

Intergroup Fellowship TEWS APRIL 2015

Get the latest meeting listings, upcoming events and more at www.sonomacountyaa.org

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship Presents

A.A. IN THE ARMED SERVICES

a seminar and discussion



Wednesday, May 27, 2015 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

> SCIF Central Office / Bookstore 750 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa

Info: Lori S. 707-529-9664

BOOKSTORE

SCIF CENTRAL OFFICE

750 Mendocino Ave., Suite 10 Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Manager: Donna K.

Phone: (707) 546-2066 (707) 566-9677 Fax:

email:

bookstore@sonomacountyaa.org

Summer Hours

Monday-Friday 10-6 Saturday 11-3

The bookstore is staffed by volunteers. Occasionally it is closed due to lack of staff - Call first!

The Bookstore is closed on these Holidays

Memorial Day May 25 Independence Day July 4 Labor Day September 7 **Thanksgiving** November 26

Christmas December 25 New Year's January 1 & 2

www.aa.org www.aagrapevine.org www.sonomacountyaa.org



ACCESS Sonoma County



Pain Management in Sobriety Workshop

Educating Alcoholics: Strategies to Maintain Sobriety While Living with Pain

Saturday, May 30th, 2015 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church 1300 Saint Francis Road, Santa Rosa

TOPICS

- A View From the Professional Community
- Experience, Strength and Hope
- Mind, Body, Spirit: Spiritual and Practical Tools to Work a Program While In Pain
- Teamwork: Sponsor, Sponsee, Physician

Wheelchair Accessible

Translation provided: Spanish Please bring an FM radio for Assisted Listening ASL Interpretation provided if requested before April 30, 2015

For more information or ASL Request: 707-596-8485 or

ASC@sonomacountyaa.org

"It becomes clear that just as it is wrong to enable or support any alcoholic to become re-addicted to any drug, it's equally wrong to deprive any alcoholic of medication, which can alleviate or control other disabling physical and/or

Our dilemma: lack of power

"Lack of power, that was our dilemma. We had to find a power by which we could live, and it had to be a *Power greater than* ourselves. Obviously. But where and how to find this power?

"Well that's exactly what this book is about. Its main object is to enable you to find a Power greater than yourself which will solve your problem. That means we have written a book which we believe to be spiritual as well as moral."

—p. 45, Alcoholics Anonymous, Third Edition

NEW MEETINGS

Santa Rosa

Knuckleheads, (Men's First Step Meeting), Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. (O) (W) (K), Church, 1620 Sonoma Ave.

MEETING CHANGES

Eldridge

Eldridge Group, Monday, 7 p.m. (O) (W) New location: Slater Building, Sonoma Circle, Sonoma Developmental Center.

Sebastopol

Stein Group, (Lesbian), Sunday, 6:00 p.m. Now a Big Book Study, Senior Center, 187 N. High St.

NO LONGER MEETING

Sebastopol

Literature Study, Friday, 9:30 a.m., Church, 500 North Main St.

Need to report meeting changes?

Send an email to meetingchanges@sonomacountyaa.org or Contact the SCIF Office at 546-2066

This SCIF newsletter is made possible through the contributions of our members. Please read this newsletter and pass it on. Newsletters are also available online:

www.sonomacountyaa.org

Other A.A. Resources:

Cal. Northern Coastal Area:

www.cnca06.org

A.A. World Services:

www.aa.org

A.A. Grapevine:

www.aagrapevine.org

SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP GENERAL MEETING

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship General Meeting – February 23, 2015

The meeting opened at 8:00 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer

Readings: Andy M. read the Preamble; Susie E. read Tradition 2; Lee read Concept II.

New Representatives: Pat B. (Lunch Bunch, Tuesdays, Petaluma); Darren O. (Mondays, 12x12); Macy M. (Up The Steps, Saturdays, Santa Rosa); Sharleen M. (Women Empowering Women, Fridays, Rohnert Park); Blake B. (Sunday Niters, Sundays, Sebastopol).

Birthdays: Ross M., 3 years; Gus C., 13 years; Susie E., 14 years; David, 18 months; Darren O., 3 years; Holly H., 16 years.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Chair: (Holly H.) Explains who may vote at meeting and the job descriptions of the Committee Chair positions available (simple majority vote). Elected positions: Outreach (Kevin P.); Seminars (Scott K.); Teleservice (Gus C.); Spanish Central Office (Jessica B.); ICSC Nominating Committee (Mike C., Mike K., Sharlene M.).; H&I Liaion (Shirley J.); No volunteer Committee Chairs for Activities, Alkathons, Unity Day or Communications. No Liaison volunteer for General Service. Service calendar dates in the newsletter except SOCYPAA are incorrect. Please see website and back of meeting schedules for correct dates.

Vice Chair: (Barry D.) Those new reps that did not attend the orientation tonight should arrive by 7:30 p.m. next month to attend the orientation. Include phone number and email when signing in.

Secretary: (Jennifer R.) The General Meeting minutes of January 2015 were put forth and approved.

Treasurer: (Carolyn A.) Group contributions for January were \$5,908 which was \$984 more than January of last year. After expenses we had a net gain of \$2,190. Bookstore income was \$7,538 and after expenses there was a net gain of \$394. Overall we had a net gain of \$2,584. Year to date we are \$2,005 ahead of January of last year.

Registrar: (Madeleine T. - not present) No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bookstore: (Jay S. for Donna K.) Volunteer shifts open at the Bookstore. Must have one year sobriety and working knowledge of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Big Book on sale month of March.

ICSC: (Jay S.) Donna, Bookstore manager on leave of absence, group covering all shifts to keep store open. ICSC conducting semi-annual evaluations of the Bookstore manager and assistant manager. Tom F. is working on a plan to update the Bookstore appearance.

Outgoing Activities: (Jessica W.) Founders' Day Picnic set for 6/6/2015. Please consider committee chair position.

Outgoing Alkathons: (Benjamin G.) Please consider committee chair position.

Outgoing Communications/Newsletter: (Joel H.) Newsletter service calendar dates incorrect.

Outgoing Outreach: (Barry D.) The SCIF Outreach Committee's goal is to increase group representation. If you are representing more than one group, please list each group on the sign-in sheet.

Seminars: (Mike C. for Lori S. - not present) March 25th seminar "Many Paths to Spirituality" will be presented at the Bookstore.

Teleservice: (Gus C.) Open shift Thursdays 10:00 p.m. to Friday 9:00 a.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

SOCYPAA: (Mike H.) SOCYPAA will be disbanded as a committee effective Thursday Feb 26. SOCYPAA's elections will be held Sunday March 8 contingent upon whether or not SOCYPAA wins the ACYPAA bid.

Spanish Central Office: (Not represented)

PI/CPC: (Michelle G.) Contact with Sheriff's Department in preparation with doing some presentations for them. Provided the Department with literature and meeting schedules. Presentations starting in local high schools. First with Laguna High on Friday and Analy High on Monday. Young people with two years of sobriety needed to help make presentations in schools.

Hospitals and Institutions: (Virginia W. for Mary B.) H&I committee meets on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. at the Community of Christ Church, 1495 W. Steele Lane Santa Rosa. Volunteers needed to carry the message. Pamphlets updated to include rules regarding meetings brought into institutions.

General Service: (Jennifer B.) Agenda Topics Workshop held on 2/21/15. GSRs will be bringing topics to meeting level for discussion within the groups.

Bridging the Gap: (Bill D.) Committee meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. 55 cards filled out; 28 from Sonoma County. Remaining from out of county.

Access Sonoma County: (John F.) Business meetings held the second Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at the Bookstore. Pain Management in Sobriety will be the first workshop presented.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Group Representative Sharing: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. with the Responsibility Statement.

- In service,

Jennifer R.

Suggestions & Submissions for NewsletterWelcome

Please send any corrections, suggestions, submissions or comments about the Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship newsletter to: newsletter@sonomacountyaa.org

NEWS FROM THE BOOKSTORE

For the month of April the bookstore will have the book "Pass It On" as our sale book. This book talks about the story of Bill Wilson and how the A.A. message reached the world.

Bill W. was the man everybody knew yet nobody knew. It is the dramatic story of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous, and the early struggles and amazing growth. For the scholar this book is invaluable. For all of us, it is exciting reading. The retail price is \$15.91. With

'PASS IT ON'

The Story of Bill Wilson and how the A.A. message reached the world

the 20% discount the book will be \$12.72 + tax.

The bookstore hours changed over to the Spring/Summer schedule on March 8. The hours are Monday – Friday 10-6 and Saturday 11-3. We still have some open volunteer shifts, if you're available please come in and fill out an application. One year minimum sobriety. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

— Donna J. King, SCIF Central Office/Bookstore Manager

SONOMA COUNTY ICSC

Facts About the Intergroup Central Service Committee

The Intergroup Central Service Committee (ICSC) is a management and oversight committee specifically charged with responsibility to set the policy, regulate the affairs, and oversee the operation of the SCIF Central Office/Bookstore. It also advises the Steering Committee on matters affecting SCIF's status as a non-profit corporation, making sure that state and federal government regulations are followed and regulatory filings are completed as required. As such, it fulfills many of the functions cited as responsibilities of "the Board of Directors" in the California Corporations Code.

The ICSC is a rotating body of five members – two officers and three at-large members elected by the group representatives. The composition of the ICSC committee changes several times a year, providing both continuity and fresh eyes.

SERVICE COMMITMENTS AVAILABLE

The Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship currently has several committeents available for Committee Chairs, including Activities, Seminars, Communications and Outreach. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact SCIF Chair Holly H. at 843-1352 or Vice Chair Barry D. at 849-9858.

WHAT IS THE SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP?

Sonoma County's Intergroup, or Central Office, is a vital A.A. service office that involves partnership among groups in Sonoma County – just as A.A. groups themselves are a partnership of individuals. The Central Office carries out certain functions common to all groups in our county – and it is maintained, supervised, and supported by these groups in

their general interest.

Our Central Office exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

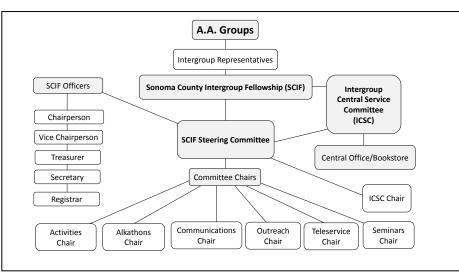
Our Intergroup responsibility is to:

- Stock and sell A.A. literature through the bookstore.
- Run the teleservice hotline.
- Update and distribute meeting directories.
- Serve as a communications center for groups through publishing the monthly newsletter and maintaining the website, to keep groups informed about county activities.
- Coordinates the efforts of Intergroup committees (Alkathons, Activities, Seminars, Outreach, Communications, Teleservice).

• Cooperate with General Service and its subcommittees, and H&I through exchange of liaisons – keeping groups informed on ALL activities in A.A.

The SCIF officers are Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Registrar. Committees include Activities,

Alkathons, Communications/Newsletter Editor, Outreach, Seminars, Teleservice and ICSC. The Steering Committee is comprised of the officers, all chairpersons of the active committees, and the Central Office/ Bookstore Manager. These are the voting members of the Steering Committee. All these positions (excluding ICSC) are one year terms (two consecutive terms is okay) with January elections



for officers and February elections for committee chairs.

To find out more about what the Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship does, you can attend the General Meeting on the fourth Monday of each month at 8 p.m. at St. Luke's Church on Mendocino Avenue.

BRIDGING THE GAP

That Very Important First Step

This is the Statement of Purpose for Bridging the Gap: "Bridging the Gap is a General Service sub-committee that supports that very important first step for alcoholics who have just been released from a hospital, treatment center or correctional facility. By providing a temporary contact, Bridging the Gap helps newcomers make the transition to Alcoholics Anonymous in his or her home community".

Hi my name is Sandra and I am an alcoholic. This statement of purpose for Bridging the Gap (BTG) is what drew me to be involved in this service commitment. For me, one of the fundamental keys to my recovery and sobriety is to be in service. I am the coordinator for the BTG effort at the Orenda Center. We bring in meetings to the clients at Orenda every Monday at 6:30 p.m. For me, this service at Orenda has been transformative. It is raw and in the trenches Twelfth Step work. The clients are generally there for only 1-5 days, depending on their particular situation. Many are going through very difficult detox, which can leave them physically weak and emotionally drained. Many clients are at the point that our book describes "as pitiful and incompressible demoralization." Many have lost hope that there is a solution. Many are homeless, unemployed and have lost ties to family and their communities. They are desperate and willing to change. That is what we bring to our presentations, that there is always hope and that there is a solution.

Miraculously, there is often a positive response, an eagerness to engage with us and there is recovery. They want help and want to change. I have remained friends with several alcoholics whom I met at Orenda. They are now sober and active members of our Fellowship. That is why this it is such an awesome and rewarding commitment.

— Gratefully in service, Sandra F

PI/CPC NEWS

Is PI/CPC for You?

If you've ever considered doing service with PI/CPC, this is a great time to check it out. There are a lot of new faces on the committee, and new faces bring fresh ideas and a renewed energy. PI/CPC is a branch of A.A. General Service. The initials stand for Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community. The committee provides informational speakers to outside groups seeking to learn more about A.A., including classes of the Sonoma County Drinking Driver Program, health and social studies classes at local high schools, and groups in the legal, medical, educational and theological professions. Our responsibilities also include the distribution of A.A. literature to anyone who requests it.

Speakers undergo a short training session at one of our monthly committee meetings, and then observe a presentation before going on to speak themselves. Most speakers enjoy the experience, and find this branch of A.A. service to be quite rewarding.

If you are interested in learning more about PI/CPC you are welcome to attend one of our business meetings. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, at the Santa Rosa City Hall employees lounge in the underground parking garage. If you are interested in speaker training, please come at 7 p.m. We look forward to seeing you.

— Dimitri P.

ACCESS SONOMA COUNTY

Medications and other drugs

Hey! Wanna read a quote from A.A. Literature? "Certainly, the decision to take medication should be made primarily between a doctor who is informed about alcoholism and a patient who is informed about the medication."

Here's another: "It becomes clear that just as it is wrong to enable or support any alcoholic to become re-addicted to any drug, it's equally wrong to deprive any alcoholic of medication, which can alleviate or control other disabling physical and/or emotional problems."

These quotes are from the A.A. World Services pamphlet The A.A. Member - Medications & Other Drugs which is available at the SCIF Bookstore or through the A.A. website www.aa.org. Now, the message in these quotes is pretty clear and forthright to a normal person. However, I'm not the kind of person who thought that the warning "Caution, alcohol intensifies the effect" printed on many medicines was, in fact, a warning. I took it to mean "mix with alcohol for desired oblivion."

For somebody like me ... if I ever face a medical situation where potentially dangerous prescription drugs are necessary ... I'm going to need more than my own thinking to get me through it safely and sober. I'm going to need: the principles of the A.A. program; a sponsor and sober friends who I'm keeping informed and am honest with; the experience of other alcoholics who have successfully been through similar circumstances; a doctor who is fully informed of my alcoholism, who is also experienced in treating people like me; and a fellowship of people who love me and accept me as I go through a scary, difficult, potentially dangerous experience.

The Access Sonoma County committee is putting on a workshop called Pain Management in Sobriety on May 30 from 1-4 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 1300 Saint Francis Rd. in Santa Rosa.

If you anticipate ever experiencing pain in sobriety, or expect that your sponsees or sober friends ever experience acute or chronic pain, you might want to be at this workshop.

—In service, Dan F.

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

The March 4, 2015, meeting of the Hospitals & Institutions committee extended a bright spring welcome to new meeting reps, Kelli E., representing Young & Young at Heart (Rohnert Park); Ken K., Not Just Another Newcomer Meeting (Rohnert Park); Cindy R., A Vision For You; Julie S., Saturday Solution (Petaluma); Krista E., Saturday Serenity (Alano Club, Petaluma); Greg D., Knuckleheads—Men's First Step Meeting; Patrick A., Oaks Fellowship; Cassidy S., The Up Group; Mike C., Lunch Bunch (Petaluma); Andy A., Healdsburg Group; Charlie D., Came to Believe; Susan A., Traditions Group; and Sarah B., Thursday Night Round Table Discussion Group. Thank you all for your service!

Our March visitors included Charles, Tony, Pat, Penny and Bob—keep coming back! Almost 15 years of sobriety was being celebrated by H&I members for the month of March. The next meeting of the H&I Committee, Wed., April 1, (no foolin'!) at 6:15 pm. at the Community of Christ Church. Orientation begins at 5:45.

— In service, Mardi



General Service invites you to

THE DELEGATE'S BBQ!

CNCA Delegate Raymundo L. sharing his NYC Conference experience

Monday, June 1, 2015

Potluck and BBQ ~ 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Delegate's Report ~ 7:30 pm to 9:15 pm

Faith Lutheran Church 4930 Newanga Ave., Santa Rosa, CA

Hot Dogs, Burgers, Veggie Burgers & Drinks provided Please bring a side dish, salad or desert to share

Volunteers Needed! Call Linda T. 707.318.7795

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Cache Creek Group Raft Trip

The 28th annual Cache Creek Group Rafting trip will be held this year from June 26-28, 2015. Therer will be speaker meetings on Friday and Saturday. The cost for the rafting trip is \$150 until May 10 and \$155 after May 10.

The cost of the trip includes rafting, two nights of camping, meals (Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner, Sunday breakast and lunch) and a DVD with trip photos. There will be a potluck dinner Friday night.

A camping only option is available this year. If you want to enjoy the meetings, the fellowship, and the fun, without rafting, it's \$85. Visit www.cache-creek-group.org for more details. For information, call Robert F., 542-8748, Paul S., 548-1223 or Kevin P., 291-7428.

CNCA Pre-Conference Assembly

The California Northern Coastal Area 06 of Alcoholics Anonymous will hold its Pre-Conference Assembly 2015 on Saturday and Sunday, April 11 & 12, 2015 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Building "C", 4501 Pleasanton Ave, in Pleasanton, CA.

"Celebrating 80 Years of Recovery, Unity and Service - The Foundation for Our Future" is the theme of the assembly. Saturday's registration starts at 8:30 a.m. and the day concludes at 5:30 p.m. Sunday's events start at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m. For more information about the California Northern Coastal Area 06, visit www.cnca06.org.



APRIL • 2015



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
First United Methodist Church: Faith Lutheran Church: St. Luke Lutheran Church: Community of Christ Church: S.R. City Hall Employee Lounge: SCIF Bookstore: 1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa 4930 Newanga Ave., Santa Rosa 905 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa 1495 W. Steele Lane, Santa Rosa First St. & Santa Rosa Ave., Santa Rosa 750 Mendocino Ave., Suite 10, Santa Rosa			Hospitals & Institutions Community of Christ Church 5:45 New Rep. Orientation 6:15 Business Meeting	2	3	4
SOCYPAA First United Methodist 7:15 Business Meeting	General Service Faith Lutheran Church 6:45 Service Manual Study 6:45 New Rep. Orientation 7:30 Business Meeting	7	PI/CPC S.R. City Hall 7:00 Training 7:30 Business	Access Sonoma County SCIF Bookstore 6:15 Orientation 6:30 Meeting	10	11
12	13 SCIF Bookstore 6:00 Teleservice Meeting 6:30 ICSC Meeting 8:00 Intergroup Steering Committee Meeting	14	15	16	17 May 2015 Newsletter Deadline 5 P.M.	18
SOCYPAA First United Methodist 7:15 Business Meeting	20	21 Bridging The Gap SCIF Bookstore 6:00 New Rep. Orientation 6:30 Business Meeting	22	23	24	General Service Area 06 Committee 320 N. McDowell Blvd. Petaluma
Happy Trails Meet at Coddingtown Post Office to carpool, 10 am.	27 Intergroup St. Luke Lutheran Church 7:30 New Rep. Orientation 8:00 Business Meeting	28	29	30		

A.A. HOTLINES

Santa Rosa (707) 544-1300 Sonoma (707) 938-8508 Spanish Speaking (707) 623-6702



TELESERVICE

Phone Line Coordinator

Ioe B. (707) 591-9376

Teleservice Chair

Gus C. (707) 623-6662

WEB LINKS

www.sonomacountyaa.org www.aa.org www.aagrapevine.org www.cnca06.org

ADDRESSES

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship

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Sonoma County General Service

P.O. Box 536

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Area 22 H&I Treasurer

P.O. Box 192490

San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

General Service Office

P.O. Box 459,

Grand Central Station

New York, NY 10163

CA Northern Coastal Area Treasury

P.O. Box 884222

San Francisco, CA 94188

Sonoma County PI/CPC*

P.O. Box 11305

Santa Rosa, CA 95406

SOCYPAA

P.O. Box 5784

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

*Funded solely through Sonoma County General Service

CONTACT INFORMATION

SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP SCIF OFFICERS

Chair Holly H. intergroup@sonomacountyaa.org
Vice Chair Barry D. vice-chair@sonomacountyaa.org
Secretary Jennifer R. secretary@sonomacountyaa.org
Treasurer Carolyn A. treasurer@sonomacountyaa.org
Registrar Madeleine T. registrar@sonomacountyaa.org

SCIF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities Vacant activities@sonomacountyaa.org Alkathons Vacant outreach@sonomacountyaa.org **ICSC** Jay S. icsc@sonomacountyaa.org Seminars Vacant seminars@sonomacountyaa.org Teleservice Gus C. teleservice@sonomacountyaa.org ICSC Nominating Mike C. teleservice@sonomacountyaa.org

Communications

NewsletterVacantnewsletter@sonomacountyaa.orgWebsiteSam K.webmaster@sonomacountyaa.orgMeeting ChangesRussellmeetingchanges@sonomacountyaa.org

SONOMA COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE

DCMC Jennifer B. generalservice@sonomacountyaa.org Treasurer Diana D. treasurer-gs@sonomacountyaa.org Registrar Darlene H. registrar-gs@sonomacountyaa.org Denise G. Archivist archivist-gs@sonomacountyaa.org David K. Grapevine grapevine@sonomacountyaa.org Dan. F. Access So. County asc@sonomacountyaa.org Tom F. Bridging the Gap btg@sonomacountyaa.org PI/CPC Ginger K. picpc@sonomacountyaa.org Interpret./Translation Larry Ono it@sonomacountyaa.org

HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

Liason Mary B. handi@sonomacountyaa.org

SONOMA COUNTY YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Liason Michael H. socypaa@sonomacountyaa.org

FROM/TO SPANISH CENTRAL OFFICE

Liason Rosa S. mruiz@yahoo.org

TELESERVICE FLASH

The Hotline — A.A.'s Front Line

As a hotline volunteer, you are the voice of hope. You can help alcoholic, as well as non-alcoholic, callers. Calls range from directions to meetings to Twelfth Step work. Get into service, help a drunk in need. If you're interested, contact Gus C. at 623-6662, or email teleservice@sonomacountyaa.org and sign up for a shift or get on the waiting list.

