

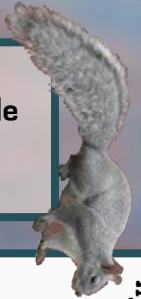


40% Participation!!

SCIF General Meeting had an amazing turn out in September! Please continue to send your Reps to the meeting, we need your support, participation, and voices!

Step 11: Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

"When I pray in the morning I feel clean inside and people are nice to me all day." - a young A.A. at a meeting



All Alkathons this year are located at the Steele & Range Building, 1495TW Steele Lane, Santa Rosa

Holiday Alkathon Thanksgiving



If you have questions or you want to be of service, contact the Alkathons chair, Shauna - 707.536.6413

Table with 2 columns: TIME, MEETING HOST. Rows include: 11/27 6:00 PM UP THE STEPS, 8:00 PM EXPECT A MIRACLE, 10:00 PM CHECK IT OUT, 11/28 Midnight QUITTING TIME, 2:00 AM Fri Night Vets, 4:00 AM YOUNG & SOBER, 6:00 AM FAM ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT, 8:00 AM TAKING A TRIP, 10:00 AM FRIDAY NOONER, 12:00 PM HARMONY GROUP, 2:00 PM MID MORNIN G SANITY, 4:00 PM WEST SIDERS, 6:00 PM FRESH AIR, 8:00 PM 11TH STEP MEDITATION

AA Quilt Project. Saturday, November 16 1pm-5pm. Ladybug Park Clubhouse. Text Erica with questions 707-239-9747



The SCIF News is free! It is made possible through contributions of our members to Intergroup. Read this newsletter, pass it on, and contribute! The SCIF News is also available at 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 the Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship. We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, language, length, and any content that may violate A.A. Traditions.

New & Changed Meetings:

- The **Sunday Night Madness** at 7:00 pm meeting has moved to the Crosspoint Community Church, 1577 Guerneville Rd., S.R.
- The Sunday 4 pm. Forestville **Beyond Belief** meeting has been discontinued after October 27th.
- El grupo en Español para mujeres, "**Otra Oportunidad**," se ha reubicado de Rohnert Park al 2841 Cleveland Ave. #7 en Santa Rosa, los lunes a las 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 7:30-8:30pm **Women's Step Study & Discussion** Group could use support. It's a good group of women. Children under two are welcome. Hope to see some of you women there!
- The **Signs of Sobriety** Zoom meeting on Fridays at 5:30pm is no longer a speaker meeting. We are having fun with the GRAPEVINE. Join us!
- The Saturday 7:00 am Petaluma meeting is now named **Petaluma Fog Lifters**.



Hospitals and Institutions Committee

The Hospitals and Institutions business meeting took place at the Center for Spiritual Living on Wednesday, Oct.2, at 6:15 pm.

H & I has a New Area Chair! Liz W. was elected at the last Business Meeting for a 2 year term. Mandy will be the new recording secretary. Thank you, Patrick P. for your service as outgoing Area Chair.

A warm welcome to our newest Meeting Reps: Rich, Libby, Nikolai, Richard, Michelle, Peggy J., Shira S., Forest A., Karl M., Lorenda M., Lynn J., and Carly M. Thank you for your service!

Welcome to our Visitors, Paula and Katie. Keep coming back!

September Sobriety Birthdays: Mike F. 27 yrs, Kimberly 3 yrs, Mike 3 yrs, Nikolai 18 months, Libby 18 months, Corey 11 months, Paula 5 months, Michael 3 months. Happy Birthday!

Sonoma County Jail is opening up for in person group meetings. Women's meetings have started, and men should start soon!

H & I always needs speakers to go into 16 facilities that don't require clearance. Most facilities require 6 months sobriety and working knowledge of the steps. Come to our Business Meeting to get involved! The next business meeting is on Wednesday, November 6, at 6:15pm at The Center for Spiritual Living in Santa Rosa. New rep and visitor orientation begins at 5:45, and all are welcome to attend.

-in Service, Cat C.



Upcoming Seminar: *Life on Life's Terms - Applying The 12-Steps as a Program of Recovery*

Saturday, November 9th, 4 - 5:45 pm at the Faith Lutheran Church 4930 Newanga Avenue in Santa Rosa.

Alcoholics Anonymous is a continuous program of action. This seminar will cover the experience of how the presenters walked through difficult times applying the steps of Alcoholics Anonymous to their life problems.

General Service Corner:

You'll hear it said so often, "thank you for letting me be of service." But what does that mean and why am I grateful? It used to baffle me when I heard that statement. Why would you thank me for letting me be of service?

After almost 4 years participating in General Service I am beginning to understand this phrase at a more personal level. What I can thank these service commitments for and for those of you who have let me serve next to you on committees, panels, events and conferences, etc., is that you have helped practice the A.A. principles in all my affairs. Our triangle is balanced between Unity – Service – Recovery, and I have found all three while serving as a District Committee Member on this Panel.

Some say that sitting in business meetings and listening to what our Delegate is sharing between the groups and New York is boring, yet I have found it exhilarating. General Service was a gift Bill W. gave us upon the death of Dr. Bob. He wanted to make sure that A.A. would be there for the alcoholic child of the future. Under that umbrella we have all unified in taking the consciousness of our groups to New York and the outcome of the Conference back to our groups.

The opportunity to sit and listen to others is also a gift of sobriety. I am still practicing how to listen and not always share my thoughts or opinions. Progress not perfection applies in all aspects of my life. Caring to listen to the Minority Opinion and watch it sway entire votes is truly spiritual. General Service has shown sometimes the smallest voice is heard the loudest.

General Service has afforded me an opportunity to practice my recovery program each day. It's been one way that A.A. has allowed me to make amends to a society which I outright hated for many years. The unity I have found in General Service, the passion for A.A. and our new way of life continues bringing a smile to my face and causes my hand to raise over and over. Like they say, "stay in the middle of the herd". If you don't know where that is, come check out our next General Service meeting the first Monday of the month at Faith Lutheran Church, 7:15p.

— MaryEllen Wernett, DCM 01/02, 07 & 11

PI/CPC:

For any folks who are not familiar with PI/CPC, it is a part of General Service that shares information with people outside of the A.A. program. We reach out to the professional community so they get familiar with what A.A. program is and what it isn't. We share in DUI classes online and at the Orenda Center in Santa Rosa. We share at schools to introduce the program to students and administrators. We also distribute A.A literature throughout Sonoma County .

Public Information and Cooperation with Professional Community is a great way to be in service to our community and get the word out. We are currently finishing our panel with members who have helped run this part of A.A. They will have completed their two year term and we hold elections in November to fill out a new panel for 2025 and 2026. There are sobriety requirements for some positions, but we have other positions for folks new to program and you could get involved.

If this sounds interesting to any of you, please come to the November meeting at the bookstore on Mendocino on Nov. 13. We also will have a booth in Sebastopol on Unity day where we can answer any questions about our purpose in the A.A community.

— Mark J.

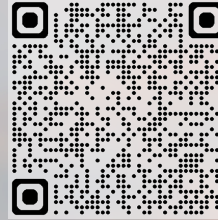
Petaluma Alano Club Thanksgiving Day Alkathon

Speaker Meetings every 2 hours



Bring sides and donations
Petaluma Alano Club
1050 Petaluma Blvd. N
Petaluma, CA

Let's keep our meeting
schedule up to date!
Follow this QR code,
fill out the form, and
send it to the webmaster.



From the September 28 Paint, Snack & Chat activity



When I, encouraged by Shauna, took the Activities Chair position back in the beginning of 2024, I had no idea where to start or what I was supposed to do. — That didn't last long. At the same meeting where I accepted the position, our Intergroup



Chair asked if I had an update on Founder's Day. So off I went!

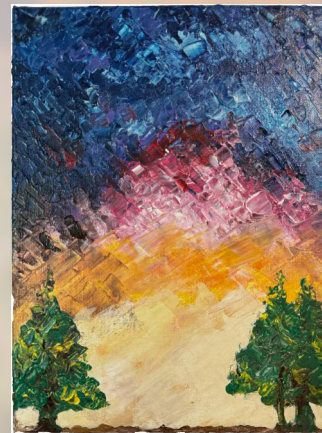
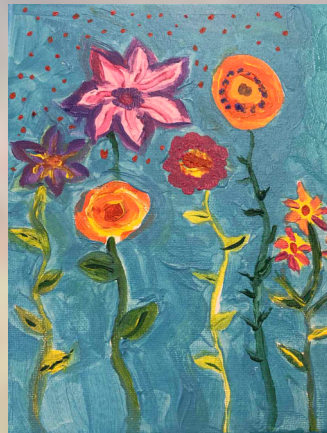
I had a short amount of time to figure out what the traditional picnic had been because I had never attended one before.

As things moved forward, I remember someone saying how fun it would be because I would get to do cool artsy stuff if I wanted to and believe me I wanted to. Throughout my sobriety journey, art has always been one of my safe places for healing, stress, and staying sober. Art is an outlet for me. My goal this year has been to share that with all of you.

The Paint, Snack & Chat Event was a great demonstration of how art makes people feel. We sang together while painting that day and I won't ever forget walking around the room looking at these amazing paintings listening to everyone sing. This is why I am so grateful for the support to take the position. I love seeing people having a good time being sober, — It makes me so happy.

The quilt project will be another way to get everyone together and bring out the artists in you. I love AA and I love serving as Intergroup Activities Chair. I mean, what is sobriety if we aren't having fun together?

—xoxo, Erica



A cop stops
a car he
suspects of
drunk
driving and
adminis-
ters a
breatha-
lyzer test.
But the guy
inhales
instead of
exhales and
passes it to
the cop!

— Jodie S.

From the Editor:
Circulation has increased! As a result, so have our costs for printing and emailing.

So please contribute generously to Intergroup and help keep our newsletter free of charge.

Anyone who has an inkling to is encouraged to share a picture, a quote, a joke, an article less than 400 words, or...

— Arjuna, editor
newsletter@sonomacountyaa.org

SCIF General Meeting Minutes, September 23, 2024

The meeting opened at 7:35 with the Serenity Prayer and Preamble, followed by readings of Tradition 9 and Concept 9.

Introduction of New Representatives: Shannon, Monte Rio Tuesday noon; Tim, Petaluma Early Birds 6am everyday: Emily. 12X12 St. Francis 12:30.

Birthdays since we last met: Cindy 13 yrs, Bruce 37 yrs, Steve W. 42 yrs, Herb 1 yr, Peter 9 yrs, Paul 38 yrs, Ester 48 yrs, Lynn 3 yrs

Officer Reports:

Chair: (Amber C.) We have elections tonight for two positions: Treasurer and Webmaster. Third legacy vote meaning we need 2/3 majority. Treasurer: James B. voted in! Congratulations. Webmaster: Jay voted in.

On average we have 29% attendance at our intergroup meetings and attendance is very high tonight. We invite you to come back again in person. We need you! Unity day is coming up, special request to please announce unity day at your meetings. Emails are back online and listed in the newsletter and on the website. Lottery happening tonight and you must be in person to vote. We will be moving our vote on the literature vote to January.

Front page of newsletter There are only 26% of meetings with a representative. This is an issue, please if you attend a meeting and there is no intergroup announcement please ask secretary if the position is filled. We need your help!! We want to reach much more meetings. Last year ICSC* add from email. We ask to keep the officer and committee reports brief, no longer than a paragraph so they can all fit on the newsletter. Website is back up. It may not open if you have it saved as a bookmark on your phone or computer. Don't use the WWW address just put in Sonomacountyaa.org

Vice Chair: (Bruce W.) If you have never attended an orientation, plan to be here a half an hour early in person.

Secretary: (Megan M.) Clark Motion to approve minutes from last meeting. 2nd by Denise.

Treasurer: (Holly H.) The Bookstore income for August 2024 was \$9,9190. Cost of goods total was \$6,331. Total expenses for August were \$3,483, for a subtotal loss of \$623. Central Office income for August 2024 was \$7,180. Total expenses for August were \$4,430, for a subtotal gain of \$2,749. Intergroup Activities income for August 2024 was \$1550. Expenses for August 2024 were \$0, for a subtotal gain of \$1550. Overall for August, there was an overall gain of \$3,676. Year to date our income is \$125,271, total cost of goods is \$76,352, and our expenses are \$66,664 leaving a gain of \$9,688.

Registrar: (Ellen W.) As of August 2024 there were a total of 238 groups here in Sonoma County offering a total of 419 meetings each week. There were a total of 71 reps in attendance and 8 were new. Reps: Zoom 19, In-person 44, New reps 8. Meetings Zoom 120, In person 275, Hybrid 24.

Committee Reports

ICSC: (Greg) Annual inventory on Sunday September 29th. 9am-3pm 2 hour shifts we will have food and drinks. So far we have a dozen signed up. We need you intergroup reps to discuss the topic of whether or not we carry the non-conference approved literature. Take it to your meetings.

BOOKSTORE: (Bob F.) Bookstore report to SCIF General Meeting September 23, 2024. The bookstore sold in August 442 AA & Grapevine publications of which 110 were hard cover Big Books and 130 of those books sold were in Spanish and make note that bookstore is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. 29 books not published by AA were sold in August (that's nearly one-a-day). Book of the month for October will be "Best of Bill \$7.80 in pocket, large print, English and Spanish. Hard cover gift edition \$9.60. The \$2 off Fall season Grapevine books sale is "Emotional Sobriety," "Happy Joyous & Free" & "No Matter What". Bonus! Get a "No Matter What" wristband for \$1 with book purchase. Pre-Order Purchase of "Plain Language Big Book" for \$13.50 in store and online. No Worries There will be plenty of copies available when we get our large order in mid-November. Volunteer positions for the sales desk and service commitments in the bookstore auxiliary are open. If you or your group have questions or concerns about what's going on at the bookstore come in and pay us a visit and see for yourself. I am always available to talk with you. Bob Flanary 707-328-6827 aasonoma@sonic.net

OUTREACH: (Peter) Outreach looks forward to having the information form the new sign in sheet to be able to focus the meetings we go to that do not have representation.

ACTIVITIES: (Erica c.) Paint Chat and Snack Party at Lady Bug Park in Rohnert Park September 28th 2-5pm. \$25, includes materials. Glow in the Dark Halloween Party. Saturday, October 26th Lady Bug Park 7:30-11pm \$20 pp.

ALKATHONS: (Shauna) The Alkathon lottery enter in for the holiday you would like. If you get selected for one holiday you will choose first and if you get called for a second holiday you will be put to the back. If your name is called you will get to select any time you want from the basket. There is a list of what to bring and who needs to volunteer for each time slot. Please prepare your food the best you can before you arrive to the alkathons events. Blake explains security. Each group please bring 2 people for security. We are not bouncers or cops: its if you see something say something.

NEWSLETTER: (Arjuna) Registrar report is wrong. It says September but its August. Friday, October 18th is the deadline for the November issue at 5pm.

WEBMASTER: (Dave N.) Updates on the website for non-approved literature. Meeting change updates are coming in. If you haven't sent in an update for your meeting in a while please do that online.

SEMINARS: (Stacy) Fabulous seminar Spiritual Intoxication and Emotional Sobriety Saturday September 21 from 4-5:30pm at Sebastopol Christian Church had 80 people!! We would like to continue hosting seminars at that venue. It is \$75 per event. The next seminar is Life on Lifes terms applying the 12 steps as a program of recovery. We still need speakers for the seminar.

TELESERVICE: (Anne G.) Herb giving report. Sunday from 5pm-10pm the position is open. Requirement: 1 year of sobriety and working knowledge of the steps and traditions. This is a weekly year-long commitment.

ICSC NOMINATING COMMITTEE: (Clark) Next election will be October to start in November. We are beginning outreach this month and will publish the requirements of the commitment in next month's newsletter. Anyone with questions or with a name to nominate please contact me, Tina T or Kevin H.

UNITY DAY (Maria): Held at 1000 Gravenstein Highway in Sebastopol at the Community Christ Church. Date is October 19th theme is Fall into Service. Mugs are ordered and they look awesome they are available for purchase! 2 Big Books are at the bookstore to sign and put in words of encouragement to two newcomers. One in English and one in Spanish.

Mary Ellen Basket Chair for Unity Day: Please ask your groups if they would like to donate a basket. Looking for donations for baskets for a drawing during unity day things like literature. Exc: Grapevine, grape inspired basket, Great outdoors basket with a Sonoma County Parks pass. Would like to get 13 baskets. We are putting together baskets at the bookstore October 12th around 11am.

Liaison Reports:

SOCYPAA: (Vincent) We're planning a corn maze event at Petaluma pumpkin patch, tentatively on oct 11th, more details to follow. Alex is our special events chair, who is the person to go to if anybody has an event for which they would like socypaa help with.

SPANISH Central Office: (Alma) Spanish Intergroup meeting is every Saturday from 4-6pm. Group anniversaries starting the 12th of October until the end of the year.

H&I: (Joe) HI needs speakers to go into jails and institutions to share you experience, strength, and hope both men and women. 1st Wednesday of every month Center for Spiritual Living at 5:45 for new reps for orientation. 6:15 regular start time. We have elections coming up for the Chair position on October 12th.

GENERAL SERVICE: (Denise G.) General Service is the link between our fellowships and A.A. as a whole. We take the voice of our groups, and their group conscience, back to our delegate and the General Service Conference. We also keep our groups informed on what is happening within Alcoholics Anonymous. General Service Commitments are two-year commitments- we refer to the two years as a Panel. So, we are working on wrapping up business for this Panel. We will finish our job descriptions at our October business meeting and hold elections for next year at our November business meeting on 11/4/2024. Our business meeting is hybrid and held on the first Monday of each month. Our next meeting is 10/7/2024. Please see sonomacountyaa.org for details. Our final assembly for this panel will be in Livermore on 11/9/2024. It is the Election Assembly, where next year's Area Officers are elected, including our Delegate for Panel 75. The election assembly is one of our largest assemblies. Keep your eyes open for the Plain Language Big Book which should be available at our Bookstore on 11/1/2024. Registration and Housing processes for the 2025 International Convention are open. Start your preparations now! It is being held in Vancouver Canada next July. Please visit <https://www.aa.org/international-convention> for details.

BRIDGING THE GAP: (Nicole) A subcommittee of general service. Bringing individuals from treatment centers to their first aa meeting and connected. For the next couple months we will not be meeting formally and meeting via emails and occasional zoom. We are looking for volunteers to meet with people share at meetings etc.

PICPC: (Brett) PI/CPC is public information and cooperation with the professional community. Picpc's purpose is to educate, the public and professionals who have contact with alcoholics about AA and our fellowship. Two positions available, a Socypaa liaison to share information between Socypaa and PI/CPC. Liaisons go to one Socypaa meeting a month and to the PI/CPC business meeting each month. And we need someone for professional Outreach. They will reach out to professionals like medical and emergency workers in Sonoma County to coordinate presentations and literature about what AA can and can't do. Also The current PI/Cpc panel will rotate out at the end of the year 18 positions will be up for election in January. If you're interested in reaching out to the public and to professionals, come to the business meeting all are welcome. It is @ 7:30pm on the second Wednesday of every month at the bookstore with speaker training and orientation at 7:00pm.

ACCESS SONOMA COUNTY: (Ben) We had an election at our last meeting for the new chair. Makes AA accessible for all. Looking for committee members meets second Thursday of every month at 7:15pm on zoom. There is a survey whether there's an interest in childcare at AA meetings. QR code in the newsletter to address this. Please look for our table at Unity Day!

OLD BUSINESS:

Emails are being updated to Google Workspace for Non-Profits. They are now outlined on the back of the Newsletter.

Non-conference approved literature in the bookstore. After hearing the feedback from the Fellowship, and a thorough review of the process to bring Non-Conference Approved Literature into the bookstore, the Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship (SCIF) Steering Committee has realized the need for an informed group conscience and vote by the Fellowship. A vote is needed to determine whether we should continue to sell the non-conference approved literature in the bookstore. The literature consists of: Drop the Rock, 24 Hour Hazelden, New Pair of Glasses, The Little Red Book, and some AI-Anon books.

SCIF kindly requests each meeting gather their group conscience and take a vote at the meeting level (typically for multiple consecutive meetings, not just one.). Directions for how to take a group conscience is outlined in the New Representative Guide and on the Website. If you would like a copy of the New Representative Guide, you can see our Vice Chair after the meeting for a copy, email us, or pick one up at the bookstore. -James Baldwin Announcement

Addition of a Tech Support Position on the SCIF Committee. This position has been filled by a volunteer so far this year, however as a non-committee person, they do not have a vote. The volunteer has been providing all the Tech support at the general meetings as well as attending the Steering Committee Meetings. The SCIF Steering Committee asks for an informed group conscience and vote by the Fellowship. SCIF kindly requests each meeting gather their group conscience on whether or not we should make this position a regular Committee position, or have it remain a volunteer position. A job title and job description will be created if this position is voted in. SCIF asks each meeting to gather their group conscience and take a vote at the meeting level (typically for multiple consecutive meetings, not just one.). Directions for how to take a group conscience is outlined in the New Representative Guide and on the Website. If you would like a copy of the New Representative Guide, you can see our Vice Chair after the meeting for a copy, email us, or pick one up at the bookstore.

NEW BUSINESS: none

Group Sharing: none

Group Representative Summation: provided by Bruce W.

Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Statement at 8:44pm

- In Service, Megan M.

Registrar's Report for September 2024:

As of September 23, 2024, there were a total of 237 groups in Sonoma County offering a total of 418 meetings each week: 120 meetings were on Zoom, 274 were in-person, and 24 were hybrid.

There were 95 representatives in attendance at the Sept. 23rd Intergroup General Meeting: 72 in-person, and 18 were on Zoom. Added to those were 5 new representatives at the meeting, 4 attended in-person, and 1 attended on Zoom.

95 reps ÷ 237 groups = 40% of the groups were represented!
— in service, Ellen W.

Non-Conference Approved Literature: Yes or No?

At the January, 2025 General Meeting, the Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship meeting representatives will vote on whether the Bookstore should sell Non-Conference Approved Literature. The SCIF Steering Committee requests meetings gather their group consciences and take votes at meeting level (typically for multiple consecutive meetings).

We are asking groups to vote on whether the bookstore should carry non-conference approved literature. We are not asking you to vote on what books are carried, just whether we should or should not carry these books. The ICSC will vet and vote on all books we sell if we decide to keep carrying them.

NOTE: The below articles have been submitted by members of the fellowship and do not reflect the opinions of the Sonoma County Intergroup Steering Committee or ICSC.

If you have further questions, please reach out to Amber C., SCIF Chair.

Historical Context Advisory action from AA Literature Committee in 1987

Conference Report Excerpt - Affirming an advisory action from 1977:

“The Conference reaffirm the spirit of the 1977 Conference action regarding group literature displays, and recommended the suggestion that A.A. groups be encouraged to display or sell only literature published and distributed by the General Service Office, the A.A. Grapevine and other A.A. entities.”

Please include this excerpt in your group discussions.

– In service, Greg A., Outgoing ICSC Chair

Selling Other Recovery Literature at the SCIF Bookstore

Greetings,

I've volunteered at the A.A. Central Office and Bookstore for several years - a service opportunity that is fun and enhances my sobriety.

There's a controversy over whether the Bookstore should keep selling "non-con" literature like "Drop the Rock" and "A New Pair of Glasses." I'm both surprised and disappointed at this. I guess other A.A. members find these as helpful as I did, since they're very popular items. I don't see how keeping these "non-con" books for sale could possibly be harmful in any way.

By the way, the decision to sell these helpful recovery items was taken by an authorized vote of the ICSC Board some time ago and duly presented to the SCIF for any discussion/objections before the items were stocked on our shelves. No objections were made during that regular process. I understand that, at a much later date, a small group has raised some belated objections. I applaud the SCIF leadership for bringing this to the entire fellowship for group conscience.

The "No" arguments in our last newsletter are not compelling. The insurgents argue that selling these helpful books violates the First Tradition, because the disagreement that they have belatedly expressed creates conflict, and thereby harms AA unity. Isn't that

backwards? Arguably, the objectors are creating disunity, and violating the First Tradition, since our common welfare, rather than personal agendas, should come first. In contrast, helping folks out with their personal recovery journeys, with whatever resources they need, serves the common welfare, consistent with the First Tradition.

Likewise, I don't see any conflict with the Sixth Tradition. We are selling (a lot of) these resources because our customers ask for them. We're simply making them available in response to the demand. We're not advertising or endorsing them, or lending the A.A. name. The Guidelines for Central or Intergroup Offices suggest that we can sell conference approved literature, but do not prohibit, or even discuss, selling other recovery resources.

Lastly, the "open the floodgates" argument has absolutely no merit whatsoever. Any new item proposed to be added to inventory would have to be vetted and approved by the ICSC Board.

I want the hand of AA always to be there. For me, that includes being as helpful as possible to anyone seeking sobriety. Let's not hinder that effort by banning useful books.

– Your humble servant, Mike H.

Here is What We Stand to Lose?

Non-Conference approved materials in our or any bookstore are as follows: (Materials must have the blue people in a line logo if conference approved. That is A.A.'s only patent trademark.)

- 1. The first 164 pages of the Big Book** - (There wasn't a conference when that was written, and it never went through the process.)
- 2. Grapevine** - (Conference meets annually, they have instructed an editor to make the correct choices on what to publish.)
- 3. More than 80% of the pamphlets** - (They are AA written but not conference approved.)
- 4. Wallet Cards** - (Not conference approved.)
- 5. More than 80% of books** - (AA published but not conference approved.)
- 6. Sobriety Chips** - (Not conference approved.)
- 7. Braille Big Books** - (Not conference approved.)
- 8. All Gift cards, bookmarks, T-shirts, wall hangings, clocks, candy, pens, book covers** - (Not conference approved.)
- 9. Newsletters and Meeting Schedules** - (Not conference approved.)
- 10. 24-hour book, all Hazelden meditation books** - (Not conference approved.)

GSO does NOT disapprove of any books, they encourage what helps get people sober and keep

them sober. Service Materials F-29 states that ideal. Each meeting can vote and carry what they want guided by the Traditions.

We do not have a Central Office in SoCo so the Book store doubles as one. Otherwise, we could do like Petaluma and sell extra stuff at that site. Bookstore does much more than sells stuff. Go in and ask them what all they do; it is quite a busy place!

Non-profits do NOT get to keep extra money (and seldom break even) as they are required to disperse extra funds at the end of a calendar year, which Intergroup and GSR do (any money beyond a prudent reserve) just like any meeting that is run correctly. There is no 'for profit' in any AA Book Store, that is just silly. There are bills to pay, rent, utilities, trusted servants etc. that need to be covered. That is how we work Tradition 7, we are self-supporting.

I hope this clears up some confusion on the upcoming vote to remove Non-CAL materials from the bookstore. Nothing in that store has gotten anyone drunk. I might not agree with it all, so I don't buy it or read it or suggest it to sponsees; and I can vote to not have it in meetings I attend if I want (Tradition 2). Simple really.

— In love and service, Deo D.

Traditions

Last month, a few friends of mine published an article stating that selling Non-Conference Approved Literature (CAL) was a violation of several traditions. I love these guys, but I see it differently:

Tradition One - Unity

Avoiding controversial topics does not strengthen our Unity. Addressing real concerns using our loving group conscience process minimizes discord.

Tradition Four - Autonomy

General Service in NY has encouraged us to be an autonomous bookstore. Currently, a significant number of AA bookstores include other books not published by AA that are helpful to alcoholics. I do not believe it harms AA as a whole to remain open-minded while helping alcoholics.

Tradition Five - Primary Purpose

There are several books, usually written by sober alcoholics and published by Hazelden, that have proven track records of helping alcoholics get and stay sober. It is a service to our membership to provide the books they so often request.

Tradition Six - Endorsement

Today, there is a section that is clearly marked as "Non-CAL." There is no evidence that a newcomer would be disillusioned into believing that AA or our own local fellowship agreed with everything contained in every book we sold - published by AA or not. We always recommend newcomers read the books with a sponsor.

Tradition Seven - Self-Support

General Service makes a small profit on the books they sell, as does the bookstore. Even so, the bookstore is not profitable without the support of our fellowship. I willingly support it.

— — — — —

Tradition Two - Governed by a Loving God

My only reservation around expanding our selection of literature and products is that it could become a slippery slope. Per the policy and procedure manual, introducing new products starts with the Manager presenting a case to the five-member ICSC Committee for approval. I believe additional oversight is required if we expand our inventory.

— Tina 2-Town

BOOKSTORE

750 Mendocino Ave., Suite 10, Santa Rosa (707) 546-2066

Open Mon. – Sat., 10:00 – 6:00

Closed Sundays, Thanksgiving, Christmas, & New Years Day.

Online store open 24/7: <https://scif.bookstore.com/>



Book of the Month for November

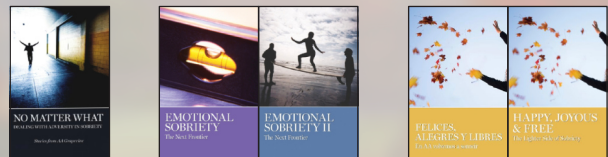
Our Great Responsibility B70

\$11⁹⁹

Nuestra gran responsabilidad SB70

Fall Trio of Grapevine Books \$2 Off Sale

“No Matter What” for \$16.49
 “Emotional Sobriety 1 & 2” \$16.49
 “Happy Joyous and Free”
 (English & Español) for \$13.75



**DONATE YOUR
 USED BOOKS TO
 THE BOOKSTORE!**

Gift Cards

You and group literature reps can buy gift cards at the Bookstore for your purchases! QR codes on the receipts show the amount and balance stored in the POS.



**Arriving
 Mid-November!**
 Can be pre-ordered.



September 2024 Treasurer's Report

The Bookstore income for September, 2024 was \$7561.73. Cost of goods total was \$4844.13. Total expenses for September were \$3013.80, for a subtotal loss of \$286.20.

Central Office income for September, 2024 was \$5472.76. Total expenses for September were \$4378.01, for a subtotal gain of \$1,094.55.

Intergroup Activities income for September, 2024 was \$1710.00. Expenses for September, 2024 were \$2,818.86, for a subtotal loss of \$1,108.86.

Overall for September, there was an overall loss of \$300.51

Year to date, our income is \$140,015.65, total cost of goods is \$53,753.95, and our expenses are \$76,874.97 leaving a gain of \$9,386.73.

In the August report the “total cost of goods was reported as \$76,352.” It was actually \$48,919.82. All other reported information reported was correct.

In Service, James B.

Group Contributions to Intergroup, September, 2024

Group Number	Name	City	Day	Sept	Total YTD
173873	A Vision For You	Petaluma	Thurs	294.50	712.97
129759	Check It Out	Santa Rosa	Tue	1,212.00	1,212.00
723776	Cloverdale Sunday Group	Cloverdale	Sun	281.95	281.95
133395	Healdsburg Sober Sisters	Healdsburg	Wed	150.00	300.00
134216	Kenwood Group	Kenwood	Wed	180.00	360.00
137174	LGBT Newcomers	Santa Rosa	Fri	60.00	174.89
708310	Monte Rio Fellowship	Monte Rio	any	190.00	1,008.00
175749	New Women in AA	Rohnert Park	Mon	30.00	268.40
634528	Noon Break Group			439.49	439.49
175166	Quitting Time	Petaluma	Th, Sa, Su	166.12	1,054.98
	Realización	Santa Rosa	Daily	50.00	400.00
143996	Single Purpose Group	Sebastopol	Wed	50.00	100.00
145485	Sober Sisters	Sebastopol	Tue	167.03	312.12
161999	Sober Sunday	Santa Rosa	Sun	387.00	1,088.33
355860	Sonoma Sober Sunrise			208.00	992.82
100537	Sonoma Valley Fellowship	Sonoma	ALL	997.21	3,497.21
	SWACYCAA	Santa Rosa	Various	200.00	200.00
44343	unknown			180.00	300.40
657167	Women's Book Study Group	Healdsburg	Sat	162.50	373.00
				Total Sept: \$5,405.80	
				Total All Groups YTD	\$ 48,282.82

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship Statement of Activities by Entity YTD September 2024

Account	Boards		Central Office		Activities		Allegation		Unity Day		Intergroup - Other		Total Intergroup		Total unclassified		TOTAL		
	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	8/24	7/24	
Ordinary Income/Expense																			
Income																			
Activities Income																			
Allegation Income																			
Boards																			
Boards - Other																			
Selling Fees																			
Selling Fees - Other																			
Total Boards																			
Total Boards - Other																			
Central Office																			
Central Office - Other																			
Contribution Group																			
Contribution Group - Other																			
Contributions																			
Contributions - Other																			
Total Contributions																			
Total Contributions - Other																			
Total Central Office Income																			
Total Central Office Income - Other																			
Newspaper Subscriptions																			
Newspaper Subscriptions - Other																			
Unity Day Income																			
Unity Day Income - Other																			
Total Unity Day Income																			
Total Unity Day Income - Other																			
Total Income																			
Total Income - Other																			
Expense																			
Cost of Goods Sold																			
Cost of Sales Bookstore																			
Cost of Sales Bookstore - Other																			
Selling Fees																			
Selling Fees - Other																			
Total COGS																			
Total COGS - Other																			
Gross Profit																			
Gross Profit - Other																			
Activities																			
Activities - Other																			
Allegation																			
Allegation - Other																			
Boards																			
Boards - Other																			
Central Office																			
Central Office - Other																			
Contribution Group																			
Contribution Group - Other																			
Contributions																			
Contributions - Other																			
Total Contributions																			
Total Contributions - Other																			
Total Central Office Expense																			
Total Central Office Expense - Other																			
Newspaper Subscriptions																			
Newspaper Subscriptions - Other																			
Unity Day Expense																			
Unity Day Expense - Other																			
Total Unity Day Expense																			
Total Unity Day Expense - Other																			
Total Expense																			
Total Expense - Other																			
Net Income																			
Net Income - Other																			
Net Income																			

Outside Sonoma County

AA International Convention

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
July 3 - 6, 2025

Members will gather from around the globe to celebrate AA's 90th anniversary at the 2025 International Convention!

FOR INFORMATION AND FAQ, VISIT:
www.aa.org/international-convention

As the Convention approaches, we will update the aa.org website with registration information. Join AA members and their families at the Vancouver Convention Center and BC Place Stadium for an exciting weekend of meetings, workshops, dances and events. Let's celebrate sobriety together in 2025!



Childcare in AA Survey



ATTENTION!

SCIF General Meeting date for December is changing!!!

The meeting will be held on **12/16/24 at 7:30PM on Zoom only**

Meeting ID: **860 4370 3384**
Password: **62**

Newsletters will be available at the bookstore on **12/23/2024**

*What's the difference between me and God?
God doesn't walk around thinking he's me.
— anonymous in Tulare County*



November 2024 — Service Meetings & Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
1st Sunday 3 SOCYPAA Business Mtg. 7:30 pm 1551 Montgomery Dr, Santa Rosa	1st Monday 4 General Service Business Mtg. 7:30 pm New Rep Orient, 6:30 pm 4930 Newanga Ave, SR For Zoom ID: Email chairperson.	5	1st Wednesday 6 H&I 5:45 New Rep Orient. 6:15 pm Business Mtg Center for Spiritual Living 2075 Occidental Road Santa Rosa	7	8	Life on Life's Terms 9 4:00 - 5:45 pm. Faith Lutheran Church 4930 Newanga Ave., Santa Rosa
10	2nd Monday 11 SCIF Steering Committee 7:00 pm AA Bookstore 750 Mendocino Ave. <i>Hybrid:</i> Go to sonomacountyaa.org for ID and password	2nd Tuesday 12 Teleservice 6:00 pm on Zoom ID: 860 4370 3384 PW: 62	2nd Wednesday 13 PI/CPC Business Mtg. 7:30 pm at the AA Bookstore <i>Hybrid</i> — Zoom ID: 961 8127 1048 PW: Dist12GS 7:00 New Rep Orient	2nd Thursday 14 Access Sonoma County Business Meeting 7:15pm on Zoom ID: 934 2984 1277 PW: 804715	Newsletter Submission Deadline 15 5:00 . newsletter@sonomacountyaa.org	A.A. Quilt Project 16 1:00 - 5:00 pm. Ladybug Park 8517 Liman Way Rohnert Park
17	18	3rd Tuesday 19 Bridging the Gap Business Mtg. 6:30 pm at the Bookstore. 6:00 pm New Rep. Orientation.	20	21	22	23
24	4th Monday 25 SCIF Business Meeting 7:30 pm, St. Luke Church 905 Mendocino Ave, S.R. <i>Hybrid</i> — Zoom ID: 860 4370 3384 PW: 62 7:00 pm New Rep Orient.	26	27	28	29	30
			 Thanksgiving Alkathon 11/27, 6 pm. – 11/28, 10 pm. 1495 W. Steele Ln. (at Range) Santa Rosa			



Receive the Newsletter in Your Inbox!

Sign up at the bottom of our home page:

<https://sonomacountyaa.org>



A.A. Hotlines:

English: 707 544-1300

Español: 707 623-6702

Common Acronyms:

SCIF = Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship
ICSC = Intergroup Central Service Committee
PI/CPC = Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community

Mailing Addresses & Internet Links

Alcoholics Anonymous

www.aa.org

NY General Service Office

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

NORCAL H&I

Hospitals and Institutions Committee, Area 22
P.O. Box 192490, San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

California Northern Coastal Area 06

1390 N. McDowell Blvd., Suite G339
Petaluma, CA 94954 www.cnca06.org

Sonoma County General Service

P.O. Box 536 Santa Rosa, CA 95402
generalservice@sonomacountyaa.org

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship

750 Mendocino Ave, Suite 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4846
intergroup@sonomacountyaa.org
sonomacountyaa.org

Access Sonoma County

750 Mendocino Ave, Suite 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4846
asc@sonomacountyaa.org

Bridging the Gap

750 Mendocino Ave, Suite 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4846
btg@sonomacountyaa.org

Sonoma County PI/CPC *

PICPC c/o General Service
P.O. Box 11305, Santa Rosa, CA 95406
picpc@sonomacountyaa.org

SOCYPAA

South Western Area Conference
of Young People in AA
socypaa@sonomacountyaa.org
www.socypaa.org

Teleservice

750 Mendocino Ave, Suite 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4846
teleservice@sonomacountyaa.org

AA Grapevine/La Vina

475 Riverside Dr. 11th Floor
New York, NY 10115
www.aagrapevine.org

*funded solely through Sonoma County General Service



Contact Information

all emails are _____@sonomacountyaa.org

SCIF OFFICERS

Chair	Amber C.	intergroup@
Vice Chair	Bruce W.	vice-chair@
Secretary	Megan M.	secretary@
Treasurer	James B.	treasurer@
Registrar	Ellen W.	registrar@

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities	Erica C.	activities@
Alkathons	Shauna C.	alkathons@
ICSC	Greg A.	icsc@
Seminars	Stacy T.	seminars@
Outreach	Peter R.	outreach@
Teleservice	Anne G.	teleservice@
ICSC Nominations	Clark W.	icscnic@

COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter	Arjuna	newsletter@
Website	Jay F.	webmaster@

GENERAL SERVICE

DCMC	Denise G.	generalservice@
Treasurer	Shelly J.	treasurer-gs@
Registrar	Meg S.	registrar-gs@
Archivist	Nat B.	archivist-gs@
Grapevine	Blake B.	grapevine@
Access Sonoma County	Benjamin G.	asc@
Bridging the Gap	Nicole F.	btg@
PI/CPC	Eileen L.	picpc@
Interpret/Translation	Larry V.	it@

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS

Liaison	Brad M.	handi@
---------	---------	--