



SONOMA COUNTY INTERGROUP

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

July 2004

AA HOTLINE Volunteer Thank-you Picnic, Potluck and Meeting



**SUNDAY, JULY 11th at
DOYLE PARK, SANTA ROSA**

11:30-4:00: PICNIC, GAMES & RAFFLE

**4:00-5:00 MEETING: SPEAKER PANEL
with Berrine D. Kim C. & Ed G.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--Please Call Joe at 546-1046

The AA HOTLINE—aka Teleservice—is the heartbeat of AA in Sonoma County, in the finest spirit of our primary purpose: To carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. We are currently seeking volunteers to answer phones or to become involved by

attending Teleservice meetings, held the second Monday of each month at the bookstore. Our hotline runs 24/7, and you can take calls on your shift from the convenience of your own phone. In addition to answering the phones, we can also arrange 12-step visits from a list

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Language of the Heart in Two Languages

On April 22 of this year, Grupo Avance of the Spanish-Speaking AA Fellowship celebrated the anniversaries of three “compañeros” by having an open meeting and inviting members of other groups in the Hispanic Fellowship and our families to come and celebrate. The podium was open, and everyone was invited to share their experience, strength and hope. We encouraged family members to come forward and talk—several of them did. A few chose to share in English, which was their primary language, and they apologized for not speaking Spanish. However, those in attendance responded enthusiastically because most of us understood, at least some English or spoke it fluently. Everyone understood that it’s the desire to feel “a part of” that compels us to share and that speaks to the hearts of all alcoholics. And, after all “Recovery is the Language of the Heart” so a few misunderstood words here and there don’t matter! After the sharing, we celebrated with food, music and a cake. During this time, a number of people

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"Singleness of Purpose"

July Seminar: Saturday, July 17 3-5PM

My objective upon taking the Seminars position was to bring education and unity to our fellowship. So far so good! Our May seminar, “Getting our Young People Sober”, was excellent. Thank you to our panel, Gary S., Louis B., Thea D., and Jolie. The unanimous message was that AA works no matter what age we are. The July seminar will be on “Singleness of Purpose”. This is a hot topic in our area, as well as the rest of the nation. The May Grapevine was

dedicated to this subject, as well as the recent General Service Conference. One of the great things about AA is we all get to have an opinion. It was enlightening reading the May Grapevine and finding out that AA is being split in some areas because of this debate. Lets keep our Sonoma County fellowship strong! Please bring an open mind and join us July 17th from 3-5PM at the Lady Bug Clubhouse in Rohnert Park.

Sebrina G.

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Need a meeting? Check our online schedule for up-to-date info: www.SonomaCountyAA.



INTERGROUP OFFICERS

- ◆ CHAIR: Kay S.
526-5502
- ◆ VICE-CHAIR: Steve B.
478-5522
- ◆ SECRETARY: Kim M.
545-6138
- ◆ TREASURER: John S.
328-1679
- ◆ REGISTRAR: Deborah

INTERGROUP COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

- ◆ SEMINARS: Sebrina
- ◆ ACTIVITIES: Craig G.
- ◆ OUTREACH: Linda C.
- ◆ COMMUNICATIONS:
Rory B.
- ◆ HOTLINE/TELESERVICE:
David L.
- ◆ ALCATHONS: Brian A.

AA HOTLINE TELESERVICE

- ◆ CHAIR: David L.
- ◆ SCHEDULER: Loretta D.
- ◆ 12 STEP COORDINATOR:
Andi P.
- ◆ SANTA ROSA HOTLINE
544-1300
- ◆ LONG DISTANCE ONLY
800-224-1300
- ◆ PETALUMA HOTLINE
762-5122
- ◆ SONOMA HOTLINE
938-2027
- ◆ SPANISH HOTLINE
545-7417

SCIF Meeting May 24, 2004

Tradition 5 was read by Ed, **Concept 5** was read by Randy.

The **preamble** was read by Kay.

Intro of New Reps: Sharon from Friday night Rohnert Park *Let's Discuss It*, Nancy from the *Think About It Group*, Mike C. from *Thursday Roundtable*, Susan from *BYOBB*, Dale from *Petaluma Quitting Time*, and Nancy from *12 x 12 Plus Group* (I apologize if I missed anyone).

March Birthdays: Kay 15, Frank 5, Andy 4, Nancy 28, Rob 1, Bob 12, Rory 7 (I apologize if I missed anyone).

Seventh Tradition was exercised.

Minutes for April, 2004 SCIF General Meeting were reviewed and then approved.

Registrar: Deborah reported that she has obtained a book to assist her with learning Access database so that she can work more effectively with Intergroup Rep/Meeting database.

LIAISON REPORTS:

General Service: Donna K. reported that G.S. will be having annual picnic/BBQ at their regular monthly meeting on June 7th. The whole meeting will be devoted to hearing our delegates report from his trip to New York. Everyone invited to attend. G.S. will provide burgers, dogs and veggie burgers, etc.; please bring side dish to share. G.S. is also discussing formation of an ad hoc committee to review, discuss and suggest possible changes to their current financial guidelines. The Pacific Regional Forum will occur from July 16 through 18th in Portland, Oregon at the Doubletree Hotel, Columbia River. Everyone is invited to attend.

PI/CPC: Dave explained the function of this committee and where they have been doing local presentations. Additionally, he indicated that there are currently 24 different public service announcements (featuring people from a wide range of backgrounds) that may be heard or seen on local radio and TV.

Bridging the Gap: Carolyn explained the primary purpose of BtG. She reported BtG did 5 presentations at facilities and received 8 local and 13 out-of-district requests for BtG services during the past month.

H&I: Mark reported that H&I meets on the second Wednesday of each month with an orientation for folks new to H&I taking place at 5:45PM followed by the business meeting at 6:30PM.

OFFICER REPORTS

Chair: Kay S. made an apology to the group in regard to the way she led the meeting the previous month and for forming and forcing a personal agenda of her own onto Intergroup since taking office. She indicated that the article she authored and was published in newsletter last month regarding AA and recovery facilities had been based upon incorrect facts and apologized.

Vice-Chair: Steve B. reported that 2 new Reps, 1 returning Rep and 1 alternate Rep were in attendance at the Intergroup orientation which took place at 7:30PM before general meeting. He asked all new folks to fill out Rep sheets if they hadn't already.

Treasurer: John S. directed everyone to page 5 to review the monthly financial report and indicated that it erroneously showed a net gain when it should show a net loss. Bookstore sales were down causing a net loss for the month, and unassigned funds are down.

Bookstore: Gloria indicated that the bookstore inventory will occur this Saturday, May 29th at 3PM and help is welcomed. John will oversee the bookstore while Gloria on vacation in June. Bookstore needs volunteer help on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Outreach: Linda reported that she attended 16 meetings over the last month resulting in 8 new reps coming forth.

Activities: Craig announced that the Founders Day Picnic will be held on June 19th at Doyle Park; details are on

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Greetings Fellowship!

Well, here we are in the summertime. Kick your feet up, relax in the sun with an iced tea, and...wait a minute! Hold on! Get to your service commitment! No rest for the sober! Just kidding, but seriously folks, if you are thinking of getting involved, we would love to have you get on board with General Service. There is so much to learn, so many GSR commitments to fill in Sonoma County, and so many good service people yet to meet. If you have a couple years sober and are available, seriously think about taking that GSR commitment that your group has been announcing as OPEN. Without your participation, the group goes unsupported and does not hear about important matters that are taking place in AA as a whole, information on the 2005 International Convention! We have had many new GSRs join us in the past 18 months, and it is a joy to watch them stick around, work with their groups, and be excited participants in the AA way of life.

General Service Representative is an important job, which truly involves "commitment," and it is recommended that you honestly consider the time involved before saying "yes." There is the monthly district meeting to attend, a monthly sub-district meeting, area events, four assemblies a year throughout CNCA (consider travel time and cost; e.g., room and mileage—p.s. as part of being "fully self-supporting", it is hopeful that your group will provide financial support for these events. Then, starting around February, prepare for the Pre-conference assembly by setting up sharing sessions with your group to discuss agenda topics! Whew! Sound exciting, overwhelming? Well, it definitely will keep you active and out of

trouble (and that's a good thing for us alchies!) So, after all of that has been factored in, you have weighed it out, talked to your sponsor, and then decided, "I'm available. I can do that!" You're in! And now, how are you going to do all of this? One Day at a Time. Remember when you came into AA and heard "you never have to be alone again"? It's also true in service. We are not going to leave you out on a limb by yourself. Help is available, if you reach

Margie, Nancy, Martha, Laurie, Jim, Bob, Tom, Regina, Toby, Debbie, Peter, Dave, Pam, Damiana, Ron (Delenon), Doug G., Diane W., and Tom Mc.! Wow, thanks for showing up everyone! And of course, we celebrated sobriety birthdays: Allen, 5 years; Anna, 16 years; Kay, 15 years; Helen, 20 years; Rose 4 years; Warren, 3 years and Peter, 3 years. Keep coming back. It works. And thanks for showing us how!

After committee reports, the remainder of the meeting was focused on our guest speaker, Doug G., CNCA Delegate, who gave us an account of his travels in New York where he attended the 54th General Service Conference as our representative. He examined the conference advisory actions that are in BOX 4-5-9 and gave us an overview of the conference process and how it works. The theme for next year's conference will be "Recovery, Unity, and Service—Basics for the Home Group." Do I carry AA's message or my own? Doug's message was inspiring and filled with gratitude. We are so blessed to have him!

Our next event will be the summer assembly on August 21st at the River Lodge, 1800 Riverwalk Drive in Fortuna. It is a long drive, so we recommend carpooling and possibly teaming up to go camping! (Sounds like fun!) There will be a business meeting and workshops, which

will make for a full, informative day. Looking forward to seeing some of you there.

Please join us for our next monthly business meeting Monday, July 5th, 2004, at 7:30PM. The AA service manual study is at 6:45PM and the new GSR orientation is at 7PM. See you then!

In love and service,
Mary W.

**CALIFORNIA NORTHERN COASTAL
AREA 06**
OF THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE
Presents
SUMMER ASSEMBLY
August 21, 2004
9:00AM - 5:00PM
HOSTED BY DISTRICT 15 - Humboldt-Del Norte
RIVER LODGE
1800 Riverwalk Drive
Fortuna, CA 95540

Registration	9:00
Orientation	9:30 - 9:50
Business Meeting	10 - 12
Lunch	12 - 12:15
Workshop Session I	1:15 - 2:30 (workshops TBA)
Workshop Session II	2:40 - 3:55 (workshops TBA)
Report Backs	4:10 - 4:30
What's on your mind?	4:30 - 5:00

Bring your FM radio for professional Spanish to English translation

out your hand, (there's that if!)

On June 7th, we had a special monthly business meeting, which was preceded by the District's annual potluck/picnic/BBQ. I was glad to see many of you there! We welcomed the following new GSRs: Bernadette, Shannon, Peter and Vinny. Welcome to you all, and keep coming back! We also welcomed the following visitors who we were happy to see: Rueben, George, Denise, Bradley,



Family & Friends BBQ

WHEN:

**Sunday, August 8th
11:00AM To 5:00PM**

WHERE:

**Howarth Park
(At the Gazebo)
650 Summerfield Rd.
Santa Rosa**

**Volunteers Needed!!!
Call Craig G.
(BATMAN)
(707) 206-0360**

Happy Trails

This month's meeting/hike will be on **Sunday, July 25th**. We will hike along the coastal bluffs from Shell Beach to Wrights Beach. Gorgeous views. Bring a sweatshirt in case of colder weather. Total 4.75 miles roundtrip. We meet at SRJC parking lot at 10:00 to carpool or at the trailhead around 11:00. Bring a smile, lunch and water. Questions? Jeanine 545-1018 or SSargo@aol.com



AA Teleservice Picnic

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of 12-step volunteers. If you think Teleservice volunteer or 12-step volunteer is a job worth doing, then we are asking for your support. Help us maintain and improve our service, made possible by your group's contribution to Intergruop.

Please attend our Thank You picnic, to meet those who keep this service on track, find a great meeting, or just come out to play and eat hot dogs. You owe it to yourself to find out about this rewarding service, and we need you. Thanks again for your support.



Hotline Open Shifts

FRIDAY

9AM—PM • 1PM—5PM

Overnight Shift

Call Hotline Coordinator
Loretta D. for more information.



SCIF CALENDAR • JULY 2004



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
					1	2	3
Independence Day 4 	5 General Service Faith Lutheran Church 6:45: Service Manual Study 7:00: New Rep Orientation 7:30: Business Meeting	6	7 Hospitals & Institutions S.R. Senior Center 5:45: New Rep Orientation 6:15: Business Meeting		8	9	10
11 Teleservice Picnic 11:30AM - 4:00PM MEETING AT 4:00PM Doyle Park, SR	12 SCIF Bookstore 6:30: AA Teleservice Business Meeting 7:15: ICSC Meeting 8:00: Intergroup Steering Committee Meeting	13	14 PI/CPC S.R. City Hall 7:00: Speaker Training 7:30: Business Meeting		15	16	17 July Seminar 3-5PM Ladybug Park District 18 (Spanish) 5519 Old Redwood Hwy. Windsor 4:30PM
18	19	20 Bridging the Gap SCIF Bookstore 6:30: New Rep Orientation 7:00: Business Meeting	21		22	23	24
25 Happy Trails 10:00: SRJC Parking Lot at Bailey Field	26 Intergroup St. Luke Lutheran Church 7:30: Newsletter Collating 7:30: New Rep Orientation 8:00: Business Meeting	27 General Service District 12 Officers Meeting - 6:15 SCIF Bookstore	28		29	30	31



PUBLIC INFORMATION

PI and AA Member Obituaries -

Every so often, the issue of "anonymity breaks" in obituaries is a lively topic at the Public Information Committee's business meeting. As with everything in AA, we committee members have varying opinions about the issue. Some thought we should write letters to funeral home directors, explaining the concept of anonymity at the level of press. Some thought it was none of our business, and others were somewhere in the middle. We decided to write to General Service and ask them about an opinion on this issue. Here is the response we received from GSO:

"Your recent e-mail came to me, as I currently serve on the Public Information desk here at the General Service Office. My name is Gayle R, and I am an alcoholic. I'm glad to have this opportunity to be in touch.

Thanks for sharing your committee members' concerns regarding AA membership being revealed after death. A.A. members have varying views on personal anonymity at the public level



posthumously, as your own committee demonstrates. The General Service Conference recognized that this is a matter which each individual or family decides. In 1988, the Conference recommended that the 1971 General Service Conference Action be reaffirmed: 'AA members generally think it unwise to break the anonymity of a member even after his death, but in each situation the final decision must rest with the family.'

As members, we can individually let our loved ones know our wishes, so that they are not faced with this sometimes awkward decision. Hopefully, the decision in each case is made considering AA's Twelve Traditions, and is done in the spirit of placing principles before personalities.

Thanks for this opportunity to be in touch. I am so glad to hear that you and the committee are having a wonderful time doing PI projects. We at GSO thank you for your service and send you all our best wishes.

In Fellowship,
Gayle R.
General Service Staff

SOBRIETY BIRTHDAYS

JULY

CLOVERDALE	
Ann C.	07/01/1995
Frank M.	07/28/1975
Janet L.	07/04/1993
Jean D.	07/15/1994
Launa C.	07/10/1996
Pat S.	07/07/1955
Tom A.	07/26/2001
PETALUMA	
Larry C.	07/06/1986
Linda C.	07/23/1997
SANTA ROSA	
David L.	07/04/2000
Jay B.	07/22/1988
Joel M.	07/01/2003
Kim B.	07/08/2002
Stan Kaz	07/07/2000
SONOMA	
Bill S.	07/04/1948

..In Two Languages

(Continued from page 1)

talked (in both English and Spanish—sometimes mixing the two in one sentence) about how much they enjoyed hearing both languages in the meeting, and how much fun it might be to have a bilingual meeting someday. There were also quite a few members of the English-Speaking AA Fellowship who also spoke Spanish, either a little or fluently—and others who wanted to learn more Spanish, like those in the Hispanic Fellowship who would like their English to improve. From this was born the idea of starting a once-a-month bilingual meeting.

Beginning in June 2004, Grupo Avance will host a bilingual meeting on the last Monday of the month. The meetings take place from 7:00PM to 8:30PM at the Senior Center in Santa Rosa, 1704 Bennett Valley Road, Room 16. The only requirement for attendance is the desire to stop drinking. The meeting will be conducted in both English and Spanish, and everyone is encouraged to participate using the language they prefer.

¡Todos los compañeros de
AA están bienvenidos ¡

SCIF Minutes

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Communications: Rory said that things are smooth, please send in birthdays you'd like listed in the newsletter.

Alcathons: Brian reported good news about finding a suitable location for this year's Alcathons. It is at 525 5th Street (the Street Life Center) in Santa Rosa next to Gold's Gym. There is a huge parking lot, a capacity of 185 people, a side room set up for kids area, and a nice kitchen. Cost = \$25/hour or \$750 per event. He asked for volunteers from Intergroup to go review the site with him on Wednesday. Several people volunteered.

Spanish Liaison: Ysidro indicated they meet every Saturday from 4PM–6PM at 4795 Old Redwood Highway in Suite 82. He reported that they have 10 Spanish speaking volunteers visiting 10 Northbay facilities every week and also give presentations to drunk driving classes when requested as well as schools and churches when invited to do so. Spanish state convention will occur May 28–30th in Los Angeles.

Old Business: After much discussion occurred regarding non-A.A. facility-sponsored AA meetings, a motion was put forth to drop the matter altogether which was seconded and approved by a majority vote of the reps.

Group Sharing: Larry from Petaluma indicated that the starting time of the 4th Step Workshop is incorrectly printed on flyers as 9AM. It should be 10AM.

Summation: Steve B.

- ▲ May 28–30th Spanish-speaking committee conference
- ▲ May 29th Bookstore Inventory, Gloria could use volunteer help
- ▲ June 6th The 4th Step Workshop is in Petaluma from 10AM-1PM
- ▲ June 7th Annual General Service Picnic
- ▲ June 19th Founders Day Picnic, Doyle Park
- ▲ June 27th Happy Trails goes to Baker Beach
- ▲ July 11th The Teleservice Picnic

Gratefully in Service,
Kim M.



NEW MEETINGS

Santa Rosa Grupo Avance
(O) (W) Monday, 7:00PM
704 Bennett Valley Rd.
Senior Center - Room 16
Bilingual last Monday of the month

Sonoma Book Study
(O) (W) Tuesday, 5:30PM

Sonoma Beginners
(O) (W) Wednesday, 5:30PM

Sonoma Came To Believe (Discussion)
(O) (W) Thursday, 5:30PM

Sonoma Steps & Traditions Study
(O) (W) Sunday, 5:30PM

*All at the Community Center
276 E. Napa St. (in back)*

MEETING CHANGES

Santa Rosa First Things First
(Women) Monday, 8:00PM

Santa Rosa Burbank Group
(O) (W) Wednesday, 8:30PM

Santa Rosa Newcomers
(O) (W) Thursday, 8:30PM

Santa Rosa Young People's Group
(O) (W) Saturday, 8:30PM

Santa Rosa Sunday Morning Smiles
(O) (W) Sunday, 11:00AM

*The location for these meetings has not changed, but the new address for the **Orenda Center** is 1430 Neotomas*

The Serenity Fellowship Hall will be moving in July. For details on the new location check the August Newsletter, our web site or call the SCIF Bookstore.

Meeting Changes? Contact Russell

Gloria's Corner

- ▲ All chips are 1/2 price in July!
- ▲ Thanks to John S. for managing the Bookstore while I'm on vacation.

Many Blessings,

Gloria



ADDRESSES

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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 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
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

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Soberduud1@aol.com

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Grapevine Rep: Michael M.

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DjBridgtheGap12@aol.com

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westernm@gtcinternet.com

Literature: Pat

Archives: Gary S.

Hospitals & Institutions

Chair: Kelly

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