gmail.com

Whatever the form, it comes down to 'one drunk carrying the message to another drunk,' whether through personal contact or through the use of third parties and the media.

— Bill W., AA Co-founder

Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC)
Alcoholics Anonymous • Santa Clara County Fellowship



<sup>1</sup> 2014 Membership Survey



# SANTA CLARA COUNTY INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE FEBRUARY 2024 GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

DATE	NAME/GROUP	CONTRIBUTION	
02/01/2024	East Valley Group 322 (Fri.)	2.81	
02/03/2024	One Day at a Time 70903	769.80	
02/03/2024	Pass It On Group 418 (Sun.)	360.00	
02/04/2024	8 pm Nightly Meeting ID80030	171.00	
02/05/2024	Serenity Speaker Meeting 533 (Sun.)	694.85	
02/05/2024	LGBT Happy Destiny Group 621 (Sat.)	394.07	
02/05/2024	Easier Way Group 290 (Fri.)	280.00	
02/08/2024	South Side Group 323 (Thurs.)	100.00	
02/09/2024	South County Fellowship 70954	360.00	
02/09/2024	Gathered Together for Sobriety 43 (Sun.)	41.00	
02/09/2024	Wisdom to Know 651 (Mon.)	15.40	
02/10/2024	Spiritual Progress Group 70979	399.93	
02/10/2024	Personal 00911	537.46	
02/10/2024	Invaders Group 44 (Sun.)	280.00	
02/14/2024	Think Tank (Men's) 361 (Sat.)	1,080.00	
02/14/2024	Sunrisers Group/Dennys 70932	630.76	
02/15/2024	Serenity Discussion 210 (Wed.)	197.10	
02/19/2024	One Day at a Time 70903	150.00	
02/20/2024	Downtown Steppers (Men) 392 (Mon.)	5.31	
02/20/2024	Winchester Mystery Meeting 102 (Tues.)	4.53	
02/22/2024	In the Solution 647 (Sat.)	467.60	
02/22/2024	Progress Not Perfection 229 (Sun.)	0.81	
02/22/2024	Midday Women's Group 91 (Mon.)	279.07	
02/24/2024	Easy Does It	200.00	
02/24/2024	Grace Group of AA 352 (Sat.)	200.00	
02/25/2024	Living with Serenity (Chips) 599 (Wed.)	92.00	
02/26/2024	Trinity Group 370 (Sat.)	4.69	
Total for February	Total for February 2024 Group Contributions		



#### **MARCH and UPCOMING 2024 EVENTS**





#### PRAASA 2024 is in San Francisco!

Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly

March 1-3, 2024

San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 780 Mission St., SF

For online registration, hotel reservations, volunteer opportunities & more:

#### WWW.PRAASA.ORG

Registration: \$40 (plus optional meals) • Hotel Rooms: \$189/night + tax

All A. A.'s Welcome • Al-Anon Participation • Spanish & ASL Interpretation

Join 1500+ A.A. members from all over the western U.S. and Canada, plus GSO and Grapevine Staff!

Three-day program features a speaker meeting Saturday night, lots of panels, and roundtable breakout sessions for: GSRs, DCMs, Literature, Grapevine, La Vina, H&I/Corrections, Intergroup/Central Offices, Young People (YPAA), Bridging the Gap, Archives, Public Information (PI), Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Accessibilities/Treatment, Remote Communities, Seniors/Cooperation with the Elder Community, Hispanic Women, Newsletters, Websites and Tech, Area Secretaries, Treasurers, Registrars, Chairs, Alternate Delegates, Delegates, and Past Delegates/Trustees.

#### The purpose of PRAASA is to:

- $\bullet$  Develop greater unity among the members, groups, and areas of the Pacific Region.
- · Encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences.
- Provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Assembly and the PRAASA Committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity and Service legacies of Alcoholics Anonymous.





#### PRAASA in San Francisco

The hotel room block may be filled, but there are still registrations available for the Pacific Region A.A. Service Assembly (PRAASA) on March 1 - 3 at the Marriott Marquis. Volunteer shifts are available as well! Visit <a href="mailto:praasa.org">praasa.org</a> for more details.

## Concept Workshop

The 3rd Saturday of the Month



What are the 12 Concepts For World Service?
How do they apply to my service work in A.A.?
What are the spiritual principles that can be applied to every area of my life?

Study material provided





### March 16th | 3:30-5:30 PM

Zoom ID: 894 1698 1622 Password: Service

1555 Oak Ave., Los Altos, 94024



district04cnca.org



NCCAA 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference

"Celebrating 75 years of Conferences!"

Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous

San Jose, CA

Holiday Inn San Jose – Silicon Valley

1350 North 1st St., San Jose, CA 95112

March 15, 16, 17, 2024

Friday March 15, 2024

2:00 PM Registration Opens 5:00 PM Long Timer's Panel

8:00 PM Open Speaker Meeting

Ronald W. Los Angeles, CA Saturday March 16, 2024

8:00 AM – Steering Committee 11:00 AM – NCCAA Delegates

8:00 PM Open Speaker Meeting

Sarah I. Philadelphia, PA YP Speaker Sunday March 17, 2024

8:00 AM Meditation Meeting

10:00 AM Open Speaker Meeting

Rick K. Sunol, CA

Additional program information on back of flyer

Al-Anon and Spanish Speakers & Participation
Area 06 & 07 Updates – Marathon Meetings
Saturday Night Dance – Free Drawing
Sunday Morning Meditation Meeting

Introducing New Officers at this Conference

Visit NCCAA website for more information on how to be of Service to NCCAA.

NCCAA Website

norcalaa.org

PRE-REGISTRATION CUT OFF DATE IS March 1st, 2024
CONFERENCE RATE FOR HOTEL CUT OFF DATE IS February 13th, 2024

PRE-REGISTRATION - \$20.00 (per person) - AT THE CONFERENCE - \$25.00

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT --http://www.norcalaa.org

The following hotel is offering Conference rates for those attending the 75th Annual NCCAA Spring Conference March 15, 16, 17, 2024 in San Jose, CA. To ensure a reservation at conference rate call prior to February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The phone number is listed below, mention that you are with **NCCAA** to obtain the conference rate. We have a strong room requirement for this Conference and per the NCCAA Steering Committee, we will only list the host hotel.

#### CONFERENCE RATE FOR HOTEL CUT OFF DATE IS February 13, 2023

Host Hotel	King Bed	Double Beds	Amenities
Holiday Inn San Jose — Silicon Valley 1350 North 1st Street San Jose, CA 95112 Phone: 1-408-453-6200 Ask for NCA Group Code Link to Hotel Booking: NCCAA	\$149.00	\$149.00	Outdoor Pool Fitness Center On-site Restaurant Free for Parking Free Wi-Fi

#### **Program Highlights**

Visit NCCAA website for previous programs.

Friday	2:00 PM	Registration Opens
	3:00 PM	Marathon Meeting Begin
	5:00 PM	Long Timer's Panel
	8:00 PM Friday Night Speaker Meeting	Ronald W. from Los Angeles, CA
Saturda y	9:00 AM	Registration & Marathon Meetings Resume
	11:00 AM	NCCAA Delegates Meeting
	Hospital & Institution Panel	Al-Anon Speaker Program
	Area 06 & 07 Update	Spanish Speaker
	8:00 PM Saturday Night Speaker Meeting	TBA
Sunday	8:00 AM	Meditation Meeting
	10:00 AM Sunday Morning Speaker	Rick K. From Sunol, CA

Pre-Register for Conference online at <a href="www.norcalaa.org/Registration">www.norcalaa.org/Registration</a>
<a href="PRE-REGISTRATION">PRE-REGISTRATION</a> - \$20.00 (per person) - <a href="AT THE CONFERENCE">AT THE CONFERENCE</a> - \$25.00

Please print in the form below for pre-registration. Pre-registration cutoff date is March 1, 2024

Name	AA Al-Ano		Al-Anon	
City	State			
Home Group		,		
Name			AA	Al-Anon
City	State			
Home Group				
	Enclose an Extra \$20.00 to "Sponsor a Newcomer"			

Total Pre-Registration Included:

Please remit with payment to: NCCAA Treasurer, P.O. Box 3835 San Ramon, CA 94583 On-line pre-registration for conference is available at http://www.norcalaa.org



2024

#### H&I CONFERENCE

MAY 3-5

ROOM RATES \$119

# A STATE OF LOVE AND SERVICE

Join us for our Annual H&I Conference!

H&I will combine Northern and Southern commitees
for an amazing conference. You dont want to miss it!

#### Double Tree Hotel

DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON HOTEL
3100 CAMINO DEL RIO CT,
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
For reservations call
661-323-7111
Rate of Room good until
April 19, 2024 and can book
2 days prior or 2 days after
event for the same price



SCAN ME

ROOM DISCOUNT CODE 92V https://bit.ly/2024\_HandI-Conf

> Mail payments to: California H&I Conference C/O NCAIC

PO Box 4013 Carlsbad, CA 92018





PRE REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 24, 2024



# ANNOUNCING UPCOMING EVENTS!!

FROM THE A.A. SANTA CLARA INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE

WE HOPE YOU MARK YOUR CALANDERS NOW!

#### **DETAILS**

WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE A.A. SANTA CLARA CENTRAL OFFICE WEBSITE:

https://aasanjose.org

YOU CAN FIND A.A. EVENTS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY BY SUBSCRIBING TO **THE COIN**, OUR FREE MONTHLY, ONLINE NEWSLETTER:

https://aasanjose.org/#joinemail

PLEASE JOIN US!

\* APRIL 27, 2024 Chili Cook-Off

\* JUNE 22, 2024
Founder's Day Celebration

\* OCTOBER 19, 2024
Take Your Sponsor to Brunch

\* DECEMBER 4, 2024
InterGroup Potluck Dinner

\* DECEMBER 14, 2024
Central Office Tamale Party

#### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**



Birthday Celebrant	Years	Contributor	Birthday
John D.	24	John S.	02/20/2000
Larry T.	33	John S.	02/18/1991
Jim S.	31	John S.	02/10/1993
Peter C.	25	Peter C.	02/07/1994
Lani C.	50	John E., Penny J., Pamela L., Terry L.	02/09/1974



#### **163 YEARS OF SOBRIETY!**

Birthdays are listed in recognition of contributions made directly to the Central Office on a member's behalf for a sobriety milestone.

Contributions can be made by the birthday celebrant or in honor of a friend and will be listed in this section, unless requested otherwise.

In keeping with A.A.'s Seventh Tradition of self-support, we accept contributions only from A.A. members. Please use the birthday forms found at your meeting, at the Santa Clara Central Office, or on-line at <a href="https://aasanjose.org/contributions">https://aasanjose.org/contributions</a>.

# ✓ SANTA CLARA CENTRAL OFFICE RESOURCES

Quotations from A.A. books, pamphlets, and the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

The Santa Clara Intergroup Central Office supports the fellowship of Alcoholic Anonymous in Santa Clara County, serving communities from Palo Alto to Gilroy.

Executive Director, Central Office Lead: Jody W.

Our Santa Clara Central Office offers a bounty of support resources including books, literature, videos, and coins. Their website provides detailed information on Meetings, Events, Financials/Meeting Minutes and Intergroup updates. You can find them at: https://aasanjose.org

For the love of our Primary Purpose, please encourage other A.A. members to subscribe to **The COIN.** Drop our subscription in the chat at your meetings and please tell your members to subscribe to stay in the know on what's happening with Santa Clara A.A. https://aasaniose.org/coin

The COIN is published on behalf of the Santa Clara County Intergroup Service Group of Alcohol's Anonymous (Intergroup). Opinions expressed are the writer's and publication of any article, event, or other information does not imply endorsement of Alcohol Anonymous, Intergroup or the Central Office.

The COIN is the Central Office Intergroup Newsletter. It is what the A.A. Fact Files calls "A.A. Literature Prepared by Local Groups." The opinions are those of the individual authors and may or may not be representative of A.A. as a whole.

https://aasanjose.org

Phone: 408-889-1001

