



# The COIN

CENTRAL OFFICE INTERGROUP NEWSLETTER

Volume 4 Issue 1

JANUARY 2009

## Honesty

Over and over we must ask ourselves, "Is it true or is it false?" For honesty is the eternal search for truth. It is by far the most difficult of the four Absolutes, for anyone... The problem drinker develops genuine artistry in deceit. Too many simply turn over a new leaf and relax. That is wrong. The real virtue in honesty lies in the persistent dedicated striving for it. There is no relaxed twilight zone, it's either full speed ahead constantly or it's not honesty we seek. And the unrelenting pursuit of truth will set you free, even if you don't quite catch up to it. We need not choose or pursue falsity. All we need is to relax our pursuit of truth, and falsity will find us.

The search for truth is the noblest expression

of the soul. Let a human throw the engines of his soul into the doing or making of something good, and the instinct of workmanship alone will take care of his honesty. The noblest pleasure we can have is to find a great new truth and discard old prejudice. When not actively sought, truth seldom comes to light, but falsehood

being the twin brother of honesty, but inaccuracy and exaggeration are at least "kissing cousins" of dishonesty. We may bring ourselves to believe almost anything by rationalization, and so it's well to begin and end our inquiry with the question, "Is it true?" Any man who loves to search for truth is precious to any fellowship or society.

Any intended violation of honesty stabs the health of not only the doer, but the whole fellowship. On the other hand, if we are honest to the limit of

does. Truth is life and falsity is spiritual death. It's an everlasting, unrelenting instinct for truth that counts. Honesty is not a policy. It has to be a constant conscious state of mind.

Accuracy is close to

our ability, the basic appetite for truth in others, which may be dormant but not dead, will rise majestically to join us.

Continued on page 2



### Inside this issue:

Honesty	1-5
General Service Article	3
Food For Thought	6
Twisted Thinking Dept	8
Letter From the Editor	9
Calendar	10
Birthdays	12
Financials, IG Minutes	13



## Honesty...continued from page 1

It is much simpler to appear honest, than to be honest. We must strive to be in reality what we appear to be. It is easier to be honest with others than with ourselves. Our searching self-inventories help because the man who knows himself is at least on the doorstep of honesty. When we try to enhance our stature in the eyes of others, dishonesty is there in the shadows. When falsehood even creeps in, we are

getting back on the merry-go-round because falsehoods not only disagree with truth, they quarrel with each other. Remember?

It is one thing to devoutly wish the truth may be on your side, and it is quite another to wish sincerely to be on the side of truth. Honesty would seem to be the toughest of our four absolutes and at the same time, the

most exciting challenge. Our sobriety is a gift, but honesty is a grace that we must earn and constantly fight to protect and enlarge. "Is it true or false?" Let us make that a ceaseless question that we try to answer with all the sober strength and intelligence we have.

Excerpt from the booklet, "The 4 Absolutes of AA", distributed by Cleveland Central Committee, date unknown.

### Thought to Ponder....

Honesty isn't an event ... it's a process.

Rx for Sobriety	Smith & Wilson A.A.
12 Steps practiced in all our affairs -- Pages 59-60	
Trust Higher Power & Clean House -- Page 98	
Share Experience, Strength and Hope	
Stay Active in Service	
One Day At A Time for the rest of our life	
A handshake, smile and hug as often as possible	
Recovery Guaranteed	
	<i>Dr. Bob S.</i> <i>Bill W.</i>

"Just how and when we tell the truth - or keep silent - can often reveal the difference between genuine integrity and none at all." - Grapevine, August 1961

## General Service Article

*GSR Preamble*

*We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of AA. We realize the ultimate authority in AA is a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that they can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along the group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups as a whole.*

(Reprinted, with permission, from Box 459, vol 35, No. 4 – August/September 1989)

If you are considering GSR service for your group for 09-10, attend the North County or South County meeting (*locations and times in the Meeting Directory*). Being an active part of AA as a whole is an exciting and rewarding adventure. Learn more about PRAASA ([praasa09.org](http://praasa09.org)) where GSRs and

other members from our 7 western states will gather in early March to discuss in depth some of the Conference's 2009 agenda topic items. Plan to spend a whole day, either Friday or Saturday, at the Marriott in Oakland.

Rose W

DCMC, District 04



## AA Thought for the Day

(reprinted with permission of A.A.W.S., from *Alcoholics Anonymous*, Page 58 )

### Honesty

Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path.

Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple program, usually men and women who are constitutionally incapable of being honest with themselves.

There are such unfortunates. They are not at fault; they seem to have been born that way.

They are naturally incapable of grasping and developing a manner of living which demands rigorous honesty. Their chances are less than average.

There are those, too, who suffer from grave emotional and mental disorders, but many of them do recover if they have the capacity to be honest.



## Conscious Honesty

Honesty, in AA, is a lot like spirituality. It's something that was considered by the Founders to be essential to maintaining sobriety, something which is hammered into us at the beginning of every meeting, and something of which most of us have only a rudimentary grasp when we first enter the program.

Honesty, like spirituality, is an acquired virtue, one in which we can continue to grow both in understanding and in practice as we mature in AA.

When I came into AA, at the relatively advanced age of fifty-one, I thought I was an honest person. Indeed, on a superficial level I was. I was told as a child that lying, cheating, and stealing were wrong, and that I would be squashed like a bug if I were caught doing any of the things commonly labeled as dishonest. My parents were not ones to make idle threats. As a result, telling the truth became more or less second nature, and I was a very poor liar. When confronted, I would tell the truth rather than make a fool out of myself. In other words, my actions were purer than my motives.

My attitudes toward money and possessions were similar. I had strong inhibitions against putting hours I had not worked on my timecard, or making long distance phone calls on someone else's line,

or misrepresenting something I was offering for sale, or any of the hundreds of other petty ways in which people commonly cheat each other. Again, a lot of my so-called honesty stemmed from fear - from certainty that I was a rank amateur in the thievery department, and

would probably be caught.

I thus entered AA with the second hurdle in the honesty trajectory - that

is, basic cash-register honesty - already surmounted, and since this is usually the newcomer's first focus, I became a little complacent. I say second hurdle, because every alcoholic labors under some degree of self-deception, and failing to make an honest appraisal of oneself early on will invariably lead to trouble later in the game. However, self-deception is much harder to recognize and eradicate than deception aimed at others. The practical advice in the Big Book and 12x12 recognizes this: although the Fourth Step is concerned with making a moral inventory, the newcomer is encouraged to concentrate on resentments toward others. Most people get around to the stubborn bits of self-deception only after several years of sobriety and several passes through the 12 steps.

Candor is one aspect of honesty which tends to get short shrift

among alcoholics. An obsession with personal privacy takes the place of outright lying. Instead of saying he was working late at the office, a man tells his partner that it's none of her business where he spent his evening. This sort of lying by omission, cloaked in the guise of personal autonomy, is if anything more destructive of interpersonal relationships than outright falsehood. A person who lies is unlikely to believe that it is his basic right to do so. Especially if drunk, he may become abusive if the target of his falsehoods disbelieves him, but unless he is a psychopath, he'll have some sense that what he has done is wrong. The person standing up for his privacy, on the other hand, may be fully convinced that his evasions represent the moral high ground.

Avoidance and isolationism detract from honesty. One can avoid both lying and telling the truth by having no interactions with other people at all. If one's life is so routine and regimented that little decision-making is possible, the opportunities to cheat are few and far between. The person who leads a solitary pickled existence minimizes his opportunities to be actively dishonest, but at the same time he reinforces one of the most pernicious forms of self-deception: "It's OK, because I'm not hurting anybody but myself."

Motives for telling the truth matter. I mentioned earlier that I told the

**However, self-deception is much harder to recognize and eradicate than deception aimed at others.**



## Conscious Honesty...continued

truth and met my financial obligations principally because of fear of being caught acted otherwise. As a first approximation, this is better than nothing, but it is desirable to find some spur to honesty which is equally applicable under all circumstances, and fixes on a positive goal rather than a negative alternative.

Sometimes malice and resentment add 'honesty' to their arsenal. A scathing attack on another individual may be 'honest' in the sense of containing no false information, but it is dishonest of a person to make such an attack in the name of common interest, concealing that he hates the target for quite different reasons, or will profit from his enemy's discomfiture.

We can never know, let alone communicate, the entire truth about a complex subject. In everything that we utter, and in every transaction that we undertake, we exercise a good deal of selectivity about what is made evident to all and what we conceal. The self-deluded person exercises this selectivity unconsciously, according to a pattern which distorts the output. The dishonest person distorts the output consciously, in ways which further his own ends at the

expense of others. A naively honest person is apt to communicate too much information, in a confusing manner, obscuring crucial details.

There remains the consciously honest person, who weighs the impact his actions are likely to have and lets the probable results govern his selectivity. It is here that malice and benevolence come into play. One can arrange and edit the facts maliciously, deliberately seeking to harm others, or selfishly, without respect for others, or respectfully, making the truth serve justice and human happiness.

Recently I was confronted with a situation which brought into focus the

**Sometimes malice and  
resentment add  
'honesty' to their  
arsenal.**

complexities of conscious honesty, when I was asked to write a letter of recommendation for a man with a few skeletons in his closet. Candor would dictate that I include any information which the prospective employer needed to make an informed choice, but the person asking me for a recommendation clearly expected that I would not say anything to damage his chances. I had to make a choice: whether to tell the complete and unvarnished truth, betraying an implicit agreement with a person who trusted me with his reputation,

or to send a letter which contained some distortions, or to refuse to write a recommendation at all, in which case the task would most probably fall to a less scrupulous person. I wrote the letter, omitting all reference to the skeletons, one or two of which were in fact relevant. I made a conscious decision based on a perception that betraying another person's confidence, even if there is no explicit pledge to secrecy, is more damaging to social relationships than failing to provide information, and therefore, unless the potential consequences of failing to communicate damaging information about another person are grave, it is better to remain silent. The ethics of revealing information about one's self are somewhat different, but there are surely times when public confessions serve no useful purpose, and come under the heading of self-defeating behavior.

Martha S  
Eugene, Oregon  
(courtesy EVI News, April 2004)







## **Food For Thought: Out of Respect for the Program**

Ever since A.A. meetings began, members have been struggling to define the format of meetings. Shall A.A. literature be read? Do we officially ask members to confine their comments to alcohol? Do we greet the speaker with "Hello" said in unison? Do we have a "fellowship break"? What prayer shall be said? Do we hold hands during the prayer? How do we end the prayer? When A.A. members visit meetings in another city or state, they may say, "Their meetings were so different from my ones at home!" and what they usually mean is that the format of the meetings is different. Some elements are the same no matter where you go; for example, many groups have found it helpful to read the A.A. Preamble at the beginning of meetings. But no regulation dictates the reading of the Preamble, or any other aspect of an A.A. meeting. Those decisions reside safely in the autonomy of each group or A.A. entity.

During the Sunday morning Big Meeting at the 1995 International Convention in San Diego, a speaker went to the podium and read Chapter Five of the Big Book, "How It Works." When he got to the Steps, some people began to loudly chant the number of each Step: "One!" "Two!"



etc. This is how one A.A. member, Clem T., described the event: "I and many others were disturbed and angered at the chanting and shouting and general irreverence displayed during the reading of the beginning of Chapter Five of the Big Book. It may be that some A.A.'s--especially young people--connect this kind of behavior with having fun.

Now, I believe in expressing the joy that this program has allowed me to feel. At the Sunday morning meeting, the music, the singing, the balloons, the conga line, and even the wave were all appropriate--before the meeting began. But there are times that call for quietness and reflection, for listening. Reading from the Big Book is one of those times. I've heard it read hundreds of times but I still like to listen to it."

Clem T., is familiar with the questions of chanting because when he was chairperson of the Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous (NCCAA), the same thing happened at its Spring 1988 Conference in Monterey. Clem explains, "When this happened in Monterey seven years ago, I just hoped it would go away. But some of our members assured us that it was happening at other conferences. One person was especially concerned how newcomers would respond to the chanting; they would, he feared, learn a lack of respect for the Steps, the Program, and the person speaking. I went home from Monterey and wrote a statement that tried to explain why chanting and yelling wouldn't be tolerated." Three months later at the NCCAA Summer Conference, he compared notes with treasurer Anne K., and discovered she had written a nearly identical statement.



## Out of Respect for the Program

"This is the statement which was eventually adopted for use at all NCCA.A. Conferences:

"It is an honor to be asked to participate in any capacity at these conferences. It is especially nice to be part of the program, come up here and perform some small service.

Therefore, will you please be thoughtful enough to listen as the participants are reading and control your desire to join in. Out of respect for the Program and our Traditions, please give the readers your complete attention."

At first, the statement was read only at conferences where the chanting began. Clem explains, "I would get up and interrupt the chanting and say, This is not what we're here for." Some people hissed and booed, but others said, essentially, 'Shut up and listen.'" The present NCCA.A. chairperson, Diane O., decided that it would be beneficial to read the statement at all meetings conducted during conferences.

"We need to learn to listen," Diane says, "and not always to talk. Chiming in and repeating what the reader is saying shows a lack of respect. And it's hard on the reader, who may be nervous up there!" It bothers Diane that the disruptions tend to occur during the reading of "the oldest and most precious parts of our

literature." At her own home group, no statement like the NCCA.A. one is read; if necessary, the matter is dealt with during the monthly meeting of the steering committee. "But I know it's going on in groups out there," Diane says. "I think it proliferates more at meetings that don't have steering committees or lack connections with the service structure."

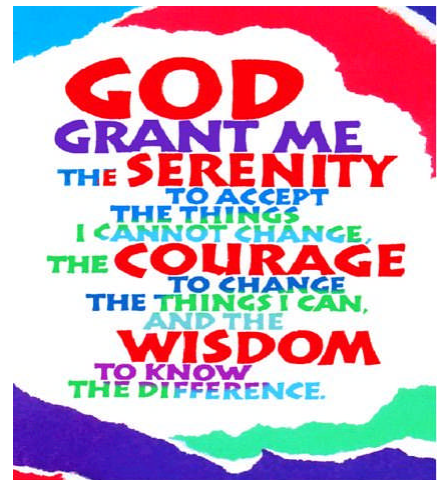
The present delegate from Northern Coastal California, Jim M., says that reading Chapter Five "is not a participatory sport. Perhaps it started because people wanted to feel part of the meeting. It is an honor to read at an A.A. meeting--and the reader shouldn't be intimidated by chanting." Of the NCCA.A. statement, Jim says, "It is done with love but it is done firmly. Nobody wants to be an A.A. 'cop,' but everyone who takes an active part in our area committee wants to see A.A. treated with respect."

Many A.A.'s who have experienced the phenomenon of "over-ritualization" at the group level worry that meetings are being filled up with unnecessary readings, lengthy announcements, and the like. As one A.A. recently put it, "Whatever happened to 'Keep it simple?'" Concerning the transformation of "Keep coming back, it works" to "Keep coming back it works if

you work it so work it you're worth it." Jim M. says, "When I first got sober, I got my answer to staying sober: I had to keep coming back. They didn't go on and say you'd stay sober 'if you work it cha-cha-cha."

If your group or area has experience, strength, and hope to share on meeting formats--problems and solutions--please let us hear from you.

Reprinted with permission from BOX 4-5-9 Oct/Nov 95





## Letter From the Editor

Hello everyone,

My name is Cathyann and I am an alcoholic and I am also your new COIN editor! I am very excited (and a little scared) to take on this new responsibility.

If you would like to share a story, article, resource, or poem please email your submissions to me by the 15th of the preceding month to:

**cathyann5116@yahoo.com**



**Here is a list of upcoming COIN topics for the next few months:**

**February - The Responsibility Statement**

**March - Emotional Sobriety**

**April - We Will Not Regret The Past**

**May - Online Fellowship**

*Special thanks to our outgoing COIN editor Bernadette. She was very helpful in contributing to this issue and in handing her service position to me.*

*- Cathyann*

## ARCHIVES CORNER

1. In January, 1985, Dave Q. (a Santa Clara County historian) called the custodian of the American Legion Hall for a photo of the Hall for archives. The custodian was holding a bag which had been left by the Willow Glenn Group which had moved from there in 1978 when the Post Commander asked for higher rent. The custodian had been told to throw the bag away, but he saved it in case some folks from A.A. came in search of it. It contained Group records and some photos, some of which are in our Archives photo displays at Central Office.

2. The ideas of self-help and mutual support as treatments for alcoholism were not original to A.A.. The best known historical antecedent was the Washingtonian Movement of the 1840s, a large group of abstinent alcoholics which vanished when it ventured into all manner of "outside issues", losing its focus and its way. Many other smaller groups followed a similar path, especially in the late 19th century, among them the Sons of Temperance and the Good Templars. To our great good fortune, co-founder Bill W. collected ideas from these groups as well as other sources. (Our "Singleness of Purpose" may be chief among these ideas.)

In similar fashion, many well-informed non-alcoholics provided guidance and substance to our program: from Dr. Jung we learn of the need for a vital spiritual experience; from Mr. Rockefeller we learn that we don't need a lot of money and that the little we do need should come from us; the list of those non-alcoholics who gave much of themselves to assist us is long indeed. Our co-founders and our early members did well in collecting such valuable information and forming our program of recovery. We owe so much to so many.

**Editor's note:** Archivist and past Archives Chair, Chuck G., has provided these articles for many issues of our newsletter and we owe him great thanks. April A. is now the new Archives Chair. Welcome aboard, April. Chuck continues as Archivist and will continue to provide these articles in the coming issues.





# February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 <i>PI Comm.</i> 6:00PM <i>Outreach Comm.</i> Mtg. 6:15PM <i>Intergroup Meeting</i> 8:00PM	5	6	7 <i>Secretary's Workshop</i> 10:00AM Central Office
8	9	10	11 <i>North County General Service</i> 7:30PM	12	13	14 <i>PI/CPC Workshop</i> , 10:00AM Central Office
15	16	17 <i>South County General Service</i> 7:00PM	18	19	20	21 <i>Archives Work Day</i> 10:00AM Central Office
22	23	24 <i>H &amp; I Meeting</i> 7:00PM	25	26	27	28

## LOCAL EVENTS

March 6-8: **PRAASA**, Oakland, CA. This is the PACIFIC REGION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SERVICE ASSEMBLY, and we're calling it "local" because we need lots of you to volunteer. Call Central Office.

## EVENTS AROUND CALIFORNIA

Jan. 23-25: 16th Annual Shasta Winterfest, Redding, CA

Feb. 20-22: 32nd Annual Spring Fling, Sacramento, CA

Mar. 12-15: 37th Annual ACYPAA Round-up, Irvine, CA

## EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Feb. 12-15: 45 International Women's Conference, Salt Lake City, UT

May 21-24: 51st ICYPAA Conference, "Carry the Vision", Atlanta, GA



## MEETING

Alcoholics  
Anonymous ...  
How may we help you?



### Telephone Calls Received During November

Daytime at Central Office	505
Daytime 12 Step Calls	6
Evening and Weekend calls	497

Evening 12 Step Call information is not available.

**WHEN ANY ALCOHOLIC, ANYWHERE, REACHES OUT FOR HELP, I WANT THE HAND OF A.A. TO ALWAYS BE THERE. AND FOR THAT: I AM RESPONSIBLE.**

Groups contributing to your Central Office make it possible to provide telephone service and coverage so that someone is always available to the caller in need. We also have a listing in the white and yellow pages of the phone books for all the cities in Santa Clara County. **WE THANK YOU!**

### SPEAKER MEETINGS

#### **Weekender Speaker Meeting**

Sundays at 6 p.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
1735 Hecker Pass Road, Gilroy

#### **Grapevine Speakers Meeting**

Fridays at 8 p.m.

Presbyterian Church

San Tomas & Homestead, Santa Clara

#### **Second Tradition Group of AA**

Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Lincoln Glen Church, 2700 Booksin Ave, San Jose

#### **Saturday Night Speakers—8 p.m.**

Alano Club of San Jose

1122 Fair Avenue, San Jose

#### **Remember We Deal With Alcohol**

Saturdays at 8 p.m.

St. Mark's Church

1957 Pruneridge Ave., Santa Clara

#### **Saturday Nite Live Group**

Fridays at 8 p.m.

1388 S. Bascom at Stokes, San Jose

#### **Speaker Meeting—VA Hospital**

Sunday at 11:15 a.m.

3801 Miranda Ave., Palo Alto

#### **Saturday Morning Fellowship**

Saturday at 10 a.m.

United Presbyterian Church

Fremont & Hollenbeck, Sunnyvale

### CHANGES

#### **Deleted**

1-2-3 Step, Tues. 8:00PM, Alano Club West

Road to Recovery, Sun., 8:00PM, Alano Club of San Jose

#### **Changed**

Tell It Like It Is, Tues., 6:00PM, Sunnyvale, is now a 12 Step Study Mtg.

H.O.W. Group, formerly Wed., 6:30, Sunnyvale, is now Wed., 6:00PM, 581 E. Fremont Ave., at Manet

Serenity at Noon Group, Mon—Fri, Noon, formerly at Agnews, moved to Comunidad Cristiana de San Jose Church, 2371 Ringwood Ave. @ Tradezone, San Jose

East Valley Group, Fri., 8:15PM, moved to the Parish Office Center

Queer and Sober, Sat. 10:30 AM, moved to Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1948 The Alameda, at McKendree, downstairs

University Beginners, Wed., 5:00 PM, Santa Clara, meeting room changed to 207A

Big Book Men's Group, formerly Big Book & Donuts, now meeting at Whole Foods, 4000 El Camino Real, Los Altos, Tues., 7:00AM

10th Step Meeting, now at 6:00PM, 651 Broadway, Gilroy

Entire Abstinence, Monday, 8:00PM, moved to Meterrainian Apts., 550 Kiely Blvd, The Club House.

#### **New**

Pathfinders, Fri. 6:30PM, LaTrinidad Methodist Church, 370 S. King Rd., San Jose

We Are Not Saints, Tues., 7:30 PM, Women, Cornerstone Fellowship, Alano Club West, 1344 Dell Ave., Campbell

Get Up—Get Sober, Sat., 7:30AM, Alano Club West, 1344 Dell Ave., Campbell

10:00AM Meeting, Friday, 10:00AM, Alano Club West, 1344 Dell Ave., Campbell

Came to Believe, Thurs., 12:00PM, 7787 Monterey St., Gilroy

Meeting 23, Tues., 6:00PM, 210 San Jose Ave., #12

Walk Through the Big Book, Tues., 6:00PM, 2000 Monterey Rd., Community Room

No Hurry Big Book Study, Friday, 6:00PM, 7787 Monterey St., Gilroy

### IN MEMORIAM

Tom R, 27 years, Men's Honesty Group

Kay S, 2 years, formerly of Sunnyvale

Beryl W, 28 years, 1/20/80  
died 12/13/08 in Ukiah

Linda I, 12 years, died 12/14/08

Ken B, 22 years, died 12/15/08



## BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

Ernie B	22		12/03/1986
Clayton S	10	Dominic B	12/04/1998
Gwen S	12	The Colonel & Pat	12/12/1996
Michelle P	7	Pat C	12/13/2001
Patty H.	3	Pat C	12/14/2005
Mover Chuck	19	Pat C	12/14/1989
Myrtle F	5		12/16/2003
Elfriede S	26	Linda D	12/17/1982
Wilda C	37	Pat C	12/18/1971
Butch M	32	The Colonel & Pat	12/18/1976
Megan S	9	Pat C	12/18/1999
Kameal	32	The Colonel & Pat C.	12/22/1979
Patricia K	34	Dee G	12/26/1974
Lorrie K	7		12/26/2001



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

For a total of

**255 YEARS OF SOBRIETY**

If you would like to participate or honor a friend, please use the birthday forms at your Meeting or Central Office.



## INTERGROUP MINUTES

SANTA CLARA COUNTY INTERGROUP COUNCIL

### MINUTES MONTHLY MEETING

December 3, 2008

- Mary Pat P., Intergroup Chairperson, opened the meeting at 8:00 pm, followed by a Moment of Silence and the Serenity Prayer.
- Jill read the short Definition of Intergroup.
- There were 46 voting representatives and 14 visitors in attendance.
- Dominic read the Twelve Traditions.
- No corrections or additions to the agenda
- Corrections to the previous month's minutes:

o Zack: SCCYPAA is *bidding* to host conference in March/April 2010.

PI/CPC – *Training meeting* is held 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday every month at 10 is.

Corrected November Minutes approved by Intergroup voting members.

Intergroup Council Treasurer's Report: Chuck G.

Beginning Balance:	11/05/08	\$114.00	Prudent Reserve \$300.00
Contributions	11/05/08	\$88.00	
Contribution to Central Office	11/14/08	\$95.00	
Refreshments	11/05/08	\$20.00	
Balance	11/05/08	\$87.00	Prudent Reserve \$300.00

- Birthdays: Jill 4 yrs; Tammy 3 yrs; Paul 15 yrs.; Zack 6 mos.; Bill 7 yrs.; Jeanie 12 yrs.

Announcements:

Mike: Spirit of San Francisco – New Years Party.

Peter: Freedom Fellowship will be holding an Alkathon on Christmas. Meetings at 1122 Fair Avenue.

Zack: SCCYPA presents the "Have you been naughty or nice?" Winter event, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Tom: Saturday Nite Live's New Year's Eve Event; Speaker meeting 7pm, Talent/No talent show 9pm, dance 12 am-2am.

Paula: New Intergroup Reps meeting will be held in January. Not held in December due to banquet.

### Reports

Intergroup Chair – Mary Pat P.

Concerned about time being used to report out for each committee. Proposal: limit reports to one minute; if more time is needed, put report on hard copy and turn in to Bruce before meeting.

Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Intergroup voted to accept proposal.

Central Service Board – Lexy

New Board elections: Lexy – Chair; Doug – V. Chair; Shirley - Secretary; Marie - Co-Secretary; Mike - Treasurer.

Central Office – Bruce K.

All is well at Office. Keeping an eye on contributions in the next couple months.

4. PI/CPC – Jennifer G.

Presentations to Leigh High School scheduled December 8,9.

Continued presentations at DUI classes.

5. Twelfth Step Committee – Maxine

Daytime – Bruce K. - Shift available: Tuesday, 11:30 am to 2 pm

Nights and Weekends – Peter – Shifts are filled.

6. Outreach Committee – No Report.

7. Newsletter Committee – No report

8. Activities Committee – Marilyn H.

February 28<sup>th</sup> – Chili cook-off

Cont. next page



## **MINUTES, cont.**

### 9. Other Service Committee Reports

Unity Day – No report

Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous – No report

Hospitals and Institutions – Charlene S.

H & I services positions available. Anyone interested, contact Charlene.

Groups are welcome to send representatives to the H & I monthly meetings.

Bridging the Gap – No report

North County – Jeanne H.

Monthly GSR meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday every month at 7:30, St. Johns Lutheran Church, 581 Fremont Ave, Sunnyvale.

New GSR orientation at 6:45 pm; 6:30 service manual study for one hour.

Had District elections in November. New DCMC-Rose W. and Alt DCMC-Mark R., who will also be liaison starting in January.

Area elections held in November. New delegate is David N. and Alt delegate is Ken M.

42<sup>nd</sup> PRAASA assembly, March 6-8, Oakland, Marriott City Enter Hotel and Convention Center, 1001 Broadway. For more details: [www. CNCA06.org](http://www.CNCA06.org)

South County – Steven F.

Had District elections in November. New DCMC-Raj K. and Alt DCMC-Steven F.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Intergroup Inventory Responses Committee – Michael B.: Still looking for meeting place for committee. Anyone interested in serving on committee call Michael or Central Office.

Sponsorship workshop – Barbara: Looking at sponsorship brochure and other literature to start. Anyone interested in serving on committee call Barbara or Central Office.

Daytime Office Coordinator service position will need to be filled in May 2009.

Newsletter editor appointment - Cathyann. Intergroup Reps approved the appointment.

Next article theme is HONESTY –

Send any articles to Cathyann; (408) 472-6091 or [Cathyann5116@yahoo.com](mailto:Cathyann5116@yahoo.com)

### NEW BUSINESS:

Intergroup Treasurer:

Mike M. was approved by Intergroup.

### OPEN FORUM:

Thank you to Shirley for helping organize the December potluck.

Bruce: Encouraging all to attend or volunteer at PRASSAA in March. You will not regret it!

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy H.



INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Profit & Loss

December 2008

	Dec 08	Dec 07	Jan - Dec 08
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
3030 · Contributions-General	9,195.44	17,959.89	131,876.03
8010 · Literature Sales	4,414.01	4,638.70	57,383.05
8020 · Meeting Guide Sales	702.25	963.50	12,087.51
8060 · Newsletter Subscriptions	10.00	25.00	170.00
Total Income	14,321.70	23,587.09	201,516.59
Cost of Goods Sold			
5000 · Cost of Goods Sold			
5100 · Cost of Inventory Sold	3,081.93	3,331.74	40,184.34
5150 · Cost of Meeting Directories	171.29	469.70	4,256.92
Total 5000 · Cost of Goods Sold	3,253.22	3,801.44	44,441.26
Total COGS	3,253.22	3,801.44	44,441.26
Gross Profit	11,068.48	19,785.65	157,075.33
Expense			
6010 · Alarm Service	0.00	0.00	708.00
6030 · Accounting and Legal Fee	153.46	81.52	3,760.31
6060 · Amortization of Improvements	0.00	3.25	9.75
6070 · Bank Credit card charges (Credit card costs and fees)	77.25	31.82	1,012.56
6120 · Computer Expenses	173.19	0.00	173.19
6140 · Conferences - Office Manager	0.00	0.00	1,740.00
6150 · Unity Day Expense	0.00	0.00	670.00
6160 · Copier Expense	57.09	144.65	1,267.13
6190 · Depreciation Expense	0.00	1,434.25	4,298.00
6220 · Insurance - Worker Compensation	0.00	460.50	451.70
6230 · Insurance - General Liability	0.00	399.75	1,401.75
6240 · Employee HRA Plan	669.79	639.37	8,737.48
6245 · Internet Access Charges	19.95	19.95	241.26
6330 · Office Expense	219.32	384.87	6,846.26
6350 · Office Furnishings - Expense	48.70	0.00	48.70
6360 · Archives	19.79	0.00	180.99
6380 · Payroll Taxes	579.29	522.18	6,928.99
6410 · Postage	271.41	176.44	2,779.90
6480 · Rent	2,280.60	2,280.60	27,367.20
6540 · Salaries - Office	7,504.30	6,766.09	81,744.31
6600 · Signing Services	400.00	200.00	2,300.00
7010 · Taxes and Licenses	0.00	0.00	80.00
7050 · Telephone	296.49	283.50	3,645.54
7060 · Travel	23.76	0.00	23.76
9080 · Sales Tax (Sales tax paid on purchases)	0.00	0.00	-2.30
9090 · Loss on Asset Disposal	0.00	62.00	0.00
Total Expense	12,794.39	13,890.74	156,414.48
Net Ordinary Income	-1,725.91	5,894.91	660.85
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
8030 · Interest Income	5.82	267.88	1,877.13
8050 · Activities Committee	60.00	-300.00	1,449.47
Total Other Income	65.82	-32.12	3,326.60
Net Other Income	65.82	-32.12	3,326.60
Net Income	-1,660.09	5,862.79	3,987.45

**INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2008

	<u>Dec 31, 08</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
1010 · Petty Cash	225.00
1020 · First Republic Bank (Checking account)	10,699.01
1021 · First Republic Bank CD 3202 (4 Mo. CD @ 3.75%, 02/04/2009)	15,415.64 *
1022 · First Republic Bank CD 3210 (6 Mos. CD @ 2.75%, 02/04/2009)	20,478.44 *
1023 · First Republic Bank CD 3228 (12 Mos. CD @ 3.5%, 02/04/2009)	15,390.93 *
1024 · First Republic Bank CD 2608 (8 mos. CD @ 3.8%, 07/26/2009)	13,000.00 *
1042 · Capital Preservation Fund (Treas. fund currently @ 2.68%)	15,737.05 *
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>90,946.07</u>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
1110 · Accounts Rec - Group Deposits	-703.14
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<u>-703.14</u>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
1250 · Literature Inventory	15,523.14
1310 · Prepaid Insurance	1,094.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>16,617.14</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	106,860.07
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
1630 · Office Equipment	29,796.02
1640 · Office Furnishings - Asset	7,097.67
1641 · Less Accumulated Depreciation	-17,671.00
1680 · Leasehold Improvements	300.00
1681 · Less Accumulated Amortization	-156.75
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<u>19,365.94</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
1860 · Deposits	1,993.85
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>1,993.85</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>128,219.86</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
2240 · Sales Tax Payable (due quarterly)	1,165.34
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>1,165.34</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>1,165.34</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	1,165.34
<b>Equity</b>	
2740 · Temporarily Restricted Funds	19,365.94
3900 · Unrestricted Funds	103,701.13
Net Income	3,987.45
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>127,054.52</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>128,219.86</u></u>

* Our Prudent Reserve Accounts total: <b>\$80,022.06</b> This represents the Board established goal of 6 months of operating expenses.
---

2:49 PM  
01/06/09  
Accrual Basis

# INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

## Group Contributions

December 2008

	Dec 08	Jan - Dec 08		Dec 08	Jan - Dec 08
1 Inv Freedom Fellowship 70940	0.00	1,075.16	Easier Way Group 290 (Fri.)	0.00	1,375.00
1 INV Fremont & Hollenbeck Group 70907	0.00	1,742.99	East Valley Group 322 (Fri.)	50.00	357.69
1 INV Fremont & Manet Group 70975	0.00	1,793.30	Eastside Step Study 45 (Sun.)	0.00	58.10
1 INV R and B Group 70972	0.00	2,761.03	El Camino Group 108 (Tues)	0.00	190.05
1 INV Saturday Nite Live Group 70905	70.00	1,733.21	Eleventh Step Group 167 (Wed.)	0.00	190.00
1 Inv Seeking Guidance Group 70976	0.00	1,073.06	Eleventh Step Meditation Mtg 276 (Thur.)	0.00	240.00
1 INV Spiritual Progress Group 70904	200.20	644.00	End of the Line Men's Group 147 (Tues.)	0.00	1,072.88
12 & 12 Step Study SJ 6.00P 800 (Wed.)	0.00	43.67	Evergreen Group 884 (Thur.)	0.00	70.00
12 Steps & HOW (Women) 25 (Tues.)	0.00	14.00	Fireside Big Book Study 809 (Tues.)	0.00	93.10
12 Steps at Noon 303 (Fri.)	0.00	325.00	Fireside Drunx	0.00	80.00
3rd Steppers Book Study (Wom) 610 (Thur.)	0.00	181.87	Fireside Group 297 (Fri.)	0.00	191.00
3rd Tradition 029	322.00	322.00	Free to Be Me (Women) 736 (Thur.)	0.00	35.00
A Vision for You Women's 802 (Tues.)	70.00	350.00	G Early Bird 70968	0.00	131.01
A.B.C. Women's Group 58 (Mon.)	120.00	435.00	G Fair Avenue Fellowship 70901	0.00	300.00
Almaden Valley Discussion 30 (Sun.)	0.00	173.00	G Forged From Adversity Group 70957	0.00	1,050.00
As Bill Sees It 6.00P 518 (Mon.)	0.00	705.00	G Gilroy Groups 70906	0.00	175.00
Attitude Adjustment SJ 258 (Fri.)	0.00	804.78	G Higher Power Hour 70952	0.00	2,100.00
Attitude Adjustment SJ 861 (Thur.)	0.00	900.00	G Milpitas We Care Group 70934	1,050.00	1,050.00
Attitude Adjustment SJ 886 (Tues.)	270.00	870.78	G Remember We Deal With Alcohol 70938	0.00	183.33
Attitude Adjustment SJ 198 (Wed.)	0.00	160.30	G Serenity First Fellowship 70902	0.00	100.00
Attitude Adjustment SJ 321 (Mon.)	0.00	511.00	G South County Fellowship 70954	210.00	2,765.00
Attitude Adjustment SJ 446 (Sun.)	0.00	84.00	G Sunrise Group of Palo Alto 70963	600.00	1,500.00
Attitude Adjustment SJ 443 (Sat.)	178.00	378.00	G Sunrisers Group/Carrows 70932	476.06	5,306.79
Basic 12 & 12 00662 (Mon.)	0.00	726.34	G Third Tradition Women's Grp(The 70979	331.23	4,109.56
Basic Big Book 710 (Thur.)	0.00	70.00	G We Care Group 70934	0.00	700.00
Basic Big Book Study 803 (Tues.)	53.00	144.00	G West Valley Fellowship 70942	0.00	840.00
Bedmakers Group (Men) 812 (Thur.)	0.00	279.00	G Winchester Fellowship 70960	0.00	1,502.00
Berryessa Group 527 (Wed.)	0.00	250.00	Gathered Together for Sobriety 43 (Sun.)	0.00	180.00
Better Way of Living 197 (Wed.)	0.00	423.26	Gay & Lesbian Sober Experience 896 (Mon.)	0.00	560.00
Big Book Discussion Group LA 107 (Tues.)	0.00	135.00	Gay & Lesbian Topic Discussion 516 (Sat.)	0.00	200.90
Big Book Men's Group (Men) 106 (Tues.)	0.00	500.00	Gay Alcoholics Living/Sobriety 742 (Wed.)	0.00	42.00
Big Book Step Study (Men) 325 (Fri.)	0.00	311.00	Gay Men & Women Together 85 (Mon.)	105.00	333.60
Big Book Study 8.00P Cupt 284 (Fri.)	0.00	129.71	Gay Men's Freedom 262 (Thur.)	0.00	709.49
Big Book Study Mlpts 8.00P 347 (Sat.)	0.00	200.00	Gay Reflections on the Solution 841(Sun.)	0.00	260.00
Bill's Basement 384 (Fri.)	0.00	300.00	Get Up and Go SC (Women) 187 (Sat.)	0.00	936.82
Birthday Contribution 00951	310.00	5,550.00	Get Well Group 17 (Sun.)	0.00	522.20
California Ave. Supper Group 715 (Thur.)	0.00	337.93	Grace Group of AA PA 352 (Sat.)	0.00	990.80
Cambrian Saturday Night 376 (Sat.)	350.00	2,100.00	Grapevine Speakers 327 (Fri.)	0.00	100.00
Campus Group 234 (Thur.)	0.00	35.00	Grateful Live Group 535 (Mon.)	402.50	1,635.50
Candlelight Meeting SC 380 (Sat.)	100.00	100.00	Happy Destiny (Women) 109 (Tues.)	0.00	1,435.60
Caveman Group) Men's Big Book 659 (Sun.)	0.00	499.80	Happy, Joyous & Free 650 (Tues.)	0.00	193.00
Chip Winners Group 168 (Wed.)	0.00	650.98	High Hope SJ 239 (Sat.)	0.00	617.80
Courage to Change 145 (Wed.)	168.85	308.85	HOW Group 71 (Mon.)	0.00	1,189.00
Daily Reflection 531 MH (Wed.)	0.00	104.83	Humbly Asked 8.00A 87 (Sun.)	132.30	462.30
Daily Reflections 432 (Thur.)	0.00	255.40	In the Basement 545 (Sun.)	0.00	267.26
Design for Living 200 (Tues.)	0.00	102.00	In the Solution 647 (Sat.)	0.00	314.00
Down to Earth Group 563 (Tues.)	178.45	563.99	Inspiration Big Book 195 (Wed.)	0.00	210.00
Downtown Steppers (Men) 392 (Mon.)	0.00	147.00	Intergroup Council 80909	0.00	340.50
Dr. Bob's Nightmare 360 (Sun.)	350.00	982.49	Invaders Group 44 (Sun.)	50.00	100.00
Early Bird 129 (Tues.)	74.00	74.00	Joy of Living 464 PA (Wed.)	0.00	813.13
Early Bird 184 (Wed.)	0.00	14.05	Joy of Living Meeting 92 (Mon.)	0.00	301.70
Early Bird 244 (Thur.)	0.00	141.40	Just For Today 238 PA (Thur.)	0.00	170.00
Early Bird 414 (Sat.)	128.10	128.10	Ladies Amethyst AA Study Group 749 (Wed.)	0.00	204.07
Early Tuesday Group 119 (Tues.)	0.00	889.00	Lesbians Living the Promises 349 (Fri.)	0.00	716.02

2:49 PM  
01/06/09  
Accrual Basis

# INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

## Group Contributions

December 2008

	Dec 08	Jan - Dec 08		Dec 08	Jan - Dec 08
Liquor Was But A Symptom 203 (Thur.)	0.00	215.00	Shared Gift (The) (Women) 61 (Mon.)	0.00	490.00
Live and Let Live 24 (Sun.)	0.00	225.00	Signs of Sobriety .) 402 (Mon.)	0.00	25.00
Living in the Solution (W) MH 33 (Sat.)	175.00	259.00	Single Problem Topic 582 (Mon.)	0.00	1,288.00
Living with Others 319 (Fri.)	0.00	272.50	Sisters in Sobriety Milpitas 548 (Thur.)	0.00	70.00
Lodestar Group/Sober Thoughts 499 (Wed.)	0.00	450.00	Sober and Free Convention 70928	0.00	260.00
Los Altos Group 225 (Thur.)	0.00	315.00	Sober in the Park 688 (Sun.)	0.00	595.00
Los Altos Men's Group 59 (Mon.)	0.00	463.00	Sober Thoughts 499 (Wed.)	0.00	100.00
Los Gatos Tuesday Night 110 (Tues.)	0.00	210.00	Source of Strength (Women) 501 (Mon.)	0.00	52.00
Meditation Meeting LA 39 (Sat.)	0.00	47.10	South Valley Group (267)	0.00	154.00
Memorial Contributions	0.00	125.00	South Valley Men's 845 (Thur.)	0.00	497.47
Men's 4th Step Group 320 (Fri.)	0.00	50.00	South Valley Women's Surrender 88 (Mon.)	0.00	449.08
Men's Basic Step Study Group 891 (Tues.)	0.00	373.78	Speaker Meeting PA 18 (Sun.)	50.00	1,000.00
Men's Freedom from Alcohol 606 (Wed.)	0.00	700.00	Spiritual Awakenings Group 670 (Sat.)	0.00	78.00
Men's Group 97 (Mon.)	0.00	335.00	Spiritual Progress 269 (Thur.)	0.00	741.30
Men's Honesty Group SJ 26 (Sat.)	0.00	1,927.10	Spiritual Step Study Group 233 (Sun.)	0.00	654.00
Men's Single Problem Study 89 (Mon.)	0.00	1,088.50	St. Luke's Group 113 (Tues.)	0.00	945.00
Men's Single Problem Study 220 (Thur.)	0.00	3,032.00	St. Mark's Group 270 (Thur.)	0.00	1,000.00
Men's Topic Discussion 635 (Tues.)	0.00	94.84	Starting the Steps 753 (Fri.)	0.00	553.00
Midday Women's Group 91 (Mon.)	100.00	485.00	Step Along (Women) Cupt 638 (Wed.)	0.00	101.00
Monday Midday Meeting PA 714 (Mon.)	140.00	315.00	Step Study (Women) LG 820 (Wed.)	0.00	99.00
Mountain Miracles 882 (Thur.)	0.00	857.40	Steps & Traditions 893 (Wed.)	0.00	110.00
Mountain View Group 350 (Sat.)	0.00	210.00	Steps to Serenity 331 Snvle (Fri.)	0.00	61.00
New Beginnings 603 (Wed.)	0.00	278.00	Sunday Early Evening 682 (Sun.)	0.00	890.11
New Direction 12 x 12 90 (Mon.)	0.00	60.00	Sunday Night Recovery 23 (Sun.)	0.00	96.00
New Life Start 444 (Sun.)	0.00	436.00	Sundowners' Dinner Meeting 768 (Wed.)	0.00	254.09
New Nooners 808 (Mon.)	100.00	220.00	Sunrisers Group 6/30A 630 (Thurs.)	0.00	502.67
New People's Group 3 (Sun.)	0.00	949.20	Sunshine Group noon 243 (Thur.)	0.00	488.10
New Steps for Living 20 (Sun.)	0.00	1,474.03	T.G.I.F. Speaker/Discussion 298 (Fri.)	509.04	964.04
Newcomers, Oldtimers (Women) 769 (Sat.)	107.10	555.90	The Other Wednesday Nite (Men) 209 (Wed)	687.00	3,710.38
NEWSLETTER	0.00	5.00	There Is a Solution (Men) MH 732 (Thur.)	0.00	250.00
No Bull Big Book 655 (Fri.)	0.00	349.00	Think Tank (Men) SJ 361 (Sat.)	0.00	3,080.00
Noon Discussion 177 (Wed.)	0.00	100.00	Trinity Group 370 (Sat.)	0.00	290.00
Oldtimers Meeting 80935	0.00	180.00	Tuesday Night Men's Meeting 525 (Tues)	0.00	302.40
Palo Alto Men's Meeting 525 (Tues.)	0.00	977.20	Up the Creek-Daily Reflections 745(Tues.)	50.00	400.00
Palo Alto Step Study 752 (Tues.)	0.00	763.84	Veterans of Alcohol (Open) 874 (Tues.)	0.00	922.58
Pass It On Group Los Altos 418 (Sun.)	0.00	350.00	Veterans of Alcohol North (Open)338(Wed)	0.00	278.00
Personal 00911	616.87	3,981.12	Villages Group of AA (The) 406 (Mon)	0.00	770.00
Plaza Del Rey Group 52 (Sun.)	170.74	345.74	We Are Not Saints 520 (Tues.)	0.00	127.58
Positive Outlook Group SJ 368 (Sat.)	0.00	213.40	We Care Step Study 128 (Tues.)	0.00	140.00
Progress Not Perfection 229 (Sun.)	140.00	385.00	Winners Group 440 (Sat.)	0.00	50.00
Rincon Men's Fellowship 567 (Thur.)	0.00	700.00	Women's Brunch PA 640 (Sat.)	0.00	1,390.81
Saratoga Group 328 (Fri.)	0.00	750.00	Women's Topic Disc. Group 103 (Tues.)	0.00	354.67
Saratoga Serenity Group 329 (Fri.)	0.00	330.40	Women on the Move 570 (Wed.)	0.00	227.00
Saturday 6PM Meeting LG 413 (Sat.)	0.00	49.00	Women Sharing the Solution 519 (Thur.)	0.00	583.80
Saturday Morning Los Gatos 777 (Sat.)	0.00	1,400.00			
Saturday Night Promises PA 847 (Sat.)	0.00	377.30	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,195.44</b>	<b>131,876.03</b>
Saturday Night Young People's 142 (Sat.)	0.00	70.00			
SCCYPAA	0.00	122.02			
SCCYPAA Young at Heart LG 888 (Tues)	0.00	200.10			
Second Tradition Group Spkr 721 (Sat.)	0.00	3,787.58			
Seeking Guidance (Men) 854 (Wed.)	0.00	1,357.59			
Serenity at Noon 215 (Wed.)	0.00	316.75			
Serenity Discussion 210 (Wed.)	0.00	241.08			