



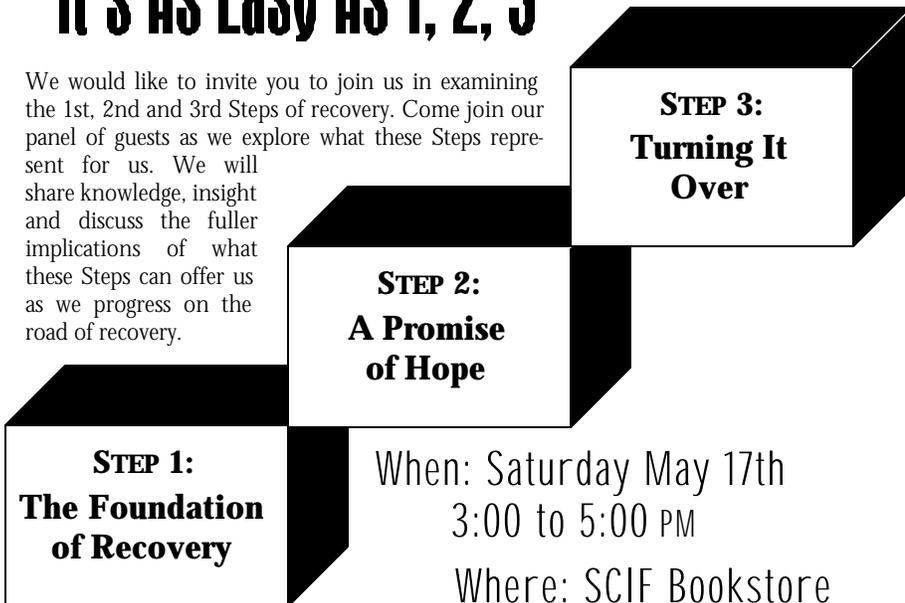
SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP NEWS

May 2003

MAY SEMINAR

"It's As Easy As 1, 2, 3"

We would like to invite you to join us in examining the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Steps of recovery. Come join our panel of guests as we explore what these Steps represent for us. We will share knowledge, insight and discuss the fuller implications of what these Steps can offer us as we progress on the road of recovery.



When: Saturday May 17th
3:00 to 5:00 PM

Where: SCIF Bookstore
750 Mendocino Ave

For more information call Steve B. 542-5747

"The Big Book Comes Alive!" continues in Petaluma

The "Big Book Comes Alive!" continues every Monday thru May 26, 2003 at the Petaluma Alano Club. The seminar starts at 7:30PM and ends at 9:30PM. This is a wonderful opportunity for Newcomers and Old-timers to really get into the Big Book. The series, sponsored by "The Tuesday Night Big Book Group", has been a great success for the past 12 years. There will be a dinner served before each seminar at 5:30PM. The cost is \$7.00 per per-



son. The **Alano Club** is located in Petaluma at 221 Water Street. For more information please call (707) 762-9999.

Directions:

From Highway 101 take E. Washington Exit, to West, cross River, take first right just before the cross intersection of Petaluma Blvd. & Bodega Ave. Parking is limited, so be prepared to park on Petaluma Blvd. or downtown Petaluma.

Activities Report

It's Saturday, April 12, 2003. I am sitting here looking out the window at the pouring rainstorm that is forecast for this weekend. Our "Life is a Beach!" BBQ Picnic is just two weeks away and I am thinking, "if it rains on April 26th, no one will attend our event! What a disaster!!!" and then a little voice in my head from long ago but very near is heard, *"and acceptance is the answer to all my problems today. When I am disturbed, it is because I find some person, place, thing or situation - some fact of my life - unacceptable to me, and I can find no serenity until I accept that person, place, thing or situation as being exactly the way it is supposed to be at this moment. Nothing, absolutely nothing happens in God's world by mistake. Until I could accept my alcoholism, I could not stay sober; unless I accept life on life's terms, I cannot be happy. I need to concentrate not so much on what needs to be changed in the world as on what needs to be changed in me and in my attitudes."* (page 417 in the Big Book) The Acceptance Prayer, has been a common denominator in every aspect of my recovery, every day,

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SCIF BUSINESS MEETING

INTERGROUP OFFICERS

- ◆ CHAIR: James C.
829-3690
- ◆ VICE-CHAIR: Bruce McL.
544-6958
- ◆ SECRETARY: Kay S.
526-5502
- ◆ TREASURER: OPEN
- ◆ REGISTRAR: Richard B.
869-0103

INTERGROUP COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

- ◆ SEMINARS: Steve B.
- ◆ ACTIVITIES: Larry O.
- ◆ OUTREACH: Mark F.
- ◆ COMMUNICATIONS:
Rory B.
528-7797
- ◆ HOTLINE/TELESERVICE:
Kim C.
584-5831
- ◆ ALCATHONS: OPEN

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

March 24, 2003

Serenity prayer recited, Tradition 3 read by Mike T., Concept 3 by Vicki.

Introduction of new Reps: John S, from Single Purpose Group. Bruce M. from Sonoma Friday Night, Christine S from Not just another Newcomer Meeting, Tony C, From the Acres Fellowship, Colin From the Occidental Friday night meeting, Nancy from the Sonoma Fellowship, and Steve from the South Park survivors.

March Birthdays: Teresa 3 yrs, Dennis B. 6 yrs, Terry T. 17 yrs, Ben 16 months, Carolyn 18 months, John S. 10 yrs.

The February minutes were approved.

Communications/Newsletter: Rory B. stated that all goes well.

Registrar: Richard . asks that we please fill out form for data base. 4 new reps last month.

Outreach: Mark F. asks that Reps sign in, so he can keep track of meetings that are represented. He is still learning his job.

Liaison Reports

General Service: Donna King reports that PRASSA had 1,333 alcoholics in attendance in a casino in Reno, and that it was great fun. GSR Pre-conference assembly April 5 and 6 in Vallejo, and follow , up meeting here May 17 at Cloverdale, which we are hosting.

H&I: Scott was back to the post, and would like more new folks to consider working with H&I

PI/CPC: Report by Dagmar, said that the committee is growing. Thanks to you all.

Bridging the Gap: Colleen reported that BTG took 14 people to meeting locally, and had 38 contacts out of the district.

Officer Reports

Chair: James, nothing to report at this time.

Vice Chair: Bruce, there were 4 new reps at the Orientation at 7:30.

Treasurer: John S. Said donations are down, but that is normal for Feb.

Bookstore: Gloria. We are fully staffed, and there is a new book coming containing the stories from big books 1,2,3. Our computer files are being backed up, finally.

Seminars: Steve B. The March Seminar on Sponsorship was wonderful! 36 people attended. Next Seminar is on May 17, the topic is the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Steps.

Activities: Larry O. The "Life is a Beach" picnic will be April 26 at Doran Beach Park. The Founder's Day Picnic will be on June 7 at Doyle Park. Future plans are in the works.

Teleservice: Bob K. for Kim. We need help. The committee needs "new blood". Open shifts are 5-10 PM Sunday and Thursday evenings.

Alkathons: Terry T. made himself available for the Alkathon Chair position and received an enthusiastic acceptance.

ICSC: We need a candidate with some business experience, two members volunteered to bring candidate to next meeting.

Old Business: None

New Business: Election of treasurer. Some discussion of the difference between bookkeeper and treasurer. James was reminded that this is third legacy process, however no one made themselves available at the General meeting, and a call was put out to all the reps to recruit

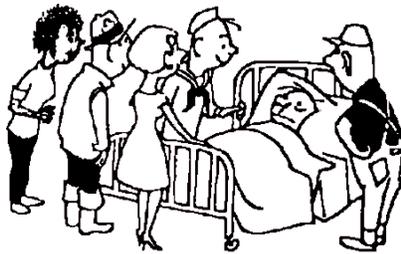
(Continued on page 3)

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

"I had succeeded in all but one important fact. I had not succeeded in love. I was rather homely. The girls would have nothing to do with me, but finally the minister's daughter took me up and I began going with her. So now my cup was full. I was a winner in love. I was president of my class. I was captain of the ball team; I was leader of the high school orchestra. Life was very full and ecstatic. Now watch, my friends, what happened. One day the principal came into the chapel and announced in a very sad voice that my girls Bertha had just died unaccountably and suddenly the night before. I will never forget that terrible day. I fell into a terrific depression. Moreover, I stayed in that depression. I stayed in it for three long years. I did not graduate; all interest was lost in everything.

"Was that normal behavior? Of course not. The average kid my age would have been cast down, but he wouldn't have been kept down. Inside of 60 days, he would have had a new girl or the old one would have been just a sad occasional memory—not so with

me. I stay depressed. I don't graduate. You see, this time I couldn't win because my adversary was death. And I had not yet come into the light of the spirit enough to know that there is no death. So death had defeated



me and I couldn't take it. Now, that was the early pattern of mine."

[Part 8 of Bill W.'s chair at San Quentin in the early years of H&I, reprinted from a 1951 *Grapevine*]

Seven new meeting reps introduced themselves at the April meeting of the H&I Committee. They are: John O., Mark, Ben, Jose, Trish, Carrie, and Bruce. Steve, Jamie, and Har-

mony announced themselves as visitors. Welcome to you all!

April sobriety birthdays were being celebrated by Tina, with 1 year; Scott, 2; Roger, 6; and Ben, 16. Sharing in the joy were Paolo, with 4 months; Matt, 10; Shawn, 7; Carol, 10; Ben, 19; and Rick, 9. Keep coming back—sobriety agrees with you!

The five-minute share was given by Marcel A.

The date to mark on your calendar is May 7. Why? Because that's when the aforementioned sober people (and a whole lot of other sober, dedicated folks) will be getting together for the next H&I meeting. Where? The Santa Rosa Senior Center. When? The regular meeting begins at 6:15 p.m., with an orientation at 5:45. Come see if this branch of AA service is for you!

In service,
Mardi

SCIF Minutes

(Continued from page 2)

members who have accounting background, and about 10 hours a month. John S., states that there is no problem with lost funds, but with allocation of costs. Larry O. asks if we should consider hiring someone.

Group Concerns and Sharing: Liability insurance was brought up by Debra. Gloria has information on a source for reasonable liability insurance coverage.

Complaint regarding a registered sex offender at a meeting that was inappropriately hugging women. How do we handle that. It was handled at the meeting in question by directly speaking to offender. Restraining orders may be possible. Maria says we must consider safety of our members.

Closed in the usual manner.

In service,
Kay S.

Activities Report

(Continued from page 1)

every year. every step. It eases my control issues and the drama of everyday life and brings me back to my spiritual connection with The Higher Power. I am still going to pray and ask Mother Nature (The Higher Power) for a sunny day and a gentle breeze for kite flying and frolicking at Doran Beach on April 26th. Tee Hee! I hope by the time you are reading this we will be basking in the afterglow of a great day at the beach and the grand old time we had. Speaking of Mother's...don't forget Mother's Day (Sunday, May 11, 2003) a day to remember and celebrate all the Mother's in your life.

On June 10, 1935 in Akron, Ohio an alcoholic named Dr. Bob Smith was finally convinced that sobriety was the

only way to live, with the help of a fellow alcoholic Bill Wilson. On that momentous day these two men decided that the only way they could stay sober



is to help other alcoholics recover from this insidious disease. One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic about experience, strength and hope, and the beat goes on. On Saturday, June 7, 2003 we will be celebrating the 68th birthday of our be-

loved fellowship (and so will the rest of the world), The Founder's Day Picnic at Doyle Park in Santa Rosa, California will take place on this day. I want to thank all the people who volunteered their time, energy and equipment to help with the Doran Beach Picnic.

God bless you!
Larry O.

Greetings Fellowship!

First of all, I want to thank each and every AA member that participated in the "Group Conscience" process this year. As a GSR, I enjoyed facilitating the sharing sessions with a wonderful group of people who really care about AA. It is empowering to know that your voice is truly heard: in Sonoma County, among the other participating counties which comprise the CNCA (California Northern Coastal Area) and by your Delegate, Doug G. who has the tremendous responsibility of carrying your voice to the annual General Service Conference in New York this month.

Attendance was impressive at the Pre-Conference Assembly, held on April 5-6 at the Vallejo Fairgrounds where GSRs from all over the Area stood at the microphone and delivered their group consciences. This year the hot topic seemed to be the proposed changes to the cartoon pamphlets "What happened to Joe?" and "It happened to Alice". I discovered that many AA groups were concerned about them, so much so that two hours later, all the GSRs were finally heard at the microphone, just for this one item! So, why are these little comic books so important? I learned that they have helped many young people in jails and juvenile hall, as well as AAs who may be attracted to them for the illustrations. So, it goes to show that we, small clusters of drunks that meet weekly all over the U.S. and Canada, really are in charge of AA affairs and do make an impact on AA decisions, including literature changes.

The next step is to hear the outcome of each topic discussed and to see if your group felt the same as others in the U.S. and Canada. That is what the upcoming Post-Conference Assembly is all about. Doug G. will deliver his report of what he experienced in New York, notify us of any Advisory Actions and keep us posted about those topics that were only discussed with no action taken.

District 12 held its regular business meeting on April 7, 2003. We welcomed new GSRs: Adam, Maria,

Patty, Nathan, Mark and Joe who are enthusiastic and ready to serve their groups. Congratulations to the following members celebrating their AA birthdays (I hope I got everyone!): Diane F. 20 years; Jeff 4 years; Jeff 10 years and Tom 10 years. Keep coming back, Miracles! You show us that it works!

**Post-Conference
Assembly Dinner**

Friday, May 16

Location: Michele's Restaurant
521 Adams Street, Santa Rosa

Buffet Dinner: 6:30-8:00PM

Speaker: 8:00-9:00PM

Cost: 22.50
(Tax and Tip incl.)

RSVP Deadline: May 9th

More Info: Donna K.
665-9825

District 12 presents the

**Post-Conference
Assembly**

Saturday, May 17

***"Living AA's Principles
Through Sponsorship"***

Citrus Fairgrounds, Cloverdale
8:30AM-5:00PM

Here is a summary of the business meeting this month: District 12 will be hosting the upcoming Post-Conference Assembly held on May 17 in Cloverdale, Donna K. is coordinating the conference dinner to be held on Friday, May 16 at Michelle's Restaurant, flyers are now available-please RSVP by May 9th, cost is \$22.50 per person; Margrete is the Assembly coordinator and has a crew of dedicated GSRs helping her prepare for our visiting area guests; Jay continues to emphasize the importance of building up our sub-district structure so that future assemblies, etc. can be delegated to a sub-district, which would

encourage event participation; District 18 will be hosting their first assembly-date/time to be announced; we welcomed Rueben as the new Liaison for District 18; Gil, our Registrar, has been working diligently on updating District 12 group information for the AA Western Regional Directory (a big job and he is commended for it!); there are three motions that came to the district and will be discussed at the Assembly, (see below), all AA's are encouraged to give opinions to their GSR who will be voting for them; there are new Spanish meetings in our county 3xweek; District 12 will be hosting the annual BBQ/Potluck on June 2, 6:30pm, please bring a dish; the BBQ will be followed by the regular business meeting.

District 12 thanks Earlene W. for coming all the way from Aptos, CA. and sharing her service experience with us. Earlene serves CNCA as the Treasurer for Panel 53. She helped us to understand the current motions that will be brought to the Assembly on May 17 and encouraged all GSRs to take these motions to the groups for discussion. The motions are:

- 1) That District 07, Alameda North, add a new sub-district, Linguistic Sub-District 07-006, composed of the Spanish speaking groups of Sub-District 16-002 that wish to join 07-006.
- 2) That the District ask the Area to get the following motion on the Conference Agenda Topics: *Form an ad hoc committee to research the problem and possible solutions to get the Agenda Topics background material translated into Spanish as to allow all Spanish speaking members the same time as the English speaking members to participate in the conference process.*
- 3) That CNCA request the General Service Conference and Trustee's Literature Committees to consider a proposal to allow for a broader understanding of God by modifying the wording of Steps Three, Seven

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HAPPY TRAILS

This month's meeting/hike will be on Sunday May 25. We will hike up the Vietnam Trail to Spring Lake or to Lake Illsanjo. (group vote) The trailhead is located on Carissa/Annadel Heights Rd. We meet at SRJC parking lot at 10:00 or at the trailhead at 10:30. Bring a smile, lunch and water.



Questions?

Jeanine 545-1018

FOUNDER'S DAY PICNIC

Where:
Doyle Park, Santa Rosa
Sonoma Ave. & Doyle Park Dr.

When:
Saturday June 7, 2003
From Noon until 5:00PM



Meeting at Noon
Speaker: Terry T.



Followed by
*Sun, Fun, Food
& Volleyball*

Hot Dogs and Hamburgers \$2.00
Sodas and Mineral Water \$1.00
Bring Side Dishes and Desserts!

For information or to volunteer
call Larry O. at 795-4081

Come celebrate AA's 68th Birthday!



SCIF CALENDAR • MAY 2003



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>Saint Luke Lutheran Church 905 Mendocino Ave.</p> <p>Petaluma Fellowship 4 Washington Blvd.</p> <p>Santa Rosa City Hall First St. & Santa Rosa Ave.</p>			<p>SCIF Bookstore 750 Mendocino Ave. #10</p> <p>Santa Rosa Senior Center 704 Bennett Valley Rd.</p> <p>Faith Lutheran Church 7390 Newanga Ave.</p>	1	2	3
4	<p>General Service Faith Lutheran Church 6:45: Service Manual Study 7:00: New Rep Orientation 7:30: Business Meeting</p>	6	<p>Hospital & Institutions S.R. Senior Center 5:45: New Rep Orientation 6:15: Business Meeting</p>	8	9	10
11	<p>SCIF Bookstore 6:30: AA Teleservice Business Meeting 7:15: ICSC Meeting 8:00: Intergroup Steering Committee Meeting</p>	13	<p>P/CPC S.R. City Hall 7:00: Speaker Training 7:30: Business Meeting</p>	15	16	<p>May Seminar 17 Steps 1-2-3 3-5PM SCIF Bookstore</p> <p>General Service Post-Conference Assembly Citrus Fairgrounds, Cloverdale 8:30AM-5PM</p>
18	19	<p>Bridging the Gap SCIF Bookstore 6:30: New Rep Orientation 7:00: Business Meeting</p>	21	22	23	24
<p>Happy Trails Vietnam Trail 10:00: Meet at the SRJC Parking Lot at Bailey Field</p>	<p>Intergroup St. Luke Lutheran Church 7:30: Newsletter Collating 7:30: New Rep Orientation 8:00: Business Meeting</p>	<p>General Service District 12 Officers Meeting - 6:15 SCIF Bookstore</p>	28	29	30	31

General Service Report

(Continued from page 4)

and Eleven, and Tradition Two to read as follows:

Step 3: *Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God of our understanding.*

Step 7: *Humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings.*

Step 11: *Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God of our understanding, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out.*

Tradition 2: *For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as expressed in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.*

Please join us at the next business meeting on the first Monday, May 5, 2003 at Faith Lutheran church on Newanga Blvd. in Santa Rosa. New GSR Orientation is 7:00PM, Business meeting is 7:30PM. See you then!

In Love and Service,
Mary W.

ATTENTION ALL OLDTIMERS!!!

Do you have any information about the wooden bowl that is in the Archives display case at the bookstore? I'm trying to find out who made it, and when. I know several of them were made by one man to serve as 7th tradition bowls for early Santa Rosa meetings. Who was this man? What year was the bowl made? Inquiring minds want to know. If you have any info on this, please feel free to contact me by phone or e-mail:

E-mail: holls88@earthlink.net
Phone: (707) 584-7729

Respectfully in service,
Holly H.
District 12 Archives Chair

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT

I was guided to the PI/CPC committee by a dedicated member of Alcoholics Anonymous last August. I have found it a very satisfying way to perform service for AA. I am the secretary taking minutes and typing them up at home. Soon, I'll be joining the speaking crew which is a little intimidating, but I'm looking forward to the challenge. The people on the committee have been very supportive and have let me walk my path at my own pace which is one of the things I love about AA.

Of course, I frequently check with my sponsor to be sure I'm not lolly-gagging. It's been very rewarding to see the business meeting grow from a few loyal, hard-working souls to a rather substantial crew. In this way service jobs can be rotated and the fun spread around a bit. Tom P. is doing a great job of leading the committee, taking charge and making sure we are on track and helping out wherever he is needed. Tom R. will be re-invigorating the job of hospitality co-coordinator in May, making sure literature is in hotels in the area for people who just might be interested in a meeting when they are visiting the area. Cori W. is working hard to keep the schools

up-dated. All the co-coordinators, Linda S, Dagmar M, Roger B, Coop G, Yarnick W, Margie A, and Mary Jo A are doing wonderful work. Dan C is working as treasurer and temporary Literature person. There's always room for more help. Right now there's a Literature

opening and we are developing a Healthcare liaison position. These two positions are more behind the scenes positions, where literature is delivered to appropriate places in the community. This entails keeping a healthy supply of literature and making sure the lists of

places which need the literature is up to date and then getting the literature to these places in a timely and effective manner.

I'm sure there is someone out there who would be just right for one of these positions. Of course, there is always a need for more public speakers for schools, drinking driving classes, etc. So, if you want to join us we'd love to see you on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at City Hall in the Employee Lounge adjacent to the underground parking garage. Speaker training starts at 7:00 p.m. The business meeting follows at 7:30 p.m. Besides, it's a free meeting and you can save your dollar.

Susan P.



A Member Shares

I wanted to quit AA because I didn't think it was working for me. But an old-timer told me that things don't get better, we do. And another old-timer told me that God wasn't picking on me -- He knew my family would need me, so He gave me a very special gift. That gift was sobriety. I was told that God offers many people this gift, but a lot don't want it. This old-timer told me that God knew that I would cherish this gift of sobriety. That was a turning point for me. Since that time, I have had many heart-

aches, many blessings. And every time I feel a little down, I think of what those old-timers said to me.



We have been given a special gift, and with that gift comes a relationship with God that I never knew I could have, a relationship with my family that I never knew I could have, and a wonderful relationship with a husband of thirty-eight years. And it is all because of this program and all of you. I love AA and I love all of you. Thank you for allowing me to share.

- Missy

NEW MEETINGS

Bodega Bay Oceanside Campfire Group
(O) (W) Friday 8:30PM
Schoolhouse Beach
(4.6 miles north of the Tides gas station)

Meets from 5/2/03 - 10/10/03

Santa Rosa Reading Between The Lines
(O) (W) Thursday 6:45PM
4527-C Montgomery
Women's Book Study

MEETING CHANGES

Rohnert Park Not Just Another Newcomer
New Time: Monday 8:00PM
New Location: 6800 Hunter Dr.
Santa Rosa Breaking The Ice
(Women) Thursday 8:00PM
1539 Humboldt St.
Speaker/Discussion Meeting

Santa Rosa Women's Perspectives
(C) Tuesday 8:00PM
New Location: Sutter Hospital, Vesalius Rm.
3325 Chanate Dr.

NO LONGER MEETING

Healdsburg Healdsburg Hummers
Monday 8:00PM
Healdsburg Hope Group
Wednesday 8:00PM
Healdsburg Newcomers
Friday 6:30PM
Santa Rosa Rapha Group
Saturday 7:15AM

Meeting Changes?

Contact Russell @ 539-5165

Gloria's Corner

Bookstore Openings:

- ▲ One Saturday per month
- ▲ Every other Thursday AM shift

We need someone to organize and catalog our Tape Library every other week.

The new books should be here by the end of the month. We have ordered 200 books.



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
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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 94188

Sonoma County PI/CPC*
PO Box 11350
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

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: 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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Hospitals & Institutions

Chair: Kelly

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New Correction Renew Cancel