



SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP NEWS



VOLUME 101, ISSUE 01 JANUARY 2006

A SOBER NEW YEAR

'Twas the eve of New Years when
all through the hall
Not a member was stirring, nor
sought alcohol.
Coffee and cookies were set out
with care;
More members soon would be
there.
Each grateful member with no
trace of vanity,
Gave thanks to the Power that
restores us to sanity.
The leader of the meeting, like all
who have missions,
Assigned Chapter Five and the
Twelve Traditions.

When outside the hall there arose
such a clatter,
We sprang from our chairs to see
what was the matter.

In parking a car some bumpers
were hit,
The man who was wrong did
promptly admit.
And so to our grateful eyes did
appear
Our famous guest speaker, loved
far and near.
More rapid than eagles the member
then came;
He hugged them and kissed them
and called them by name:
Hi, Linda; 'Yo, Jessie; God love
you, Harry...
Patty and Sheila and Birthday boy
Larry!
Again we all settled, ready to
share;
The leader of the meeting led the
Serenity Prayer.

As candles were lit and announce-
ments were said,

we listened quietly as Chapter
Five was read.
Some old timers were there
and some members were new,
the Twelve Steps to follow,
Twelve Traditions, too.
The Seventh Tradition inevita-
bly came.
The leader then called on our
speaker by name.
He wore his red suit, a fur cap
and no tie,
But soon let us know with a
wink of his eye,
"That New Years for us, we
must learn to think,
means staying away from the
very first drink".
A bundle of joys he told us
we'd find,
"Read the Big Book" he said
"for true peace of mind."

At the end of the meeting he
led the Prayer and gave us the
word: "Continue to share."
I heard him exclaim as he
picked up his pack,
"Happy New Year to all and
Keep Coming Back!"



S.C.I.F.
PRESENTS

THE 2006 VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE



MEETING: 7:00 PM
SPEAKER: TO BE
ANNOUNCED LATER

DANCE: 8:30 PM-
MIDNIGHT

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$ 10.00

DJ & BAND

Band To Be Announced Later In The Flyer



SATURDAY, FEB 11TH

*Sebastopol Community
Center,*

390 Morris St. , Sebastopol, 95472

**Volunteers Needed
Call Craig G.
(BATMAN)**

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H & I

"Sometimes, we become depressed. I ought to know; I have been a champion dry-bender case myself. While the surface causes were a part of the picture—trigger events that precipitated depression—the underlying causes, I am satisfied, ran much deeper.

"Intellectually, I could accept my situation. Emotionally, I could not.

"To these problems, there are certainly no pat answers. But part of the answer surely lies in the constant effort to practice all of AA's Twelve Steps." [Letter from Bill W., 1954]

The H&I Committee was honored to welcome new meeting reps Mike of the River Discussion Group; Maurice, Serenity Fellowship; Tim, Big Book Study Group; Judy, Petaluma Fellowship Group; Katie, Sharing and Caring Group; Woody, Afternoon Delight Group; and Danny, Petaluma Fellowship Group. Visiting the meeting were David, Tonya, Kelly, Danielle, Rosie and Justin. A big welcome to all of you!

Sobriety birthdays for the month of December were being celebrated by Larry N., with 11 years; Miles, 2; Randy, 4; Louanne, 1 year; and Kemo, 12. Keep coming back!

The five-minute speaker was Katherine O., who shared her experience, strength and hope with us as she made her journey to AA and then with H&I.

Get off to a great start in 2006: Come see how your experience can benefit others and the next meeting of the Hospitals and Institutions "Committee. The date? **Wednesday, January 4.** The time? **6:15 p.m.** (All are welcome to attend the orientation at 5:45). The place? **The Santa Rosa Senior Center, corner of Bennett Valley Road and Rutledge Street** (1 block up from Santa Rosa Avenue).

Wishing you a safe, healthy New Year in service,

Mardi.

January Seminar

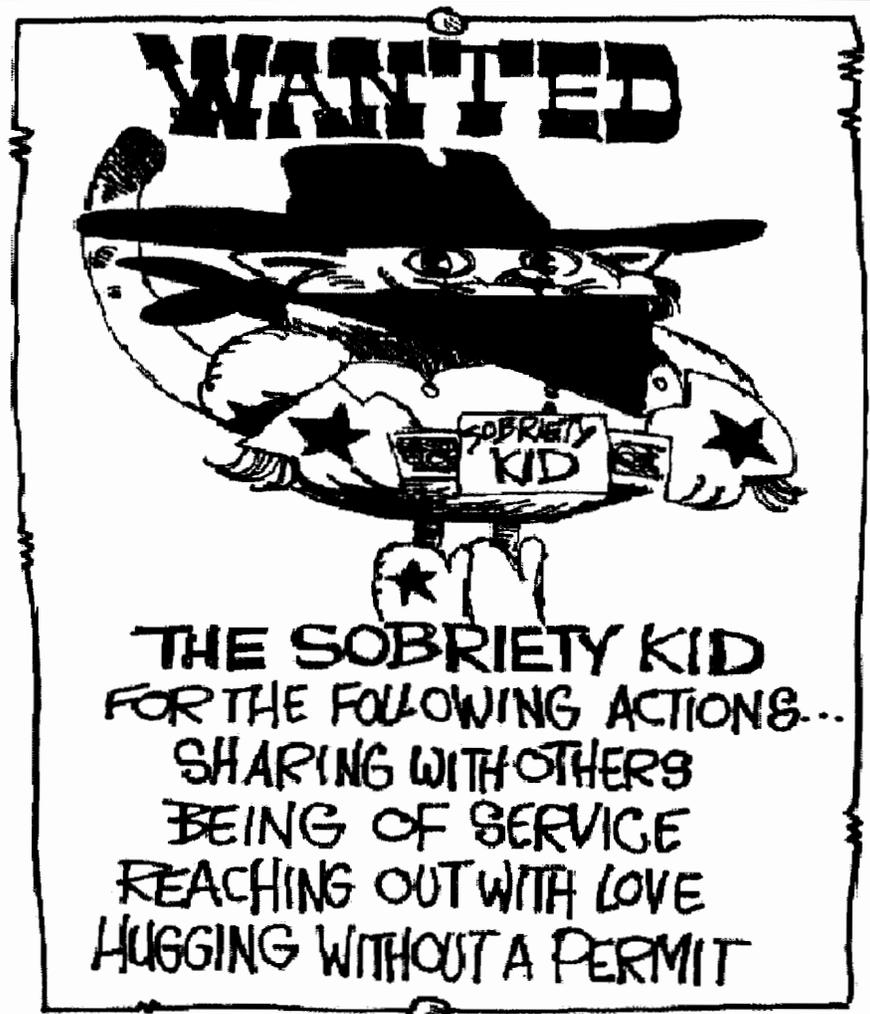
ALL ABOUT SPONSORSHIP

WHEN: SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2006
3:00 UNTIL 5:00PM

WHERE: SCIF BOOKSTORE

750 MENDOCINO AVE, SANTA ROSA

WHAT: SPEAKER PANEL AND QUESTION
SESSION ON SPONSORSHIP- GREAT
SPEAKERS – BRING YOUR SPONSEES!



Rolling Back My Eyes

I never thought I'd get so lost. I never worried about the cost. I spent too much time running in circles, naked in winters bitter frost. It 's left me kind of stunted, a little short and a little cross..

I'm creeping by, I'm moving past, and I'm rolling back my eyes too fast...

I'm just trying to find my purpose before I melt into the floor. As a child I knew exactly what I wanted And I knew just what my life was for. But, here I am, now a man and I'm afraid to even open up the door. Oh, here's where the wide-pan of irony starts to soar...

I'm creeping by, I'm moving past, and I'm rolling back my eyes too fast...

Can someone out there please teach me something meaningful, something that will last...

Every day I test the boundaries of my life; and every night I re-define the purpose of my life...

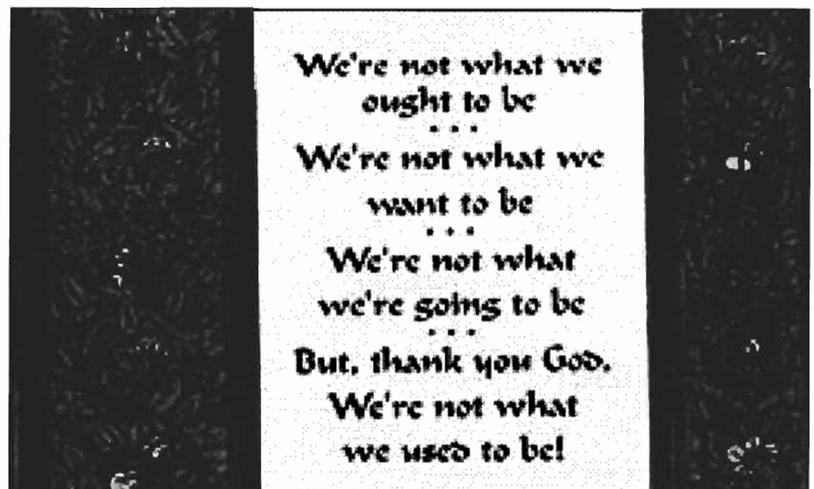
I've never really known for sure exactly which road to ride. I've always just accepted the blur

And how it danced around with my insides; and I've never been good at 'the uphill' because there's too big a chance to break the landslide. But, starting here, there will be no more hiding behind the curtain for me tonight. I've got to take the day, I've got to play, I've got to find a better way than...

Creeping by and moving past, and rolling back my eyes too fast...

Can someone out there please teach me something meaningful, something that will last

— Charles W.



Financial Reports

	Month of: <u>Nov. 05</u>			Year to Date		
	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Net
Central Office						
Groups						
Individuals						
Teleservice						
Web Site						
Newsletter						
Interest						
Subtotal						
Bookstore						
Activities						
Alkathons						
Seminars						
TOTAL						

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash in Bank & Petty Cash		Memo: Cash in Bank & Petty Cash	
Prepaid Expenses		Prudent Reserve	
Liabilities		Liabilities	
Subtotal		Total (unassigned funds)	
Literature Inventories			
Property			
Total Assets & Liabilities			

From the Batcave

WhooHoo it's 2006!! Or at least it should be by the time you are reading this. (If you are reading this at it's still 2005, please fold this up now, and wait until after New Years to read this article, that way you'll get the full oomph of the aforementioned statement.) So, did you make any big new years resolutions? I didn't, because you almost never see anybody keep those more than a month. Have you noticed that the gym's fill up this time every year and you can't get on a machine, or use any weights because there are so many darn people there? But come back mid February, it's all empty again, with plenty of room to stretch out. On anther note, thanks to everyone who helped with the New Years Dance, I'll have names in the February column... my getting choked up sound) ahem, last.... column.

Well, we should give a big applause to the outgoing officers of Intergroup who did a great job this last year. (If you are reading this in a meeting instead of paying attention, don't start applauding right now) As you might know, January is the month we elect the officers who oversee Intergroup, and next month we elect the committee heads including my spot as Activities chair. We've had guys doing this job for a number of years, so it would be really nice to get a woman nominated or to volunteer in the spirit of rotation. Do you have what it takes to do this job? Lets see... Have you been told that you are the life of the party? Even when you weren't dancing with the lampshade on your head? Are you fun? Do you have great ideas that you think people would enjoy? Well this might be for you!!! This job is really fun, and not as crazy as you might think You don't have to be terribly organized, and if you already are, then it will be that much easier for you. You just have to be creative, and basically be able delegate jobs out and get real excited about things, or at least appear to be excited about things, even if you aren't. (People tend to want to attend events that the activities person thinks is exciting) But I wasn't faking, I 'm easily amused. Once you've pulled off your first dance, which would be in April, (so come with a theme in mind); you'll be off and running. The BBQ's are pretty easy, and after the first, you'll have it down. Of course my replacement will have all the help and assistance they need from me. So, you won't be doing it alone. You might even want to consider doing it with a friend. This is a one year commitment, but it should almost be two, because by the end of year one, you finally feel like you know what you are doing. But that's up to you, and the Intergroup reps when they vote you in. If you have any questions, feel free to call me, and ask.

Keep in mind that next month we have my last event, the Valentine's dance, on Saturday, February 11th at the Sebastopol, Community Center. Come and either celebrate with the love you already have, or maybe you'll find some there. Oolala!! Take care,

Craig G. (batman)

November 28, 2005

Meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer

Readings: Preamble: Jeremy Karen: Concept 11 James: Tradition 11/long form

Introduction of new representatives to Inter-

group: Pat-Think About It Group in Sebastopol Don-5th Street Group Santa Rosa Tammy-Ladybug Group in Cotati Sunshine-Tuesday Afternoon Group Cotati Valentine-Big Book Study Santa Rosa James-Twelve by Twelve Study @ St. Francis Lutheran Church Santa Rosa Susan C.-Signs of Sobriety on Fourth St. S.R.

Mary-Shuman Fellowship Petaluma November Birthdays: Ron with 3 yrs, Tom H. with 5 yrs, Pat with 9 yrs, Annie with 11 yrs, Meagan with 4 yrs, Francis with 10 yrs, Tanya with 7 months

Review of October 2005 minutes: New Business was not included in Newsletter. H&I held at 6:00PM. TBDME/name change and correction to previous minutes. Minutes were accepted with these changes by the group.

Registrar: Deborah: No report given

H&I Report: Mark V. reminded folks that H&I meets on the first Wednesday of each month with an orientation for those interested in this service commitment taking place at 5:45PM, followed by the business meeting at 6:00PM.

General Service: No report this month

PI/CPC Report: Dave R. encouraged anyone wanting to be of service to this committee that they meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month at SR City Hall Lounge w/speaker training at 7:00PM and the business meeting at 7:30PM. They are in need of volunteers. He explained the function of the group is to distribute literature to hospitals, police stations, hotels, jails, libraries, etc. They are in need of speakers for the County's drinking/driving program. This commitment requires two years of sobriety.

Bridging The Gap: Susy reported the purpose of BTG is to introduce the newly released residents of treatment facilities to AA in their local community. They use a list of AA volunteers to coordinate with newly released AA newcomers and take them to their first meeting. All that is required to be a volunteer is 6 months of sobriety and a working knowledge of the steps. Having transportation is helpful. Business meeting is held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the AA Bookstore at 7:00PM. Fifty three requests were made during this past month. BTG is currently in need of a recording secretary if anyone is interested in this service position.

SOCPAA: Larry C. wanted to pass on his thanks to everyone for the passing of the motion that they are now a formal liaison to Inter-

group. The group is the process of developing this position and he will be the liaison. The monthly business meeting is held on the first Sunday of each month on Giffin Avenue off of Stony Point Rd. They currently have three meetings in Sonoma County that have been started since they formulated the group.

They are doing outreach in Lake County to start a group there. In January they are planning a one day snow boarding trip-doing an annual camp out/barbeque and will be putting together their third annual Marine World trip in this upcoming year.

Intergroup Chair: Bob reported that elections are coming up for Officer Chairs in January 2006 and Committee Chairs in February 2006. Position descriptions need to be created soon for those taking their places.

Vice Chair: Steve B. reported that four new representatives were at orientation this past month-he will continue to recruit at meetings he attends. All new representatives need to fill out information sheets. Come to orientation at 7:30PM next month.

Treasurer: Tom R. directed everyone to the monthly financial report in the Newsletter and gave a detailed explanation the finances. Finances were O.K. in October. \$840.00 dance money did not get recorded under Activities. Contributions were down in November. We are currently \$500 in to our prudent reserve. Since the Petaluma Fellowship has made changes to their group meetings this year their contributions have been down. He made mention that there is a limit as to how much any one person can contribute to the fellowship which is a maximum of \$2,000. He is available to discuss Intergroup finances by home phone as noted in the Newsletter or by cell phone:

Bookstore: Gloria reported that a volunteer is needed the last Saturday of every month from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. They will be working on an inventory this Wednesday, November 30th at 2:00PM. Anyone is welcome to come a n d h e l p . B i g

Books and Twelve by Twelve's were contributed for a total of \$394.00 to the Gulf Coast by our fellowship. There are Christmas gifts available at the Bookstore. The Petaluma Fellowship donated metal cases for archive items to be displayed at the Bookstore.

Outreach: Maurice was not in attendance/no report

Activities: Craig is working on the New Years Dance on December 31, 2005 at the Santa Rosa Vets Memorial Hall. Needs volunteers to set up at 12:30PM on the day of the dance, blow up balloons, hang up lights, set up tables, etc. There will be a speaker meeting held from 7:00PM to 8:00PM (Joe G.), the dance will be from 8:30PM to 12:00PM. He will coordinate the Valentines Day Dance and that will be Craig's last commitment as Activities Chair. He needs to rotate out of this commitment after that. Ideally would like a woman to take his place in the spirit of rotation.

Seminars: Susy stated that the next seminar will be held on the 3rd Saturday in January 2006. The topic will be "Different Aspects of Sponsoring". She also needs to rotate out of her commitment and will create a "pass it on file" to the next volunteer.

Alcathons: Brian reported that the Thanksgiving Alcathon was very successful. There are two slots open at 2:00AM and at 4:00AM for the New Years Eve meeting which will held at the Light on 5th Street. There are 16 meetings held at that facility each week - everything is going very well. Christmas Alcathon begins at 6:00PM on Christmas Eve and ends on Christmas Day at 8:00PM. There will be a half hour break in between meetings.

Teleservice: Dave L. indicated that currently all shifts are covered. Business meeting is held on the 2nd Monday of each month. The Twelve Step List is being updated. Everything is going well.

Newsletter/Communications: No report...

Group Concerns: None mentioned

Old Business: None

New Business: Susan C., representative of Signs of Sobriety Group requested that \$950 per quarter, or \$3,800 a year become available to cover the cost of providing sign language interpreters for the year 2006 for the open AA meeting "Signs of Sobriety". They currently have two interpreters who will do this service for \$75 at each meeting. Also her group is requesting SCIF's support in producing at least one event per year that would serve as a fundraiser. Proceeds could be applied to the commitment requested or could be retained by Intergroup to fund additional interpreting services for deaf members of AA. The long-term goal of "Signs of Sobriety" is to have deaf members with enough sobriety time to carry the message of AA to other deaf alcoholics. Once this happens, interpreters would no longer be needed. Gloria brought up that currently we do not have a special needs committee in Sonoma County. Jeff, a representative of GSR said that this concern has been brought up as a topic at the last GSR meeting he attended. Dave stated that money is currently not available to fund this proposal. Its currently the only meeting north of San Jose. GSR is also being asked for funds for this proposal. This motion has been taken each to individual group for consensus.

Summation by Steve: Elections coming up in January and February. Alcathons on schedule at 525 5th Street Light. New Years Eve Dance needs volunteers. ---Gratefully in service, Erin

*" I realize that humor
isn't for everyone.
It's only for people
who want to have fun,
enjoy life, and feel
alive."*

- Anne Wilson Schaeff,
in her book "LAUGH! I
THOUGHT I'D DIE (IF I
DIDN'T)"



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	4	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> General Service 6:45 Service Manual / New Rep Or. 7:30 Bus.@Faith Lutheran	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> H&I 5:45 New Rep 6:15 Bus.@ Senior Ctr.	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>16</u> SCIF 6pm Teleservice 7:15 ICSC/ 8pm Steering Committee	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u> PI/CPC 7pm Training 7:30 Business SR CITY HALL	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>20</u> Bridging the Gap 7pm Bookstore	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> Intergroup 7:30 New Rep 8pm Business	<u>29</u> General Service 8:15 Dist 12 @ SCIF Bookstore	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>		
<i>!Happy New Year!</i>						

AA Hotline/Teleservice			
Scheduler: Dave L.	12 Step Coordinator: James C	Santa Rosa Hotline: 544-1300	
Long-Distance: 800-224-1300	Petaluma Hotline: 7625122	Sonoma Hotline: 938-2027	Spanish Hotline: 545-7417

Intergroup Officers	
Chair: Bob K	Vice-Chair: Steve B
Secretary: Erin B.	Treasurer: Tom R
Registrar: Deborah P	

Intergroup Chairs / Committees	
Activities: Craig G	Alcathons: Brian A
Hotline: David L	Outreach: Maurice
Seminars: Susy	Newsletter: Charles W.

New Meetings

Santa Rosa

'A Vision For You' (O) (W)

Thursday 12:15

1355 Industrial Dr..

Cloverdale

'Sisters in Step' (C) (W)

Tuesday 6pm (no court papers signed)

208 N. Commercial

Meeting Changes

Windsor

'Steps in Windsor'

Tuesday @ 7:30pm

Moving to
8400 Old Redowwd Hwy.



*For Meeting Changes *

Contact Russell

LOOK ON-LINE @

www.sonomacountyaa.org



Gloria's Corner

BOOKSTORE INVENTORY

Volunteers NEEDED!! 2pm LAST
DAY OF THE MONTH

CONTACT INFORMATION

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 Treasury

PO Box 884222 San Francisco, CA 94118

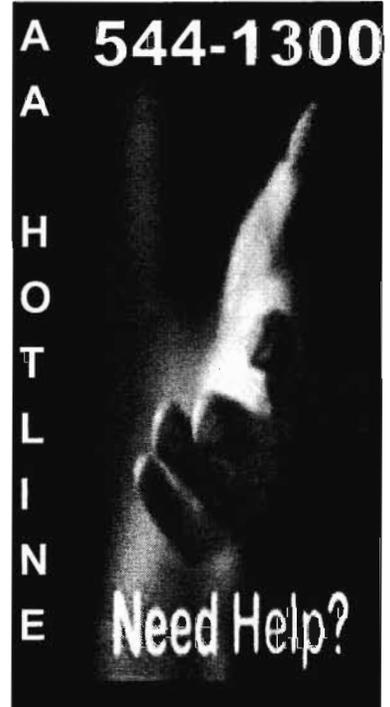
Sonoma County PI/CPC*

PO Box 11350 Santa Rosa, CA 95406

SCIF BOOKSTORE

750 Mendocino Ave., #10 Santa Rosa, CA 95402

707-546-2066



Newsletter Editor Charles W.
Directory Changes: Russell

Sonoma County General Service

DCMC: Margrete V.
Alt. DCMC: Kenin H.
Registrar: Chris B.
Archives: Cory B.
Grapevine: DJ S.
Literature: Michael Q.
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Bridging the Gap: Bob F.
PI/CPC: Yannick W.
Recording Secretary Donna K.
Treasurer Vinnie M.
H & I Kelly T.

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