



Volume 5 Issue 4

April 2010

## Availing Yourself of a Sponsor

My story is about the healing power of hope. After years of despair, in 2006, hope miraculously reappeared in my life.

My experience with alcohol and drugs began in high school. The home in which I was raised did not include a male role model and I always felt different than everyone else. Drugs and alcohol altered my perception of reality and changed the way I felt. And so my odyssey began.

For the next 30 years I had many highs and lows, but by the end of my drinking and using it became nothing but lows and even lower lows. Often thinking that things would have been better if I had only been dealt a different hand. Blaming others and failing to accept responsibility for my actions, I became something no one ever plans to become. A broken and imprisoned man, actually feeling that I was finally where I belonged. My poor choices, bad decisions, and selfish behavior had proven what I had heard over and over. I was less than everyone else and undeserving of better.

Sitting in my cell I heard in a new way something that I had been hearing for 10 years. AA meeting at eight o'clock. Why not? I had nothing to lose. The speaker told his story and God opened my ears and allowed me to hear the message of hope. He said that if I wanted change in my life, all I had to do was to follow a few simple suggestions. Reach out my hand and with the help of God and another alcoholic my life would get better. For reasons I can't explain, it finally made sense to me. I talked with that man after the meeting. He told me that I never have to drink again if I don't want to. One day at a time. He said if I stayed sober for 30 days I would see a great change in my life. He left me with God, those thoughts and the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. I read that book from cover to cover that night and my life did change. Hope had entered my heart. My new life's journey began.

With the help of 2 treatment programs I learned how this disease had affected my thinking and

my actions. I began building a solid foundation for my recovery. One of the best things I did was to ask a man to be my sponsor. God put the right man in my life and he is still my sponsor. He told me if I was willing to be honest and open-minded things would get better. We worked the 12 steps together and today I live a clean and sober life filled with hope. Now I am a useful member of society.

The promises of AA have come true. The rewards are bountiful. With so many friends in recovery I am able to face life on life's terms, free of the fears that controlled me for so long. Today I have the opportunity to give to others what was given to me. I get to work with other alcoholics and watch their lives change in positive ways they thought would never happen. My life is now about service to my Higher Power, my wife and family, and my home group. Whenever another alcoholic reaches out for help I want to be there as others were for me, with a message of hope

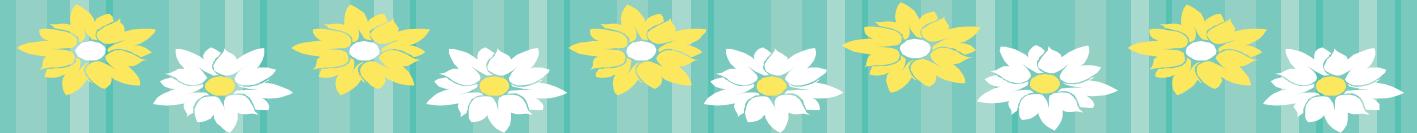
- Jim L., Sunnyvale



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## Reflection in the Park

**"We shall not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring shall be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time."** -- T.S. Elliot

When I first started my 4th step, I had just begun to walk at the Sunnyvale Baylands Park which has the above quote inscribed in cement at the entrance to the paths. I was with a fellow alcoholic who is a "long-timer" in the Program. As we read the quote aloud, he remarked "this will be a good

meditation for your 4th step". I really had no idea what he was talking about and he explained the relevance to me.

Now, each day when I stop to read the words, I realize how our program is teaching us about self-discovery and bringing us to a place in our lives that we would see for the first time. This step is about growth and maturity and introspection. I find it amazing that it has taken this program and the grace of God to

enlighten me as to my self-defeating patterns and character flaws. Now, when I stand before this quote... just before I venture off through the Park, it serves as a reminder for me to say a prayer to God asking him remove these defects of mine.

Lots of love to you, my sober friends, and I hope to see you at the Baylands AA Picnic this summer.

- Suzanna (Sunnyvale)

### Rx for Sobriety

**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**

### Smith & Wilson A.A.

*Dr. Bob S.  
Bill W.*

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## General Service Article (encompassing AA as a whole)

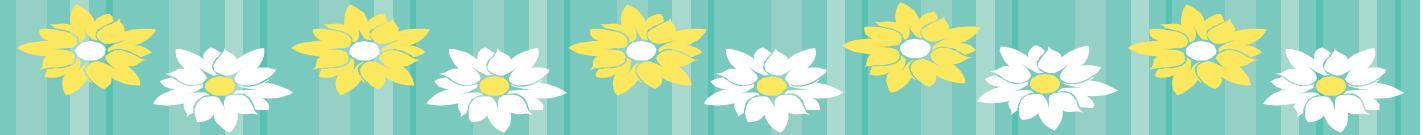
The AA Service Manual describes the story of the development of general services and the Conference structure. The importance of home groups, districts, areas, delegates, trustees, the General Service Board, and AA Grapevine are also explained in this wonderful manual.

The A.A. Service Manual states: "The general service representative has the job of linking his or her group with A.A. as a whole. The G.S.R. represents the voice of the group conscience, reporting the group's thoughts to the district committee member and the delegate, who passes them on to the Conference. This communication is a two-way street, making the G.S.R. responsible for bringing back to the group Conference Actions that affect A.A. unity, health, and growth. Only when a G.S.R. keeps the group informed, and communicates the group conscience, can the Conference truly act for A.A. as a whole."

This month the pre-conference assembly will be held in Cloverdale on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. It is an experience not to be missed! I attended my first pre-conference assembly 7 years ago. I had the honor and privilege of taking my home group's conscience to the microphone in front of hundreds of general service representatives. At that moment, I felt a deep connection to the wonder and magic of AA. I am amazed at witnessing the tolerance and camaraderie that occurs at this event. Group conscience results are presented for the agenda items concerning finance, literature, Grapevine, public information, policy/admissions, trustees, archives, regional forums and corrections. It is an assembly where numerous opinions can be heard and accepted. I was raised in a household where this seldom occurred. War broke out if opposing opinions occurred . The good news is that AA is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with love and tolerance. AA is a fellowship of willingness, open-mindedness and honesty. The pre-conference assembly is a wonderful event where this comes true. Congratulations to every G.S.R who decides to link their group to AA as a whole!

Last month I had the good fortune of being able to attend PRAASA in Los Angeles at the Radisson Hotel. The attendance was approximately 1500. I currently serve as the district registrar, so I made sure to participate in the roundtable discussion with other registrars. PRAASA stands for "Pacific Region AA Service Assembly". It's an annual general service event where AA members from the 9 western states gather together for presentations, sharing sessions, and joyful dialogue. Before attending my first PRAASA, I was told that it is a life changing experience. This is so true. I hope every G.S.R. has the opportunity to attend PRAASA and see for themselves the amazing strength, love and fellowship in general service. PRAASA 2011 will be held in Hawaii, so pack your sunglasses and plan to come!

Jeanne H.  
Registrar, District 40



## Requiem For An Alkie

**We don't have to drink to die. We buried him yesterday. The County Coroner had published the required notices for next of kin and nobody had claimed the body. It was just myself, and his sponsor, not even a preacher - the county doesn't pay for those.**

**Not much of send-off, and not the one David had asked for. A cheap coffin, a backhoe digging a hole, and that was it - another old AA gone. He had been sober over 20 years and in AA over 30, a stern and rigid man who tried to soften his edges and never could. He was a loner, a finger, an isolated man at the edge of life's good things. He hung in there... and in the end hung himself.**

**I don't know why; I can't know. I know there had been a diagnosis of senile dementia, and I know that the doctor had added cancer to the list. But, I've seen AAs deal with such things before... I don't know why David decided he couldn't.**

**It isn't the first time I've been through this in Alcoholics Anonymous. I've known several over the years who just up and walked out life's door one day. Sober, but not happy. Sober, but not at peace. Sober, but they died of alcoholism. Our disease doesn't need us to drink in order to kill us. I wish more folks knew that, and appreciated it.**

**Alcoholism is the only disease that is entirely capable of fighting back, of taking care of itself, and of emerging in new places and new forms when it isn't properly treated. That's because of the spiritual malady. Most people think that has something to do with prayer or with God. It doesn't. It has to do with 'our spirit' ... that force which animates, motivates and propels us.**

**As an alcoholic, my spirit is ill. It is flawed. My character, or basic nature, doesn't work right. At its root, it is a fundamental and irresolvable insecurity...a hole that can't ever be filled. It is an instinct run rampant, a desperate need for acceptance and love that cannot be**

**met. It hurts. It fills one with fear.**

**The selfishness and self-centeredness of the alcoholic lies here... we are totally preoccupied with what is going on with ourselves on the inside. The slings and arrows of experience warped by this need drive us to the fringe, and the voices of the committee in our head keep us there.**

**We are obsessed with ourselves, and from this condition of mind...the insanity of feelings gone haywire, we become self-medicators eventually. We discover alcohol or something else...and the stuff quiets the voices, provides the relief we've never been able to find in any other way. It isn't any wonder we drink, or drug, the way we do. And some of us don't develop an addiction... in attempting to meet these crying demands of our spirit become ill, we develop other malformations of behavior, and suffer in a hundred different ways.**



## Requiem For An Alkie...continued

**God broke David's obsession to drink. But, I don't think David ever truly understood his disease. I say that because I watched him struggle with those old unresolved issues of his heart for years. His rigidity, coldness, aloofness, isolation and difficulty with other people were a reflection of the pain in his heart... of the disease of alcoholism gone deep inside, and still active.**

**Alcoholism didn't need David to drink in order to continue trying to kill him, and in the end...it succeeded. In the end, instead of self abandoned... David abandoned hope...and discovered a bitter end.**

**Our recovery from alcoholism through the Steps must be a three-fold process. It is not one-dimensional. When we say, in AA, that we have a triangle...recovery, unity, service...we mean it. In working the Steps, I clear a pathway for two purposes...first, to come into a group of human people and away from the fringe**

**of society where I have spent most of my emotional life. Secondly, discovering 'belonging', through service to the people within that group. It is only this entire, threefold process that heals.**

**It is especially true for those of us who suffer from the spiritual malady to a great degree. Perhaps the 12th Step says it best: "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps (recovery), we tried to carry this message to other alcoholics (service) and practice these principles in all our affairs (unity).**

**You see...I cannot hold back. I must not continue to suffer that shyness, loneliness, that overwhelming sense of self...in my affairs. I must get involved in a group of people to practice these principles in all my affairs. Only the total approach is healing. Anything less is little more than driving my disease deep...and if I do that...it will continue to eat away, trying to destroy me.**

**It destroyed David. This is a**

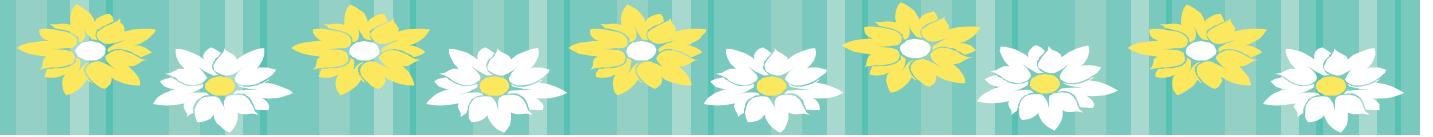
**memorial to an old AA who gave his best shot...and I think David ended up on the plus side. It wasn't his fault; he seemed to have been born that way. There were a lot of old ideas about self that David could never muster the willingness to let go of.**

**He is at rest now. But it says somewhere that "no matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others."**

**David cannot speak to his experience any longer; I am speaking in his memory. And I think that if David could talk to us today, he'd say "Understand your disease thoroughly, and work the complete program of recovery!"**

**Anonymous**





## Availing Yourself of a Sponsor

From *Living Sober*, pg 26:

*"In the earliest days of A.A., the term "sponsor" was not in the A.A. jargon. Then a few hospitals in Akron, Ohio, and New York began to accept alcoholics (under that diagnosis) as patients—if a sober A.A. member would agree to "sponsor" the sick man or woman. The sponsor took the patient to the hospital, visited him or her regularly, was present when the patient was discharged, and took the patient home and then to an A.A. meeting. At the meeting, the sponsor introduced the newcomer to other happily nondrinking alcoholics. All through the early months of recovery, the sponsor stood by, ready to answer questions or to listen whenever needed.*

*Sponsorship turned out to be such a good way to help people get established in A.A. that it has become a custom followed throughout the A.A. world, even when hospitalization is not necessary.*

*Often, the sponsor is the first person to call on a problem drinker who wants help—or the first recovered alcoholic to talk with the inquirer if he or she goes to an A.A. office—or the A.A. member volunteering to "sponsor" an alco-*

*holic about to be released from a detox or rehab unit, a hospital, or a correctional facility.*

*At A.A. meeting, people often recommend that an A.A. beginner get a sponsor, and it is left up to the newcomer to pick someone as his or her sponsor, if one is wanted."*

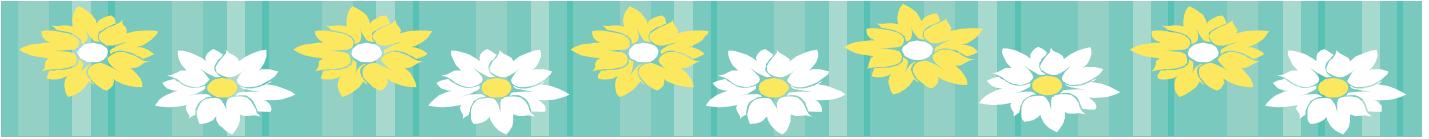
As a newcomer, I would have preferred to do this thing without the help of a sponsor or any other person. I trusted no one. I just knew that anyone who wanted to "help" would be looking for something in return. I was not looking for someone to "tell" me what to do. I was pretty "smart," you know, just give me the manual and I would figure out what I needed to do by myself.

Fortunately, I was so desperate that I had to accept someone's help before I completely self-destructed. Many long-timers offered short, but effective sayings to help me just to get through the meeting that day. My pride forced me to find a sponsor so that I could answer "yes" when members asked if I had one. I did some work with her, but never really opened up to her. One woman kind of took me under her wing just to keep me headed in the right direction until I decided if I really would take recovery seriously.

When I truly conceded to my innermost self that I was an alcoholic and decided that I did want what members in the meetings seemed to have I asked a woman to be my sponsor. I am so very glad that I did. She got me involved in many opportunities for service, helped me to take a look at myself instead of allowing me to blame my woes on everyone else, gave me speaker tapes to listen to between meetings, and guided me to a spiritual awareness and relationship with a power greater than myself that would help me solve my problem. She understood me better than I understood myself and loved me until I could learn how to love myself. If I had not availed myself of this powerful tool of recovery I don't know that my life would be as rich as it is today.

I'm not as "smart" today as I was when I first came in. Thank goodness for that. I have strong relationships with those who have helped me and with those I have helped. I have a sponsor today who is strong in the book, service and sobriety. I sure takes a load off knowing I don't have to do this alone.

- Cathyann

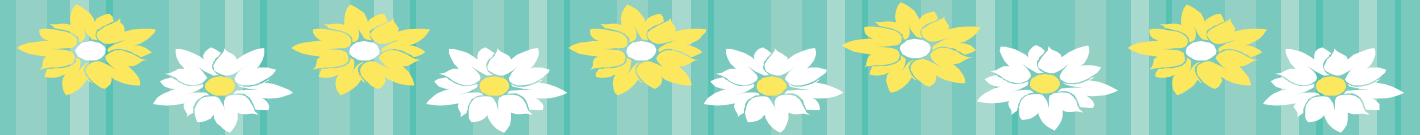


## The Gates of Hell

### **The Gates Of Hell**

**From the depths  
From the blackest nights  
and sunless days  
From the ceremonies of for-  
giveness  
And false promise  
He rises  
He stands...a symbolically, un-  
sympathetic  
figure  
In unheralded absolution  
Beaten  
Bruised  
Weathered and Worn  
Back  
On the path  
Trudging trudging  
Further and further  
Away...  
From the bottle  
From the needle...  
  
From the gates  
of hell.**

**Lew W.**



## **Letter From the Editor**

Hello everyone,

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

May - Acceptance

June - We Are Not a Glum Lot

July - Living Sober

Aug - Remembering Your Last Drunk

We have been having great reviews. Thanks for all of your support. The COIN is only as strong as your submissions. 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

## **ARCHIVES CORNER**

Hello all!

Group Histories!! Seems like I always heard Chuck G. asking at the various Service meetings around the County about getting them (Group Histories that is); always the Master in generating enthusiasm for Archives!! Back then...I was listening...and thinking...how cool that would be to have a current "record" of our local Groups, their beginnings, founding Members, Traditions, characters, disputes, incidents, and maybe even Funny Nicknames!! Chuck was right...is right....It's time to collect our Santa Clara Group Archival information!

Soooooooo.....here I am, newbie Archives Chair, and asking you about Group Histories...BUT...I am also going to supply you with a little "cheat sheet"! Another County up North of San Francisco, had been making great strides to gather their Group History and provided me with a "Form", which I tweaked a bit, and is now have available to you near the last page of the COIN.

When it's ready....just drop it by Central Office, or let me know by email and we'll feature it right here in the COIN in 2011! Many GSR's from Santa Clara North and South have done just this, and I look forward to sharing the History of their Home Groups with you in future articles! J

There is so much History in our Valley to share....Have fun with this!!

Written in loving Service,  
April A., District Archives Chair



# April 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Secretary's Workshop 10:00AM Central Office
4	5	6	7 <i>PI Comm. 6:00PM Outreach Comm. Mtg. 6:15PM Intergroup Meeting 7:30 PM)</i>	8	9	10 <i>PI/CPC Work- shop, 10:00AM Central Office</i>
11	12	13	14 <i>North County General Service 7:30PM</i>	15	16	17 <i>Diverter Workshop, 1980 Hamilton Ave., 10:00 am ARCHIVES work day Central Office Ya'll come</i>
18	19	20 <i>South County General Service 7:00PM</i>	21	22	23	24 CHILI COOK- OFF MORE INFO INSIDE
25	26	27 <i>H &amp; I Commit- tee, 7:00PM</i>	28	29	30	



# May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> Secretary's Work- shop 10:00AM Central Office
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> PI Comm. 6:00PM  Outreach Comm. Mtg. 6:15PM  <i>Intergroup Meeting 7:30 PM)</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> PI/CPC Workshop, 10:00AM Central Office
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> North County General Service 7:30PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Diverter Work- shop, 1980 Hamilton Ave., 10:00 am <b>ARCHIVES work day</b> Central Office
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> South County General Service 7:00PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> H & I Commit- tee, 7:00 PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					

## LOCAL EVENTS

- April 23: Cornerstone Fellowship Spring Fling BBQ. See inside.
- April 24: CHILI COOK-OFF, Noon—3:00PM. See inside for details.
- June 4: A WEEKEND OF A.A. HISTORY, with Gail L., Akron archivist. See inside.
- June 5: 1st Annual FOUNDERS' DAY picnic and blowout celebration. See inside.
- June 6: A WEEKEND OF A.A. HISTORY concludes. See inside.

## EVENTS AROUND CALIFORNIA

(More info available at Central Office)

June 4-6: 39th Annual H & I Conference, San Ramon, CA

June 13: Language of the Heart Women's Brunch, Dublin, CA

## EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

(More info available at Central Office)

April 23-25: 22nd Annual Big Island Bash, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

May 13-16: Tri-State Round-Up, Riverside Resort, Laughlin, NV

**July 1-4: 2010 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, "A Vision For You, 75 Years of Alcoholics Anonymous"**, San Antonio, TX,  
Registration forms available at Central Office

Aug. 26-29: 52nd ICYPA (International Conference of Young People in A.A.) Conference, New York, NY



Alcoholics  
Anonymous...  
How may we help you?



### **Telephone Calls Received During May**

Daytime at Central Office	516
Daytime 12 Step Calls	8
Evening and Weekend calls	222
Evening 12 Step Call information is not available.	

An average of just over 8,000 hits are  
made on our website each month!!

### **I AM RESPONSIBLE...**

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

To all the members and groups who support us,  
**WE THANK YOU!**

### **SPEAKER MEETINGS**

#### **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

### **SPEAKER MEETINGS cont.**

#### **Saturday Morning Fellowship**

Saturday at 10 a.m.

United Presbyterian Church

Fremont & Hollenbeck, Sunnyvale

April 3 - Art W - Santa Cruz, CA

April 10 - Adam C. - Sacramento, CA

April 17 - Patrick O. - Pleasanton, CA

April 24 - Allison - Mountain View, CA

### **MEETING CHANGES**

#### **NEW**

But a Symptom, Sun. 7:00 PM, Calvary Church, 16330 Los Gatos Blvd., LG

Women to Women, Sat. 7:30 AM, St. Francis Episcopal Church, 1205 Pine Ave., at Newport, SJ

Sufficient Substitute, Mon.—Fri., Noon, United Methodist Church (Kohlsted Hall), 1420 Newport Ave., @ Minnesota, SJ

Sisters Seeking Serenity, Wed. 4:00PM, Holy Spirit Episcopal Church (St. Lawrence Hall), 41 W. Rincon, @ Winchester, SJ

#### **CHANGED**

3rd Steppers Book Study, Thurs. 6:45, changed from 6:15

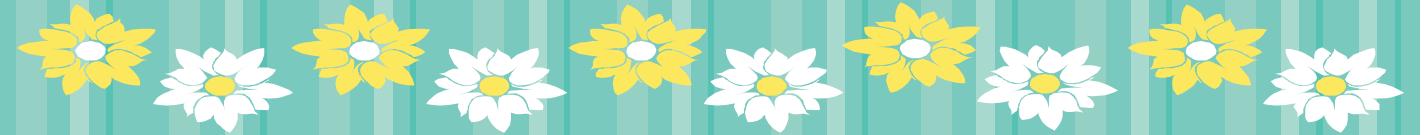
Newcomers' Meeting, Cornerstone Fellowship Group, Masonic Hall, 131 E. Main St., Los Gatos. Changed to 7:30 PM.

## **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

**San Antonio, Texas**

**July 1—4**

**We have information and  
registration forms at  
Central Office.  
There's still time to register.**



## BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANT	YEARS	CONTRIBUTIONS BY	BIRTHDAY
David H.	1	Dominic B.	2/28/2009
Jim G.	24	Jim G.	3/18/1986
Pat G.	35	Aileen B.	4/1/1975
Angela R.	2	Aileen B.	4/1/2008
Evelyn M.	9	Aileen B.	4/1/2001
Gary M.	25	Gary M.	
Walt R.	20	Walt R.	2/24/1990
David C.	5	David C.	3/13/2005



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!!**

**121 YEARS OF SOBRIETY**

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

**In Memorium**

John G., 18 years

Gordon R., 42 years



## INTERGROUP MINUTES

March 3, 2010

Mary Pat (IG Chair) – **Opened the meeting** at 7:33 PM with a moment of silence and serenity prayer.

*Approximately 53 voting members were in attendance*

Mike read the ‘**Definition of Intergroup**’

**New Intergroup Reps** introduced themselves: Mike from Los Altos Sun Morning Group, Kim from 4pm Tues at Winchester and Rincon, Jake from Gilroy Fellowship, and Annette from 7AM Palo Alto.

Visitors: Michelle and Pam

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition** was Honored

Annette read “**The Twelve Traditions**”

**Corrections/Additions to the Agenda:**

None

**Corrections/Additions to the Previous Months Minutes:**

Tommy corrected the spelling of Kerinda. Motion to Accept minutes, passed unanimously.

**Treasurer Report from Michael** – Prudent reserve of \$300.00, February took in \$67, after refreshment expenses paid balance left is \$117.

**Announcements:**

Maxine is no longer able to do coffee, Ryan will take over the commitment, Suggestion that 2 people should take over commitment. Need to get key, set up, and tear down.

**Birthdays:** ED M – 4 years, DINO – 5 years, BRIE – 18 years, CYNTHIA – 22 years, KERINA – 3 years, ALICIA – 3 years, TODD – 3 years.

**Reports:**

Mary Pat (**Chair**) – Acknowledgement to open house crew, it was great. Thanks Gloria. Procedure review with Dick, June and Dave is pending. New info to look over.

GARY. (Alt **Central Service Board**) – Met on 25<sup>th</sup>. Introduced the new CPA, Linda Bowman, Conflict of interest policy suggested among other policies being reviewed. Group contributions were down \$3,000. Book Sales are down. Getting insurance quotes, and discussing a sick leave policy.

Bruce (**Central Office**) – Open house was really successful. Gloria, Mike M, Dave W – We Appreciate your help!. Converting tapes to CDs. Changes to Coin are to be made at the IG meeting, please speak up if changes needed.

Tommy M (**CPC Chair**) – Introduced Michelle the new PI Chair. Having the Annual School Psychologist event this weekend. Had workshop 2/21, 43 people showed up. Literature purchased and set up in booth for psychologists conference. Event is at SC convention center. Still need groups to get reps for PI/CPC/ Meeting is 1<sup>st</sup> Wed at 6PM in IG room. First Saturday at Central office is the workshop.

Mike M (**12 Step Committee-Daytime Phone Coordinator**) – 417 daytime calls, 8-12 step calls for February.

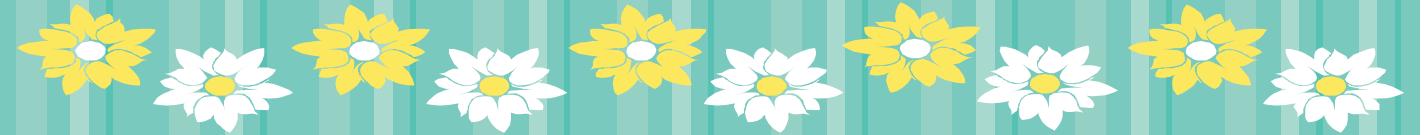
Peter C (**12 Step Committee-Night/Weekend Coordinator**) – 382 evening and weekend calls for February, All shifts are covered.

(**Outreach Committee**) – Pat G. has offered to fill this role.

Cathy Ann (**Newsletter Committee**) – NOT PRESENT

Gloria (**Activities Committee**) – Open House was great. Chili cook off is Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup>. Get involved through Central Office. Founders Day met at Baylands, Service positions were filled.

*Cont. next page*



## **MINUTES, cont.**

### **Other Service Committee Reports:**

**Unity Day** – (Amy F) Sun August 22<sup>nd</sup> is the date. All speakers have been found. Next planning meeting is 3/13 at Harrys Hofbrau in Saratoga at 1PM.

#### **NCAA – No Rep**

**H&I** (Joe) – Elmwood needs help. They are losing meetings from lack of people.

#### **BTG – No Rep**

**North County General Service** – Rose introduced, 408-980-9459 contact info given. Going to PRAASA, preparing a topic agenda workshop soon.

**South County General Service** (Larry M Alt DCMC) – Alt DCM District 40 gathering group conscience on agenda topics. Last topic- Should we use actors in our PI videos? PRAASA this weekend. April pre-conference assembly. Lost facility for summer assembly Aug 7<sup>th</sup> Delegate will go to NY.

**SCCYPAA** (Todd) – Contact info given, 408-613-6369. March 27<sup>th</sup> a 4 speaker panel at Alano East. Dance to follow. ACYPAA elections are March 28<sup>th</sup> at Fort Mason in SF.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Communication/Information Distribution – No Rep. Their goal is communicating better with the community about what's going on. Send all to [www.aasanjose.org](http://www.aasanjose.org).

Inventory Response (David W) – No meeting this month, reviewing last inventory.

Founders Month Activity (Johnny O.) – Gail coming from Akron, tickets purchased and donated for travel. Marriott downtown reservations were made and paid. Church was booked. Flyers were made. Committees forming soon. Idea of also doing history of AA in our valley. Tech, Audio are needed, see Gloria if you want to get involved.

#### **New Business:**

Mary Pat recommended approval of Pat G. as Outreach, motion passed. Pat has already started planning. Gave her contact info 408-506-3373, email: [pg40175@gmail.com](mailto:pg40175@gmail.com)

#### **Open Forum:**

Why no NCCAA rep here? – Rep is appointed by them not IG.

Can we ask our group to be involved? Absolutely.

**Meeting was Adjourned** with the Lords' prayer at approximately 8:39 PM

Recorded in Love and Service by Alicia S.

10:23 AM  
04/01/10  
Accrual Basis

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.  
**Profit & Loss**  
March 2010

	<u>Mar 10</u>	<u>Mar 09</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 10</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
3030 · Contributions-General	7,047.73	11,321.85	29,729.34
8010 · Literature Sales	4,705.24	5,176.77	14,487.69
8020 · Meeting Guide Sales	1,059.50	840.50	3,217.50
8060 · Newsletter Subscriptions	25.00	15.00	65.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>12,837.47</u>	<u>17,354.12</u>	<u>47,499.53</u>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>			
5000 · Cost of Goods Sold			
5100 · Cost of Inventory Sold	3,218.26	3,912.07	10,381.55
5150 · Cost of Meeting Directories	260.34	208.61	1,165.18
<b>Total 5000 · Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<u>3,478.60</u>	<u>4,120.68</u>	<u>11,546.73</u>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<u>3,478.60</u>	<u>4,120.68</u>	<u>11,546.73</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>9,358.87</u>	<u>13,233.44</u>	<u>35,952.80</u>
<b>Expense</b>			
6010 · Alarm Service	0.00	0.00	207.00
6030 · Accounting and Legal Fee	0.00	11.00	800.00
6060 · Amortization of Improvements	0.00	3.25	0.00
6070 · Bank Credit card charges (Credit card costs and fees)	99.18	121.99	285.07
6140 · Conferences - Office Manager	55.56	50.58	85.56
6160 · Copier Expense	417.45	52.16	628.40
6190 · Depreciation Expense	0.00	1,418.00	0.00
6230 · Insurance - General Liability	77.52	501.00	77.52
6240 · Employee HRA Plan	812.27	817.36	2,436.81
6245 · Internet Access Charges	29.95	38.83	99.80
6330 · Office Expense	251.08	243.09	691.81
6350 · Office Furnishings - Expense	0.00	96.35	0.00
6370 · Office Paper Supply	-72.08	0.00	1,021.16
6380 · Payroll Taxes	726.11	645.73	2,201.46
6410 · Postage	0.00	0.00	324.53
6480 · Rent	2,470.65	2,407.30	7,278.55
6540 · Salaries - Office	8,076.12	7,519.67	22,425.18
6560 · Payroll Expenses	76.40	71.92	282.25
6600 · Signing Services	200.00	200.00	650.00
7050 · Telephone	126.27	338.95	850.37
7060 · Travel	0.00	0.00	37.79
9080 · Sales Tax (Sales tax paid on purchases)	0.00	0.00	-0.95
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>13,346.48</u>	<u>14,537.18</u>	<u>40,382.31</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-3,987.61</u>	<u>-1,303.74</u>	<u>-4,429.51</u>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Income</b>			
8030 · Interest Income	0.00	0.00	250.15
8050 · Activities Committee	-245.10	-900.00	-534.56
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>-245.10</u>	<u>-900.00</u>	<u>-284.41</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>-245.10</u>	<u>-900.00</u>	<u>-284.41</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-4,232.71</u></u>	<u><u>-2,203.74</u></u>	<u><u>-4,713.92</u></u>

11:16 AM  
04/01/10  
Accrual Basis

INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of March 31, 2010

Mar 31, 10

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

**Checking/Savings**

1010 · Petty Cash	225.00
1020 · First Republic Bank (Checking account)	7,731.03
1021 · First Republic Bank CD 0429 (12 Mo. CD @ 1.73%, 08/12/2010)	17,148.90 **
1022 · First Republic Bank CD 0486 (12 Mos. CD @ 1.29%, 11/12/2010)	17,101.72 **
1023 · First Republic Bank CD 3228 (12 Mos. CD @ 2.47%, 02/04/2011)	15,843.31 **
1024 · First Republic Bank CD 0551 (6 Mos. CD @ .95%, 05/12/2010)	17,090.01 **

**Total Checking/Savings**

75,139.97

**Accounts Receivable**

1110 · Accounts Rec - Group Deposits	-1,725.04
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>-1,725.04</b>

**Other Current Assets**

1250 · Literature Inventory	18,839.05
1310 · Prepaid Insurance	564.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>19,403.05</b>

**Total Current Assets**

92,817.98

**Fixed Assets**

1630 · Office Equipment	28,857.02
1640 · Office Furnishings - Asset	7,097.67
1641 · Less Accumulated Depreciation	-23,846.00
1680 · Leasehold Improvements	300.00
1681 · Less Accumulated Amortization	-173.00

**Total Fixed Assets**

12,235.69

**Other Assets**

1860 · Deposits	1,993.85
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>1,993.85</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS**

**107,047.52**

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

**Current Liabilities**

<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
2100 · Payroll Liabilities (Payroll Liabilities)	50.00
2240 · Sales Tax Payable (due quarterly)	1,567.24
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,617.24</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,617.24</b>

**Total Liabilities**

1,617.24

**Equity**

2740 · Temporarily Restricted Funds	12,235.69
3900 · Unrestricted Funds	97,908.51
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-4,713.92</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>105,430.28</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**107,047.52**

\*\* Our Prudent Reserve Accounts total: \$67,183.94

This represents 4.8 mos., or 80%, of the Board established goal of 6 months of operating expenses.

11:23 AM  
04/01/10  
Accrual Basis

# INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

## Group Contributions

March 2010

	Mar 10	Jan - Mar 10		Mar 10	Jan - Mar 10
1 Inv Freedom Fellowship 70940	35.00	105.00	Ladies Amethyst AA Study Group 749 (Wed.)	0.00	154.20
1 INV Fremont & Hollenbeck Group 70907	0.00	523.60	Lesbians Living the Promises 349 (Fri.)	70.00	70.00
1 INV R and B Group 70972	0.00	433.41	Los Altos Men's Group 59 (Mon.)	0.00	160.00
1 Inv Seeking Guidance Group 70976	0.00	509.60	Meditation Meeting LA 39 (Sat.)	102.80	102.80
1 INV South County Fellowship 70954	210.00	630.00	Men's Basic Step Study Group 891 (Tues.)	0.00	236.00
A Vision for You Women's 802 (Tues.)	0.00	70.00	Men's Group 97 (Mon.)	0.00	168.00
Almaden Valley Discussion 30 (Sun.)	87.50	256.69	Men's Honesty Group SJ 26 (Sat.)	0.00	808.50
As Bill Sees It 6.00P 518 (Mon.)	0.00	213.50	Men's Single Problem Study 220 (Thur.)	0.00	1,120.00
Attitude Adjustment SJ 321 (Mon.)	92.01	92.01	Midday Women's Group 91 (Mon.)	0.00	154.63
Attitude Adjustment SJ 446 (Sun.)	120.00	120.00	Mountain View Group 350 (Sat.)	218.19	218.19
Berryessa Group 527 (Wed.)	0.00	84.00	New Life Start 444 (Sun.)	0.00	151.70
Big Book Speakers Group 289 (Fri.)	0.00	233.10	New Nooners 808 (Mon.)	0.00	110.00
Bill's Basement 384 (Fri.)	0.00	54.00	New Steps for Living 20 (Sun.)	0.00	534.05
Birthday Contribution 00951	24.00	570.00	Palo Alto Group 302 (Fri.)	0.00	1,145.20
Cambrian Saturday Night 376 (Sat.)	0.00	420.00	Palo Alto Men's Meeting 525 (Tues.)	0.00	371.89
Caveman Group (Men's Big Book) 659 (Sun.)	0.00	427.00	Pass It On Group Los Altos 418 (Sun.)	442.14	442.14
Chip Winners Group 168 (Wed.)	0.00	202.43	Personal 00911	372.00	939.48
Down to Earth Group 563 (Tues.)	0.00	77.05	Plaza Del Rey Group 52 (Sun.)	0.00	230.00
Early Bird 414 (Sat.)	0.00	40.91	Progress Not Perfection 229 (Sun.)	105.00	105.00
Early Tuesday Group 119 (Tues.)	0.00	329.70	Saratoga Serenity Group 329 (Fri.)	0.00	28.50
Easier Way Group 290 (Fri.)	0.00	259.29	Saturday 6PM Meeting LG 413 (Sat.)	60.00	60.00
East Valley Group 322 (Fri.)	0.00	100.00	Saturday Morning Los Gatos 777 (Sat.)	0.00	700.00
El Camino Group 108 (Tues)	0.00	46.90	Saturday Night Promises PA 847 (Sat.)	385.70	385.70
Eleventh Step Meditation 873 (Fri.)	0.00	109.48	SCCYPAA	0.00	560.00
Evergreen Group 884 (Thur.)	0.00	70.00	Second Tradition Group Spkr 721 (Sat.)	0.00	220.00
Fireside Big Book Study 809 (Tues.)	0.00	35.00	South Valley Women's Surrender 88 (Mon.)	0.00	280.00
G Fair Avenue Fellowship 70901	258.18	653.89	Speaker Meeting PA 18 (Sun.)	100.00	345.00
G Forged From Adversity Group 70957	0.00	1,050.00	Spiritual Awakening 813 (Tues.)	0.00	340.90
G Higher Power Hour 70952	466.20	466.20	Spiritual Progress 269 (Thur.)	0.00	21.00
G Serenity at Noon (fka Agnew) 70921	0.00	378.59	Spiritual Step Study Group 233 (Sun.)	0.00	166.04
G Serenity First Fellowship 70902	25.00	75.00	St. Luke's Group 113 (Tues.)	200.00	200.00
G Sufficient Substitute	0.00	350.00	Starting the Steps 753 (Fri.)	100.00	100.00
G Sunrise Group of Palo Alto 70963	0.00	357.00	Step Study (Women) LG 820 (Wed.)	0.00	122.36
G Sunrisers Group/Carrows 70932	387.04	1,231.51	Sunshine Group noon 243 (Thur.)	170.00	170.00
G Third Tradition Women's Grp(The 70979	306.40	739.14	T.G.I.F. Speaker/Discussion 298 (Fri.)	0.00	100.00
G We Care Group 70934	0.00	1,050.00	The Other Wednesday Nite (Men) 209 (Wed)	0.00	445.00
G West Valley Fellowship 70942	0.00	510.00	Think Tank (Men) SJ 361 (Sat.)	840.00	840.00
Gathered Together for Sobriety 43 (Sun.)	0.00	30.00	Tuesday Noon Step Study 556 (Tues)	490.00	490.00
Gay & Lesbian Sober Experience 896 (Mon.)	0.00	67.66	Unknown	0.00	350.00
Gay Grab Bag Solution 41 (Sun.)	174.68	174.68	Up the Creek-Daily Reflections 745(Tues.)	50.00	150.00
Gay Men & Women Together 85 (Mon.)	136.35	136.35	Villages Group of AA (The) 406 (Mon	55.82	329.55
Get Well Group 17 (Sun.)	70.00	150.00	Winchester Mystery Meeting 102 (Tues.)	210.00	210.00
Happy Destiny (Women) 109 (Tues.)	0.00	700.50	Women's Brunch PA 640 (Sat.)	0.00	395.00
High Hope SJ 239 (Sat.)	121.72	121.72	Women Sharing the Solution 519 (Thur.)	0.00	159.60
HOW Group 71 (Mon.)	0.00	280.00	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,037.73</b>	<b>29,719.34</b>
Humbly Asked 8.00A 87 (Sun.)	0.00	142.00			
In the Solution 647 (Sat.)	160.00	160.00			
Intergroup Council 80909	107.00	107.00			
Invaders Group 44 (Sun.)	0.00	100.00			
Joy of Living 464 PA (Wed.)	285.00	285.00			

**NCCAA**  
63<sup>rd</sup>  
Annual Summer Conference

**Northern California  
Council of  
Alcoholics Anonymous**

# **San Jose CA**

**Parkside Hall – 180 Park Avenue**  
**June 11, 12, 13, 2010**

**Friday, June 11, 2010**

2:00 PM  
3:30 PM  
8:00 PM

Registration Opens  
Early Bird Meeting  
Open Speaker Meeting

**Fernando S. Concord**



**Saturday, June 12, 2010**

9:30 AM  
11:00 AM  
1:00 PM  
3:30 PM

Hospital & Institutions Panel Meeting  
A Host Committee Event  
General Service Conference Report  
Young People's Speaker Meeting



**Thia B. Los Angeles**

8:00 PM  
  
10:00 PM

Open Speaker Meeting

**Steve L. Los Angeles**

Dance Following Drawing



**Sunday, June 13, 2010**

9:30 AM  
11:00 AM

All A.A. Services Panel Meeting  
Open Speaker Meeting



**Diane C. Sausalito CA**

**Marathon  
Meetings**



**Fellowship – Workshops – Speakers – Drawing – Dance**

**Pre-Registration Is Appreciated**

**Juntas en  
Español**

\*Hotel list and map on back\*



Please remit with payment to: Treasurer, NCCAA, P.O. Box 6494 San Mateo, CA 94403

**PRE-REGISTRATION - \$10.00 (per person) AT THE CONFERENCE - \$15.00**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home group \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons attending \_\_\_\_\_ (show additional names on back of form)

Amt. Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you staying at a hotel/ motel in Sacramento? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Name of hotel \_\_\_\_\_

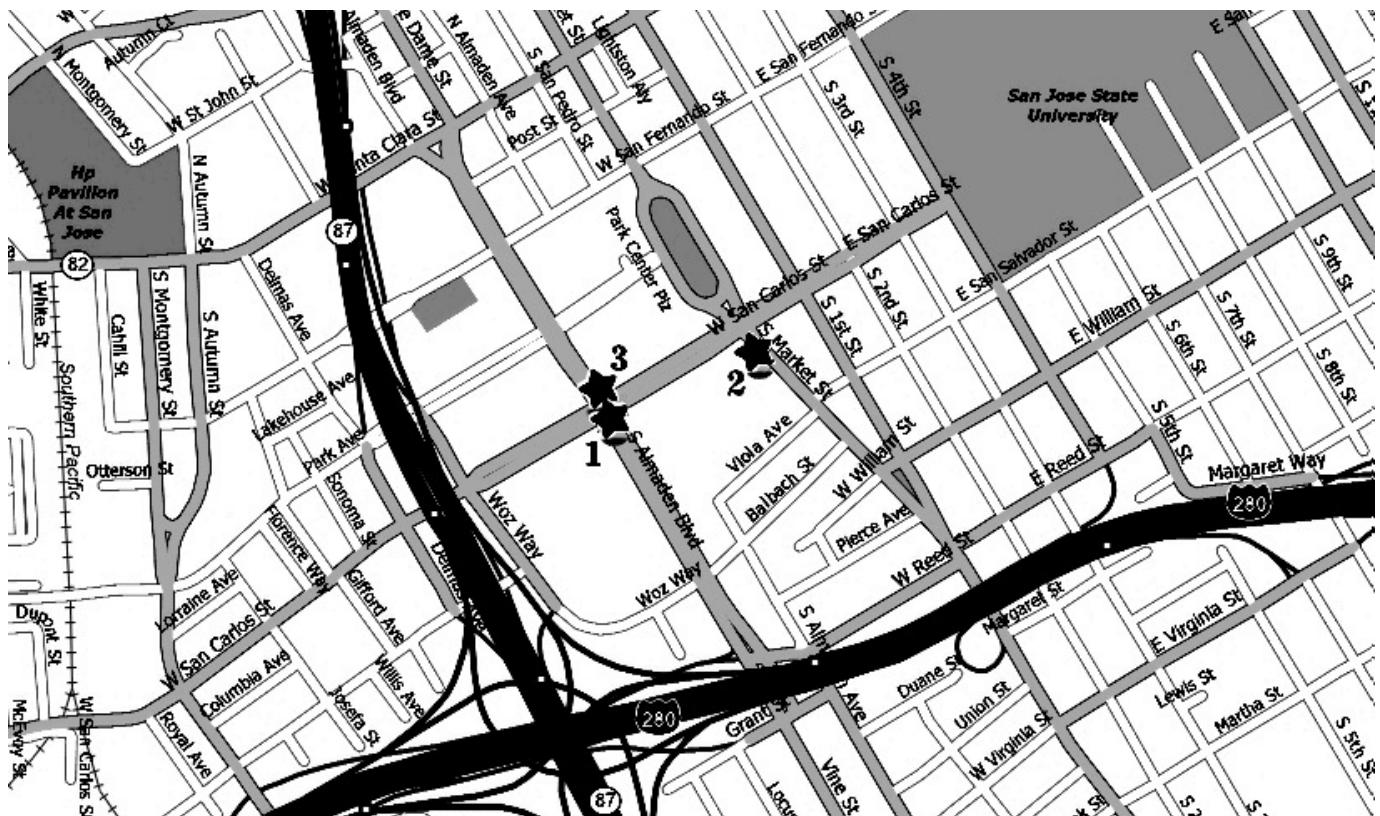
**Please mention NCCAA when you register at the hotel/ motel of your choice. It does help defray our costs.**

**San Jose, California**  
**June 11, 12, 13, 2010**

The following hotels and motels are offering special rates for those attending the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual NCCAA Summer Conference in San Jose. **To ensure your reservation, you must register at least 30 days in advance** of the Conference, and you need to *mention that you are attending the NCCAA San Jose Conference* in order to obtain these rates. This also ensures we receive room credit towards expenses.

**Visit our website at <http://www.ncc-aa.org>**

	Hotel / Motel	Single	Double		Hotel / Motel	Single	Double		
<b>1</b>	<b>Host Hotel</b>	\$105	\$105	Across the street from Parkside Hall (recommended!)	<b>2</b>	Marriott 301 S Market Street San Jose, CA 95113 408-280-1300	\$99	\$99	1 Block from Parkside Hall
	<b>San Jose Hilton</b> <b>300 Almaden Blvd.</b> <b>San Jose, CA 95110</b> <b>408.287.2100</b>				<b>3</b>	Crowne Plaza 282 Almaden Blvd. San Jose, CA 95113 1-800-227-6963	\$89	\$89	



Take advantage of free parking weekdays after 6 PM and all day weekends in seven public parking lots and garages in downtown San Jose.

Additional names: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mention the NCCAA Conference when you register at the hotel or motel of your choice.**

# *Cornerstone Fellowship Group*

## *Friday April 23rd 7:00 pm*

*Open AA meeting; all are encouraged to support the meeting and come join us for the most "Fantastic Night" of love, laughs and 35 Years of daily reprieves*

*With*  **Bob K.**



## *Spring Fling Barbeque Dance Party*

*C.F.G. Invites You to Join Us for  
8:15 Dinner Donation of \$ 13.00*

*For Tri Tip and Chicken, Salad and Beans followed by  
Fellowship with Live Dance Music*

***131 EAST MAIN STREET, MASONIC HALL Los Gatos***

# COME & JOIN US FOR OUR THIRD ANNUAL (WOW!)... CELEBRATING THE HOME GROUP INTERGROUP CHILI COOKOFF!!

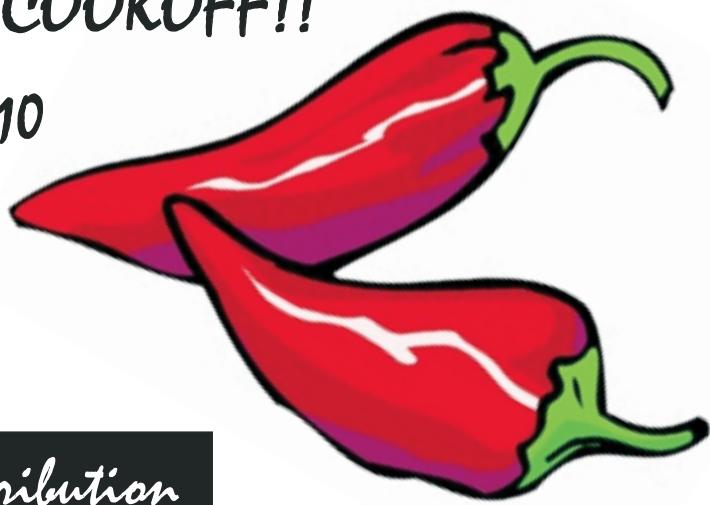
SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2010

12 NOON TO 3 PM

PRINCE OF PEACE

12770 SARATOGA AVE.

SARATOGA, CA



\$10.00 suggested contribution

12-1 pm Chili tasting and judging

1-2 pm Chili and cornbread feasting with sumptuous desserts to follow

2-3 pm AA Speaker Meeting, unless the fire department shows up first!

## HEATED CHILI COMPETITION

## NO PRINCIPLES OVER PERSONALITIES...

## THIS IS ABOUT GROUP BRAGGING RIGHTS!!

Help select your favorites, have lots of samples and maybe some fun too...

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer,  
call Central Office 374-8511.

# **“Founder’s Day”**

**\*1st Annual\***

**Alcoholics Anonymous of  
Santa Clara County**

JUNE – 2010 – JUNE – 2010

## **Food, Fun & Fellowship**

**June 5, 2010**

Celebrate AA's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday with...  
"Food, Fun & Fellowship"

Suggested Donation:    \$10 Single  
                                      \$15 Couple

*...and Kids under 12 FREE !!!*

*\$6 per car parking fee,*

*Carpool to the event !!! (Recommended)  
and please... "No Pets or water balloons"*



**Location: “Baylands Park” in Sunnyvale  
(off Hwy 237 & Caribbean)**

- Games (Start 11am)
- Kids Games (Start 11am)
- BBQ Lunch (Noon – 2pm)

- Afternoon Speaker – 2pm
- Door Prizes - 3pm
- Entertainment – All Day

- Softball
- Volleyball
- and much, much more...

Music  
AA Speaker Mtg  
Fun

**Saturday - June 5, 2010**

**10:00 am to 5:00 pm**

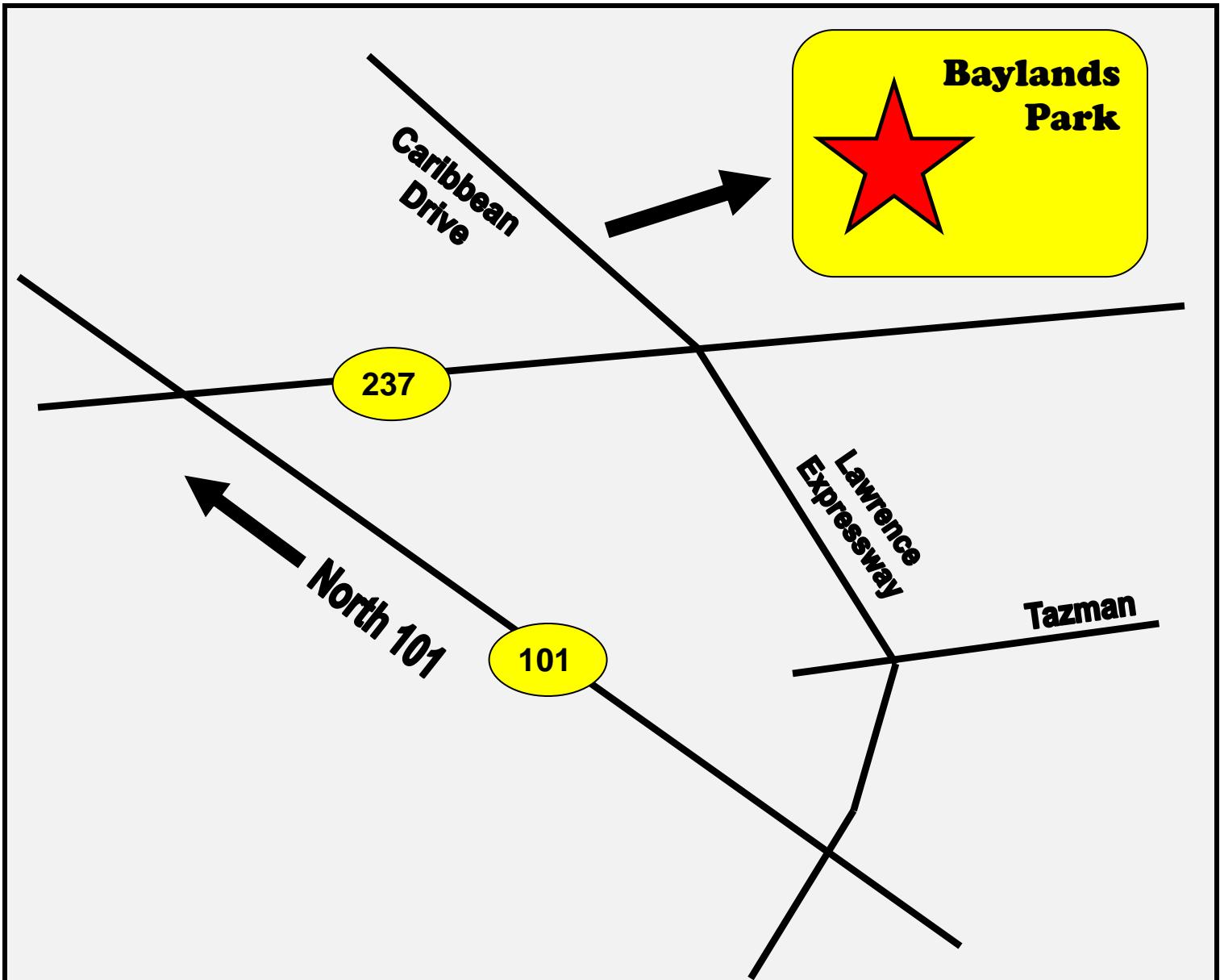
**Baylands Park – Sunnyvale**

Games  
BBQ Lunch  
Prizes

*Recommend bringing a lawn chair or blanket for afternoon speaker*

*For info contact Peter C. at: [mvpeter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mvpeter@sbcglobal.net)*

## **Map to “Baylands Park in Sunnyvale**



**From the West: Take Hwy 237 East to Lawrence / Caribbean Dr exit to the north and take the first right into the park.**

**From the East: Take Hwy 237 West to Lawrence / Caribbean Dr exit to the north and take the first right into the park.**

**From the South: Take Hwy 101 North to the Lawrence Expwy exit. Take Lawrence “North” (east) past Hwy 237 and take the first right turn into the park past 237**

SANTA CLARA COUNTY INTERGROUP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS PRESENTS  
**A WEEKEND OF A.A. HISTORY**

IN  
*Celebration*  
OF THE *5th* ANNIVERSARY OF  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

**FRIDAY, JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:30 p.m.**  
for

**THE ROOTS OF A.A. IN  
SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

*Presented by Intergroup*

Followed by

**THE WRITING OF THE BIG  
BOOK AND THE HISTORY  
OF A.A. IN AKRON**

*Presented by*

**Gail L.**

**Former A.A. Archivist from Akron, OH**

*This Presentation Includes Photos and  
Memorabilia From the Akron Archives*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 3:00 p.m.**  
for

**THE ROOTS OF A.A. IN  
SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

*Presented by Intergroup*

Followed by

**THE WOMEN  
BEHIND THE MEN**

*A Study of the Women  
Who Had a Vital Impact on the  
Beginning of the A.A. Program*

*Presented by*

**Gail L.**

**Former A.A. Archivist from Akron, OH**

**LOCATION:**

Lincoln Glen Church  
2700 Booksin Avenue  
San Jose, CA

**DOORS OPEN:**

Friday at 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Join all of us on **Saturday, June 5th**

for the **Founders Day Picnic** at Baylands Park  
See [www.aasanjose.org](http://www.aasanjose.org) for details

**\*\*Absolutely No Seat Saving For Absentees - No Exceptions**

THIS EVENT IS SURE TO FILL UP - SEATING IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 550 PEOPLE

**MAKE SURE TO COME EARLY!**

## **District 04, Santa Clara County North: Group Histories**

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Founded: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Registered with GSO? \_\_\_\_\_ Group#: \_\_\_\_\_

Founders: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Primary Format):** Type of meeting (Big Book/Traditions Study, Speakers meeting)

Notes, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Early Members of Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Active Long-timers in Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Changes of Group?: \_\_\_\_\_

Changes of Location or Days?: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Highlights, Activities, and any Brief History (use back or additional pgs if needed):

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Thank you! Please return to April A. (Santa Clara Archives Chair) by fax to: (408) 436-8355 or Chuck G. (SClara Archivist) at Central Office off Hamilton.