



sonoma county Intergroup Fellowship

NEWS

OCTOBER
2006

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

Dancing Spirit Haunts Sebastopol Community Center



Friday, October 27
Meeting—7:00 P.M.
Dance—8:30 P.M.

390 Morris St.
Sebastopol

On August 26, hordes of hippies upset the tranquility of the Sebastopol Community Center. Anonymous sources reported clear cases of “grooving” and “getting down.” Monica G., an eye-witness to the event, described the *Summer of Love* AA Dance as “way out” and “out of sight!”

Ms G., who serves as Activities Coordinator for SCIF, expressed a “big thanks to all of the folks that stepped up to help out—Cool Kara; Fast Freddy; Crazy Casey; Dominic the 5-year old wonder-kid; Preston the Rasta Man; Rebecca from Petaluma; Rich (just back from a Dead Show), Deeee-Lightful Ria, Debra, Brenda (she hooked us with some awesome tie-dye), the boys from St. Anthony’s Farm; Pest-control Ron (who had to get up the next morning at the crack of dawn to head south); late-night Tom and Dave; and, of course, our AA speaker, who used the word ‘cat’ in the perfect context (referring to a fellow 60’s party buddy), Kenneth P. from Petaluma. Kenneth was hilarious, informative and articulate, as usual. What a treat!”

According to Ms G., the next “shindig” will occur again at the Community Center, on Friday, October 27. She said it will be known as the “Halloween Dance.”

“The Speaker will be Dave W. from Santa Rosa at 7pm,” she said. “And DJ Herman from Hayward’s A Perfect Impression will be busting the tunes at 8:30pm.”

The suggested donation is \$10 at the door. “As always,” she said, “I will be needing volunteers! Call me.” —*Monika G.* (Activities Coordinator)

Inside This Issue

Calendar	Page 6
Contacts	Page 2
Gloria’s Corner	Page 8
General Service	Page 3
Meeting Changes	Page 8
SCIF Financials	Page 5
SCIF Minutes	Page 2

Birthdays

Roseann M.	10-16-75	31
Jennifer S.	10-04-03	3

SOCYPAA Presents

A Fun Day At Marine World

Saturday, October 7

Meet at 8:00 A.M. in front of Starbucks on Farmers Lane, next to Coco’s, in Santa Rosa, or 10:30 A.M. by the front gate at Six Flags Marine World, Vallejo.

There will be a “Tail-gate Meeting” at 9:30 A.M. in the farthest parking section—Row E.

Parking is \$15 per car. Admission, with coupon, is \$25.99.

For more information, call Harmony G., or Craig G. (Batman).

Every evening I turn my worries over to God. He’s going to be up all night anyway.

~Mary C. Crowley

Unity Day 2006

Saturday, Nov 11
9:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.
Westview Christian Church
3950 Doubles Drive
Santa Rosa



Our common welfare should come first, personal recovery depends on AA unity.

Celebrating You—The Joy of Sobriety

Unity Day planning meetings will be held at the SCIF Bookstore, 7:00 P.M every Friday in October. Volunteers are needed. Call Larry O. or Tim P.

No such thing as a free lunch?
Lunch is free at this year’s Unity Day Celebration.

So are the speakers, the panel discussions, and the pot luck desserts.

Enjoy some live theatre. Check out the service information displays. Be happy, joyous, and have some free lunch.

There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, “Thy will be done,” and those to whom God says, “All right, then, have it your way.”

~C.S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*, 1943

August 2006 Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship General Meeting Minutes

Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Readings:

- Tradition 8: Mark
- Preamble: Karen
- Concept 8: Jerry

Introduction of new representatives to Intergroup:

- Karen G. – South Park Survivors Group, 7:30 PM Fri, Santa Rosa
- Marisa G. – Harmony Group, 7:30 PM Mon, Santa Rosa
- Kay S. – Attitude Adjustment, 7:00 AM Daily, Santa Rosa
- Awendawn Mc. – Tuesday Afternoon Delight, 12:15 PM Tue, Rohnert Park
- Mark V. – Great Reality Big Book Study, 6:30 PM Thu, Santa Rosa

August Birthdays:

- Monika G. 14 Yrs
- Awendawn Mc 10 Yrs.

LIAISON REPORTS

H&I Report: Mark V. reminded folks that H&I meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Center with an orientation for those interested in this service commitment at 5:30PM, followed by the business meeting at 6:00PM. The 36th Annual H&I Conference will be held in Petaluma on August 13, 14, 15th 2007.

General Service: Kenin H. reported our area's 1st Annual Bridging the Gap Forum will take place on Saturday, September 30 in San Jose. Our district continues to address a motion of adopting a Special Needs Committee. Also, mindful of the spirit of rotation, 12 district officers have begun to share their job responsibilities with the district, in preparation for district elections in November/December.

PI/CPC Report: Bob K. filled in for Dave R. Bob encouraged anyone wanting to be of service to this committee. 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. The function of this group is to provide accurate information about A.A. and to distribute literature to hospitals, police stations, hotels, jails, libraries, etc. They are in need of volunteers to speak for the County's

drinking driver program. Two years of sobriety are required.

Bridging The Gap: Carolyn A. stated that the purpose of BTG is to introduce the newly released residents of treatment facilities to AA in their local communities. They use a list of AA volunteers to coordinate with newly released AA newcomers and take them to their first meeting. Six months of sobriety and a working knowledge of the steps is required. Having transportation is helpful. The business meeting is held at the AA Bookstore at 7:00PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

BTG gave four presentations to treatment facilities during the month and had 41 requests.

SOCYPAA: Larry C. stated the next major event for SOCYPAA is the Third Annual Marine World on October 7, 2006—see flyer. Another flyer is available which list all of SOCYPAA meetings in Sonoma County. SOCYPAA elections filled all committee seats. SOCYPAA will be competing to bring the ACYPAA Conference to Sonoma County. SOCYPAA business meeting are listed in the Newsletter calendar.

Access Sonoma County: Diane W. reported that ASC meets on the 2nd Thursday of the Month at 6:30 PM at the Bookstore. ASC is working to help groups identify and remove barriers for access to members—to better carry the AA message. Some member concerns are with homebound members and working to reach out to blind and visually impaired members, to help them integrate into the program. ASC would love to hear from anyone who would care to help in this way. For more information call Diane at 526-1466.

OFFICER REPORTS

Intergroup Chair: Bob K. thanked all for their service to Intergroup. Larry O. stated that Unity Day will be on Saturday, November 11, 2006. Volunteers are needed. He invited volunteers to attend the planning committee which meets on September 13 at 7:00 PM at the Bookstore.

Vice Chair: Tim P. instructed three of the new reps about Intergroup, its functions, etc. He encouraged meetings to fill out the "Group Secretary's Guide" which would have a

(Continued on page 3)

INTERGROUP OFFICERS		AA TELESERVICE	
CHAIR	Bob K.	PHONE LINE COORDINATOR	Dave R.
VICE-CHAIR	Tim P.	12 STEP COORDINATOR	James C.
SECRETARY	Bob P.	<u>AA HOTLINES</u>	
REGISTRAR	Susy E.	SANTA ROSA	707-544-1300
TREASURER	John S.	LONG DISTANCE	800-224-1300
<u>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u>		PETALUMA	707-762-5122
SEMINARS	Jim B.	SONOMA	707-938-2027
ACTIVITIES	Monika G.	SPANISH	707-829-1272
OUTREACH	Victoria H.	Sunday	10 P.M. – 9 A.M.
COMMUNICATIONS	Dave H.	Tuesday	10 P.M. – 8 A.M. Wednesday 10 P.M. – 8 A.M.
TELESERVICE	Stephen I.		
ALCATHONS	Jeff S.		



Got Green Cans?

Have you noticed the green cans going around at some meetings? At these meetings, the group voted in favor of helping the Signs of Sobriety meeting (Santa Rosa, Friday at 5:30 P.M.) to pay for interpreters for the deaf. (I believe the cost is \$75 an hour.)

Other folks have written in saying that these collections are a violation of Tradition 7: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

My position is that this is a narrow view of the traditions, that they miss the big picture of AA spirit—that would be Tradition 5: "Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

My reasoning is this: What if the Americans with Disabilities Act had not been passed, and there were meetings galore but none available for people in wheelchairs? I would bet that, under these conditions, if a meeting requested funds to build a wheel chair



ramp, folks at *other* meetings wouldn't give it a second thought and would chip in to have the ramp built—so there would be at least one meeting accessible to those in wheelchairs.

This is how I see the situation with the Signs of Sobriety meeting. There are no other meetings in the county that offer interpreters for the deaf. Those people who put money into the green cans are simply *volunteering* to help the Signs of Sobriety meeting help the alcoholic who still suffers (who happens to be deaf).

The Signs of Sobriety meeting is self-sufficient. It pays its way in rent, coffee, etc. But in order to fulfill its chosen goal—communicating with the deaf—it needs additional funds to help pay for interpreters for the deaf. Those meetings that choose to pass around the green can are not breaking any of the AA Traditions. Just the opposite. They are helping the alcoholic who still suffers.

Bill K.
Santa Rosa

NCCAA 59th Annual Fall Conference—October 6,7,8

The Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous will hold their 59th Annual Fall Conference at the Elks Lodge in Chico on October 6, 7, and 8.

The event features speakers from Florida, L.A., Santa Barbara, and Idaho, along with panels, and workshops.

There will be a raffle Saturday evening, followed by a dance.

Pre-registration is \$8. It is \$10 at the door. For more information, visit their website: <http://www.ncc-aa.org>, or pick up a flyer at the SCIF Bookstore.

SCIF General Meeting *(Continued from page 2)*

log of important information about the meeting to pass on from secretary to secretary.

Treasurer: John S. stated that group contributions improved this month. The new price list for the Bookstore will be effective September 1, 2006. Moderate increases were necessary so the Bookstore could remain solvent.

Bookstore: Gloria has the new price list available. Volunteers are needed to work in the Bookstore every other week on Tuesdays 2-6 PM, Wednesdays 10AM-2PM, and Thursdays 2-6 PM. The Birthday Chip sale resulted in 5,829 being sold.

Registrar: Susy E. reported there are 383 meetings in Sonoma County, of which 188 were represented in July at Intergroup.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach: Victoria H. is promoting Intergroup to the meetings she is attending.

Activities: Monika G. reported the "Summer of Love" dance was a success. The next dance will be the Halloween dance in October, followed by the New Years Eve dance.

Seminars: Roseanne M. substituted for Jim B. and reported the next seminar will be September 16 at the bookstore. The topic will be the 4th and 5th steps.

Alcathons: Jeff S. mentioned that the Alcathons will be longer and less expensive than last year.

Teleservice: Steve I. reported that the business meeting is held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00PM at the Bookstore. Volunteers are need for two shifts (refer to the Newsletter). He asked Intergroup Reps to announce at meeting level that volunteers are needed for Teleservice.

Newsletter/Communications: Dave H. reported the Newsletter Committee meets at the Bookstore at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Dave is looking for articles to print in the Newsletter. Articles about your experience in service to AA would be favorable.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Group Concerns/Sharing: None

Summation: Tim P. outlined the meeting.

Closed with the Serenity Prayer

Gratefully In Service,
Bob P.

Welcome to the Genie Pool

I'd attended a clean and sober birthday party in Santa Rosa, and got back to Sebastopol at about 6:15 P.M. Wanting to attend the 8:00 P.M. meeting on Covert Lane, and not wanting to drive to Bodega Bay—my home—and back again, I stopped at Mary's Pizza, for a cup of tea, and a chance to read my current read.

Soon after being seated and served, the table to my left—the corner table, against the back wall—was taken by a father and his daughter, she being about eight years old. Like a good dad, he put her in the corner, but while sitting in the gap between the tables, to let her get into her seat, he sat on my black hat. He apologized—the ice was broken. I assured him no harm had been done, and went on reading.

They ordered pizza, and when their salads came, the young girl slid out, past her dad, and went to the counter for bread sticks. On returning, she switched seats with him, and was now on my immediate left. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw her head turn to look at me, and when I looked at her, she asked me, "What are you doing?"

I explained I was having a cup of tea, and reading, while waiting to go to a meeting. That seemed to satisfy her curiosity, but dad picked up on my answer, and asked, "Is that an AA meeting?" I confirmed that it was, whereupon he asked me to keep an eye out for a friend of his, recently out of the Orenda center. Of course, I said I would, and continued reading.

Time passed. I finished my tea. Got the check. Paid it, and—waiting for change—continued to read. Again, suddenly, the little head turned to me, and having got my attention, asked, "Are you a genie?"

Now, I wear a gold hoop ear ring, in my left ear, and am bearded, with a bald head and a pony tail, so it was an understandable question. I was about to say, "No, I'm a lawn mower repair man, and a hopeful poet"—you know, we strive for honesty—when something in me—here I was, in a totally AA day, between portions of it—suggested that just maybe the other answer was called for. So trusting my intuition, I said, "Yes, I'm a genie".

She looked at me, for a long minute, and then said, "But you got out of your bottle, huh?"

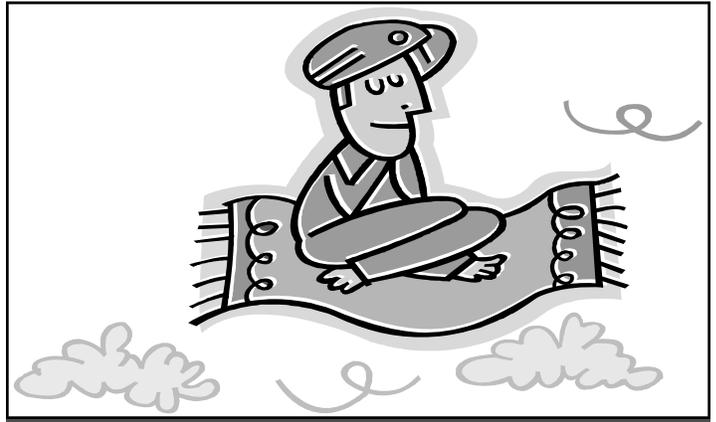
Shazam!

"Oh, yes," I replied, totally stunned! "And that's why I go to meetings daily: to avoid being put back in!"

Talk about "out of the mouths of babes"! On the way to the meeting (and I shared the thought in the meeting), I was suddenly further aware that each one of us is born a genie, with amazing powers to grant wishes, but until we each find a way to get out of whatever bottle has us trapped—fear, doubt, self-loathing, victim-ism—we can not offer that immortal line, "Hey, you've got three wishes!"—we can not be of full magical service to our fellow human beings.

Welcome to the genie pool, y'all!

Jeremy R.



How Stuffy Can We Get?

The following is a reprint of an editorial that first appeared in the May 1948 AA Grapevine.

Are some of us losing our tolerance? Are we inclined to be critical of our fellows? Do we feel superior to new members who are having trouble with the Program? Above all, are we getting stuffy?

We think these questions are important. And if we answer them "Yes," we may be heading for trouble, no kidding. If some of us don't straighten up and fly right, we're gonna be drunk. Maybe some of us need a refresher course and a kick in the pants!

These sentiments came to us the other day. An A.A. visitor called and told us of a case of rather "unsympathetic" handling by an older member in his group. Here's what happened:

A new member—a lawyer of retiring nature—joined the group about four months ago. He had been suffering from alcoholism for 15 years. He was a steady drinker. He couldn't remember a day in six years when he hadn't had a drink. Although he knew of A.A., he was too shy to approach the group and too timid to discuss the problem with his friends.

After a particularly serious binge, he wandered into an A.A. meeting and took a seat in the rear of the room. After the meeting, he sneaked out and took a few drinks to fortify himself for some deep thinking.

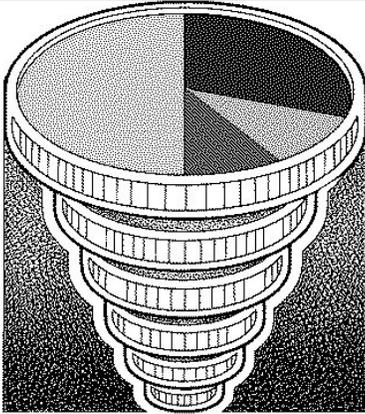
Having decided to join A.A., he began to attend meetings. For two months he managed to go without drinking in spite of the fact that his shyness hindered him in making friends and entering group activities. He slipped.

My visitor had made a slight acquaintance with this man and, learning of the slip, went around to see him. He suggested another reading of the book and regular attendance at the beginners' meeting. The new man agreed. He also agreed to make an extra effort to participate in group activities. After two months, he slipped again. He was kicked out of his house by the wife.

According to our visitor, an older member of the group decided to do something about this new member. Although he had never talked with the new man or been friendly with him, he took over.

The older member, an A.A. who had been dry six years, went immediately to the man's house and talked

SCIF FINANCIAL SUMMARY AUGUST 2006



Example of Suggested Group Contributions to AA Service Entities

- 50-70% to Intergroup
- 10-30% to Local General Service
- 10-20% to CNCA
- 10-20% to GSO New York

	Month of <u>August</u>			Year to Date		
	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Net
Central Office						
Groups						
Individuals						
Office Rent						
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					Operating Reserve	
Literature Inventories						
Property						
Total Assets & Liabilities						

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

Meetings	August	2006 YTD	Meetings	August	2006 YTD	Meetings	August	2006 YTD
11th Step Meeting			Here and Now			Single Purpose Group		
12 X 12 @ 12 Group			Hessel Big Book Study Group			Sober Sunday Group		
12 X 12 Plus			Higher Power Group			Sonoma Valley Fellowship		
5th St. Light			Highlander Group			South Park Survivors		
A Vision For You			How It Works Group			Spirit of Akron		
AA Cache Creek Group			Just For Today			Steps To Serenity Group		
AA Check It Out Group			Kenwood Group			Sunday Morning Smiles Group		
AA Health Professionals			Kenwood Step Study			Sunday PM Closed Discussion Group		
AA of Sonoma, Thursday 11th Step Group			Let's Discuss It Group			Sunday Sanity		
AA of Sonoma, Tuesday Big Book Group			Lunch Bunch Group			The Shuman Fellowship		
AA Step Study Group			Mature & Sober Group			The Sunday Night Group		
Acres Fellowship Group			Monday Mood Swings			There Is A Solution		
Alive & Well In Fulton			New Hope Book Study Group			Think About It Group		
Any Lengths Group			New Women In AA			Third Step Group		
As Bill See's It			Newcomers & Oldtimers			Thurs. AA Alano Club		
Attitude Adjustment Group			Not Just Another Newcomer's Meeting			Thurs. Big Book Step Study		
B.Y.O.B.B.			Oaks Fellowship			Thurs. Night 12 X 12 Discussion Group		
Big Book & Step Study, Sebastopol			Open Door			Thurs. Night Womens AA		
Big Book Review			Out of the Ashes Group			Tuesday Afternoon Delight		
Bodega Bay Fellowship			Petaluma Fellowship			Tuesday Night Big Book Study - Petaluma		
Book & Discussion, Sonoma			Petaluma Valley Group			Tuesday Nite Beginners AA		
Breakfast Club			Prayer & Meditation, Sebastopol			Tuesday River Discussion		
Came to Believe Group			Promises Group			Up Group		
Cazadero Group			Quitting Time Group			Up The Steps		
Cloverdale Fellowship Hall			Redwood Winners			Warm Springs Fellowship @ Mt. Vista Farm		
Daily Reflections Group			River Grace			Wednesday Night Men's Stag		
Early Bird Fellowship of Petaluma			Round Barn Big Book Study			Wednesday Wonders		
Expect A Miracle			Round Table Discussion Group			We're In The Now		
Faha Home Group			Saturday AM Fellowship			Women's Growings Pains of Alcoholics		
Fourth Monday			Saturday Men's Meeting, Healdsburg			Women's Perspective AA Group		
Friday Nooners of AA			Saturday Morning Beginners			Women's Step Study & Discussion Group		
Gay Newcomers Group			Saturday Night Living Right			Women's Step Study, Sonoma		
Good Neighbors, Geyserville			Saturday Serenity			Women's Tuesday At Noon		
Graton Fellowship			Sebastopol Men's Stag			Working Winners		
Gualala Group			Sebastopol Step Study Group			Young & Young At Heart		
Happy Hour Group			Serenity Fellowship Hall			(group name not on check or money order)		
Healdsburg Sunday Morning AA			Sharing & Caring			(group name not on check or money order)		
Healdsburg Women's Book Study			Simply AA			Total		

Hot Line! ... Good Morning!

Every Tuesday, at 8:00 am, fueled by coffee and doughnut, I call a certain number, to sign on for my shift on the AA hot line. In doing so, I'm indulging in an act of selfish faith, that has never failed to pay off, in spiritual miracles.

I wouldn't miss it for the world!

Because, by sharing my sobriety with the world, that sobriety is kept current and pertinent, and I'm endlessly rewarded by the reminder of what "it was like," and of how wonderfully life changed when I finally reached that point where I was suddenly—and quite simply—willing to do anything to be rid of my obsessions.

And so, each Tuesday, I am renewed in my faith in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous—as I am reminded of the absolute importance of the life-giving priority of my program. Selfish? You betcha, babies!

At a loss for something to do? Having a spot of otiosity, perhaps? That's the fancy name for spiritual sloth—one of the seven deadlies!—and we alcoholics have that as a part of our inheritance. Want to juice your recovery, and reap huge benefits?

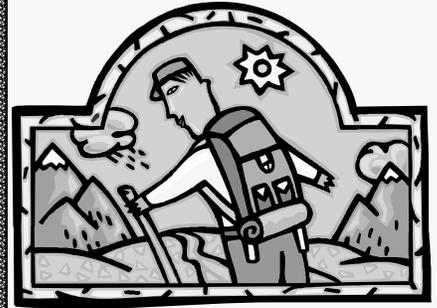
Go on—ante up. Nothing ventured, nothing gained! Man a slot—on the AA hot line!

I promise you, they don't call it hot for nothing!

Jeremy R.

In the month of August, the Sonoma County AA Hotline received 2031 calls, an average of over 65 calls per day.

Happy Trails



The last regular meeting of Happy Trails for this year will be on October 29th.

We will meet at the SCIF Bookstore at 10:00 A.M. to caravan/carpool. The bookstore is located at 750 Mendocino Ave. in Santa Rosa.

The hike location is the Pomo Canyon Campground.

I hope you can join us.

Lloyd



SCIF Calendar October 2006



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 SOCYPAA 1551 Montgomery 7:15 Business Mtg.	2 General Service Faith Lutheran Church 6:45 Service Manual Study 6:45 New Rep Orientation 7:30 Business Meeting	3	4 Hospitals & Institutions S.R. Senior Center 5:30 New Rep Orientation 6:00 Business Meeting	5	6	7 SOCYPAA A Fun Day At Marine World
8	9 SCIF Bookstore 6:00 Teleservice Meeting 7:00 ICSC Meeting 8:00 Intergroup Steering Committee Meeting	10	11 PI/CPC S.R. City Hall 7:00 Speaker Training 7:30 Business Meeting Newsletter 6:30 SCIF Bookstore	12 Access Sonoma County SCIF Bookstore 6:30 Meeting	13	14
15 SOCYPAA 1551 Montgomery 7:15 Business Mtg.	16	17 Bridging The Gap SCIF Bookstore 6:30 New Rep Orientation 7:00 Business Meeting	18	19	20	21
22	23 Intergroup St. Luke Lutheran Church 7:30 Newsletter Collating 7:30 New Rep Orientation 8:00 Business Meeting	24 General Service District 12 Officers Meeting 6:15 SCIF Bookstore	25	26	27 Halloween Dance	28
29 Happy Trails 10:00 SCIF Bookstore	30	31	SCIF Bookstore750 Mendocino Ave. Suite 10 Faith Lutheran Church.....4970 Newanga Ave. St. Luke Lutheran Church.....905 Mendocino Ave . S.R. Senior Center704 Bennett Valley Rd. S.R. City Hall Employee Lounge...First St. and Santa Rosa Ave.			

Traditions and the Circle of Recovery

Lots of people in recovery are now becoming aware of Prop 36, the Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act that requires treatment instead of jail be offered to first and second-time nonviolent drug use offenders. A recent front page article in The Sunday Press Democrat, dated 8/20/06, may serve as a wake-up call for AA in Northern California and Sonoma County in particular. The article clearly outlines the dilemma faced by our sisters and brothers with problems other than alcohol. Without saying it, the article also underscores a dilemma AA may have regarding how we approach those in the rooms that identify themselves as newcomer alcoholics, and those that may not know they are alcoholic as yet.

The Press Democrat went on to say, regarding treatment, that "alcohol still accounts for the most admissions."

You may have noticed that AA Traditions were getting watered down at quite a few open meetings in the mid- to late-1990's, and to the present. I've spoken with Old Timers from all over Sonoma County that expressed frustration, perhaps being overwhelmed by the influx of "new attitudes" from treatment center attendees, so they left to go start more "Closed Meetings." By itself, that exodus could mean it's only a simple "changing of the guard" and may not reflect ALL meetings in Sonoma County—however, it does suggest that people going to Treatment Centers, and coming to AA afterwards, probably aren't getting the benefit of 12 Step sponsorship WITH The 12 Traditions. There are many people, even now, with double digit sobriety from the 1990's that have no clue about the Traditions *Long Form* and how they really work in AA.

While the "Circle of Recovery" encompasses a broad spectrum of 12 Step programs, where AA is concerned, it's important that *each* newcomer alcoholic—therefore qualified as a member, no matter what their other addictions are—gets the help they need, and understands WHERE and HOW they belong in Alcoholics Anonymous. Otherwise, we do a monumental disservice to our Singleness of Purpose by letting our Primary Purpose fall by the wayside.

This is not about addicts vs. alcoholics or the subject of dual addiction—this *is* about preserving AA Traditions, so the message stays on point and clear for the suffering alcoholic while our tools remain available in open meetings for anyone who has "Problems Other Than Alcohol." It would appear that any AA member, gifted to know HOW it works and WHY it works, is called to extend the hand of AA with even more responsibility and conviction. What part will you play?

-Malcolm H.

I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish that He didn't trust me so much.

-Mother Teresa

Stuffy...

(Continued from page 4)

with the wife. He agreed with her that she should make him "suffer it out," "go his own way for a month or two," "be hard as hell on him." He then delivered a lecture on the evils of drink, the road to ruin and the way of all flesh. He did not bother to contact the slippee.

Several days later the drunk telephoned his wife and asked meekly to come home. The wife, feeling completely justified, refused. The drunk then telephoned our visitor who agreed to drop around to talk with the wife.

On his arrival, he was met by the older member who not only refused to let him talk to the wife but bawled him out for being so lenient with a "damned slipper." Eventually both went out in search of the lawyer. They found him in a gin mill.

The lawyer was plastered and feeling sorry for himself. After looking over the situation, the older member gave another lecture on the evils of drink and began to lay the lawyer out on general principles. "You're just a hopeless bum, anyway," he said.

Our visitor reports that he was plenty disgusted with the older member by this time and urged him to lay off. The lawyer got drunker and finally passed out. He awakened in jail.

We promised our visitor that we would do what we could. We agreed that this case was poorly handled and that there probably was something that we could try. We agreed that we shouldn't give up on the man.

When our visitor left we got to thinking. Surely, this older member wasn't typical. He was just the stinker who can be found in almost every group. We also got to wondering if there were many A.A.s who were as intolerant as this fellow. We think not but we still wonder. We can name several borderline cases in our own group. Last week two older members were reported drunk. Did intolerance have anything to do with it?

The story of this newcomer and this older member is extreme. It probably doesn't happen often. But does it happen more often than we think? Does it happen too often?

We have been dry almost four years and we honestly don't believe that we are as tolerant as we should be. Or as grateful to A.A. We can remember several guys that we gave up on recently. We are getting worried. Has anybody got a real tough 12th Step case?

W.T.
New York, New York

If you don't get everything you want, think of the things you don't get that you don't want.

-Oscar Wilde

NEW MEETINGS

Santa Rosa

Thu 12 noon (O)(W) Staying Sober (lit. study)
Oakmont 545 White Oak

Sonoma

Sun 9:00 PM (O)(W) Meditation Meeting
276 E. Napa St.

MEETING CHANGES

Guerneville

Wed 12 noon (O)(W) River Nooners
Moved to Monte Rio Community Church
(across from Fern's)

Petaluma

Wed 8:00 PM (O)(W) Fromoldhall Group
Reported incorrectly last newsletter. Correct time
is 8:00 PM.

Santa Rosa

Sat 5:30 PM (O)(W) There Is Hope
New time: 4:30 PM starting October

NO LONGER MEETING

Santa Rosa

Sat 9:00 AM Morning Light
Sat 12:15 PM Light Lunch

MEETING CODES

- (C) Closed meeting, alcoholics only.
- (O) Open meeting, anyone can attend.
- (W) Wheel chair access to meeting area.

*To report meeting changes:
Contact Russell*

Gloria's Corner

We currently have openings on
Tuesdays 2-6 PM, every other week,
and Thursdays 2-6 PM, every other
week.

We could sure use your help—
otherwise the store will be closed.

Thanks,
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 Treasury

PO Box 884222
San Francisco, CA 94188

Sonoma County PI/CPC*

PO Box 11350
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

SOCYPAA

P.O. Box 5435
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

*Funded solely through Sonoma County General Service

BOOKSTORE

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 staffed by volunteers and is
sometimes closed for lack of manpower.*

Call first!

The Bookstore is closed on these Holidays:

Memorial Day	May 29th
Independence Day	July 4th
Labor Day	September 4th
Thanksgiving	November 23rd
Christmas	December 25th
New Year's Day	January 1st

CONTACT INFORMATION

Newsletter/Web: Dave H.

Meeting Changes: Russell

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