



SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

December 2003

NEW YEAR'S DANCE

MEETING: 7:00pm

Speaker:
Long Hair George

Meeting Secretary: Heidi



DANCE: 8:30

Music by
DJ Batman
& Friends

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

Wednesday, December 31

Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial Hall

Auditorium • 1351 Maple Avenue • Santa Rosa

To volunteer call Larry O.

SCIF HOLIDAY ALCATHONS

Come join us in Sebastopol for Sobriety, Sharing, and the Joy of Fellowship and Holiday Spirit!

Contrary to what you read in last month's Newsletter (or may have seen on some flyers), this year's SCIF Holiday Alcathons *will not* be at St. Mark Church in Santa Rosa. Instead they will be held at the Sebastopol Teen Center again, the same great location we had last year.

Why the Change?

We had an agreement with the office at St. Mark Church to hold the Alcathons there. It turned out there was one *little* problem... the Church Board had not also approved the request. When they met to discuss the idea it was decided

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A GREAT UNITY DAY!

Carolyn and Colleen wish to thank everyone involved in our last Unity Day for making it a success. Not only did we have more than 130 people attending, but also broke even on expenses. Carolyn also wished to express appreciation for those who gave their time before the event, as well as those who attended.

A special thank you to the volunteers who made it happen: Cindy, Brian, Kim M., Dee for the beautiful decorations, Tom, Marty, Peter, Larry S., Joel, Larry O. for being a great MC, Kay for her wonderful share and Susy for her

devotion to making it happen. I wish to express my own appreciation for the willingness of Carolyn and Colleen to take this job, seeing as they haven't done this sort of organizing before, and to congratulate them for grace under fire, so to speak. A last thank you to those who took part in our discussion panels, sharing with us the message we have come to expect in any gathering whose primary purpose is carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers... *There is a way out!*

James C.

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SCIF BUSINESS MEETING

INTERGROUP OFFICERS

- ◆ CHAIR: James C.
- ◆ VICE-CHAIR: Bruce McL.
- ◆ SECRETARY: Kay S.
- ◆ TREASURER: John S.
- ◆ REGISTRAR: Deborah

INTERGROUP COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

- ◆ SEMINARS: Steve B.
- ◆ ACTIVITIES: Larry O.
- ◆ OUTREACH: Mark F.
- ◆ COMMUNICATIONS:
Rory B.
- ◆ HOTLINE/TELESERVICE:
Kim C.
- ◆ ALKATHONS: Terry T.

AA HOTLINE TELESERVICE

- ◆ CHAIR: Kim C.
- ◆ SCHEDULER: Loretta D.
- ◆ 12 STEP COORDINATOR:
Teri T.
- ◆ 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 27, 2003

Serenity Prayer recited, Tradition 10 read by Mike C. , Concept 10 by Linda.

Introduction of new Reps: Tim W from Saturday Night Living Right, Patrick S. from Sunday night "up group", Denise O. Cazadero, Ramona from Any Lengths Group, Andrew C. from the Graton Fellowship, Robert K. from the Healdsburg Senior Center, Jeff T. from Thursday Redwood winners group of Windsor, and Richard C. from the Book Study.

September Birthdays Mike C. with 18 and Debra with 10 years

The **September minutes** were approved.

Registrar: Absent, Third Legacy procedure held with the Nominees being Joanne, Debra, and Robert. After 3 ballots, Deborah was elected.

Outreach: Mark F. The registration system is working. It seems that we have 5-10 more meetings represented tonight.

LIAISON REPORTS

General Service: Donna K. Two positions are open, for Archivist and Literature Chair. The persons need to have a good understanding of General Service, and who has recently been in service. Elections in November. The "Doctor Packets" are ready.

H & I: Absent

PI/CPC: Absent.

Bridging the Gap: Carolyn A. We did 6 presentations last month, and had 33 requests for service.

OFFICER REPORTS

Chair: James C. Unity Day coming up, and remember the Halloween Ball. Alkathons are ready to go.

Vice Chair: Bruce McL. At the new representative meeting we had 7 new reps and 3 new meetings.

Treasurer: John S. The cash shortfall for the month of September was \$2100.

Group contributions have been way down, but this month we bounced back a little. Bookstore lost money. If this continues we will start charging for Literature in January 2004. Discussion re: cost of running Teleservice, which runs at about \$10,000/yr. Richard asks if we are considering Fund Raisers, and was invited to the steering committee meeting. Donations to Intergroup must have the Group's name to be credited to the account.

Bookstore: Gloria. Every other Wednesday afternoon is available, and we have pocket calendars and planners, and Blank Subscription forms for the Grapevine. The Grapevine is often delivered late, and all the bookstore managers are working on this.

Seminars: Steve B. Absent.

Activities: Larry O. Halloween October 31, Friday night at the Sebastopol Community center, with the *Pulsators* playing. Probably have a DJ for New Years. Valentine's Day dance will be February 14 at the Sebastopol Community Center.

Teleservice: Larry O. (for Kim) Available shifts are Overnight Saturday 10-8AM and Sunday 5 to 10 PM. The overall coordinator position will be available next year, and now a recording secretary is available, and a Tuesday coordinator.

Communications: Rory B. Please send in your stories in 2004!

Alkathon: Terry T. Gary T. the coordinator for the Thanksgiving Alkathon present, and will need people to help keep it clean and orderly. Mike who is coordinating New Years had 4 meeting slots left. Call him at (415) 250-1302 to schedule your meeting time.

ICSC: Mike B. introduced to meeting and will fill in for Sam.

Unity Day: Carolyn A. Just need Fall color decorations, especially and fall leaves you may have. And please bring desert. Steering committee will be 11/6 at the bookstore.

Old Business: Registrar 3rd legacy

(Continued on page 3)





HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

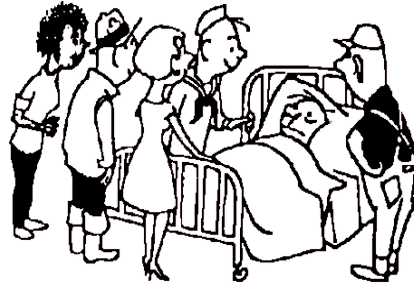
H&I: Into Maturity

In 1944, the first A.A. group in a federal penitentiary was formed in Atlanta. By March of 1958, there were active groups in 18 federal institutions. In a survey conducted by the federal prison director, James V. Bennett, favorable comments from all wardens praised the accomplishments of the program. Mr. Bennett recognized the value of AA in prisons, not only to arrest alcoholism, but also to deal with many living problems that facilitate a criminal lifestyle.

"By 1960, there were 356 prison groups with a total membership of 15,547 people. AA in prison had gone international, with seven groups in Finland and two in Holland. Correctional officials nationwide continued to encourage those whose crimes were alcohol-related or admitted alcoholics to join AA in prison. Men like Lee Hensley of Arkansas, Gus Harrison of Michigan and Alfred Down of Indiana lauded Alcoholics Anonymous as a "20th century miracle" that often made the difference in the transition to freedom. More importantly, immediate membership upon release from prison contributed to a more meaningful life with one's family. Success in the community by men who had found AA while in prison continued to give renewed hope to those who were still inside."

[From *Purpose and History of Hospital and Institution Service Work*]

On Wednesday, November 5, we welcomed the following new meeting reps: Gary T., Peggy, Pat S., Don S., Steve N., Travis N., Dave L., Jim L., Mariko, Suzanne and Joe M. Welcome aboard! Maurice, Ron M. and Marlene introduced



themselves as visitors—we're glad to have you here as well.

Celebrating November sobriety birthdays were Valerie, with 1 year; Jim B., 12; Freddie, 3; Tim M., 15 and David B., 13. As always, we wish you many happy returns of your day.

The five-minute share was given by Jude,

who has spent her H&I service between San Francisco, Sonoma and Lake counties. Her service has included a psych ward, jails and juvenile halls. She said she learned early on to stick with the winners—and that's whom she found in H&I. She learned about humility, principles before personalities and AA's traditions. She has found the courage to change what she can in her own life. She told us that she has had her most sobering moments in women's jails, realizing that sometimes the only difference between her and them is one drink. She has made long-term friendships as well as a true purpose in life.

End of the year blues? Why not spend the first Wednesday in December—*that's the 3rd*—with a bunch of winners? The regular meeting of the H&I committee begins at 6:15, with orientation just prior at 5:45 (to which all are welcome). The place? Santa Rosa Senior Center on Bennett Valley Road. Happy Holidays—we hope to meet you there!

In service,
Mardi

SCIF Minutes

(Continued from page 2)

proceeding with Deborah being elected

New Business: We will be beginning to charge for literature if revenues do not increase.

Group Concerns: None expressed.

Summation: Bruce McL

- 1) Halloween Ball - October 31.
- 2) Teleservice shifts available.
- 3) CNCA Fall assembly November 1.
- 4) Unity day November 15.
- 5) Thanksgiving Alcathon needs volunteers.
- 6) PI/CPC needs young or "young looking" speakers.
- 7) The Holiday Alcathons are coming.
- 8) Unity day planning meeting 9/25 at the bookstore.

Closed in the usual manner with the Lord's Prayer.

In service,
Kay S.

ACTIVITIES

As we morph into 2004 I am filled with gratitude and the warm fuzzy feeling of unity with our amazing Fellowship. The Halloween Masquerade Ball was a complete success and I think everyone had a great time! The Bottom Line: \$1,310.76 in net sales! This money will be used to support our Holiday Alcathons and other future fellowship activities. Thank you to all who attended and volunteered to help make the evening happen! The costumes were lavish and extravagant, the band and DJ were hot and the dance floor was jammed!

There are a handful of people who have been very helpful in some critical areas for our activities, they are: Rory B. for advertising and flyer creation; Gloria P. for producing the flyers; John S. (Treasurer) for making sure I have seed money from SCIF to initiate the events; Dennis B. for always

being available for transport of goods and supplies; Preston and Dorianne Mc. for Cashiering; Michelle C., Lauri E. and Kay S. for brainstorming and decor. A special "Thank You" for always being there to help our Fellowship! And more "Thank You's" to the folks who helped make the Halloween Masquerade Ball a rousing success. For setup and decorations:



Michelle C.; Belinda K.; Lauri E.; Dennis B.; Brad Mc.; Holly H.; Al R.; Martin V.; John P.; Rob; Jay S.; Marcus M.; Mike O.; Joanne B.; Larry R. For Cashiering and Finance: Dorianne and Preston Mc.; Holly and Dean H.; Tracy T.; Larry R. and Joanne G. For the Coffee Commitment: Phillip and the folks from St. Anthony's, including Adrian H.; Rebecca, Colin V.; Mike C.; Chris O.; Michael N.; Stephanie S.; Mike P. and Allan.

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GENERAL SERVICE

Greetings Fellowship!

District 12 participated in the CNCA Fall Assembly, which was held in Calistoga on Saturday, November 1st at the Napa County Fairgrounds. The Motion that has been on the Assembly floor for quite some time regarding "universal language" wording changes to the Steps and Traditions was finally voted on after much participation, and the motion failed. It was a venture into open-mindedness to listen to the many ideas and interchanges that occurred at the microphone from GSRs, DCMs, DCMC's, Area Officers and District Officers from all over the California Northern Coastal Area.

As a GSR, I felt empowered to carry the message of the group I represent, and although it was the minority opinion, I was able to witness the process in action when some of us were asked to speak for the minority. Afterward, the assembly was asked if anyone who voted in the majority wanted to change their votes, and about 8 hands went up! Although there were not enough people interested in a motion to reconsider, it was still amazing to me that after hearing the minority opinion speak, some members actually reconsidered their vote! This is a spiritual program and observing the process by which we reach decisions is a powerful experience. By trusting the 12 Traditions and the "Group Conscience" process and allowing ourselves to be guided by the 12 Concepts of AA, we can see that a loving God is indeed being expressed! (Bill and Bob knew what they were doing, thank goodness!)

CNCA also participated in the Area Inventory, and like a Fourth Step, the process is designed for us to look at our assets and liabilities. Individuals were heard at the microphone, and there were many ideas for consideration.

As in our Declaration of Unity:

This we owe to AA's future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

SCIF Officer Elections

"Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best."

—from Tradition Nine, Long Form

Elections for Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship Officer positions will be held at the monthly Intergroup meeting on Monday, January 26, 2004. The meeting is held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 905 Mendocino Ave. at 8:00PM. These SCIF Officer positions are up for rotation this year:

- ▲ **Chairman**
- ▲ **Vice-Chairman**
- ▲ **Treasurer**
- ▲ **Secretary**
- ▲ **Registrar**

Committee Chair positions will be available for election in February. Check for details in the January Newsletter. We hope to see you there in the great "Spirit of Rotation"!

Those in General Service understand the importance of keeping this idea ever in the forefront as we go about the business of AA.

At our monthly business meeting November 3rd, we welcomed our newest GSRs, who are enthusiastically ready to serve: Kenneth, Debbie and Ben. Welcome! We also celebrated the

following sobriety birthdays: Larry, 3 years; Nancy, 16 years; Suzanne, 28 years; Mary, (that's me!), 16 years; and Ben, 2 years. Happy sobriety birthday to all!

We held elections for the open panel positions, and with gratitude we welcomed Pat as our new Literature Chair! Congratulations, Pat, and thanks for being willing to serve! No one has yet accepted the position of Archives Chair, and elections for this position will be held at the December business meeting.

It is inventory time, and this month the regular agenda was moved aside so that we could dive right into the District inventory that was lead by Francisco A., Alternate Delegate from CNCA. We also had visitors from Napa, Carolyn and Grace to assist us with our inventory so that all the District officers could participate. Francisco did a wonderful job of keeping us "corralled", and as we went around the room District members were asked to participate in the first two questions:

- 1) What is our purpose?
- 2) Do new members stick with us or is turnover excessive?

Individuals had carefully considered these questions, and many different views were expressed. It is okay for us to "agree to disagree", and what better place to practice love and tolerance than with each other in AA? Most importantly, everyone had the chance to be heard, and that makes for a healthy group!


If you would like to learn more about the inventory process, please join us for the next monthly business meeting Monday, December 1st at 7:30PM at which time we will continue with our District Inventory and will also have a Third Legacy procedure for the position of Archives Chair. As usual, the AA service manual study is at 6:45PM and new GSR orientation 7PM See you then!

In love and service,
Mary W.

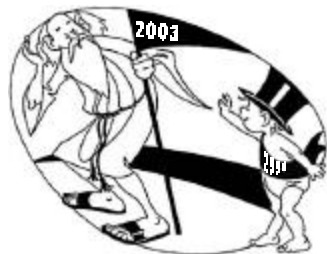




PETALUMA FELLOWSHIP
Holiday Alcahons



6:00AM Wednesday
December 24
until
Midnight Thursday
December 25



6:00AM Wednesday
December 31
until
Midnight Thursday
January 1

Meetings Every Two Hours ☿ Joy of Fellowship ☿ Potluck Buffet

Petaluma Fellowship #4 East Washington Blvd.








**Christmas
and New Years
Mini-Alcahons**

Cloverdale
Fellowship Hall
206 N. Commercial
Meetings at Noon, 6 and 8PM

Wed. December 24 & 31
Noon -10PM

Thur. December 25 & January 1
10AM -7PM

 **SI F ALENDAR DE 200** 

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	General Service 1 Faith Lutheran Church 6:45: Service Manual Study 7:00: New Rep Orientation 7:30: Business Meeting	2	Hospital & Institutions 3 S.R. Senior Center 5:45: New Rep Orientation 6:15: Business Meeting	4	5	6
7	SCIF Bookstore 8 6:30: AA Teleservice Business Meeting 7:15: ICSC Meeting 8:00: Intergroup Steering Committee Meeting	9	PI/CPC 10 S.R. City Hall 7:00: Speaker Training 7:30: Business Meeting	11	12	13
14	15	Bridging the Gap 16 SCIF Bookstore 6:30: New Rep Orientation 7:00: Business Meeting	17	18	19	20 District 18 (Spanish) 5519 Old Redwood Hwy. Windsor 4:30PM
21	Intergroup 22 St. Luke Lutheran Church 7:30: Newsletter Collating 7:30: New Rep Orientation 8:00: Business Meeting	General Service 23 District 12 Officers Meeting - 6:15 SCIF Bookstore	Christmas Alcahons 24  6PM -Midnight	Christmas Alcahons 25  Midnight-6PM	26	27
28	29	30	New Years Dance 31 7PM-12:30 AM  New Year's Alcahons 6PM-Midnight	New Year's Alcahons 1  Midnight-6PM		



Activities Report

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And of course our Clean Up Crew: the St. Anthony's people; Martin V.; Barney and Jonathon P., thanks again for staying with me until the bitter end and sign off!

Thanks also to Mary M. (Secretary); Kenneth P. (Speaker); Martin and Heidi for reading; Alan, Cheryl and Stephanie (Collections); Rob G. (DJ); John C., Carl M. and The Pulsators for putting on a great show! And last but not least, a very special Thank You to all the un-named volunteered who gave service without any expectation!... THANK YOU!



"I thought you said this was an Elkat hon"

* * *

I hope all of you find the spirituality of this Christmas Season, that like Jesus Christ we may adopt an attitude of love and compassion toward our fellow beings, animal and human. In my humble opinion Love and Faith are the most powerful forces in the universe and The Christmas Spirit can happen for you everyday, all year. Let go, Let God. Farewell to 2003, what a year it's been! How sill I nurture my recover in 2004? By keeping my head in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

If you have a tough time with the Holiday Season, please come to our Holiday Alcathons and New Year's Eve Dance. We can stay clean and sober and have a great time together! And speaking of New Year's Eve Dance, I still need volunteers to help with decorations and setup, making coffee and cleanup... If you're interested in helping make the dance happen please call me at 795-4081 or 953-5022. Happy Holidays!

Your trusted servant,
Larry O.

SCIF HOLIDAY ALCATHONS

(Continued from page 1)

there would be too much traffic, noise, etc., for a quiet neighborhood so our original plan was out the window. At that point Alcathon Chairman Terry T. and his crew were forced to scramble to find an adequate facility on very short notice. They did a great job in getting us the Sebastopol Teen Center!

The **Christmas Alcathon** meetings will begin at **6:00PM** on Tuesday, December 24 and continue until **6:00PM** Christmas night. The **New Years Alcathon** meetings will begin at **6:00PM** on Tuesday, December 31 and continue until **6:00PM** on January 1, 2004. There will be meetings every two hours, they last 1½ hours with a half hour Fellowship Break between meetings. Each meeting will be sponsored by a local meeting group (see the schedule below). That's a *lot* of meetings, and we can still use more volunteers to help make them happen. We need folks to be **Greeters, Coffee Makers, Food Servers, Setup and Breakdown Helpers.**

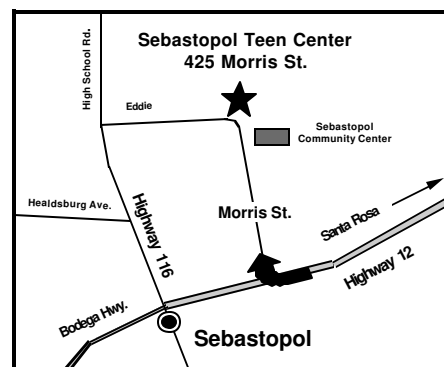
If your home group would like a meeting slot (hurry, they're filling up fast!), or you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact our Alcathon Coordinators:

Christmas: Bruce W.

New Year's: Mike S.

DIRECTIONS TO THE ALCATHON:

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.



MEETING SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

HOST GROUP:

6:00PM Mature & Sober

8:00PM Graton Fellowship

10:00PM Cross Roads

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

12:00AM OPEN

2:00AM Sisters of Surrender

4:00AM OPEN

6:00AM Attitude Adjustment

8:00AM Sunday R.P. Discussion Mtg.

10:00AM The Up Group

12:00PM 12x12 Discussion

2:00PM Saturday Night Live

4:00PM Happy Hour Sobriety

NEW YEAR'S

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

HOST GROUP:

Women's Step Study & Disc.

Mature & Sober

12X12 @ 12

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

OPEN

Sisters of Surrender

River Discussion

Attitude Adjustment

Big Book Study Sunday PM

Sober Sunday

Growing Pains

Crossroads

Think About It





NO LONGER MEETING

Healdsburg A Vision for You
(C) (W) Friday 8:00PM

Now an NA Meeting

Sonoma Living Sober Study
(C) (W) Wednesday 10:30AM

Meeting Changes? Contact Russell

Serenity Fellowship is still alive and well!

Have you stopped by the Serenity Fellowship lately? We host approximately 35 AA meetings a week (all of them are open meetings) and need some *solid sobriety* to help carry the message to the newcomer. There are currently several meetings that need secretaries and other trusted servants to further our primary purpose, *carrying the message to the Alcoholic who still suffers*.

If you're looking for a commitment, want to help a newcomer, or just want to try a different meeting please check out the Serenity Fellowship because we could really use you!

The Fellowship Hall is located in East Santa Rosa at 4527 Montgomery Drive, Suite C.

Thank You!

Gloria's Corner

Calendars and pocket planners for 2004 are now available

Two new books from the Grapevine are on order:

▲ "Thank You For Sharing"

▲ "Spiritual Awakenings"



Gloria

Thanks Everyone!

ADDRESSES

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San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

General Service Office
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New York, NY 10163

CA Northern Coastal Area Treasury
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 P.

Phone: (707) 546-2066

Fax: (707) 566-9677

E-mail: AA@ap.net

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

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DjBridgtheGap12@aol.com

Correspondent: Mary W.

Literature: Diane F.

Archives: Holly H.

Hospitals & Institutions

Chair: Kelly

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