

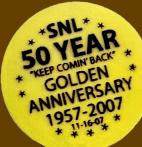
# **Sonoma County**

# Intergroup Tellowship 2025





**SNL turns 68!** 



November 15, 2025 First Congregational Church 2000 Humboldt St. Santa Rosa

Potluck at 6:30 pm. Bring your favorite dish to share!

Meeting at 8:00 pm. Suggested donation \$5.00 Contact Info: Tony 707 889-9362

### SCIF AA Seminar Heading Into Winter, Preparing to Stay Sober

Members tell about their experience using the tools of the program to better deal with the special challenges that may come in the darker part of the year.

short days, dark skies, family gatherings, public holidays, cold and wintery days and nights can be a real challange.



Monday November 3rd at the Bookstore 6 to 7:30pm in person and hybrid.

Zoom ID 860 4370 3384 code 62

(there will be cookies)

2025 Thanksgiving

## Sonoma County Christmas



Holiday Alkathon

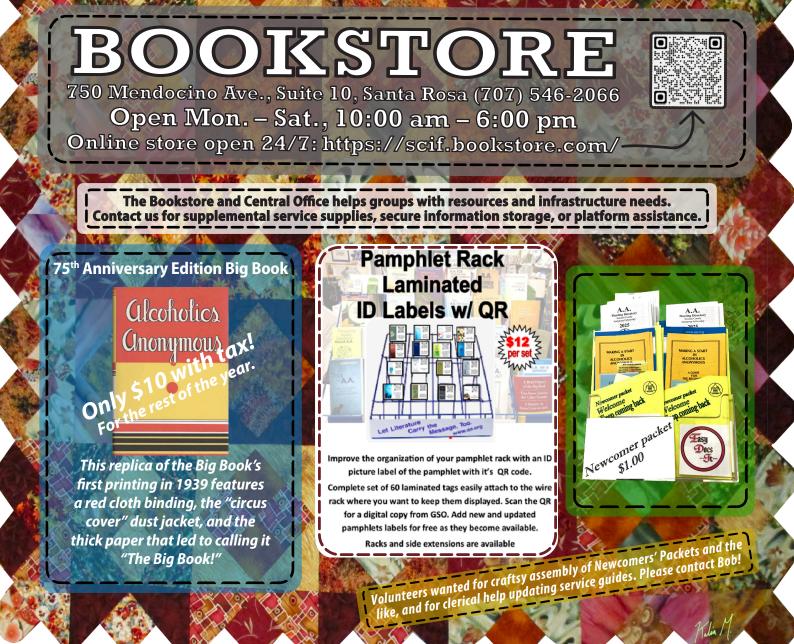
New Year

DATE	TIME	meetinghost	DATE	TIME	meetinghost	DATE	TIME	meetinghost
11/26	6:00 PM	Friday neoners	12/24	6:00 PM	Serenity Fillwisha	12/31	6:00 PM	SNCSID
	2:00 PM	SOCYPAR		8:00 PM	Matret ster	0.473	8:00 PM	Harmond Grant
A. C.	10:00 PM	Schoolingsbee		10:00 PM	Fedured honers	(Epille)	10:00 PM	Welves dy Westailors
11/27	Mulnicht	Redungtion the bo	12/25	Mulnight	Yang + Socr	1/1/26	mulught	Howit huns
	2:00 am	Frida Nept wers		2:00 am	Sonday Smiles		2:00 am	Now Grees
	4:00 am	Kneckkeds		4:00 am	Dogonthe Rose		4:00 am	Here burean in Aft
	6:00 am	Midwell Madeurs		6:00 am	Were in the Now		6:00 am	Exped a Miracle
	8:00 am	Earlyteris		8:00 am	UP the sters		8:00 am	Corsonile bas preighbors
	10:00 am	Harm By Salah		10:00 am	Marloy Madeess		10:00 am	Sants + Siners
	12:00 PM	Soler sonly		12:00 PM	Kensons Grove		12:00 PM	Sober sisters
	2:00 PM	Resembers 12m	S**	2:00 PM	From Air	Jes.	2:00 PM	Granolin Libera
	4:00 PM	Big book review		4:00 PM	Keep it smale		4:00 PM	Surlay Kight Meders
	6:00 PM	Am baghs		6:00 PM	Potor Million from	< 1 1	6:00 PM	Tea+Recourt
10/1	8:00 PM	Frimmer Indiana	1	8:00 PM	Sal Hotel Brown Right	1	8:00 PM	Taking atrip

1495 W. Steele Ln., at Range Ave. in Santa Rosa. And on Zoom, Meeting ID: 515 962 4728 Password: 181875

The SCIF News is the monthly newsletter of Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship. It is free and made possible through contributions of our members to Intergroup. The SCIF News is also available at sonomacountyaa.org. DISCLAIMER: 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.





## SCIF General Meeting Minutes — September 22, 2025

Meeting opened at: 7:34 with the Serenity Prayer, followed by readings of the Preamble read by Marcus, Tradition 9 read by Will, and Concept XI read by Diana.

Representatives were asked to sign in.

Introduction of New Representatives: In person: Ray T., Serenity Fellowship; Meg, Sober Sisters; Rick J., Drop the Rock; Leticia, Up The Steps; Teresa, Step Sisters; Alexis, Delusions of Hope; Lisa Y., Check It Out Group; Gina S., There Is a Solution; Meg, Sober Sisters; Keri C., South End Solutions. Online: Erica Women's Perspective Group.

**Birthdays since we last met:** In person: Carl, 24 yrs; Steve, 43 yrs; Stacy 4yrs; Steven 1yr. Online: None.

#### **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE: none**

#### **COMMENTS REPRESENTATIVE SHARING**

**Noel G. -** Ask It Basket found old meeting materials in his garage; \$400 in group's funds, guidelines. Looking for the Secretary's binder if anyone knows anyone who can get in touch with Noel 10/2 6pm Steering Committee meeting at bookstore, there is a flyer in Newsletter

**Ken on Zoom:** Announcement about a conference AA members share their use of the 12 Steps and Traditions on Nov 7 & 8 in Pleasant Hill, will put info in the chat.

#### ALKATHON LOTTERY

**Isabelle:** - How Lottery works: 1<sup>st</sup> ticket drawn selects host time, once filled will move on to Xmas and so forth. Once name is called and slot is chosen, go back to table and get Alkathon packet.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

Chair: Joshua P. - Nothing to report.

Vice Chair: Angie G.- Not in attendance.

**Secretary:** Amy P. - Are there any additions or corrections to last month's minutes. None, motion passed to approve minutes.

**Treasurer: Mike H.** - Stop using old Paypal and use the new one. Venmo is preferred. Checks ok too.

**Registrar: Stacy T.** - (see below for September) Corrected the numbers in last month's report to 454 total 242 unique meetings each week. Of those 317 in person 113 online IG rep 61 in attendance 9 new. 40% group representation - an increase.

ICSC Report: Wendy P. - Laurie L will be new registrar. Committee member is needed. New onsite bookkeeper has been hired. ICSC approved revisions for pay workers. Sun. 8/28 Bookstore inventory.

**Bookstore:** Bob F. - Book of the Month "Pass It On" \$15.49 in English & Spanish. Send your lit reps and tell us what you need!

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Outreach: Morgan P.** - If you're a rep please come to the meeting.

**Activities: Allen A.** - Budget submitted, will review at next Steering Committee meeting. Halloween dance 10/25

Alkathons: Isabelle L.- Lottery was a success!

**Communications/Newsletter**: Arjuna - Grateful for those of you who contributed. Please keep it coming. Deadline for November newsletter October 17 (10 days before newsletter comes out).

**Webmaster: Jay F.** - Confusion with meetings at Doyle Park

Clubhouse, should all be resolved.

**SEMINARS: Clark W.** - Not in attendance. **Teleservice: Maria** - All shifts covered!

ICSC Nominating Committee: Greg A. - Nothing to report.

**Tech Position: Jake H.** - Got new setup at bookstore for hybrid events, much better quality. Please let us know if you are interested in having a meeting/seminar.

#### **LIAISON REPORTS:**

Spanish Central Office: David - See flyer.

**Unity Day: Ellen** - between H&I and Intergroup baskets must come assembled we will add big book and 12 & 12, we will wrap in cellophane. Would like to get an idea of how many baskets there are, so come back and let her know. You can take a pic of the flyer and direct questions to Ellen and/or MaryEllen who is in charge of the baskets.

**Unity Day: Ellen** - Baskets from each meeting if they want! Get your meeting involved, you don't have to do it on your own. Mary Ellen is the contact with H&I for this. H&I provides Big Book & 12x12. Deliver baskets assembled but not wrapped. Old AA memorabilia. Gift Certificate. Money Tree - pass the hat for a basket! Get Creative! Will put the baskets together Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> after inventory.

**SOCYPAA:** Daniel - Ocean of Emotion was a hit. Next event Sat. 10/18 Harvesting Fear. 4-speaker panel on fear. Petaluma Pumpkin Patch \$13. Bring chairs & blankets.

Hospital & Institution: vacant

**General Service: Maureen G.** - Unity Day starts with breakfast then panel of service officers, then a second panel of stories.

**Bridging the Gap: Scott** - Currently bringing meetings to Mountain Vista Farms, Campobello now "Scotts Valley Treatment Center." Four presentations. Expanding to other rehabs and facilities, contact Scott if interested.

**PI/CPC:** Brett G./Ed M., Tim. filling in - Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays Always looking for new speakers to talk about what AA is and isn't. H&I will be moving to 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 5:45 due to an event. Going to Casa Grande and Petaluma High.

Access Sonoma County: Ben G., Jake filling in - Safety Workshop on Saturday was an amazing hybrid meeting almost 100 people. Thank you for attending.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Bookstore is supporting more than Sonoma county. We are the best bookstore in a large area. We are supporting Lake and Napa counties as well as others. We are working to build and foster relationships and to share activities with these fellowships

#### **NEW BUSINESS:** none

#### **SUMMATION**

Angie G. - What to bring back to groups was read by Stacy.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 with the Responsibility Statement.
—in service, Amy P.

#### Registrar's Report for September, 2025

As of September 22, 2025, there were 243 groups in Sonoma County offering 460 unique meetings each week: 323 were in-person, 115 on-line, and 22 hybrid.

A total 73 representatives attended the Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> Intergroup Meeting: 54 in person, 19 on-line. 11 were new.

73 reps ÷ 243 groups = 30% represented

— in service, Stacy T.

#### SCIF Treasurer's Report for October 2025

Activities by Entity September 1 – 30, 2025

#### **Bookstore:**

Bookstore Income: \$13,357.66 Cost of Goods Sold: 8,063.24 Operating Expenses: 4,031.29 Bookstore Net: \$1,263.13

#### **Central Office:**

Group Contributions: \$5,567.99

Bank Interest: 3.48

Operating Expenses: 5,766.66

Central Office Net: [\$195.99]

#### **Intergroup Activities:**

Unity Day Income: \$80.00 Activities Expense: 200.00 Alkathon Expense: 225.00 Intergroup Net: [\$345.00]

**All Entities Sept. 2025:** \$722.94

YTD Net Income: \$14,989.08

#### **Group Contributions to Intergroup in September, 2025**

	SCIF Group Contributions for S	eptember 20:	25		
Group Number	Name	City	Day	Sept	Total
173873	A Vision For You	Petaluma	Thurs	220.00	502.50
726499	Cloverdale Newcomers Meeting	Cloverdale	Tue	155.00	305.00
678780	Drop the Rock Group	Cotati	Mon	99.20	99.20
86288	Early Bird Zoom	online	Sun	150.00	459.74
671519	Early Birds	Petaluma	Daily	648.00	648.00
677694	Eleventh Step ( 11th Step )	Petaluma	Mon	139.00	139.00
644507	Healdsburg Anonymity Group	Healdsburg	Fri	200.00	525.50
146887	Hessel Big Book Study	Sebastopol	Thu	100.90	312.28
145825	Higher Power Group	Santa Rosa	Thu	176.59	396.59
716681	Knuckleheads	Santa Rosa	Tues	250.00	650.00
373719	Mid Morning Sanity	Zoom	M-F	90.00	749.01
123308	New Sobriety	Santa Rosa	Fri	320.00	640.00
175749	New Women of AA	Rohnert Park	Mon	30.00	230.00
486288	Online Early Birds Group			234.50	459.50
135691	Promises Group	Sebastopol	Tue	413.07	413.07
100513	Sat Afternoon Winners	Santa Rosa	Sat	188.00	488.00
697920	Saturday Solution Group	Petaluma	Sat	150.00	400.00
	Sebastopol Men's Stag	Sebastopol	Mon	162.00	415.00
173254	Serenity Fellowship	Santa Rosa	VAR	2,100.00	3,600.00
355860	Sonoma Sober Sunrise			121.94	1,418.03
102266	Sunday Niters	Sebastopol	Sun	70.00	230.00
	unknown			445.46	1,111.96
	Zoom Donations Meetin Unidentif	i Online	Any	216.30	216.30
	includes PayPal	Totals	September	4,888.27	
				All Groups YTD	51,069.26

### **Contribute to SCIF**

#### Mail checks to:

Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship 750 Mendocino Ave., Suite 10 Santa Rosa, CA 95401

#### Pay via PayPal:



#### Or through Venmo:



@SonomaCounty-IntergroupFellows

## Sonoma County Intergroup Fellowship Statement of Activities by Entity YTD

September 2025 **Accrual Basis** TOTAL Central Office **Bookstore** Total Intergroup Sep 25 Sep 25 Aug 25 Jan - Sep... Sep 25 Jan - Sep... Sep 25 Aug 25 Aug 25 Jan - Sep... Aug 25 Jan - Sep... Ordinary Income/Expense Activities Income 1,029.16 1,029.16 Alkathon Income 2 526 94 2.526.94 Bank Interest 3.59 29.02 29.02 Bookstore 13.170.46 10,460.24 94.409.97 13,170.46 10,460.24 94,409.97 5,567.99 4,119.78 52,110.14 5,567.99 4,119.78 52,110.14 Central Office Income **Donations to Volunteers** 187.20 1,808.62 2,006.78 187.20 1,808.62 2,006.78 33.00 158.00 33.00 158.00 80.00 80.00 80.00 **Unity Day Income** 80.00 Total Income 13.357.66 12.268.86 96.416.75 5.571.47 4.123.37 52,139,16 80.00 33.00 3.794.10 19.009.13 16.425.23 152350.01 Cost of Goods Sold 7,420.99 56,078.22 7,420.99 6,386.79 56,078.22 Cost of Sales Bookstore 6,386.79 Credit Card Processing Fe.. 2.387.11 244.65 180.93 344 15 244.65 344.15 2,387.11 298.10 1,764.28 298.10 1,764.28 Shopify Monthly fee 180.93 **Total COGS** 8.063.24 6.812.37 60.229.61 8.063.24 6.812.37 60.229.61 Gross Profit 5.294.42 5.456.49 36.187.14 5.571.47 4.123.37 52.139.16 80.00 33 00 3.794.10 10.945.89 9.612.86 92.120.40 Expense 4,031.29 3,098.53 31,354.99 5,766.66 4,379.60 43,208.62 425.00 2,567.71 10,222.95 7,478.13 77,131.32 1.263.13 2.357.96 4.832.15 8.930.54 (345.00) 14.989.08 **Net Ordinary Income** (195.19)(256.23)33.00 1.226.39 722.94 2.134.73 Net Income 1,263.13 2,357.96 4,832.15 (195.19)(256.23)8,930.54 (345.00)33.00 1,226.39 722.94 2,134.73 14,989.08 (This report was inadvertently left out of the SCIF General Meeting minutes last month, so it is being published for historical records.)

#### **ICSC Report August 25th to SCIF General Meeting**

In June, we hired an On-Site Bookkeeper to do all the financial transactions in Quickbooks. In July, she resigned her position. In her resignation letter she noted some issues, so in our August meeting we addressed several of those issues and made some changes in the cash controls at the bookstore.

We again advertised for the position of On-Site Bookkeeper, please ask at your meetings for people to contact me or Mike the Treasurer for information. (We hired a new bookkeeper in Sept)

As we are electing new people for the ICSC; tonight was Lisa's position, and my position will be open soon, I wanted to let you all know a few things we have done in the year and a half I have been on the ICSC

- Last August, we reinstated the Quarterly Inventories, and put into place the procedure for entering Inventory Adjustments that was consistent with the ICSC handbook.
- Bob's annual review was done last year by Greg and Amber, and it was discovered that there was no employment contract for Bob. I created a contract for Bob that mirrored what Glenn had before Bob took over 2 years ago.
- In November, we raised the Inventory level from 33K that had been approved in Aug 2023 to 36K, to accommodate the additional PLBB and a full Spanish Language literature section and Spanish language chips.
- In December we found out that the CA Labor laws had changed, so in January I presented a motion to increase Bob's paid hours to accommodate his attendance at SCIF and ICSC service meetings.
- James and Stacy from the ICSC did a review of Internal Controls from the handbook, and I have finished updating the handbook with their suggested results.
- Along with the guidelines from the ICSC nominating committee, new ICSC members should read and be familiar with SCIF By-Laws, the ICSC Handbook, the Policies and Procedures (one page document that lists the monthly responsibilities of the ICSC) and of course, the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts, as well as have an understanding of basic business or accounting practices.

Accounting processes are not personal, in normal businesses the accounting policies are not ignored or changed just because nice people are working there. It must be noted that in the last 4 years, several people have left Intergroup service and the ICSC before their terms were up and all of those people were in finance or they were accountants. My term of service is up in 2 months, and to be honest with you, as of tonight I am not sure if I will finish my term. I will be at the next ICSC meeting in Sept, even though it does not feel safe for me to attend that meeting and I have been advised by several close AA friends to resign as soon as possible.

My request to Joshua, as SCIF Chair, is that no one be allowed to discredit me or this report during this meeting tonight, or during any service meeting in the future.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

— Wendy P., ICSC Chair

## **General Service Corner: Humility in Action**

The theme for the 2026 General Service Conference is *Humility in Action*.

Let me just step into the phone booth in Akron and come out with my cape to... ummm to... what is humility in action? I don't know. Literally sometimes humility in action for me is saying and acknowledging that I don't know. That's why we come together; together with a common language we have a chance to see a way forward. I'm using 'see a way forward' intentionally because I learned from my sponsor early in sobriety there are a lot of right ways to do things. It helps when I actively embrace that others have solutions that I might not have thought of, maybe that I wouldn't even choose.

Listening like we don't have an opinion is a catch phrase in our fellowship and specifically in General Service. It's humility in action. I'm in deep practice to lean into hearing another's perspective with as open a mind as possible. Then I can decide what to do with the information. If I don't hear it, I have fewer choices. Check out Bill's essay called Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need found in the Concept Nine Chapter in the AA service Manual which is available at <a href="https://www.aa.org/aa-service-manualtwelve-concepts-world-services">https://www.aa.org/aa-service-manualtwelve-concepts-world-services</a>. For me, listening is an ideal opportunity to lean into an ideal and grow in humility.

Reach out to <u>generalservice@sonoma countyaa.org</u> for more information and to get help with questions you have about our General Service structure and how we all belong in action together. You might hear me say I don't know. Three words that remind me of the third step. The other side of humility is offering the experience and gifts that are available. Thanks to all of you for allowing me to be of service and for all you do. If you are interested in learning more about our service work, join the district meeting the first Monday of the month and check us out.

— Maureen G., Panel 75 D12 DCMC

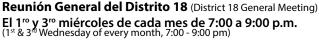
Contributions can be sent to: Sonoma County General Service P.O. Box 536 Santa Rosa, CA 95402



#### Oficina Central Norte Información General

(Spanish Central Office General Information)

#### **5959 Commerce Boulevard, Rohnert Park**



Sesiones Intergrupales (Intergroup Meetings)

Todos los sábados de cada mes de 4:00 a 5:30 p.m.

(Every Saturday, 4:00 - 5:30 pm)

#### **Eventos Próximos** de la Comunidad de A.A. en Noviembre del 2025

(November 2025 Upcoming AA Community Events)

#### Semana de Unidad (Unity Week)

Comité de Eventos Especiales (Special Events Committee)

Del 2 al 7 de noviembre del 2025 (November 2-7, 2025)

Oficina Central Norte, 5959 Commerce Boulevard,

Rohnert Park, De 7:00 p.m. en adelante (From 7 pm onward)

#### **Domingo 2 de Noviembre:** (Sunday, November 2nd)

**Grupos y Temas:** (Groups & Topics)

Primera Tradición (1st Tradition) Volver a Creer (Believing Again) Realización (Realization) Primer Concepto (1st Concept) Una Nueva Vida (A New Life) Segunda Tradición (2<sup>nd</sup> Tradition) Segundo Concepto (2<sup>nd</sup> Concept) **Bienestar** (Wellbeing)

#### Lunes 3 de Noviembre: (Monday, November 3rd)

**Grupos y Temas:** (Groups & Topics)

San Rafael **Tercera Tradición** (Third Tradition) Una Nueva Ilusión (A New Dream) Tercer Concepto (3rd Concept) El Paraíso (The Paradise) Cuarta Tradición (4th Tradition)

Una Visión Para Ti (A Vision For You) Cuarto Concepto (4th Concept) Mi Mejor Decisión (My Best Decision) Cuarto Concepto (4th Concept)

#### Martes 4 de Noviembre: (Tuesday, November 4th)

**Grupos y Temas:** (Groups & Topics)

Renacer (Born Again) Quinta Tradición (5th Tradition) Trabajando con los Demás (Workingw/Others)Quinto Concepto (5<sup>th</sup> Concept) Querer Es Poder (To Want Is To Do) Sexta Tradición (6th Tradition) Viviendo Libre (Living Free) Sexto Concepto (6th Concept)

#### Miércoles 5 de Noviembre: (Wednesday, November 5th)

**Grupos y Temas:** (Groups & Topics)

Un Nuevo Camino (A New Path) Séptima Tradición (7th Tradition) Una Nueva Esperanza (A New Hope) **Séptimo Concepto** (7th Concept) Latino de Napa (Napa Latinx Group) Octava Tradición (8th Tradition) Empezar A Vivir (Starting To Live) Octavo Concepto (8th Concept)

#### Jueves 6 de Noviembre: (Thursday, November 6th)

**Grupos y Temas:** (Groups & Topics)

**Tú Decides** (You Chose) Novena Tradición (9th Tradition) **Centro Latino** (Latinx Center) Noveno Concepto (9th Concept) Fort Bragg's Renacer (Reborn) **Decima Tradición** (10th Tradition) La Luz de Sonoma (The Light of Sonoma) Decimo Concepto (10th Concept)

#### Viernes 7 de Noviembre: (Friday, November 7th)

**Grupos y Temas:** (Groups & Topics)

Onceava Tradición (11th Tradition) **Sin Fronteras** (Without Borders) Fe Y Visión (Faith and Vision) Onceava Tradición (11th Tradition) Viviendo Sobrio (Living Sober) Onceava Tradición (11th Tradition) Séptimo Paso (Seventh Step Group) Doceava Tradición (12th Tradition) Distrito 18 (District 18) Doceavo Concepto (12th Concept)



#### 2 COMMERCIAL BLVD. 101,K STE #2 NOVATO CA 94949 Sesiones

Lunes - Sabado 7:30pm 9:30pm

Tiene el agrado de invitarles a nuestra semana de tradiciones que se llevará a cabo noviembre 10/2025 a noviembre 15/2025

FECHA	GRUPO	TEMA	HORA PM
11/10/25 LATINO DE NAPA		1 TRADICION	<b>7:30 - 8:30</b>
11/10/25 SEPTIMO PASO		2 TRADICION	8:30 - 9:30
11/11/25	OFICINA NORTE UNA NUEVA ILUCION	3 TRADICION	<b>7:30 - 8:30</b>
11/11/25		4 TRADICION	8:30 - 9:30
<b>11/12/25</b>	UNA VISION PARA TI	5 TRADICION	<b>7:30 - 8:30</b>
11/12/25	TU DESIDES	6 TRADICION	8:30 - 9:30
11/13/25	REALIZACION	7 TRADICION	<b>7:30 - 8:30</b>
11/13/25	SIN FRONTERAS	8 TRADICION	8:30 - 9:30
11/14/25	MI MEJOR DESISION	9 TRADICION	<b>7:30 - 8:30</b>
11/14/25	ENPEZAR A VIVIR	10 TRADICION	8:30 - 9:30
11/15/25	RENACER	11 TRADICION	<b>7:30 - 8:30</b>
11/15/25	CENTRO LATINO	12 TRADICION	8:30 - 9:30

Los esperamos y felices 24 horas ATTE: mesa de servicio



11/13/25

#### Grupo Luz de Sonoma

Estimados compañeros. Su grupo hermano La Luz de Sonoma, los Saluda esperando que estén gozando de benditas 24 horas.

La presente es con el fin de invitarlos a su compartimento el proximo noviembre en su mes de las tradiciones del 10th al 15th apartir de las

Fecha:	Grupo:	<u>Tema:</u>	<u>Hora:</u>
11/10/25	Latino de Napa	1º tradición	7:00-8:00
	Tu Decides	2º tradición	8:00-9:00
11/11/25	Nueva Esperanza	3º tradición	7:00-8:00
	Mi Mejor Decision	4º tradición	8:00-9:00
11/12/25	Querer es Poder	5º tradición	7:00-8:00
	Una Vision Para ti	6º tradición	8:00-9:00

Viviendo sobrio 8º tradición 8:00-9:00

7° tradición

7:00-8:00

Volver a creer

11/15/25 Regizacion 11º tradición 7:00-8:00

18812 Hwy 12 Suite D Sonoma, CA. 95476

Walking up to this here park, my legs got tired my throat got parched, told myself first stream I find it's kiss will be golden, found a stream it's waters clear took a drink but it only made me sneer, ah but that second brook.

—David A.

## Gratitude as Refuge in AA's 3 Legacies: Recovery, Unity & Service

November is "Gratitude Month," a time of Thanksgiving and reflecting on all those blessings we've received from our three legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service. Personally I'm very grateful that my home group, the "Graton Fellowship AA" Group is again meeting in-person with an hybrid online presence at the Graton Community Club every Thursday night at 7:30.

Bill W. wrote much on Gratitude, directing AA's to take "Gratitude forward" rather than giving back to AA in any sense of recompense. We can never really repay the enormous gifts we've received...our life itself, choosing happiness each day. As Abe Lincoln said, "A person's about as happy as they make their mind up to be" and freedom to live our lives successfully, usefully whole. My sponsor at the time, Sam H., reminded me, "success is getting what you want, but happiness is wanting what you have."

I believe it to be an avocation for our 12th step, taking precedence over any professional aspiration. Tradition 8 prevents our professional involvement in promoting AA, but it can be a personal priority. Personal avocation for "12th step" service, having had a spiritual awakening. Relieved from bondage to self-centered fear, relived of the obsession to drink and/or use drugs to mask suffering, restless, irritable discontent. Then trying to carry this message, to share at meetings and bring H&I meetings into jails, institutions and rehabs.

This is somewhat like the three "refuges" taken for Buddhist meditation practices at sittings, expressed as dharma, sangha, and the Buddha. That dharma means truth or teaching of universal laws of interdependence. Sangha is the group. Taking refuge in groups helps to support our innermost Buddha or original self, our true nature. As alcoholics, this practice can be an avocation of the spiritual awaking, our way of life. One day at a time we recover from a hopeless state of mind and body, to awaken from a dis-ease, reminding us to practice principles in all our affairs.

#### **A Bizarre Unity Day Occurrence**

In all the years I've been around for Unity Day I don't recall anyone winning more than one basket. So what do I go and do? I win four baskets!

I bought \$40 of tickets to support the occasion That was one ticket per each basket drawing can, out of all the tickets sold.

Winning one basket was surprising enough. I never win stuff. Two blew my mind, at three I was in shock. At four, I said "I pass! Pick another". All I heard was a resounding "no!" What the heck am I going to do with all the stuff that came from the bookstore?!

I gave the one basket of all Spanish items to a family that brought a newcomer to their first Unity Day. That felt good. The rest I bagged up individually and any customer that would make a donation to the bookstore volunteers appreciation party fund got to pick a mystery bag. With that done, next year's basket team will have 3 really nice baskets ready to refill.

It was that, or save all of them ready for next year. Thank you all for letting me be of service to our fellowship. Your Tradition Eight special worker,

— Bob at the bookstore

From our "attitude of gratitude," we commit to action resulting from blessings received while setting right what is wrong, with gratitude as avocation for spiritual principles, we receive well-being arising from valuing universal love. Being thankful each day brings new opportunity for growth, helping others by sharing and supporting our groups. Service is the reward of connection, meaningfully with others, for sharing twelve-step efforts.

— anonymous

#### **Meeting Announcements:**

- On Thursday, 10/23/25 the Graton Fellowship became hybrid and moved from 8 pm to 7:30, with online and physical access starting at 7:15. At the Graton Community Club, 8996 Graton Rd. To log in, see the online meeting schedule.
- The Tuesday 7 pm Beginners Group in Guerneville needs support! Fife Creek Commons, 16376 5<sup>th</sup> St.
- **Azure Daily Reprieve** is a new meeting! Mondays from 7:00 8:00 pm at the Sebastopol Community Church, 1000 Gravenstein Hwy. N., Sebastopol.
- Tuesday noon Cloverdale Newcomers Meeting is moving to The Parkside Chapel Church, 533 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Cloverdale.
- The Ask-it-Basket is returning to Santa Rosa! After five years, the time is finally at hand. The Tuesday Nite Beginners Group will meet at the First Presbyterian Church, 1550 Pacific Ave., beginning in December. Please join us and support bringing back a meeting with over 50 years of history!

#### **Bridging the Gap**

Welcome to Bridging the Gap. You are invited to come help us. We connect with clients by phone, coming freshly out of a treatment center to help them stay connected and on track to their new experience and recovery.

To me, it's very much the same as when Bill W., was out of town, and felt uneasy about his sobriety, and had to make a call to another alcoholic. You see, it works for us too!

Our committee meeting is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the AA bookstore. BTG brought presentations into Azure Acres, Azure Acres Outpatient on Coraline Court, Mountain Vista Farms and Olympia House. BTG had four presentations, zero Blackouts, zero Brownouts. BTG Received eighteen Blue Cards, one Yellow Card and made two Bridges in the month of August.

Azure Acres closed at the beginning of October. Campobello will be reopening as "Scotts Valley Treatment" and BTG is currently working on a date to begin presentations. BTG continues to try and expand services to additional treatment facilities including Pura Vida, Athena House and Women's Recovery Services.

— Thank you, Mike D.

#### PI/CPC - A Great Way to Stay Sober!

Participation in PI/CPC is an excellent way to stay sober. We provide the Public with Information (PI) and Cooperate with the Professional Community (CPC). We can always use speakers, especially as we expand from our volunteer work in DUI classes to local schools and beyond. Other service positions are available this term as well.

I am certainly grateful for the willingness to commit to a position with this group and collect some more continuous sobriety. It's hard to describe the lasting positive feeling from my first time speaking to the public outside of AA and sharing with them the rewards of recovery.

Come join us the 2nd Wednesday of the month (in November, it's the 12<sup>th</sup>) at 7:00pm at the AA Bookstore for an intro and orientation. After your training, we can get you on the calendar to observe some speakers, and sign you up as a speaker as well.

It's really that simple and it's manageable too! Here's an example of how you can help:

- 1. Show up and get trained at orientation
- 2. Get scheduled to observe and speak
- 3. Show up to the class (most DUI classes are Zoom)

Got Questions?

Email us at <a href="mailto:PICPC.aa.sonoma.county@gmail.com">PICPC.aa.sonoma.county@gmail.com</a>

— with gratitude, Dan F.

#### From the Editor

My deepest and sincere thanks to everyone who contributed articles, poems, pictures, and quilts to our newsletter. Your help makes it a truly class act that shares expanded views of recovery!

I want to invite and to encourage expressive modes beyond verbal. (This



photo could be me!) It would be great to see more artwork, puzzles, jokes that are "better" than the Grapevine's, or other expressions in the SCIF News. Please do not be shy. As we all know from meetings, being vulnerable and forthright is attraction, not promotion.

And to help get the playful, creative juices flowing, please ponder and answer, "How is recovery like a pencil?" Or, "How is recovery like a cat?" There are no wrong answers! The first ten answers sent will get a prize, and all answers will be printed in the December issue.

 thank you and at your service, Arjuna newsletter@sonomacountyaa.org

## November 2025 - Service Meetings & Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	When so both r	cheduling an AA o newsletter@sono webmaster@sor	uld love to add yo event, please send omacountyaa.or nomacountyaa.or as soon as possib	d details to rg and to org		1st Saturday Monte Rio Birthday Potluck 12 pm Meeting 1:00 potluck. 20329 Hwy 116 Monte Rio
2 1st Sunday SOCYPAA Business Mtg. 7:30 pm. 1551 Montgomery Santa Rosa	General Service Business Mtg. 7:30 pm. New Reps, 6:30 4930 Newanga Santa Rosa For Zoom: email chairperson	4	1st Wed.  H&I Business Mtg. 6:15 pm. New Reps, 5:45 Center for Spiritual Living 2075 Occidental, Santa Rosa	6	Karaoke & Pizza Night 8:30-11:30 pm. SOCYPAA Friendsgiving 7:30 pm. SoCo Alano Club 1050 Petaluma Blvd. North Petaluma	8
9	2nd Monday 10 SCIF Steering Committee 7:30 pm. AA Bookstore 750 Mendocino Santa Rosa Hybrid — Zoom 860 4370 3384 PW: 62	11	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed. 12 PI/CPC Business Mtg. 7:30 pm. 7:00 New Reps AA Bookstore Hybrid — Zoom: 961 8127 1048 PW: Dist12GS	2nd Thurs. 13 Access Sonoma County Business Meeting 7:30 pm. Zoom only: 934 2984 1277 PW: 804715	10 days 14 before IG Meeting Newsletter Submission Deadline 5:00 pm. newsletter@sono macountyaa.org	15
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday 16 SOCYPAA Business Mtg. 7:30 pm. 1551 Montgomery Santa Rosa	X	3rd Tuesday 18 Bridging the Gap Business Mtg. 6:30 pm. New Reps, 6:00 AA Bookstore in person only 750 Mendocino Santa Rosa	19	20	21	22
23/30	4th Monday 24 Intergroup General Mtg. 7:30 pm. 7:00 New Reps. St. Luke Church 905 Mendocino Hybrid — Zoom 860 4370 3384 PW: 62	Last Tues. 25 Birthday Party 7:00 - 8:30 pm. SoCo Alano Club 1050 Petaluma Blvd. North Petaluma	11/26 6:00 pm. 1 1495 W. Steele	27 ng Alkathon to 11/27 8:00 pm. Ln., Santa Rosa 4728 ID: 181875 Alano Club Alkathon Meetings all day Food starts at 1:00 Ends at 10:00	28	29

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A.A. English Hotline 707 544-1300 Línea Directa 24 Horas 707 623-6702

Common Acronyms:

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

### **Addresses and Links**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** www.aa.org

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

AA Grapevine/La Viña 475 Riverside Dr. 11<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10115 www.aagrapevine.org

NORCAL H&I
Hospital & Institution 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 95402-0536 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 asc@sonomacountyaa.org

Sonoma County PI/CPC \*
PICPC c/o General Service
P.O. Box 11305, Santa Rosa, CA 95406 picpc@sonomacountyaa.org

Sonoma County Young People in AA P.O. Box 7232 Petaluma, CA 94954 www.socypaa.org

La Oficina Central del Area Norte de la Bahía 5959 Commerce Blvd., Suite 18A Rohnert Park, CA 94928 oficinacn1@outlook.com oficinacentralnorte7@gmail.com

\*funded through Sonoma County General Service

### Contact Information

(All emails are \_\_\_\_\_@sonomacountyaa.org)

#### **SCIF OFFICERS**

Chair	Joshua P.	intergroup@
Vice Chair	Angie M.	vice-chair@
Secretary	Amy P.	secretary@
Treasurer	Mike H.	treasurer@
Registrar	Stacy T.	registrar@

#### **SCIF COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Activities	Allen A.	activities@
Alkathons	Isabelle L.	alkathons@
ICSC	Joann L.	icsc@
Seminars	Clark W.	seminars@
Outreach	Morgan P.	outreach@
Teleservice	Maria S.	teleservice@
ICSC Nominations	Greg A.	icscnic@
Newsletter	Arjuna	newsletter@
Website	Jay F.	webmaster@
Tech	Jake H.	tech@

#### **GENERAL SERVICE — DISTRICT 12**

DCMC	Maureen G.	generalservice@
Treasurer	David H.	treasurer-gs@
Registrar	Shelly J.	registrar-gs@
Archivist	Liz F.	archivist-gs@
Grapevine	Mark S.	grapevine@
<b>Access Sonoma County</b>	Ben G.	asc@
Bridging the Gap	Jason F.	btg@
PI/CPC	Dan G.	picpc@
Interpret/Translation	Del P-W.	it@

#### LIAISONS to SCIF

Joe S. H&I handi@ Spanish Central Office David A.T.