



SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP FELLOWSHIP NEWS

April 2005

50¢

A BIG Thanks! To RORY B.

Hello fellow A.A.'ers of Sonoma County. My name is Charles W.; I am an alcoholic and your new Communications Chair (Newsletter Editor). I wanted to introduce myself briefly but, more importantly, to give thanks and praise to Rory B. for his 2 1/2 YEARS of commitment to the SCIF Newsletter. Rory has done an

amazing job making the newsletter what it is today. For those of you who might not know, Rory did not have a staff, sub-committee, or 'crew'... He was a one man operation. The text, images, font styles, layout, balancing, gathering of info, ALL done by Rory!!!

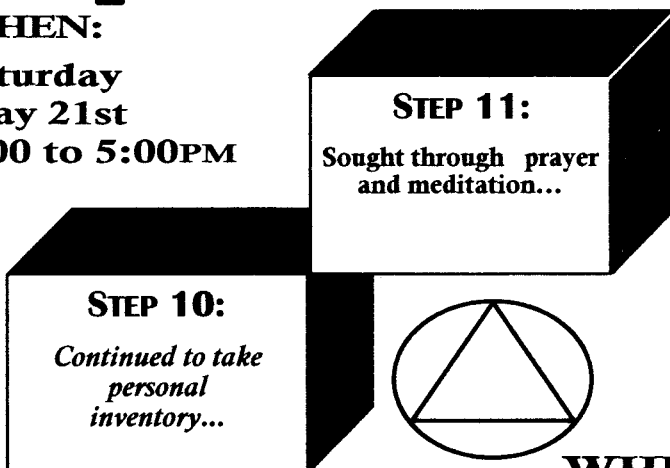
(cont. pg7)

May Seminar

Steps 10 & 11

WHEN:

**Saturday
May 21st
3:00 to 5:00PM**



WHERE:

**SCIF Bookstore
750 Mendocino Ave. Santa Rosa**

For more information call Susy at 546-4623

GREAT SEMINAR!!

Thanks to all who attended the March 19th seminar. It was standing room only and a fabulous panel with 74 years of sobriety between them.

Special thanks to **Gary A, Karen P, Malcolm H** and **Barbara S** for their knowledge and insight on **Steps 8 & 9**. Also, thanks to **Steve B.** for being there for me and showing me the ropes.

I hope all who came learned something new that will help them or their sponsees on these steps.

The next seminar will be on Steps 10 & 11 on Saturday May 21st at the bookstore. See the May newsletter for details. Future seminars will be:

July 16, 2005—First part of Step 12, Spiritual Awakenings and carrying the message.

September 17, 2005—Second part of Step 12, Practicing the Principles of the Program.

If you have any questions or suggestions please call Susy 546-4623.

Thank you for letting me of service. To volunteer, or for further information about upcoming seminars in the months ahead, call Susy at 546-4623.

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Intergroup Officers

- ♦ **Chair:** ————— Bob K
- ♦ **Vice-Chair:** ——— Steve B
- ♦ **Secretary:** ——— Kim M
- ♦ **Treasurer:** ——— Tom R
- ♦ **Registrar:** ——— Deborah P

Intergroup Chairs/ Committees

- ♦ **Activities:** ——— Craig G
- ♦ **Alcathons:** ——— Brian A.
- ♦ **Communications:** — Charles W
- ♦ **Hotline:** — David L
[Teleservice]
- ♦ **Outreach:** ——— Maurice
- ♦ **Seminars:** ——— Susy

AA Hotline/Teleservice

- ♦ **Scheduler:** ——— Andy P
- ♦ **12 Step Coordinator:** — James C
- ♦ **Santa Rosa Hotline:** ——— <544-1300>
- ♦ **LongDistanceOnly:** ——— <800-224-1300>
- ♦ **Petaluma Hotline:** ——— <762-5122>
- ♦ **Sonoma Hotline:** ——— <938-2027>
- ♦ **Spanish Hotline:** ——— <545-7417>

SCIF BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of February 28, 2005 SCIF General Meeting

Tradition 2 was read by David, Concept 2 read by Jack

INTRO OF NEW REPS: Jerry from Friday Night Live in RP, Peggy from 5th Street Light, Steve from Orenda Young People, Jess from Petaluma Fellowship, Jack from 12x12 in Cotati, Jim from R. P. 5:30 Discussion, Susan from Petaluma Alano Club, Mark from Wednesday night Newcomers/Oldtimers at SR Senior Ctr., Fritz from Higher Power Group 12:15 on Mayette, Maurice from Saturday Doyle Park, Lance from Cherry Street Outsiders, Jim from Wednesday Stage on Cherry Street, and Jimmy from Saturday night Forestville Group.

February Birthdays: Isidro 14 years, Jonqui 18 years, Greg 1 year

Seventh Tradition was exercised

Minutes of January 24, 2005, SCIF General Meeting were reviewed and then approved.

Committee Elections (commencing with each candidate qualifying themselves first) occurred with the following results: Activities: Craig and Marcus ran with Craig receiving majority of votes,

Outreach: Maurice was voted in unopposed with group conscience allowing his 3 months sobriety,

Seminars: Susy was voted in unopposed — **Newsletter:** Charles was voted in unopposed,

Alcathons: Brian voted in unopposed — **Teleservice:** Dave voted in unopposed.

REGISTRAR: Deborah absent, Gloria reminded reps to sign in.

H&I: Mark P. reported that H&I meets on the first Wednesday of each month with an orientation for folks new to H&I taking place at 5:45pm followed by the business meeting at 6:15pm. The H&I 33rd Annual will be held in Galt April 22-24th, 2005.

GENERAL SERVICE: Kenin GS held an Agenda Topics Workshop on February 19. The final agenda topics are now available from your GSRs. The 2005 International Canadian Sponsored World Convention will take place June 30-July 3, 2005 in Toronto. 22,000 registrants to date. Loners Internationalists Meeting Assignment has been receiving requests for help from soldiers deployed around the world. Two AA groups have been established in Baghdad, one in Balad and one in Tikrit. The Big Book in Farsi, the language of Iran, has gone to print. Big Book is now printed in 51 languages to date.

PI/CPC: Dave indicated that they meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at SR City Hall Lounge w/ speaker training at 7:00pm and Business meeting at 7:30pm. He explained that the function of this committee and that they have been distributing literature to hospitals, police stations, senior centers and the like. Additionally, he indicated that there are currently 24 different (featuring people of a wide range of ages/sex/races/social backgrounds) public service announcements that may be heard or seen on local radio and TV. They are currently doing educational presentations at 12 +/- DUI classes per month.

BRIDGING THE GAP: Susy indicated that the primary purpose of BtG is to introduce the newly released residents of treatment facilities to AA in their local community. BtG utilizes a list of AA volunteers to match up with the newly released AA newcomer and take them to their 1st meeting. All that is required to be a volunteer is 6 months sobriety. Did 5 presentations last month and had 39 requests last month, with 17 local requests and 22 out-of-district requests. In need of volunteers with 6 months sobriety, esp. in the West County, Sonoma, and North county areas. Please take BtG flyers back to your groups; we have positions open: recording secretary and presenters.

SPANISH AA LIASION: Isidro announced and brought flyers to distribute regarding the Annual Spanish Convention to be held May 27-29th at the Flamingo Hotel in Santa Rosa. Announced there is room for English speaking meetings if we are interested contact: Rebecca at 477-1599.

INTERGROUP CHAIR: Bob had no report.

VICE CHAIR: Steve B. indicated that 11 new reps attended orientation tonight at 7:30, with 3 of them from meetings new to Intergroup.

TREASURER: Bob K. filled in for Tom and directed everyone to page 5 to review monthly financial report and indicated that Tom is available by phone for any questions regarding Intergroup finances.

BOOKSTORE: Gloria reported she ½ price sale ongoing to reduce inventory of certain dated items and cassettes. Switching to CD's and will begin by offering local speakers. Tom C., an extra-dedicated, extremely long-term Bookstore Volunteer, is ill, so have a volunteer position open Fridays from 2pm-6pm. Well wishes to Tom.

OUTREACH: Linda absent.

ACTIVITIES: Craig announced next meeting/dance will occur on April 9th at the Sebastopol Community Ctr. - please announce at your groups, flyers will be avail soon. Meeting 7-8pm, dance 8:30-midnight.

SEMINARS: Susy announced upcoming Seminar to be held March 19th, 3-5pm at bookstore.

TELESERVICE: Dave L. referred everyone to the wonderful calendar on page 6 of the newsletter and pointed out when Teleservice meets; invited everyone who is interested to show up.

NEWSLETTER/COMMUNICATIONS: Rory thanked everyone for opportunity to be of service for last two years. Thank You Rory!!

OLD BUSINESS: ICSC Vacancy - Larry O. made himself available, qualified himself and was unanimously voted in.

GROUP SHARING: Mark P. announced annual Cache Creek Meeting to take place June 25 and 26th—only 150 spots reserved for AA this time sign up soon, flyers on table.

SUMMATION: Steve, PICPC needs support

Elections occurred tonight Sales ongoing at Bookstore, CDS to come

Seminar March 19th, Steps 8 & 9 May 27-29th Spanish Convention

Gratefully in Service, Kim M.

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

The monthly meeting of the H&I Committee expanded its ranks to include new meeting reps Tom S., Cindy L., Lynette B., Karen and Jennifer. Wayne, Nicole and Curt S. introduced themselves as visitors. We welcome all of you!!

Our March sobriety birthday celebrants included Cindy, with 1 year; Theo, 22; Tristan 18 months; Dave R., 3 years; Pat, 9 months; Preston, 21 years; Roger B., 14; and Amelia, 5. Many happy returns to all of you—keep coming back!

Scott I., who introduced himself as “an amazed alcoholic,” shared how he first attended an H&I meeting at 6 weeks of sobriety (at the encouragement of his sponsor). He was given the task of finding panelists for the H&I conference in Santa Rosa and successfully fulfilled that commitment. He said that H&I has “saved his back-side” more often than he can count. He learned the importance of showing up and how disappointing a black-out can be. He recognizes what a gift it is to be able to share a piece of his life with those who cannot get to an AA meeting.

Would you like to share a little piece of your sobriety with someone who can't get to a meeting? Come find out what it's all about at the next meeting of the H&I Committee on April 6, at 6:15 p.m. at the Santa Rosa Senior Center (located at the corner of Rutledge and Bennett Valley Road.) For more in-depth information, you are welcome to attend the orientation that begins at 5:45. —In service, MARDI

ACTIVITIES



S.C.L.F.
PRESENTS:



THE 2ND ANNUAL HAWAIIAN SPRING DANCE
DJ BATMAN, & LIVE MUSIC
PERFORMED BY:

Angie & The Messy Boys

Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 PM
Speaker: Brian S. From R.P.

Dance: 8:30 to Midnight
Suggested Donation: \$10.00

SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH, 2005

Sebastopol Community Center, 390 Morris St., Sebastopol, 95472



Come Wearing Aloha/Hula/Tropical Clothing
Prizes will be given for Best Aloha & Best Hula Outfits



TO VOLUNTEER, CALL: CRAIG G. (BATMAN)

GENERAL SERVICE

Some people wonder just what goes on in General Service, so I thought I tell you a little about it. In the past several months, we *have* considered or *are* considering the following motions or proposals:

1. That several changes be made in the big book to change the use of certain words in the big book. For example it was suggested to change "Him" to "God", thus making it gender neutral. Big discussion, a lot of fireworks.
2. That AA publish a pamphlet for the "non-theist". Big discussion, more fireworks.
3. That the grapevine publish a collection of recovery stories of women in AA. Kind of big discussion, some small fireworks.
4. That CNCA allot up to \$3200 for the purchase of a fire proof lateral file cabinet, as well as a number of lateral file cabinets. Lots of discussion, pros and cons.
5. That CNCA fund the panel 55 delegate to attend the 70th International Convention in Toronto, Canada, to as amount not to exceed \$600.
6. That professional translation be provide at each of the Area assemblies" (for Spanish to English and visa versa).
7. That we might wish to rent a van for the transportation of the PA system to and from assemblies (4 times a year).

All of these things (and many more) were discussed at the CNCA business meetings (held once a month in Petaluma) or at the area assemblies (which are held in various locations 4 times a year). CNCA stands for the "California Northern Coastal Area", our area, which extends from Oregon border to roughly Salinas/Monterey, all along the coast. It is a big area, and the area business meetings are frequently attended by over 100 people, area assemblies by 300 plus.

General Service is the forum in which the general running of AA takes place, and although it can be boring, it is frequently exciting and interesting. Virtually every action which New York takes for the

fellowship has to originate in a district (we are district 12), be passed to the area, and then on to New York.

When I was in Intergroup, I frequently heard from members that they did not want to participate in Intergroup because it was "too political", and I have heard the same thing about General Service.

The fact of the matter is that someone needs to make the many decisions, someone needs to take the actions, which make AA run and allows it to be there for the newcomer. Whether it is publishing a meeting guide, running a bookstore, or passing opinions on to New York, someone needs to do it.

And by the way, many of the motions and proposals which come up in General Service call for a group conscience, and that is what your GSR is there to do - to keep you informed and facilitate getting that group conscience.

So I would suggest that if you are an Intergroup Rep at a meeting that does not have a GSR, that you advocate getting someone elected to that position, and if you are a GSR at a meeting which does not have an Intergroup Rep that you advocate getting one also.

In service, Bill K.



JUNE 30 - JULY 3, 2005
TORONTO, CANADA

COMING SOON! 'DEAR ALKIE'

An advice column for alcoholics. Have a problem with a sponsor or sponsee?? Trouble with a 'Normie' co-worker or room-mate? Write 'Dear Alkie' at <aanews@sonic.net> and get some sober advice.

Activities Report

Well, I'm back! And really happy to be so! It's funny because I thought that I was totally cool with not doing this Activities Chairperson thing this next year. At the Intergroup business meeting we had elections, and there was another person who volunteered. I'd originally said that if someone else wanted to do this that it would be fine with me, and they can have it.

The Intergroup co-chair asked if there was anybody else who wanted to volunteer, and looked over at me, but I was silent. While I was sitting there, I started thinking about it, and realized that actually I do want to do this again, as I'm just now starting to feel like I know *kind* of what I'm doing in this position. Just as this is all going through my head; suddenly someone nominated me; I accepted, and am really happy to get to do this one more time. After this year's term, I'll probably not even want to plan a birthday party, because I'll be so burned out. But I think I can handle it one more year.

Well, now that we have that covered; happy April! Hopefully you'll get to read this before the 2nd Annual Hawaiian Dance being held on Saturday, April 9th at the Sebastopol Community Center. I have the same band, Angie and the Messyboys coming over from the East Bay/Tri Valley area to do another show, and I'll be volunteering my DJ'ing in between. So, we'll be having danceable rock from the band, and I'll be playing the Hip Hop/Pop/dance music. Come on down it should be fun!

I hope everybody comes wearing Aloha/Tropical wear, because we're going to have a contest to see who has the best Aloha Shirt, Hula/Tropical outfit, and will give a prize to the winners.

As a heads up; SOCYPAA, which stands for Sonoma County Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous is planning on having a fund raising dance in May. If that dance is successful, they will be trying to put on a dance every other month. So, with Intergroup having events every other month, and them putting on dances the opposite months, there should be a lot of events for people to be having fun in sobriety.

So, I'm glad to be doing this again. I really appreciate all the support, and positive feedback that I've received. It really pushes me. Thanks to everyone who has helped.

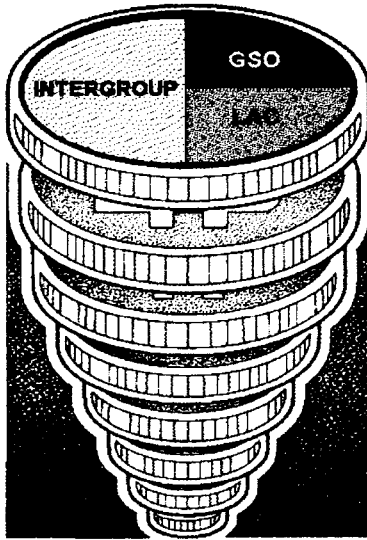
Take care,

Craig G. (Batman)

SCIF FINANCIAL SUMMARY JANUARY 2005

Month of February

Year to Date



Examples of Suggested Group Contributions To AA Service Entities

- ▲ 50% to Intergroup
- ▲ 25% to GSO
- ▲ 25% to Local Area Committee

12 Tradition's Workshop

The Sonoma County AA Fellowship is warmly invited to a 12 Traditions workshop. Four panelists will share their experience, strength and hope with us on the traditions from different perspectives and many years of service and practicing these principals Bill M., Margie A., Tom R., Patricia R.

We will pass the Ask-It Basket and have 'Open' sharing time for all attending fellows. Refreshments will be provided.

DATE: Saturday, April 16th

TIME: 1pm to 4pm

PLACE: Center For Spiritual Living

Main Auditorium

2075 Occidental Rd (The old Star Skate building near Stony Point)

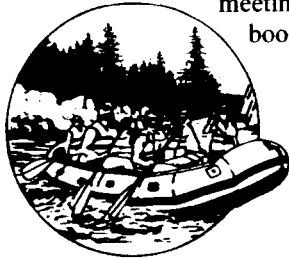
BRING: Your 12x12, sponsees, friends, and anyone who has a desire to stop drinking.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

Meeting	Feb	YTD	Meeting	Feb	YTD

Cache Creek 2005

CACHE CREEK RIVER RAFT TRIP
Send in at least your deposit (\$70) to reserve a spot for you on this years rafting trip. Do it today or as soon as possible as this years trip is filling up fast! As of the writing of this article Mid March we are over 33% filled and going fast. Remember, the trip is June 25 & 26, 2005. The yellow brochures, outlining more details are available at your favorite meeting or at the bookstore.



The Harmless Humor Section

A brunette is walking through the country, when she finds a bottle. She rubs it and, you guessed it, a genie appears.

The genie says, "You are allowed three wishes. But, I must warn you, anything you get, all the blondes in the world get twice as much."

The woman says, "Okay. Give me a nice house."

The genie replies, "You now have one nice house and all the blondes in the world have two."

The lady says, "Give me a gorgeous man."

The genie replies, "You now have one gorgeous man, while all the blondes have two."

The lady says, "For my last wish. Genie, see that stick over there? Beat me half to death with it."

Send humorous submissions to:

[<aaanews@sonic.net>](mailto:aaanews@sonic.net)

HAPPY TRAILS

For those of you who have never joined us on Happy Trails for a **hike, meeting and fellowship**, you are really missing out on a fabulous time. The day is filled with blessings-both old and new friends, nature, picnicking, laughter and best of all, an AA meeting in the largest, most beautiful "room" that you've ever seen.

It seems that our Higher Power likes our meetings too. The weather always seems to cooperate for our hikes.

Last month's hike around Spring Lake was no exception. It had rained all week long and the morning of our hike meeting was perfect. Everyone really had a good time and about two hours after the hike, it started pouring again. Perfect timing.

The **New** Happy Trails format is that we have a different leader every month so we can discover each other's favorite areas.

Come join us
Jeanine



SCIF Events • APRIL 2005



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 General Service Faith Lutheran Church 6:45 Service Manual Study 7:00 New Rep Orientation 7:30 Business Meeting	5	6	7	8	9 Hawaiian Spring Dance Sebastopol Community Ctr. Meeting 7-9 Dance 9:30-Midnight
10	11 SCIF Bookstore 6:30 Teleservice meeting 7:15 ICSC meeting 8:00 SCIF Steering	12	13	14	15	16 Traditions Workshop 10:30 am Church of Religious Science Info: Kalia 824-0282
17	18	19 Bridging The Gap 7pm SCIF Bookstore	20	21	22	23
24	25 Intergroup 7:30 Newsletter Collating & new Rep orientation 8:00 Business Meeting	26	27	28	29/30	

A Big Thanks to Rory

(Continued from page 1)

He has done more than his share and I know we will all miss the sharpness and crisp professionalism that he brought to the newsletter. It is this editors intention to try to continue with the excellent work and dedication Rory has shared with us all.

Thanks again Rory and enjoy your free time ... you've earned it!!

—Charles W.

What is??



Bridging the Gap is made up of AA members that help people make the transition from hospitals and institutions to AA in their home community. Many of us did not know how to find AA when we first started out, or we were to scared to go alone. When we finally got up the courage to go, we were not able to reach out to a room of strangers to ask for help. The sole purpose of Bridging the Gap is to help you get acquainted with AA in your community.

If you would like a helping hand, we have a request card for you to complete. The information you provide will be held in the strictest confidence. It will be used to find a temporary contact for you, and then the information will be destroyed. We try to match requests with volunteers based on three criteria: zip code, age and gender. BTG in Sonoma County needs your help. Could you be the man or woman calling the volunteer, the volunteer connecting with the newcomer, or the committee member taking the first contact presentation into a facility?

This important 12 step work could make the all difference in a how someone new is met by the hand of AA.

Is your hand out?

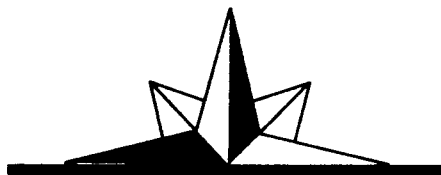
Our monthly business meeting is 7pm, the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the SCIF bookstore, 750 Mendocino Ave. or contact Bob Flanary, BGT chair

Submissions for the newsletter??

E-mail them to <aanews@sonic.net>

Have you ever written a poem about when you were at your bottom?

Or, maybe a upbeat essay about your Silver Cloud? Submit what you have! Think of how rewarding it would be to see your writing circulating through all the meeting halls of Sonoma Co.!!!



Attention

If you are available as a sponsor then make it known! Many of us have the willingness but are often reserved about announcing it at group level. When the floor is open let the group know!

Think of how much easier it will make it for that modest or uncomfortable 'Newcomer'!

'The Beach Meeting' RETURNS.

*Hurry!!! It's that time of year again!
The ONE, the ONLY,
Fantastic Beach Meeting.*



*first meeting will be on
Friday Night
June 3rd*

Schoolhouse Beach

*More details coming soon!!
Can't wait to see everybody there!
--Maureen O'*



Where are all the Birthdays??

There are lots of Birthdays but no submissions. If you would like to submit a friends, sponsors, or your own Sobriety Birthday then write to:

<aanews@sonic.net>

and have it published in next months Newsletter!!!

Happy Birthday Everyone!!

AA Traditions Workshop

Coming to Santa Rosa
in Mid-April!

(Time and location to be announced)

- 4 FANTASTIC PANELISTS
- ASK-IT BASKET
- BROWN BAG LUNCH
- FELLOWSHIP SHARING TIME

Come find out why these traditions are so valuable and important, and how they help us wild and wiggly alcoholics stay together in fellowship, sobriety and service as the years go by!

**ALL AA'S ARE INVITED!
BRING YOUR SPONSEES!
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU
THERE!**

In Service,

MEETING CHANGES

Santa Rosa 12 STEPS & 12 TRADITIONS BOOK STUDY

(O) (W) Tuesday, 7:00PM
Church, 3950 Doubles Dr.

Changed from Thursday 6:00PM

Santa Rosa Happy Trails
(O) (W) Last Sunday of the Month

New Contact Number:

NEW

Petaluma A Vision For You

(O)(W) Fri. 12 Noon
Allano Club 221 Water St.

LIGHT BIRTHDAY

(O)(W) Last Saturday of month ONLY
7 pm 525 Fifth St Santa Rosa

NO LONGER MEETS.....

Petaluma CONCEPTS AND TRADITIONS

(O) (W) Sunday, 2:00PM
Alano Club, 221 Water St.

?? or IDEAS...

If you have any questions regarding the newsletters content, ideas for improvement, submissions in the form of essays or poems or any other thoughts please do not hesitate to write them down and email them to me... Remember, this is a group effort!!!

—Charles W. <aanews@sonic.net>

Gloria's Corner

I want to thank my NO. 1 volunteer, TOM C., for his 13+ years of service to the bookstore. We really appreciate all he has done for AA. He even helped me learn my job!

We have the 2nd Saturday of each month open, NOW!

Also, tapes and plaques are HALF price!!



Many Blessings,
Gloria

ADDRESSES

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

Sonoma County General Service

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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 94118

Sonoma County PI/CPC*

PO Box 11350
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

*Funded solely through Sonoma County General Service

BOOKSTORE & TELESERVICE

SCIF CENTRAL OFFICE

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

Manager: Gloria P.
Phone: (707) 546-2066
Fax: (707) 566-9677
E-mail: AA@ap.net
Hours: Mon-Fri 10-6
Saturday 11-3

The Bookstore is closed on these holidays:

Independence Day...July 4th
Labor Day.....September 5th
Thanksgiving.....November 24th
Christmas.....December 25th
New Year's Day.....January 1st

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Alt. DCMC: Kenin H.
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Archives: Cory B.
Grapevine: DJ S.
Literature: Michael Q.
Newsletter: Adam B.
Bridging the Gap: Bob F.
PI/CPC: Yannick Wets
Recording Secretary: Donna K.
Treasurer: Robin M.

Hospitals & Institutions

Chair: Kelly T.

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