

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022



GET THE LATEST MEETING LISTINGS, UPCOMING EVENTS AND MORE AT WWW.SONOMACOUNTYAA.ORG

Thanksgiving Alkathon

COME JOIN US FOR RECOVERY, FELLOWSHIP &
A THANKSGIVING FEAST!

**30 hours of Continuous Meetings
Every 2 Hours!**

WHEN:

6PM NOV. 23RD THROUGH 10PM NOV. 24TH

Where: In Person @

Community of Christ Church
1495 W Steele Ln, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Viewing Only:

Zoom Meeting ID: 515 962 4728

Passcode: 181875



November 23rd	
6pm - 8pm	Fresh Air
8pm - 10pm	Mature and Sober
10pm - 12am	Roosters Out The Coup
November 24th	
12am - 2am	Taking A Trip
2am - 4am	Knuckleheads
4am - 6am	Harmony Group
6am - 8am	Attitude Adjustment
8am - 10am	Monday Mindful
10am - 12pm	Saints and Sinners
12pm - 2pm	Ladybug, We're in the Now
2pm - 4pm	Woman's Perspective
4pm - 6pm	Serenity, Reading Between the Lines
6pm - 8pm	Quitting Time
8pm - 10pm	Sunday Night Madness
10pm - 12am	Wednesday Westsiders

The SCIF Newsletter is made possible through the contributions of our members. Please read this newsletter and pass it on! This newsletter is also available online at www.sonomacountyaa.org

Disclaimer: The Fellowship News is the monthly newsletter of Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship. Opinions contained herein are strictly those of the authors. The publication of opinions, articles, and announcements does not necessarily represent endorsement, approval, or affiliation by Intergroup. We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, language, length and content that may violate A.A. Traditions.

SCIF CENTRAL OFFICE

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

Manager: Glenn C.
Asst. Manager: Bob F.
Phone: (707) 546-2066
Fax: (707) 566-9677
Email: bookstore@sonomacountyaa.org

WINTER HOURS

Mon - Thurs:	10am-5pm
Friday:	10am - 6pm
Saturday:	11am-3pm

CLOSED on Sundays and
Upcoming Holidays:
Thanksgiving Day - Nov. 24th

AAWS GUIDELINES FOR NEWSLETTERS:

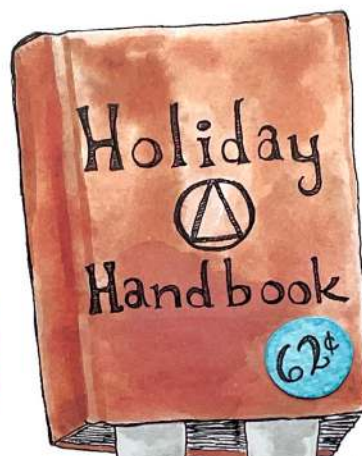
"Newsletters or bulletins published by central offices may include not only office news and events, but similar information about the groups and committees served by these offices (such as meeting times, openings of new groups, or changes of group meeting locations or officers). Frequently, material from A.A. literature is reprinted and discussed, and articles on subjects of interest to A.A.s are also published. Experience indicates that, as in most A.A. service activities, it is prudent to make a committee (rather than one or two individuals) responsible for the format, planning and content of the bulletin."

(From "A.A. Guidelines, Central or Intergroup Offices"
http://www.aa.org/en_pdfs/mg-02_centralorinter.pdf)

((SCIF PRESENTS))

"Holiday Handbook"

A practical guide to enjoying the holidays while sober.



panel
&
discussion

Information-
Anne G
707-714-9344

Wednesday
Nov. 16th
7:00-8:30 pm
PST

Meeting ID -
885 6769 2960
Password -
seminar

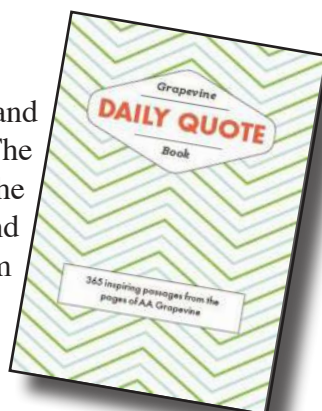
SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP BOOKSTORE

Sale Book for October is...

"GRAPEVINE DAILY QUOTE"

There is great wisdom in the Fellowship of AA, and much to learn from the great thinkers among us. The Grapevine Daily Quote Book contains 365 of the most powerful and profound quotations to guide and sustain men and women in recovery from alcoholism and other addictions.

\$10.80 + tax



BOOKSTORE OPEN HOUSE

We will have an open house at the Bookstore on Saturday, November 19th, 11am to 3pm to preview the new online system for ordering some books and special chips; we'll have some food to nibble on, sales on lots of items and free giveaways!!

750 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 10, Santa Rosa
PST: Monday - Friday 10-6PM, Saturday 11-3PM

BRIDGING THE GAP

“When your life sucks, do more service.”

It was one of the things an oldtimer said to me early on that stuck. And it was the phrase echoing in my head a year ago when I found myself deep in the throes of yet another “period of growth” in my sobriety and someone asked me if I would like to be of service to Bridging the Gap.

At my first BTG committee meeting I learned that BTG connects the alcoholic in treatment with AA in their home community. The New Volunteer Coordinator position was open and I made myself available. A big part of this position involves going to meetings and actively seeking volunteers for BTG. I didn’t know it then, but the year to come was one of the most challenging times in my sobriety to date.

My service position with BTG kept me connected to my AA program in ways I hadn’t anticipated. Because I was eager to make the BTG announcement, I attended more meetings than usual, went to meetings even when I didn’t feel like it, and ended up staying after to talk to those who were interested in volunteering. Instead of hiding out at home or in the back row of a meeting, I found myself connecting with other alcoholics, giving and receiving the message of recovery.

10/10 recommend stopping by our monthly meeting, every 3rd Tuesday of the month!

In service, Ashley S.
Bridging the Gap Volunteer

GENERAL SERVICE

“The Value of the General Service Representative”

Does your home group have a GSR (General Service Representative) and is one even needed?

To answer this question let me select a quote from our founder, Bill W.: “The strength of our whole AA service structure starts with the group and with the General Service Representative that the group elects. I cannot emphasize too strongly their importance.” General Service helps us, your groups, function as a whole. Our worldwide unity and much of our growth since early times is directly linked to General Service.

The GSR has the “job” of linking his group with AA as a whole. He/she talks with members of his group and then reports the group’s wishes to the committee member or to the delegate. He needs the confidence of his group, and a good ear for listening. He also brings back to the group communication from the committee members and the delegate regarding remedies and problems.

The GSR keeps his group informed, and then listens to his group conscience, so he can report back and the Conference can make decisions based on AA as a whole- and all of our fellowships.

We all have a need to have our voice heard, and the General Service Board needs to hear our voices to guide them in making decisions about AA today, and the future of AA. Your General Service Representative is the key to this process. If your group would like a presentation with more information please reach out to your local General Service- District 12. The prime time to elect your new General Service Representative is in the fall so he/she can take office January 1st, along with other committee members and the delegate. General Service is a two year commitment and our new panel, Panel 73, will start 1/1/2023.

We encourage all groups to participate!

Denise G.
Alternative DCMC, District 12.

Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee is the public voice for AA of Sonoma County and outreach to professionals who work with alcoholics.

I want to use this opportunity to focus on AA's Third Tradition: "The only requirement for AA membership is the desire to stop drinking". Why? Courts across the land have been sued for requiring DUI offenders to attend AA meetings as part of their sentence. The claims that AA is a religious group has gained traction because of the Christian trappings that AA groups have inserted into their meetings and AA literature. The Lord's Prayer that is commonly used as a closing in many AA groups is taken from the Gospel's of Matthew and Luke in the Christian Bible. And the 12 steps suggest that one finds a God as you understand Him. Capital "G" and "H". Even the Big Book Chapter "We Agnostics" ends the chapter: "When we drew near to Him He disclosed Himself to us." A bait and switch as I understand this chapter. As a result, the courts are now ordering offenders to find a recovery group of their choice.

It is the primary job of this subcommittee to carry the message of inclusion to all sufferers: Christians, Jews, Muslims, Zoroastrians, Buddhists, atheists, and everyone else. We need to meet the suffering alcoholic where they are and share how we stay sober; Not tell them how to stay sober. I'm proud to be a member of this fellowship and hope to continue by my example to carry the message to all alcoholics wherever they are and whatever they believe or don't. Won't you please join us? Next speaker training November 9th at 7PM @ AA Bookstore
750 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa.

In—sometimes—humble service, Chris S. Chair
PICPC@Sonomacountyaa.org

H&I

On October 5, 2022, the Hospital and Institution Committee gave a warm welcome to our newest meeting reps: Margee B, Sonoma Friday Night; Deric T, Sonoma Sober Sunrise; Rick J, Drop the Rock; John I, There is a Solution; Linda R, Women's step study; Michael T, Young at Heart Big Big Book Study; Patrick O, 7am Live; Christopher S, Wednesday Westsiders; Sarah, Women's Book Group ~ Thank you for your service!
Also, welcome to our visitors Scott and Chris.

Happy October Sobriety Birthdays to Mike F, 25yrs; Becky B, 14yrs; Sue, 4 yrs;
and Sarah, 9 months! Keep coming back!

At the October business meeting, an election was held for the next H&I Area Chair. Two candidates made themselves available, and a Third Legacy election was conducted. The vote concluded with Patrick P. becoming our next Area Chair. Congratulations, Patrick!

We would like to send a special thank you to Jimmy I. for making himself available.

We would also like to recognize Steven H., our outgoing Area Chair, for his four years of service to the H&I Committee. His dedication and guidance have been critical in providing consistency during trying times. "Our Twelfth Step—carrying the message—is the basic service that AA's fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence." Thank you, Steven, for carrying the message, and helping others to do so as well.

Are you willing to share your gift of sobriety with an alcoholic who is confined? For suggestions on how to do just that, please come to the next meeting of the H & I committee, Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at 6:15pm. The orientation begins at 5:45, and all are welcome to attend. The Committee business meeting and the orientation will be **HYBRID**. Meeting ID: 891 8522 6587, Password: 463197. The location is at the Community of Christ Church, in Santa Rosa.

In service, Cat C.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

South End Solutions

Looking for more members to join

Where: 3455 S. Santa Rosa Ave.

When: Wednesdays at 7:30pm

OPEN Meeting

Beyond Belief Atheist Meeting

Returning to "In-Person"

Where: 6550 Covey Road, Forestville,
Fireside Room

When: Sundays at 4pm

HYBRID Meeting

** If your home group is in need of support or needs to make an important group announcement please send a brief email to newsletter@sonomacountyaa.org to be included in next month's newsletter.

SERVICE MEETINGS & EVENTS - NOVEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 H&I Community of Christ Church 1495 W Steele Ln, Santa Rosa, CA 5:45 New Rep Orien. 6:15pm Business Mtg.	3	4	5
6 SOCYPAA Sonoma County Alano Club 1050 Petaluma Blvd. N. Petaluma, CA 7:15pm Business Mtg.	7 GENERAL SERVICE Meeting VIA ZOOM Email chairperson for Meeting ID 6:45pm New Rep Orientation 7:30pm Business Mtg	8	9 PI/CPC Hybrid Meeting In person at the AA Bookstore Zoom ID: 961 8127 1048 / PW: Dist12GS 7:00 New Rep Orien. 7:30pm Business Mtg	10 ACCESS SONOMA COUNTY Meeting via Zoom Meeting ID: 934 2984 1277 Password: 804715 7:15pm Business Meeting	11	12
13	14 SCIF STEERING COMMITTEE In person at the AA Bookstore - 7:30PM 750 Mendocino Ave. Zoom sonomacounty- aa.org for meeting ID and password	15 BRIDGING THE GAP Please email btg@sonomacounty-aa.org for meeting and service info. 6pm New Rep Orien. 6:30pm Business Mtg	16 SCIF Presents: 'Holiday Hand- book' Panel and Discussion 7-8:30PM	17	18 NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE - 5pm newsletter@ sonomacountyaa. org	19
20 SOCYPAA Sonoma County Alano Club 1050 Petaluma Blvd. N. Petaluma, CA 7:15pm Business Mtg.	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Alkathon (begins @ 6PM)	24 Thanksgiving Alkathon (ends at midnight)	25	26
27	28 SCIF INTERGROUP Hybrid Meeting In person at St. Luke Church 905 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa & Online via Zoom 7:30pm Business Mtg	29	30			

SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP MEETING MINUTES

September 26th, 2022

The meeting opened at 7:30 with the Serenity Prayer and Preamble, followed by readings of Tradition 9 and Concept IX.

NEW REPS: Laurie, There is a Solution; Jane, Healdsburg Sober Sisters; Zach, Harmony Group; Kim, Sebastopol Sober Sisters; Greg, Friday Night Vets, Gail, Mid-Morning Sanity; Smoke; Mellissa, Valley of the Moon Fellowship; Claudia, Monday Women's River Meeting.

BIRTHDAYS SINCE WE LAST MET: Diane W, 31; Justin, 9; Zach, 4; Laurie, 31; Paul, 36; Megan 10; Laura, 4.

OFFICER REPORTS

CHAIR: [Kevin H.] Storage space needed due to closure of Steele & Range space; share leads with Kevin. ICSC elections next month.

VICE CHAIR: [Amber C.] Five New Reps at Orientation tonight; 9 people introduced themselves as New Reps. If you are new and haven't attended an Orientation, please come next month.

SECRETARY: [Katherine C.] Minutes of August General Meeting in October Newsletter; please send additions / corrections to secretary@sonomacountyaa.org.

TREASURER: [Meghan A.] Central Office income for August 2022 includes \$4,176.00 from Group Contributions and \$1,056.00 from Individuals for a total of \$5,232.00. Total expenses for August include \$2,214.00 from central office and \$58.00 from Teleservice for a subtotal gain of \$2,960.00. The Bookstore income for August 2022 was \$6,126.00 and \$997.00 from Activities. Total expenses were \$6,600.00 for the bookstore and \$545.00 for activities leaving a subtotal loss of \$22.00. Overall, for this month we had a net gain of \$2,938.00. Year to date our income is \$80,440.00, our expenses are \$70,056.00, leaving a gain of \$10,384.00.

REGISTRAR: [Hilary G] As of the end of August, there were a total of 212 groups in Sonoma County offering a total of 384 meetings each week: 236 meeting in person, 122 on Zoom, 26 Hybrid. At August General Meeting, there were a total of 40 Reps in attendance.: 22 were on zoom; 13 were in person; 6 were New Reps

ICSC REPORT: [Justin C.] Bookstore online sales rollout planned for November. Online sales to start small, with goal of having entire inventory available for online sale. Justin to rotate out of ICSC following election next month.

BOOKSTORE REPORT: [Glenn C.] Bookstore is fully staffed with volunteers. Sale book for October: Home Group: Heartbeat of AA; on sale for \$10.80.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

OUTREACH: [Ryan L.] No report.

ACTIVITIES: [Kristin P.] Halloween Dance October 29. Theme will be "80s." Suggested donation \$15, includes soda and pizza. Volunteers desperately needed; call Kristen at number on flier.

ALKATHONS: [Jeff L.] Will be leading the Alkathons lottery immediately following this meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS/NEWSLETTER: [Ashley H.] Deadline for submissions for November Newsletter is 10/14.

WEBMASTER: [Hal P.] No report.

SEMINARS: [Ann G.] September Seminar, "Spiritual Adventures," was a success. Next Seminar will be November 16, 7-8:30 PM on Zoom; topic will be "Holiday Handbook: How to get through and enjoy the holidays sober."

TELESERVICE: [Stacy T.] No report.

ICSC NOMINATING COMMITTEE: [Vernon]

ICSC oversees Bookstore and Central Office, ensures compliance with IRS non-profit rules. Next Committee election at November meeting. Qualifications include 5 years sobriety, AA service experience. Contact Vern, Kyle, or Jerry if you wish to serve.

LIAISON REPORTS

SOCYPAA: [Jeff] Alex is new Liaison. Two events coming up: 1] Spooky Maze Race at Petaluma Corn Maze. \$12 suggested donation. 2] Caspar Beach Campout [in association with Mendocino YPAA.] See SOCYPAA website for details.

SPANISH CENTRAL OFFICE: [José G.] No report.

BRIDGING THE GAP: [Denise G.] Very busy. Lots of requests for help getting Rehab-exiting members connected to outside meetings. Correspondence with San Quentin inmates continues.

GENERAL SERVICE: [Denise G.] Big Book Writing Workshop [co-hosted with District 18] was a great success; may become regular event. Denise attended Western Regional Forum in Salt Lake. Class A trustees presented a detailed account of AA Finances, also how AA is working to provide service in South America. Next local District meeting will be a hybrid meeting, 10/3 at 7:30PM. Next Area Meeting will be 11/5 in Vacaville; New Delegate and District Officers will be elected.

PI/CPC: [Chris S.] Will start distributing paper Meeting Schedules. New Officers will be elected soon. PICPC will have a table at Unity Day. PICPC is always looking for speakers for DUI classes, schools, Veterans, healthcare, and civic groups, and members to distribute literature especially pamphlets and printed local meeting schedules as well as QR coded business cards to access local recovery meetings.

ACCESS SONOMA COUNTY: [Sam] Explores, researches and develops ways to make AA accessible to all who reach out for it, whatever their barriers to attendance might be. Members seeking access can reach out to Committee. Workshop being planned for spring; possible topic is "Access for deaf and hard-of-hearing members."

H&I: [Zach] Meets 1st Wednesday at Steel & Range church. Will be voting on Area Chair. Hosting Unity Day on October 15, 10AM-4PM. Doors open at 9AM, SOCYPAA-hosted continental breakfast. Sign up to volunteer / bring food on sign-up sheets at back of room.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

CLOSE with Responsibility Statement at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Katherine C.

SCIF FINANCIAL SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 2022

SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP

Financial Summary

	Sep-22		Sep-21		Year to Date		2022	2021	difference
	Income	Expense	Net	Net	Income	Expense	Net	Net	
Group Supported:				Comparison				Comparison	
Central Office	-	(2,310)	(2,310)	(2,239)	-	(20,652)	(20,652)	(18,193)	(2,459)
Groups	4,428	0	4,428	2,738	33,855	0	33,855	27,175	6,680
Non-Cash	0	0	0	0	655	0	655		655
Individuals	113	0	113	179	3,748	0	3,748	5,366	(4,711)
Group Ins Collection	0	0	0	25	950	0	950	575	375
Directories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pamphlets & Cards	0	0	0	0	0	(210)	(210)	0	(210)
Newsletter	0	0	0	(118)	0	(1,795)	(1,795)	(349)	(1,446)
Teleservice	0	(58)	(58)	(59)	0	(525)	(525)	(528)	3
Interest/Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	(0)
Subtotal	4,540	(2,368)	2,173	527	39,208	(23,182)	16,026	14,046	1,980
Self Supported:									
Bookstore	6,152	(6,878)	(726)	(1,202)	48,754	(55,252)	(6,498)	(5,690)	(809)
Group Ins Collection	0	0	0	25	950	0	950	575	375
Contributions	0	0	0	0	305	0	305	0	305
Alkathons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Activities	138	0	138	0	2,053	(868)	1,185	0	1,185
Seminars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unity Day	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	6,290	(6,878)	(589)	(1,177)	52,062	(56,121)	(4,059)	(5,115)	1,056
TOTAL Gain (Loss)	10,830	(9,246)	1,584	(650)	91,270	(79,303)	11,967	8,931	3,036
Assets & Liabilities					2022				
Cash in Bank & Petty Cash	69,904				Memo:	Cash in Bank & Petty Cash	69,904		
Prepaid Expenses	5,620					Prudent Reserve	(40,649)		
Bookstore Inventory	16,308					Liabilities	(11,722)		
Property	12,580								
Subtotal	104,411					Operating Reserve	17,533		
Liabilities	(11,722)								
Total Assets & Liabilities	92,689								
								net Gain	17,533

INTERGROUP TREASURER'S REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2022

Central Office income for September 2022 includes \$4,428.00 from Group Contributions and \$113.00 from Individuals for a total of \$4,541.00.

Total expenses for September include \$2,310.00 from central office and \$58.00 from Teleservice for a subtotal gain of \$2,173.00.

The Bookstore income for September 2022 was \$6,152.00 and \$138.00 from Activities. Total expenses were \$6,878.00 for the bookstore leaving a subtotal loss of \$588.00. Overall, for this month we had a net gain of \$1,585.00.

Year to date our income is \$91,270.00, our expenses are \$79,303.00, leaving a gain of \$11,967.00.

In service,
Megan A., Treasurer

Example of Suggested Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities:

- 50-70% to Intergroup;
 - 10-30% to Local General Service;
 - 10-20% to CNCA;
 - 10-20% to GSO New York;
- (To be determined by each group)



A.A. HOTLINES

Santa Rosa: (707) 544-1300

Español: (707) 623-6702



EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION LIST SIGNUP!

If you are interested in receiving this monthly newsletter via email, please sign up to receive this newsletter and other important SCIF news straight to your inbox!

Sign-up at the bottom of www.sonomacountyaa.org home page

INTERNET LINKS

Alcoholics Anonymous:
www.aa.org

Sonoma County Intergroup
Fellowship:
www.sonomacountyaa.org

SOCYPAA (Sonoma County Young
People in Alcoholics Anonymous):
www.socypaa.org

Northern California Coastal Area 06:
www.cnca06.org

AA Grapevine:
www.aagrapevine.org

MAILING ADDRESSES

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship
750 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4846

Sonoma County General Service
P.O. Box 536
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

NORCAL H&I
P.O. Box 192490
San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

NY General Service Office
P.O. Box 2407
James A. Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

California Northern Coastal Area 06
1390 N. McDowell Blvd
Suite G - 339
Petaluma, CA 94954

Sonoma County PI/CPC*
PICPC, C/O General Service
P.O. Box 536, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

SOCYPAA
1275 4th St., #221
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

CONTACT INFORMATION

(All emails @sonomacountyaa.org)

SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS

Chair	Kevin H.	intergroup@
Vice Chair	Amber C.	vice-chair@
Secretary	Katherine C.	secretary@
Treasurer	Meghan A.	treasurer@
Registrar	Hilary G.	registrar@

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities	Kristin P.	activities@
Alkathons	Jeff L.	alkathons@
ICSC	Justin C.	icsc@
Seminars	Ann G.	seminars@
Outreach	Ryan L.	outreach@
Teleservice	Stacey T.	teleservice@
ICSC Nominations	Kyle P.	icscnic@

COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter	Ashley H.	newsletter@
Website	Hal P.	webmaster@
Meeting Changes	Ashley H.	newsletter@

SONOMA COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE

DCMC	James B.	generalservice@
Treasurer	Shaun G.	treasurer-gs@
Registrar	Cindi W.	registrar-gs@
Archivist	Shelly J.	archivist-gs@
Grapevine	Leticia O.	grapevine@
Access Sonoma County	Heather J.	asc@
Bridging the Gap Chair	MaryEllen W.	btg@
PI/CPC	Chris S.	picpc@
Interpret/Translation	David H.	it@

HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

Chair	Steven H.	handi@
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SONOMA COUNTY SPANISH CENTRAL OFFICE

Intergroup Liason	Vacant
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Suggestions for SCIF Newsletter Welcome!

Please send any corrections, suggestions, submissions or comments about the Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship newsletter to: newsletter@sonomacountyaa.org