



SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

December 2002

Happy, Joyous and Free for 2003!

New Years Celebration & Dance

The 2002 **New Years Celebration and Dance** will again be held at Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial Auditorium. The meeting begins at 8:00PM. **Bonnie Jean** will be the speaker and she has a great message! The dance will begin at 9:30PM with music provided by the **Fargo Brothers Band**. To help make this event self-supporting there is a suggested donation of \$10.00. If you'd like help make this years Celebration & Dance happen, you can call Kay at 526-5502, or send her an e-mail at kaugs@pacbell.net.



A Personal Note From Kay

There is a dance this year for the New Year's, and I don't have a date. Do you? I always feel like everyone else has a date, and I'm the only one without. This is what we call self-centered fear. I know that all my friends are looking at me as I sadly make my way around the dance floor begging for dances. This is also called self-centered fear. I didn't go to the dance 2 years ago, because I was date challenged. This is also known as self pity. But, right now, I

(Continued on page 7)

SCIF Officer Elections

Elections for Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship Officer positions will be held at the monthly Intergroup meeting on Monday, January 23, 2003. The meeting is held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 905 Mendocino Ave. at 8:00PM. The positions of **Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Registrar** are up for rotation this year. The job descriptions for these positions are listed on page 7.

On Rotation

"Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best." —FROM TRADITION NINE, LONG FORM

Before I was Twelfth-Stepped, I knew nothing about Alcoholics Anonymous. My first (and most enduring) impression of AA was of a member performing that lifesaving service. And since I've been sober I've heard many times that service should be an integral part of my recovery.

I've always been active in one or more service positions, so you'd think I'd be used to

(Continued on page 7)

Don't Miss The Holiday Alcaathons

This years Holiday Alcaathons will be at the Sebastopol Teen Center (see the map on page 6 for directions). The **Christmas Alcaathon** meetings will begin at 6:00PM on Tuesday, December 24 and continue until 11:30PM Christmas night. The **New Years Alcaathon** meetings will begin at 6:00PM on Tuesday, December 31 and continue until

6:00PM on January 1, 2003.

There will be meetings every two hours. The meetings will last 1 1/2 hours with a half hour break between meetings. That's a lot of meetings, and we can still use more volunteers to help make the Holiday Alcaathons happen. We need folks to be **Greeters, Coffee Makers, Food Servers, Setup** and

(Continued on page 6)

Inside This Issue

SCIF Minutes.....	page 2
H&I Report.....	page 3
Unity Day.....	page 3
General Service.....	page 4
Public Information.....	page 4
Financial Report.....	page 5
Service Calendar.....	page 6
Officer Job Descriptions.....	page 7
Meeting Changes.....	page 8
Bookstore.....	page 8

Need a meeting? Check our online schedule for up to date info: www.SonomaCountyAA.org



SCIF BUSINESS MEETING

INTERGROUP OFFICERS

- ◆ CHAIR: Tim P.
- ◆ VICE-CHAIR: Bruce G.
- ◆ SECRETARY: Bruce McL.
544-6958
- ◆ TREASURER: OPEN
- ◆ REGISTRAR: Amy C.

INTERGROUP COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

- ◆ SEMINARS: Kay S
526-5502
- ◆ ACTIVITIES: OPEN
- ◆ OUTREACH: Tom R.
- ◆ HOTLINE/TELESERVICE:
Kim C.
584-5831
- ◆ ALCATHONS:
Dennis

AA HOTLINE TELESERVICE

- ◆ CHAIR: Kim C.
584-5831
- ◆ SCHEDULER: Loretta D.
- ◆ 12 STEP COORDINATOR:
Teri T.
664-0768
- ◆ SANTA ROSA HOTLINE
544-1300
- ◆ LONG DISTANCE ONLY
800-224-1300
- ◆ PETALUMA HOTLINE
762-5122
- ◆ SONOMA HOTLINE
938-2027
- ◆ SPANISH HOTLINE
545-7417

SCIF MINUTES

October 28, 2002

The Serenity prayer was recited. Tradition 10 (long form) was read by Colin and Concept 10 by Barbara.

Tim read the **Preamble**

Intro of new reps: Steve of Sunday River Grace, Bob of Gay Newcomers, Michelle of Alcoholics Only, Margaret of Outsiders, John of Doyle on Monday, Thomas of Beginners, Jonqui of Sisters of Surrender, Sal of Working Winners, Kevin of Serenity Fellowship, Andy of Check It Out Group, Larry of Not Just Another Newcomers, James of The Up Group and Richard of River Discussion.

October Birthdays: Lynn - 3 yrs., Sal - 2 yrs., Mike C. - 17 yrs., Steve - 4 yrs.

The **Seventh Tradition** was practiced.

The **September minutes** were approved.

Registrar: Amy absent. Tim reported there were 41 reps at the September meeting, 6 new.

Outreach: Tom R. reported on a visit to a Gualala meeting. Asked all reps to visit an un-represented meeting.

Liaison Reports:

General Service: Coop reported that new Unity Day flyers are available, and asked the groups to invite newcomers. Area offices have purchased new computers. Book of stories retired from early editions of the Big Book will be available after the 1st of the year.

H&I: Dave. Explained what H & I is and reminded us that the meeting time has been changed to 6:15PM for the monthly H&I meeting at the Senior Center.

PI/CPC: Tim reported for Dagmar. Explained the committee work and asked us to pass on the call for new speakers to bolster the ranks.

Bridging the Gap: Michelle invited people to the monthly meeting at 7 PM in the Bookstore on the third Tuesday

of each month. This past month BTG helped 19 local people, and 39 people from outside the district, for a total of 58. BTG always needs volunteers, there is a 6-month sobriety requirement.

Unity Day: Kim M. referred us to the new flyer available. Panels & Speakers are all lined up.

Officer Reports:

Chair: Tim P. reported that we still need a new Activities Chair, the Valentine's Dance faces cancellation if no one steps up soon. Discussed elections coming up in January, job descriptions will be in NL.

Vice Chair: Bruce G. 9 new reps at the orientation this month.

Treasurer: John S. Written report on page 5 of the Newsletter.

Bookstore: Gloria reported that 2003 Pocket Planners & Calendars are in. Also Daily Reflections in lg. print. Book covers, Key Tags and Jewelry will be 1/2 price in December.

Seminars: Kay reported that the next Seminar will be the 3rd Saturday in January, with the topic being the History of AA, featuring Bill S. who has been sober for 55 years.

Activities: The Harvest Dance went well. Flyers are available for the New Years Dance.

Teleservice: Kim reported that the hotline receives 800-900 calls per month. We currently average 80% coverage, the goal is 100%. Please call the scheduler if you can help.

Communications/Newsletter: Rory asked that submissions be brief for December as it's crowded.

Alcathons: Dennis M. reported that all 3 Alcathons will begin at 6 pm. Contact the individual co-coordinators to help.

ICSC: Bob K. was nominated, qualified and elected. Tom R. and Kevin will

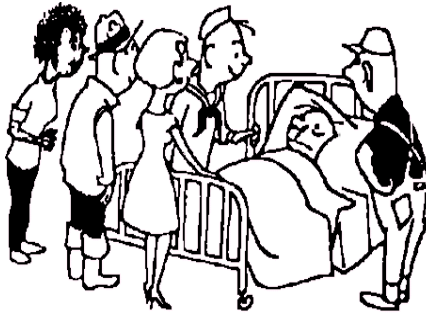


HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

"We wondered what had become of you. We knew that you must be remaining sober, most of you, else you would be caught up again in the dragnet. Then I began to understand when some of you started dropping into the Foundation Office in New York telling me that you had seen me at the San Quentin meeting, or at the Folsom meeting, or some other prison meeting. You had come in to tell me that things are all right. Since that day, many of you have become the very best of A.A. members. Many of you have braved the stigma; you don't care any longer whether A.A.'s or anyone knows that you were in prison. Such has been this marvelous development.

"In A.A. we think the secret is that one alcoholic talks to another, so perhaps when I speak of my own experience, of drinking and recovery, you may identify with me on the alcohol question but still you may claim that I do not understand what it means to be shut up by society. Perhaps not that itself, nevertheless, I know what it means to be shut up within myself. I know what it means to have a wall constructed about me, built by myself, thru which I cannot penetrate to the world outside. I really know what it means to become a prisoner of myself." [Part 3 of Bill W.'s experience

with early H&I, reprinted from a 1951 Grapevine] Several new meeting reps joined us at the November meeting of the H&I Committee. They are Frank S., Julie S., Maria B., Preston, McNabb, Bill K., Pee-



Wee J., Lee F., Glenn, Collier, Steve N., Paul B., Fred and Terry C. A warm H&I welcome to all of you! We also had some visitors, namely, Gary, Karen, Bill, Stacy, Joe, Matt, Denise, Regina, Sean, Carrie, Terry and Amy. Thank you for showing up and checking us out—we hope you find something that

attracts you back here.

We had a total of 56 years, 4 months of sobriety represented by Kenneth P., with 2 years; Tom, 2; Jim, 11; Shirley, 12; Don, 15; David B., 12; Amy, 2; and Glenn, 4 months. Thank you for sharing your sobriety with us—and many happy returns of your day!

Changing of the Guard: Jeannie S. will be rotating out of her position as H&I secretary, to be replaced by Ellie R. Thank you for your many, many months of service, Jeannie, and I'm sure you leave us in very capable hands. Welcome aboard, Ellie!

Feel like being a holiday sandwich? Well, between Thanksgiving and the December holidays is the next H&I meeting—on Wednesday, December 4, at 6:15 p. m. at the Santa Rosa Senior Center on Bennett Valley Road. Orientation, which is open to all those interested, begins at 5:45. We hope to see you there—and bring a friend!

*In service,
Mardi*

SCIF Minutes

(Continued from page 2)

bring candidates in Nov.

Old Business: Maria brought up the need for a microphone at this meeting. She will bring a proposal to the steering committee.

New Business: None.

Group Concerns and Sharing: Can a space be provided for phone numbers on the directory?

Summation:

Larry F. highlighted these points:

1. Unity Day announcement.
2. 9 new Intergroup Reps.
3. PI/CPC needs new speakers.
4. Pocket Planners/Calendars available at bookstore.
5. New Years Dance flyers.
6. Alcaathons.

Closing: Lord's Prayer

-submitted by Bruce McL.

A Good Time Was Had By All!

That might be the best way to describe the **Unity Day 2002**, hosted by General Service. Unity Day is an opportunity for all the service arms of AA to get together and share what they do. Intergroup, H & I, BTG, PI/CPC, General Service, and others made terrific presentations on their particular service function. Even the Bookstore was on hand showing off their wares.

There was a live play, with some "Oscar-worthy" performances, about the 12 Traditions. Lots of nodding heads and laughter from the audience. Several panels shared about their experience, strength and hope regarding service. We also enjoyed a profound "share" from our guest, Butch W. from Aptos.

Who said there is no such thing as a free lunch? Well, there is such a thing and we all enjoyed four different types of stew, along with a pot luck dessert

assortment. Boy, we really do know how to do sugar!

The sobriety countdown was exciting with our "oldest" being 54 years sober, and our "youngest" sober two weeks. Our youngest won herself an autographed Big Book. The

autographs were from the rest of the congregation assembled wishing her the best of luck in her recovery, along with lots of phone numbers she can call.

The event was emceed with style and grace by Shirley J (DCM from Rohnert Park). Kudos all around to Kenin and Jeff, who were the event coordinators. They and their committees did a

wonderful job of planning and pulled off a fun day for all. It is always good when more people than expected show up. It was standing room only in the back of St. Mark's Church by the time the play was presented. If you missed it, plan to attend next year. There is fun in sobriety, and good fellowship at the activities.

Jay B.





GENERAL SERVICE

Greetings Fellowship

Well, we survived another Thanksgiving. We stuffed ourselves. Hopefully, you had a helping of the Thanksgiving Alcathon. Don't forget about the Christmas and New Year's Alcathons. It will help you get through the holidays. And, after all, that is what it is all about.

At the November District 12 election meeting, we welcomed eight new GSRs: Robert C, Jeff P, Steve C, Jim R, and Damiana (all from Santa Rosa), Jack (Forestville) and Ron H (Petaluma). Suzanne celebrated her 27th sobriety birthday, and Toni celebrated her 12th. Happy birthday! We also welcomed five visitors: CNCA Chair CJ, CNCA Registrar Earlene, Linda J (DCMC Lake County) Sheila (alt. DCMC Lake County and Bill J (Lake County).

Why so many visitors? Because we began the process of electing officers for the next panel (two years). Congratulations to Jay B (DCMC), Donna K (alt. DCMC), Katha H (Treasurer), Gil M (Registrar) and Rose S (Recording Secretary). All elections were conducted by the 3rd Legacy Tradition. The balance of the election will be conducted at the next district meeting on December 2. The meeting is open to all members of AA. Meeting time is 7:30 with newcomer orientation at 7 pm.

Thanks to Kenin and Jeff (co chairs) and committee for a wonderful Unity Day. Lots of good times and good information. We appreciate all your hard work.

Martha (District 18 liaison) reported Isadoro has been elected the new DCMC of the Spanish speaking district, and Martha is the new Treasurer. Congratulations. Dan from PI/CPC reported elections will be held in January 2003. Tom R from Intergroup says the seminar in

January will be on the history of AA. Bill S (54 years sober) from Sonoma will be the featured speakers, along with some old movies and newsreels from the 1940s. Don't forget the New Years dance at the Santa Rosa Vets Hall. DJ from Bridging the Gap reported 48 requests for contacts, including one from Hawaii. BTG holds its monthly meeting the 3rd Tuesday at the Bookstore at 7 pm with newcomer orientation at 6:30. Peter S from H & I reported another great month for donations to the "pink can." In October, you gave over \$4300 in spare change. Year to date donations from Sonoma County are over \$41,800. Year to date donations from Area 22 (that's us) over \$487 thousand dollars. All that money purchases and ships literature to facilities with people who can't get out to meetings.

Thanks for your generosity!

At the CNCA assembly held on Saturday, November 9 in San Jose, once again, Sonoma County had the highest representation. It was the election assembly and we impaneled a great group of trusted servants. Doug G. is our new Delegate. Francisco A is our alternate Delegate. Ross J is the new CNCA Chair, Earlene W was elected CNCA Treasurer. Sharon B is the new Registrar. Pam B (from Santa Rosa) is the new Recording Secretary.

As always, if you have a suggested two years of recovery and are looking for a way to give back what has been freely given to you, you might consider a position as a GSR.

And as always, it is a privilege to be of service. I thank you for that privilege.

Jay B.

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT

The PI/CPC committee continues to work in the community to inform people about Alcoholics Anonymous.

Along with presentations at the drinking driving classes and schools, we distribute meeting schedules and other information about AA to various organizations and locations. Last month, meeting directories were distributed to all of the local libraries and to organizations that provide transitional housing to people who have lost their homes - often because of their alcohol problems. In January, we will be having elections; if you are interested, come

to the meeting on January 8, 2003, in the Santa Rosa City Employees' Lounge underneath City Hall. The business meeting - and elections - begin at 7:30 pm. Speaker training is at 7:00 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO PI/CPC MEET-**

ING IN DECEMBER.

The beginning of the year is always busy. We send out the anonymity letter to the media. We send announcements to the schools regarding the availability of AA speakers. We restock THE BIG BOOK

and LIVING SOBER in the libraries. Remember, THE BIG BOOK is the most frequently stolen book from libraries.

There is a suggested two years of sobriety and a working knowledge of the steps and the traditions for people who want to do public speaking. But there are a lot of other

jobs that need to be done that do not have that sobriety requirement.

Join us in giving back some of what we have been freely given... and have fun doing it!

Margie





HAPPY JOYOUS AND FREE FOR 2003
**NEW YEAR'S
 CELEBRATION**



SPEAKER: BONNIE JEAN
MUSIC: FARGO BROTHERS
WHERE: SANTA ROSA VETS HALL
WHEN: DECEMBER 31
CONTRIBUTION: \$10.00 8PM TO 12:30AM
CALL KAY AT 526-5562 TO HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN

**Christmas
 and New Years
 Min-Alcathons**
 Cloverdale
 Fellowship Hall
 206 N. Commercial
 Tuesday,
 December 24 & 31
 6PM - 10PM
 Wednesday,
 December 25
 & January 1
 10AM - 10PM



SERVICE CALENDAR DEC 2002



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2 General Service Faith Lutheran Church 6:45: Service Manual Study 7:00: New Rep Orientation 7:30: Business Meeting	3	4 Hospital & Institutions S.R. Senior Center 5:45: New Rep Orientation 6:15: Business Meeting	5	6	7
8	9 SCIF Bookstore 6:30: AA Teleservice Business Meeting 7:15: ICSC Meeting 8:00: Intergroup Steering Committee Meeting	10	11 PI/CPC No meeting in December. See you in January!	12	13	14 District 18 (Spanish) 5519 Old Redwood Hwy. Windsor Monthly Meeting - 4:30PM
15	16	17 Bridging the Gap SCIF Bookstore 6:30: New Rep Orientation 7:00: Business Meeting General Service District 12 Officers SCIF Bookstore - 6:15	18	19	20	21 General Service Area 6 Petaluma Community Center 320 N. McDowell Blvd 12:00
22	23 Intergroup St. Luke Lutheran Church 7:30: Newsletter Collating 7:30: New Rep Orientation 8:00: Business Meeting	24 Christmas Alcathon 6PM - Midnight	25 Christmas Alcathon Midnight - 11:30PM	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Alcathon 6PM - Midnight	1 New Years Alcathon Midnight - 6PM			



SCIF OFFICER ELECTIONS

Holiday Alcahthons

(Continued from page 1)

Breakdown Helpers. If your home group would like a meeting slot, or you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact our Alcahthon Coordinators:

Christmas: Mike

New Years: Larry

Come join us for Sobriety, Sharing and the joy of Fellowship!



DIRECTIONS:

From Hwy 101: Take the Sebastopol/Sonoma Hwy 12 exit in Santa Rosa. Go west for about 7 miles on Hwy 12 towards Sebastopol. As you enter Sebastopol you will come to the traffic light at Morris Street. TURN RIGHT and go about 1/2 mile to the Teen Center on your right. Park on the street or in the lot in back.

New Years Celebration

(Continued from page 1)

still don't have a date, and something has changed. Anticipation has replaced fear. I will get to dance a lot, with everyone.. or no one. Maybe I'll get to do a swing with someone, or a cha-cha with someone else. But I *want* to go, to be with all of you. All of the people who make up this fellowship, this community. I'll see people I know well, and meet some new folks. I'm looking forward to this dance. So bring a date, or make a date with all of us, to come out for the New Years Celebration & Dance!

On Rotation

(Continued from page 1)

"being available," by now. But in fact, each time I make myself available for a job in AA, I'm afraid I won't measure up. I doubt my ability and commitment. I feel sure someone else could do it better.

Thank God the man who helped save my life did not allow himself to be held back by such fears. I might not have survived his reluctance. With his and many other wonderful demonstrations since, I've mostly been able to overcome my own fears, and have experienced plenty of joy as a result.

In addition to learning to be available for service, I've had to learn to get out of the way once it's done. After my initial fears, I usually become more confident in my ability. It's not unlikely that I may convince myself that I can do the job better than anyone else can. Certainly I've developed a better understanding of AA's processes, principles, and traditions than most. And with my great understanding and deep commitment, I may come to believe that no one else can perform the service as well as I have done. I may start to use my position to enhance my self-esteem (how I feel about myself), or to bolster my pride (how I'd like you to feel about me.)

AA's "Spirit of Rotation" rescues me from this evil fate, fondly known as the dry drunk. And so I am saved from my old enemy—myself. If I've done my job well, I may have even sponsored others into my service position, providing support and advice if needed. I can always remain available for that.

It's been a great life. Thanks for allowing me to be of service, who didn't think I could.

Chairperson

Presides over monthly Intergroup and Steering Committee meetings. Maintains direct communication regularly with other Intergroup officers and committee chairpersons. Must have general knowledge of A.A. Service Manual & Robert's Rules of Order (for conducting Intergroup Business Meeting).

Length of continuous sobriety - 4 years.

Average monthly commitment: 8-12 hrs.

Vice-Chairperson

Assists Chairperson in his or her duties; attends all meetings. Attends all committee meetings. Conducts orientation meetings for new S.C.I.F. members which are held prior to regular S.C.I.F. meeting.

Length of continuous sobriety - 4 years.

Average monthly commitment: 8-12 hrs.

Treasurer

Pays S.C.I.F.-related bills. Collects and records contributions from groups and prepares monthly financial statements for inclusion in the Newsletter. Accounting computer background and access to computer are helpful.

Length of continuous sobriety - 4 years.

Average monthly commitment - 15+hrs.

Secretary

Attends regular S.C.I.F. meetings and takes minutes. Delivers correct copy of minutes to Newsletter Editor. Attends Steering Committee meetings.

Length of continuous sobriety - 3 years.

Average monthly commitment: 4-6 hrs

Registrar

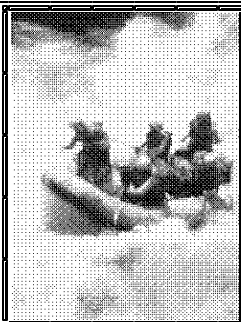
Maintains a list of groups and meetings available within the County. Keeps track on a monthly basis of which groups have representatives and how often reps attend meetings. Works with Outreach Committee to contact those groups that are not active in S.C.I.F. meetings.

Average monthly commitment: 10-12 hrs.

NOTE: Term length for all jobs is one year. Officers can be elected for two consecutive terms.

CACHE CREEK TRIP

Looking for a gift for that someone special or maybe yourself? How about a trip down the river to a meeting with 200 other alcoholics? For only \$135 you get 2 days of food, rafting and fun, not to mention one the *biggest* meetings you'll ever see. Or you may choose to just gift the deposit of \$70 to help someone out, either way it is definitely a unique gift. For more information call 579-5894 or e-mail tulebabe@AOL.com





MEETING CHANGES

Gualala Sunday Night
Sunday 6:00PM

Changed from 8:00PM to 6 PM

Santa Rosa Saturday Afternoon Winners
Saturday 2:00PM

Moved to- Doyle Park Clubhouse
1700 Hoen Ave. (off Sonoma Ave.)

NEW MEETINGS

Santa Rosa Prayers, Steps & Traditions
Wednesday 6:30AM

1717 Yulupa Avenue (off Hoen Ave.)

Starts December 4, 2002

Meeting Changes?

Contact Russell

ERRATA

The Happy Trails Meeting was incorrectly listed in last months Service Calendar. Happy Trails will be on "vacation" until February.

Saturday Afternoons Winners was incorrectly listed as 7:30PM, the correct time is 2:00PM (see above under Meeting Changes).

Gloria's Corner

Holiday Special!

We will have jewelry- key tags & book cover for 1/2 price in December.

BOOKSTORE OPENINGS:

11AM-3PM Saturday

Thanks Everyone!

Gloria



ADDRESSES

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship

750 Mendocino Ave. #10
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Sonoma County General Service

PO Box 536
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Area 22 H & I Treasurer

PO Box 192490
San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

General Service Office

PO Box 459, Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

CA Northern Coastal Area Treas.

PO Box 884222
San Francisco, CA 94188

Sonoma County PI/CPC*

PO Box 11350
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

*Funded solely through Sonoma County General Service

BOOKSTORE & TELESERVICE

SCIF CENTRAL OFFICE

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

Manager: Gloria

Phone: (707) 546-2066

Fax: (707) 566-9677

E-mail: AASCIF@aol.com

Hours: Mon-Fri 10-6

Sat 11-3

The Bookstore is closed on these Holidays:

Independence Day..July 4th

Labor Day.....September 2nd

Thanksgiving.....November 22nd

Christmas.....December 25th

New Year's Day.....January 1st

CONTACT INFORMATION

Communications/ Newsletter

Chair: Bruce W.
Newsletter Editor/Website: Rory B. 528-7797
Bayrisch@msn.com
Directory Changes: Russell

Sonoma County General Service

DCMC: Pam B.
PI/CPC: Dan C.
District 12 GV: Esther S.
Bridging the Gap: DJ 793-0411
DjBridgtheGap12@aol.com
Correspondent: Jay B. 566-0804
SOBERDUUD1@aol.com
Archives: Paul

Hospitals & Institutions

Chair: David B.

By sending \$7 to SCIF you will cover the cost of printing & mailing a newsletter to your home or to a friend. Mail to:

Fellowship News Subscription

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

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt. # _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone _____

Old name/address _____

New Correction Renew Cancel

