



## The Best Gift Ever...

What is the best gift ever? When we are young, it differed day to day. It could have been the quarter we had in our hand as the ice cream truck came by in the hot afternoon, or the lemonade waiting for us after a long morning of playing outside. As we got older, it changed to more complicated things. In September, getting ready for school it was the new pencils, notebooks, eraser and maybe a new pen. All of those things that were so cool before the age of computers and calculators and Ipads. New books and a new teacher, what fun! Weren't these the best gifts ever?

Of course that was if we had a "normal" childhood, and lots of us did. But then other things happened, and the best fits changed. Maybe it was a normal thing...a date for the prom with a person we liked! Some of us had those experiences. Some of us didn't. Some of us stopped having things like "the best gifts ever" anymore.

And we wondered where it, or they, went.

Then we found new "best gifts" in the bottle, or at least at first! It was wonderful! That feeling that nothing could touch us and no one could hurt us. If we had been ugly, we were pretty or handsome. If we were outcasts, we were popular or didn't care. We were free of our hang-ups, our neuroses, our imagined slights. Life was different and we thought that it would last forever. Alcohol is like that. It lies. It makes us feel that it is the best gift in the world. But it is cunning, baffling, powerful, and devious. At some point, when we are convinced that we have found the answer to all of our problems we are, instead, heading down the other side of the mountain, going faster and faster to our end. Hopefully, with our Higher Power's help, we will stop. And we will find the best gift ever once and for all.

I know that I had to careen down that mountain for a while. It took a while for me to realize that things were not improving but were steadily getting worse. Sometimes I would feel like the good times were coming back, only to realize that I had fallen down to a new low and made an utter and complete fool of myself once again. I did remember the moment that I thought was the best moment of all. It was in 1966 at a popular bar in Palo Alto and I felt gorgeous, popular, invincible, tall, and just the best I could ever be. I spent the next ten years trying to get that feeling back. Never did...

So God was good to me! I hit my bottom relatively gently. I realized that all of my problems were caused by alcohol, scotch to be specific. I was powerless and my life was completely and totally unmanageable. By God's grace I was able to stay sober from my second meeting.

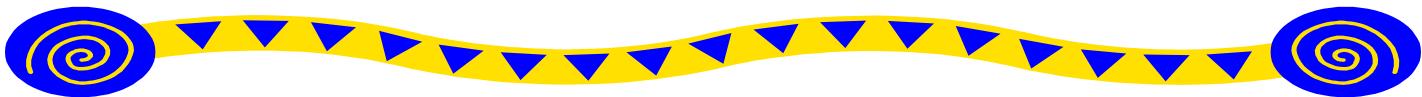
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# The Best Gift Ever

And I found many opportunities to find the best gift once again.

There have been a lot of them! Staying sober for thirty days! Experiencing my first relationship sober and not drinking when the louse broke up with me! A miracle! (I had five months, no relationship rules where I came in). My first AA convention when hundreds of people stood together to say the Lord's Prayer. Heart stopping! And going to the AA International Convention in 1990 in Seattle which was the first one where Russia and the former Soviet Union countries could attend. Tears flowed that day as the flags flew around the convention center.

Getting married to my love sober and staying married to this day for 31 years! If that is not the best gift ever, I would like to know what is. Reuniting with my daughter whom I have up for adoption...wow. Now I have two gorgeous granddaughters too. Amazing. Thank you God!! Another B.G.E.!!

There are so many huge best gifts ever. Big ones and small ones. Like opening up a new schoolbook, we can start to read the Big Book again and discover a new passage we never saw before. We can work with a new sponsee and learn a truth about ourselves that we would not have known otherwise. All of these count.

But the Best Gift Ever is the gift of sobriety, which is the gift from our Higher Power.

Thank you God!

- Ann

## 12<sup>th</sup> Step Committee - Asking for Members

Hello, out there.... We have a 12<sup>th</sup> step list that Diverter workers use. This list is used to put a caller in contact with a member of AA who will talk to them and sometimes take them to a meeting. At this time, if a member volunteers, they fill out a form and are on the list. There is no information, no training, no shared experience before they go out. We are proposing workshops for volunteers, as the Diverter workshop currently does.

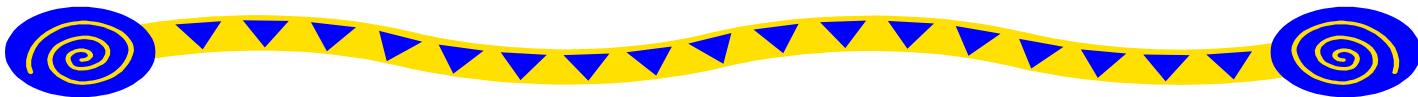
Our committee will do the following as a minimum:

- Review or revise the 12<sup>th</sup> Step Volunteer Service questionnaire as it deems appropriate
- Design a workshop format (to last ½ hour max)
- Support the 12<sup>th</sup> step volunteers

We will post a monthly article in the COIN, to keep members up-to-date on 12<sup>th</sup> step activities, and for 12<sup>th</sup> steppers to share their experience. If you are interested in becoming a member of this committee, please contact Rose at 408-980-9459 or email [rosewhite76@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rosewhite76@sbcglobal.net). Committee meetings are tentatively planned for 10 a.m. the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at Central Office.

**New and exciting events will occur in your life.**

The COIN is published monthly by the Santa Clara County Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. Opinions expressed are the writers', not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. Publication of any article does not imply endorsement by Alcoholics Anonymous or Santa Clara County Central Office, except when Conference-approved publications are quoted. Quotations from AA books and pamphlets and the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.; quotations and cartoons from *The Grapevine* are reprinted with the permission of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Contributions from AA members are welcome and much encouraged. Submissions can be sent via email or should be typed or neatly handwritten. The editors reserve the right to edit content for length, clarity and relation to AA Traditions.



## A Message from General Service

For me, my greatest gift has been my new relationship with my higher power. When I look back on my life five and a half years ago, I recall being miserable or drunk most of the time, then at the end being miserable and drunk at the same time. The booze was not working any more. I could not stop drinking and I was committing slow suicide. I had become incredibly dishonest and self seeking and due to my false pride, fear, and self deception, I would not ask for help. Luckily it got so bad others figured me out and insisted I get help. Some power greater than myself allowed me a brief moment of sanity and I agreed to go into detox and a treatment facility. After three days of not drinking I was feeling much better, and that same power allowed me to shelve my pride and fear and make an honest effort to recover. The treatment facility was my ambulance, but AA has been my hospital.

I have been given a second chance at life, and have grabbed and held on... what a ride!! AA, through the steps, the fellowship and the book have reintroduced me to God. AA says it does not offer a conception of God, but we find one in the Big Book, in the chapter "We Agnostics". It goes like this: *"We found that God does not make too hard terms with those who seek him. To us, the Realm of Spirit is broad, roomy, all inclusive. Never exclusive or forbidding to those who earnestly seek. It is open, we believe to all men..."* What a cool concept of my own God, with me as long as I seek him!

He really became my God after I did the fifth step. I found a new self realization, and was able to turn my life over and really seek my higher power. I try not to think less of myself but to think of myself less. That for me is service.

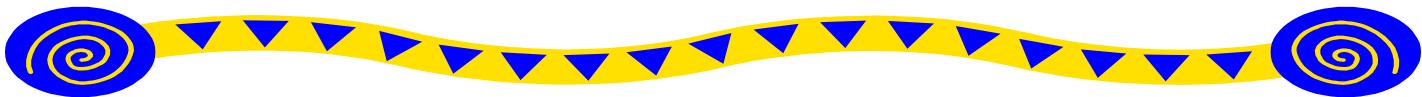
What been most rewarding is General Service. I get to meet and share with some of the most amazing people I have ever met. Our work centers on protecting AA and keeping it strong for future generations. We do this by giving our time and energy to listen to AA (from the individual member, to the conference and trustees) and exchange and discuss information, so we can do what is best for the AA member and AA as a whole. This is what my higher power has called me to do, and I love it! The spiritual rewards of being in service in any form have been wonderful and allow me to continue to grow spiritually and that keeps me sober. For me, to drink is to die: spiritually, mentally, and physically. I know that my higher power has great plans for me, if I just keep seeking him. I thank God for AA, and I thank AA for my God.

Larry M.

Alternate DCMC—District 40

### ARCHIVES CORNER

1. Long Beach, California was the 1960 Site of the third International Convention. The gathering in Long Beach is notable for a couple of reasons, one being that Bill addressed the crowd of about 8,900 for what Nell Wing, his secretary, said was the longest talk he ever gave - more than two hours. Bill spoke on the development of the Traditions. On Sunday, in the same stadium, Buster Keaton, Jane Mansfield, Dennis Day, and Peggy Lee entertained the crowd – and did so without charge.
2. The Miami Convention in 1970 was Bill W's last convention. Bill was suffering from emphysema that would take his life the following January. The attendance at that convention was 11,000. A letter from a major credit card company was sent to the International Convention organizing committee stating that they were interested in a manned exhibit at the convention. A letter in response from GSO explained that A.A. cannot accommodate any commercial ties to businesses.
3. The famous Saturday Evening Post article on A.A. appeared in the March 1, 1941 issue. Jack Alexander had just done a piece on the Jersey rackets and then had been sent to investigate A.A.. Realizing this, Bill W. and the Trustees and some of the members gave Jack the most exhaustive tour of our fellowship that was possible. Bill opened our entire fellowship to him.



## Letter From the Editor

Hello everyone,

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

- April - Stories of Courage and Strength
- May - Being Different Isn't Always A Bad Thing
- June -

The COIN is only as strong as your submissions, and this month we have had some pretty excellent articles. PLEASE KEEP THEM COMING!! If you would like to submit an article, please do so by the 15th of the preceding month.

Please email all submissions to: [coinsubmissions@gmail.com](mailto:coinsubmissions@gmail.com)

### *A Message from a Young Person...*

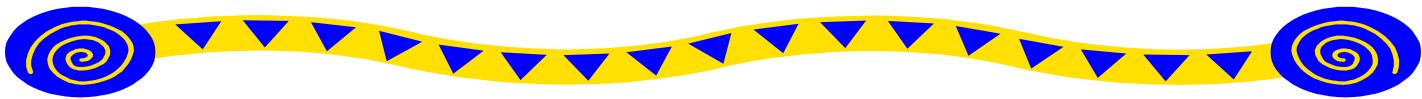
There is a man in my fellowship that frequently forewarns the newcomer of the pitfalls of expecting more from the program of AA than only physical sobriety. Allegedly, a release from the obsession of the mind, regarding alcohol alone, is the sole reward that Alcoholics Anonymous has to offer. I dissent strongly from such a limited philosophy, and tend to adhere more closely to my sponsor's ideology. He encourages those in attendance to pursue and achieve the dreams that were previously unattainable to we alcoholics in the bottle. Abstinence, for me at least, was but a beginning.

At 25 years old, I turned my will and my life over to the care of Alcoholics Anonymous. This event coincided with my return to college, and enrolling in a sociology class titled "Social Problems". I began studying with a newfound perspective of gratitude, an attitude that reflected a new understanding: that I had been given the privilege to attend college. I learned this attitude as a direct result of immersing myself in Alcoholics Anonymous. School became an opportunity rather than an obligation. In sociology and criminal justice classes, I discovered a passion that so innate to my character that it must have been there all along, but I was unable to see its true potential before sobriety. I began to apply what I had learned about willingness regarding recovery from alcoholism to my studies and found that I could achieve great things. Shortly thereafter, I received a letter from the Dean of the junior college I was attending. It stated that I had made the Dean's list, and I immediately wondered what I had done wrong to deserve this. Any list that my name had appeared on from past institutions was never a good list to be on. I looked into what in fact, the Dean's list was and discovered that it was an academic recognition of honors. It meant that I had maintained a grade point average greater than a 3.5 in a semester of 12 or more units.

I transferred to San Jose State University and began studying under brilliant men and women that shaped and molded my passion for education and my ability to achieve. This passion combined with the honest and sincere desire, to live to good purpose and to be helpful to those around me; again, something I learned in Alcoholics Anonymous. I began learning about the legal system and the manner in which it potentially fosters inequity for the less fortunate. I began studying the long history of case law, and how prejudice has impeded one's ability to receive impartial and fair justice. I strongly believe that I can be of maximum service to the people around me by pursuing a career in civil rights law. Three years ago, I was living in a trailer in my parents driveway, the only thing making such an existence tolerable being alcohol. Today I am awaiting the response of acceptance or denial from nine law schools in California. I graduate with honors from San Jose State University in May. I have purpose and ambition and both are directed at being helpful.

The greatest gift I have ever received could be called an education. It could be called a passion or desire. It could be a career, a lifestyle, a philosophy, a purpose, ambition or attitude. Regardless of what the best-suited title may be, it was absolutely unavailable to me when I was drinking. Physical sobriety is but a prerequisite for employing the design for living that I have found in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, which is quite possibly the greatest gift itself.

Devin J.—SCCYPAA Chair



## GOD OF MY UNDERSTANDING

Written by Bob P.

Many members, new to our program, have a great deal of problems understanding our relationship with God. Even though baptized early in my life, I had separated from my church because of circumstances largely beyond my control. When I came into the program in 1988 I was already 64 years old, had a fairly high "low". Drinking had not been a problem beyond control. It might be reasonable to say that I was a late-onset drunk. I had not been inside a church for many years. Part of those circumstances had to do with the country's economic conditions during my youth. My step-father was an Ice Man. When he came into my life, my mother had just migrated to California from my birthplace in southern Illinois, met and married him. I was more a burden at six than a pleasure and my mother had to go back to work.

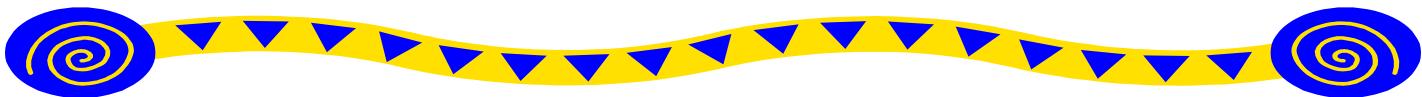
- Sometimes we changed our location for reasons very personal to her (she had been guilty on occasion of being quite verbally abusive toward her bosses). Other times it was cheaper to move than pay the rent. At any rate, I lived in 17 different locations before I joined the Navy at age 17. Circumstances being what they were, I was sent to Church, rather than taken. I attended a lot of different denominations of Church were the practice of protecting their particular "leanings" (interpretations of the scriptures) became quite confusing and discouraging

When I finally got into the program, I embraced Step 2 (Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could rid us of our insanity). Step 3, on the other hand, was very trying for me. Could I really be willing to "turn my will and my life over to the care of God as I understand Him"? To explain what led me to a positive position on this subject forces me to share with you one transition that has taken place in my head during these past 20 years. I have never stopped learning about our way of life, but I have faced challenges for years. Only recently has the fog begun to clear. Saturday, January 22, 2011 was a day to remember since one new position became forcefully evident.

- A good friend in the program, had the misfortune to leave us recently to join that ever growing meeting in the sky. That Saturday was the day of his funeral which I and several other AA members attended. The Lutheran Church service was beautiful and made doubly impressive because he and his family had been members of that Church for many years

*"God as we understood Him".* I have known many men who had practically no knowledge (awareness? Feeling?) of/for God as a spiritual being. God was mainly a part of profanity. Nothing more, and used with no feeling of guilt or sense of the lack of appropriateness of this usage. No wonder that many of us were unable to accept step three openly. In my case there was denial splashing around in my thinking that impacted my development in the program. It wasn't strong enough to cause me to drink. It did affect the way I conducted myself while sponsoring other men. I found that I couldn't answer their questions around God's impact on their lives, for instance, making reference to *how I felt*. It became a case of quoting the book. Valuable? Yes! Honest? Maybe not...

During the funeral service, I spent a lot of time on their printed program while listening to the sermon. Something clicked. One of those "ah Ha" moments came to me. The Christian God is set up to discourage SIN. Our AA God, on the other hand, is set up as a way to eliminate active character defects which are identified as the root of our sickness. This process rids us of our current pain. This explains why some truly religious people remain members of AA while still attending the Church of their choice. Relief comes as a result of their newly acquired AA spirituality. They lose the obsession to drink!!



# March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>PICPC Mtg—6pm Outreach Mtg—5:45pm Intergroup Mtg—7:30pm</i>	3	4	5 <i>Secretary's Workshop 10am, Central Office Archives Work Day 11:15am, Central Office</i>
6	7	8 <i>SCCYPAA Business Meeting 6:30 PM</i>	9 <i>North County General Service Meeting 7:30pm</i>	10	11	12 <i>PICPC Workshop 10am, Central Office</i>
13	14	15 <i>South County General Service Meeting 7:00pm</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>Divert/12th Steppers- Workshop 10am 1980 Hamilton Ave, SJ</i>
20	21 <i>Bridging The Gap Meeting 7:00pm 1980 E. Hamilton Ave., SJ</i>	22 <i>H &amp; I Committee 7:00pm</i>	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## LOCAL EVENTS

**Mar. 26:** **Bad Dinner Theatre**, Sober and Free Fundraiser, 6 PM, Church of Christ, 400 W. Campbell Ave, Campbell

## EVENTS AROUND CALIFORNIA

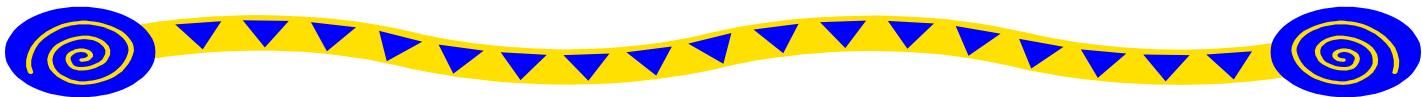
**Mar. 12:** **The Valley Speakers Series**, 7 PM, St. Mary's Parish Hall, 506 N. Garden Str., Visalia

**Mar. 17-20:** **ACYPAA 2011 39th Annual Roundup**, Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, 1333 Bayshore Hwy, Burlingame

## EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

**April 22-24:** **Celebrate Sobriety 2011**, Vancouver, BC. Visit: [www.celebratesobriety.org](http://www.celebratesobriety.org) for more info.

**Jun 1-5:** **MauiFest VII**, Maui, Hawaii. Visit: [www.maifest.org](http://www.maifest.org) for more info.

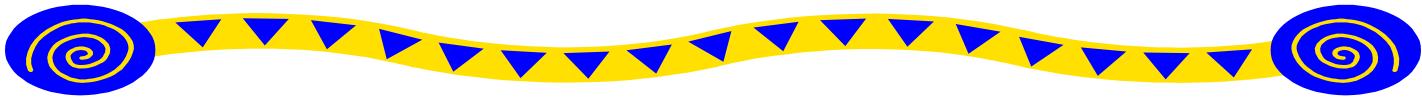


# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 <i>Secretary's Workshop</i> 10am, Central Office <i>Archives Work Day</i> 11:15am, Central Office
3	4	5	6 <i>PICPC Mtg.-6pm</i> <i>Outreach Mtg.-5:45pm</i> <i>Intergroup Mtg.-7:30pm</i>	7	8	9 <i>PICPC Workshop</i> 10am, Central Office
10	11	12 <i>SCCYPAA</i> <i>Business Meeting</i> 6:30 PM	13 <i>North County</i> <i>General Service</i> <i>Meeting</i> 7:30pm	14	15	16 <i>Divert/12th Steppers</i> <i>Workshop</i> 10am 1980 Hamilton Ave, SJ
17	18 <i>Bridging The</i> <i>Gap Meeting</i> 7:00pm 1980 E. Hamilton Ave., SJ	19 <i>South County General</i> <i>Service Meeting</i> 7:00pm	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 <i>H &amp; I Committee</i> 7:00pm	27	28	29	30

We want to help you spread the word

Please send news and information about your group's activities before the end of the month  
So we can get them in the COIN. We accept them in any form,  
But emailing a flyer is best: [office@aasanjose.org](mailto:office@aasanjose.org)



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### Santa Clara County A.A.

Are you looking to be in service in A.A.? Or has your sponsor “suggested” service to you? Or have you heard how great it is and want to get in on the good stuff? Or are you just feeling a little guilty? No matter - this section is for you. What follows is a partial listing of service opportunities in A.A., together with some pertinent information. If you’d like us to include something we’ve missed, please let us know.

*Please remember, groups are autonomous and have different needs with different service positions available. Sobriety requirements, length of commitment, and other particulars of service are a matter of group decision. So, the information presented here is to be used as a guideline only; consult with your group about the specifics.*

#### HOME GROUP SERVICE

**Meeting Secretary:** Setup and facilitation of the meeting according to the group’s guidelines or tradition.

Sobriety requirement – 6 mos. to 5 years. Term – 6 months

**Treasurer:** Collects, protects, and distributes the money collected at each meeting.

Sobriety requirement – 2 years. Term – 1 to 2 years

**Literature Coordinator:** Buys literature for sale and for distribution from Central Office.

Sobriety requirement – 6 mos. to 1 year. Term – 6 mos. to 1 year

**Coffee, Set-up, Clean-up:** Often these are different service positions.

Sobriety requirement – 3 mos. to 1 year. Term – 6 mos. to 1 year

**Grapevine Rep:** Provides the Grapevine for the group and advises on items available from Grapevine.

Sobriety requirement – 1 or 2 years. Term – 1 or 2 years

**PI/CPC Rep:** Represents the group at the PI/CPC meetings and reports to the group.

Sobriety requirement – 1 or 2 years. Term – 1 or 2 years

**Hospitals & Institutions (H&I):** Represents the group at the H&I meetings and reports to the group.

Sobriety requirement – 1 or 2 years. Term – usually 2 years

**Intergroup Rep. (IGR):** Represents the group at the Intergroup meetings and reports to the group.

Sobriety requirement – 1 or 2 years. Term – 2 years

**General Service Rep (GSR):** Represents the group at the District meetings and reports to the group.

Sobriety requirement – 2 to 5 years. Term – 2 years

#### INTERGROUP and CENTRAL OFFICE SERVICE

**PI/CPC Committee:** Our information voice to the general public and professionals.

Sobriety requirement – 2 years. Term – open, but at least 1 year

**Outreach Committee:** Intergroup’s liaison with groups and meetings.

Sobriety requirement – 1 year. Term – open, but at least 1 year

**Divertor Volunteers:** Providing after hours phone coverage.

Sobriety requirement – 1 year. Term – open, but at least 1 year

**12<sup>th</sup> Step Volunteers:** Phone and visitation contact with callers in need.

Sobriety requirement – 6 mos. Term – open, but at least 1 year

**Daytime Office Phone Volunteers:** Takes all incoming calls to Central Office.

Sobriety requirement – 2 years. Term – open, but at least 1 year

**Newsletter Committee:** Prepare monthly newsletter

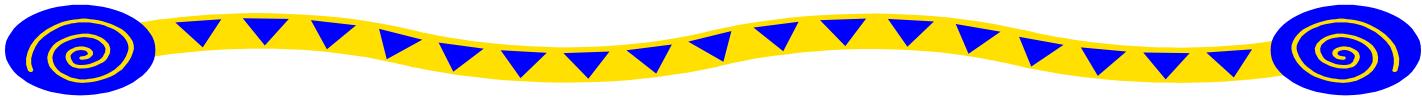
Sobriety requirement – open. Term – open, but at least 1 year

**Activities Committee:** Organize many great activities.

Sobriety requirement – open. Term – open, but at least 1 year

**Communications Committee:** To make sure we all get the word.

Sobriety requirement – open. Term – open, but at least 1 year



## Telephone Calls Received During February

Alcoholics  
Anonymous...  
How may we help you?



Daytime at Central Office 362  
Daytime 12 Step Calls 9

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

### Saturday Morning Fellowship

Saturday at 10 a.m.

United Presbyterian Church

Fremont & Hollenbeck, Sunnyvale

## MEETING CHANGES

### NEW

**Daily Reflection**, Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 7:00AM, South County Fellowship, 18675 Adams Court, Suite N, Morgan Hill

**Women's AA**, Wed. 12 NOON, Veteran's Administration, 3801 Miranda Ave., off Arastradero, Bldg. 5, Room B3, Palo Alto

**Solutions for Gay Women**, Thurs., 7:30PM, First Congregational Church, 1980 Hamilton Ave., Rm. 14, San Jose

### CHANGED

**Saturday Night Young People's**, Sat., 7:30PM, All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverly St., Palo Alto. Name has been changed to SOPY-PAA'S Saturday Night Candlelight.

**Fireside Group**, Fri., 7:00PM, Advent Lutheran Church, 16870 Murphy Ave., in the Library, Morgan Hill. Time has changed to 7:00PM.

**Saturday Night Promises**, Sat., 7:00PM, First Christ Church, 2890 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. Meeting has moved to Covenant Presbyterian Church, 670 E. Meadow Dr. at Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto.

**Gay & Lesbian Steps & Traditions Group**, Fri., 8:00PM, Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1948 The Alameda, San Jose. Meeting has moved to First Unitarian Church of San Jose, 160 N. 3rd Str. near St.James St., San Jose.

**LGBTQ Gay & Lesbian Topic Discussion**, Sat., 6:30PM, Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1948 The Alameda, San Jose. Meeting has moved to First Unitarian Church of San Jose, 160 N. 3rd Str. near St.James St., San Jose.

**South Valley Women's Surrender**, Mon., 8:15PM, Almaden Hills United Methodist Church, 1200 Blossom Hill Rd., San Jose. Time has changed to 7:30PM.

### NO LONGER MEETING

**Teens in Recovery**, Thurs., 4:00PM, First Congregational Church, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto

**Step by Step Group**, Sun., 8:15 PM, Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte, Los Altos

### Speaker list

## Grapevine Speakers Meeting

Mar. 11: Barb C., San Francisco

Mar. 18: Fernando S., Concord

Mar. 25: Tom W., Oakland

*Last Friday of the month is Birthday Night*

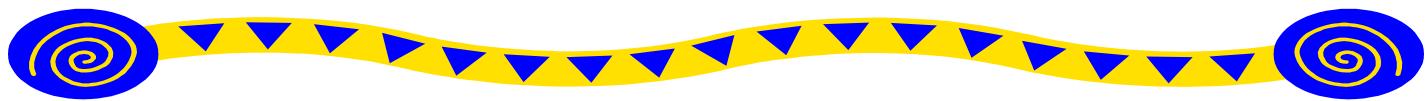
### Speaker list

## Remember We Deal With Alcohol

Mar. 12: Dung, Horizon South (Men's Detox)

Mar. 19: Cristen, Spiritual Progress Group

Mar. 26: Alfonso, SNL San Jose



## BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

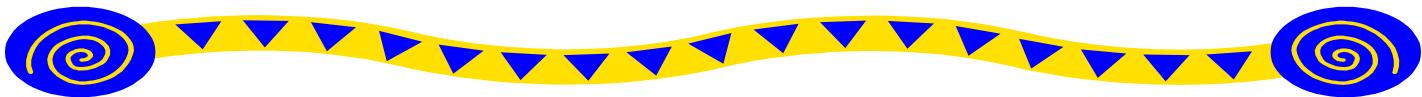
BIRTHDAY CELEBRANT	YEARS	CONTRIBUTIONS BY	BIRTHDAY
Marissa B.	8	Anonymous	01/26/2003
Nancy S.	35	Aileen B.	02/17/1976
Paul C.	32	Paul C.	01/10/1979
Susan S.	6	Carol B.	02/09/2005
David H.	2	Dominic B.	02/28/2009
Nora G.	6	Carol B.	03/01/2005



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!!**

**89 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

February 2, 2011

Bill H., Intergroup Chairperson, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM, followed by a moment of silence and the serenity prayer.

Kathleen read the short definition of Intergroup.

Dione read the twelve traditions.

New Intergroup reps: Rich & Don

Visitors: Lisa

Birthdays: Lisa 2 Years – Sue 23 Years – June 28 Years – Steven 23 Years – Marilyn 27 Years – Kathleen 11 Years – Larie 28 Years – Mary Pat 28 Years – Tommy 4 Years - Amy (our beloved secretary) 5 Years

Additions or corrections to the agenda: Larie's last name begins with an S. Dave will report for the Central Service Board. Cameron's phone number is (408) 849-3240.

Additions or corrections to the previous month's minutes: None

Treasurer's Report: Steven J. Last month the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition was \$108.12. Rent is paid through to March 2011.

54 Voting Representatives were in attendance.

Reports: Intergroup Chair – Bill H.

Need new setup people. For the March meeting Tommy & Pat will set up. Intergroup Reps are being asked the sobriety requirements and are not aware of what they are. Can the chairs report the time requirements with their reports?

Central Service Board - Dave

Gave a CPA Report and the good news and not so good news about the Treasurer's Report.

Central Office – Bruce

Are there any thoughts or concerns for Central Office? Is the Central office phone number in the white pages? Bruce's answer was "yes."

PI/CPC – Susan S.

The location for their March 4<sup>th</sup> event "Bridge to the Future" will be held at the Trinity Episcopal Church from 3-4:30 PM. They need more volunteers. They sent out 280 invitations to professionals, churches, school counselors, etc., and there will be 5 speakers.

Twelfth Step Committee: Rose W.

They will begin to write an article for the COIN every month. They will also have a workshop & training. Sobriety requirement is 6 months for 12 step work.

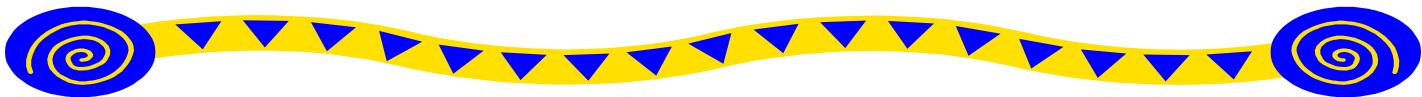
Daytime Office – Michael M.

454 day calls and eight 12 step calls. They need 12 step volunteers and have those volunteers be available at the time they indicate. There is a 2 year sobriety requirement and it's a 2 year commitment. Also they need to have a knowledge of the traditions.

Nights and Weekends – Steve S.

Diverter workshop is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10 am at 1980 Hamilton Avenue, San Jose. They need volunteers.

It is a 1 year commitment and also sobriety requirement. They will also be creating a Floater position.



## **MINUTES, cont.**

Outreach Committee – Mary Pat P.

There is a 5:45 pm meeting at Central Office that meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month. They need participants on the committee. If you are interested, contact Mary Pat. There are no sobriety requirements at this point.

Newsletter Committee – Tommy M.

There will be a new column in the COIN every month titled “Message from a Young Person.” They need articles to be submitted. The upcoming topics are in the COIN and submission information. No sobriety requirements for this.

Activities Committee – Gloria V.

Events coming up are the Chili Cook-Off on April 9. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Founder’s Day Picnic June 11<sup>th</sup>. The play “In Our Own Words : Pioneers of Alcoholics Anonymous” July 22-24 & July 29-31. 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Take Your Sponsor to Brunch on October 15. They need more chili teams, please contact Gloria if you’re groups are interested.

Communications Committee – Steve G.

Still developing the committee guidelines. Their next meeting is on 2/26 @ 11 am at 19120 Cox Avenue in Saratoga. All are welcome.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Other Service Committee Reports

Unity Day – Amy F. No report.

Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous – Mike H.

Annual Spring Conference will be in Foster City March 11-13<sup>th</sup>.

Hospitals & Institutions – Bret

Please pass the H&I can separately from the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition bashed. Collected \$55,000. Last year and they were #2 in California. H & I Conference will be held in Fresno May 6-8<sup>th</sup>. They meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month and orientation if you are a new member going into an institution is at 6:30 pm. The sobriety requirements vary as well as the length of the commitment.

Bridging the Gap – Julius

6 month sobriety requirement to be a volunteer and 1 year sobriety requirement to be on the committee.

North County – Cameron

Shannon is now the DCMC. There were 20 new GSR reps at their last meeting.

South County: Larry

11 new GSR reps at their last meeting. Area chair person came to their 1<sup>st</sup> meeting forming a standing committee for an ad hoc web committee. PRAASA is coming up March 4-6<sup>th</sup> in Hawaii.

SCCYPAA: Shannon

Co Hosting a Valentine’s event with SNL on 2/12.

Open Forum:

Central Office prints updated meeting guides every Tuesday.

Sober & Free is hosting a Go-Go Bingo event 2/26 at 7 pm.

Lisa is our new cookie person.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

4:05 PM  
03/01/11

Accrual Basis

# INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

## Profit & Loss

February 2011

	Feb 11	Feb 10	Jan - Feb 11
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
3030 · Contributions-General	6,700.38	8,685.97	21,969.92
8010 · Literature Sales	4,106.31	4,742.79	10,338.40
8020 · Meeting Guide Sales	1,120.00	1,013.50	2,186.00
8050 · Activities Committee	0.00	172.64	0.00
8060 · Newsletter Subscriptions	0.00	20.00	5.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>11,926.69</u>	<u>14,634.90</u>	<u>34,499.32</u>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>			
5000 · Cost of Goods Sold			
5100 · Cost of Inventory Sold	2,776.34	3,715.40	7,302.83
5150 · Cost of Meeting Directories	334.44	400.47	586.05
<b>Total 5000 · Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<u>3,110.78</u>	<u>4,115.87</u>	<u>7,888.88</u>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<u>3,110.78</u>	<u>4,115.87</u>	<u>7,888.88</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>8,815.91</u>	<u>10,519.03</u>	<u>26,610.44</u>
<b>Expense</b>			
6010 · Alarm Service	0.00	0.00	207.00
6015 · Activities Committee Expense	0.00	166.16	861.97
6030 · Accounting and Legal Fee	800.00	800.00	900.00
6070 · Bank Credit card charges (Credit card costs and fees)	86.82	102.15	184.84
6120 · Computer Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
6140 · Conferences - Office Manager	159.58	30.00	159.58
6160 · Copier Expense	255.72	133.49	318.62
6230 · Insurance - General Liability	162.83	0.00	325.66
6240 · Employee HRA Plan	382.70	812.27	1,418.60
6245 · Internet Access Charges	29.95	29.95	59.90
6330 · Office Expense	95.21	179.35	583.61
6370 · Office Paper Supply	195.95	1,093.24	206.43
6380 · Payroll Taxes	774.22	778.90	1,650.16
6410 · Postage	44.06	300.00	270.24
6480 · Rent	2,580.65	2,463.95	5,087.95
6540 · Salaries - Office	7,575.44	7,870.45	15,159.30
6560 · Payroll Expenses	82.50	76.42	222.00
6600 · Signing Services	200.00	200.00	400.00
7010 · Taxes and Licenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
7050 · Telephone	349.21	362.52	702.09
7060 · Travel	0.00	0.00	56.29
9080 · Sales Tax (Sales tax paid on purchases)	0.00	0.00	-0.41
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>13,794.84</u>	<u>15,398.85</u>	<u>28,793.83</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-4,978.93</u>	<u>-4,879.82</u>	<u>-2,183.39</u>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Income</b>			
8030 · Interest Income	162.16	249.74	163.23
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>162.16</u>	<u>249.74</u>	<u>163.23</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>162.16</u>	<u>249.74</u>	<u>163.23</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>-4,816.77</u>	<u>-4,630.08</u>	<u>-2,020.16</u>

4:03 PM  
03/01/11

# INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY, INC.

Accrual Basis

## Balance Sheet

As of February 28, 2011

Feb 28, 11

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

##### Checking/Savings

1010 · Petty Cash	127.47
1020 · First Republic Bank (Checking account)	10,828.66
1021 · First Republic Bank CD 0429 (12 Mo. CD @ 1.73%, 08/12/2011)	17,366.54
1023 · First Republic Bank CD 3228 (12 Mos. CD @ 2.47%, 02/05/2012)	16,239.88
1024 · First Republic Bank CD 0551 (12 Mos. CD @ 1.04%, 05/19/2011)	10,079.18
1025 · First Republic Bank CD 7266 (12 Mos. CD @ .35%, 01/06/2012)	20,000.00

##### Total Checking/Savings

74,641.73

##### Accounts Receivable

1110 · Accounts Rec - Group Deposits	-1,398.12
Total Accounts Receivable	-1,398.12

##### Other Current Assets

1250 · Literature Inventory	15,996.77
1310 · Prepaid Insurance	437.36
1499 · Undeposited Funds	77.96
Total Other Current Assets	16,512.09

##### Total Current Assets

89,755.70

#### Fixed Assets

1630 · Office Equipment	28,857.02
1640 · Office Furnishings - Asset	7,097.67
1641 · Less Accumulated Depreciation	-29,407.42
1680 · Leasehold Improvements	300.00
1681 · Less Accumulated Amortization	-186.00

##### Total Fixed Assets

6,661.27

#### Other Assets

1860 · Deposits	2,243.85
Total Other Assets	2,243.85

### TOTAL ASSETS

**98,660.82**

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

#### Liabilities

##### Current Liabilities

###### Other Current Liabilities

2240 · Sales Tax Payable (due quarterly)	1,117.13
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,117.13

##### Total Current Liabilities

1,117.13

##### Total Liabilities

1,117.13

#### Equity

##### Temporarily Restricted Funds

10,842.08

##### Unrestricted Funds

88,721.77

##### Net Income

-2,020.16

##### Total Equity

97,543.69

### TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

**98,660.82**

	Feb 11	Jan - Feb 11		Feb 11	Jan - Feb 11
1 INV Early Bird Group 70968	0.00	20.00	Ladies Amethyst AA Study Group 749 (Wed.)	0.00	179.00
1 Inv Freedom Fellowship 70940	35.00	70.00	Living in the Solution MH (W) 33 (Sat.)	0.00	77.90
1 INV Fremont & Manet Group 70975	0.00	700.00	Los Altos Men's Group 59 (Mon.)	0.00	162.00
1 INV R and B Group 70972	379.89	833.55	Men's Basic Step Study Group 891 (Tues.)	0.00	240.00
1 INV Saturday Nite Live Group 70905	70.00	140.00	Men's Single Problem Study 89 (Mon.)	0.00	340.00
1 INV South County Fellowship 70954	210.00	420.00	Midday Women's Group 91 (Mon.)	0.00	203.00
1 INV Spiritual Progress Group 70904	0.00	982.16	Monday at a Time 208 (Mon.)	0.00	112.00
1 INV Winchester Fellowship 70960	0.00	75.00	Mountain Miracles 882 (Thur.)	183.40	183.40
12 Steps & HOW (Women) 25 (Tues.)	30.00	53.00	New Life Start (Chips) 444 (Sun.)	0.00	367.88
12 Steps at Noon 303 (Fri.)	0.00	100.10	New Nooners 808 (Mon.)	110.00	110.00
3rd Steppers Book Study (Wom) 610 (Thur.)	0.00	245.00	New Steps for Living 20 (Sun.)	0.00	347.91
Almaden Valley Discussion 30 (Sun.)	0.00	70.00	Palo Alto Step Study 752 (Tues.)	350.00	350.00
As Bill Sees It 6.00P 518 (Mon.)	0.00	123.20	Personal 00911	152.00	541.00
Attitude Adjustment LG 603 (Sun.)	161.15	161.15	Plaza Del Rey Group 52 (Sun.)	0.00	128.00
Basic Big Book Study 803 (Tues.)	110.00	110.00	Rincon Men's Fellowship 567 (Thur.)	420.00	420.00
Bedmakers Group (Men) 812 (Thur.)	67.00	67.00	Saturday Morning Los Gatos 777 (Sat.)	0.00	980.00
Berryessa Group 527 (Wed.)	0.00	280.00	Serenity Discussion 210 (Wed.)	743.92	743.92
Birthday Contribution 00951	13.00	142.00	Single Problem Study (Men) 212 (Wed.)	0.00	1,624.00
Boiled Owls (Men's) 816 (Wed)	522.20	522.20	SOPYPAA'S Sat. Night Candle... 142 (Sat)	15.00	15.00
Cambrian Saturday Night (Chips) 376 (Sat)	0.00	385.00	Spiritual Awakening 813 (Tues.)	85.45	100.23
Caring & Sharing 148 (Tues.)	26.15	26.15	Sunshine Group noon 243 (Thur.)	0.00	285.00
Character Defect Freedom 201 (Tues)	0.00	510.00	T.G.I.F. Speaker/Discussion 298 (Fri.)	140.00	140.00
Chip Winners Group 168 (Wed.)	0.00	207.90	There Is a Solution (Men) MH 732 (Thur)	0.00	200.00
Dialogue Group 228 (Thur.)	91.00	91.00	Unknown	70.00	70.00
Early Tuesday Group 119 (Tues.)	0.00	349.30	Up the Creek-Daily Reflections 745 (Tue.)	0.00	50.00
El Camino Group 108 (Tues)	0.00	35.00	Veterans of Alcohol 874 (Tues.)	0.00	155.00
End of the Line Men's Group 147 (Tues.)	0.00	52.50	We Have Arrived (Men's) 819 (Mon.)	0.00	20.00
Evergreen Group 884 (Thur.)	100.00	100.00	Wisdom to Know 651 (Mon.)	300.00	300.00
G Fair Avenue Fellowship 70901	130.34	337.27	Women's Brunch 640 (Sat.)	0.00	243.00
G Gilroy Groups 70906	70.00	140.00	Women's Topic Disc. Group 103 (Tues.)	0.00	440.00
G Remember We Deal With Alcohol 70938	0.00	350.00	Women Sharing the Solution 519 (Thur.)	0.00	163.10
G Serenity at Noon (fka Agnew) 70921	0.00	350.00	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6,700.38</b>	<b>21,969.92</b>
G Serenity First Fellowship 70902	25.00	50.00			
G Sunrise Group of Palo Alto 70963	315.00	315.00			
G Sunrisers Group/Carrows 70932	469.25	939.03			
G Third Tradition Women's Gp, The 70900	406.53	698.84			
Gay & Lesbian Sober Experience 896 (Mon.)	0.00	184.80			
Gay Men & Women Together 85 (Mon.)	0.00	180.00			
Gay Men's Freedom 262 (Thur.)	0.00	265.23			
Get Up and Go (Women) 187 (Sat.)	0.00	400.00			
Happy Destiny (Women) 109 (Tues.)	0.00	289.80			
High Hope (Men's) 239 (Sat.)	0.00	108.80			
HOW Group 71 (Mon.)	420.00	420.00			
Humbly Asked 87 (Sun.)	321.00	321.00			
In the Solution 647 (Sat.)	128.10	327.60			
Inspiration Big Book 195 (Wed.)	30.00	30.00			
Invaders Group 44 (Sun.)	0.00	100.00			

MARCH 17 - 20, 2011

# ACYPAA 2011

39<sup>th</sup> Annual  
All California Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous Roundup



**HYATT REGENCY SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT**  
1333 BAYSHORE HWY, BURLINGAME, CA 94010 (650) 347-1234

DETACH HERE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (      ) -      Sobriety Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> AA
<input type="checkbox"/> ALANON
<input type="checkbox"/> ALATEEN

SPECIAL NEEDS:  HEARING IMPAIRED  
 CHILDCARE  
 OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS  
 ESL: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to help Outreach ACYPAA 2011  
I want to be on the ACYPAA mailing list  
I want to be of service at ACYPAA 2011

Yes  No  
 Yes  No  
 Yes  No

Please Make Checks  
Payable to:  
ACYPAA 2011  
PO Box 151298  
San Rafael, CA 94915

Pre-Registration: \$20

Banquet: \$40

Sponsor a Newcomer: \$20

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Online Registration, Events, and more:  
**ACYPAA2011.ORG**

For More Information  
Please Contact:  
Emily O. (chair) 530-318-6674  
Erica V. (registration) 775-848-5281

**NCCAA**  
**64<sup>th</sup>**  
**Annual Spring Conference**

**Northern California  
Council of  
Alcoholics Anonymous**

# **Foster City, CA**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1221 Chess Drive, Foster City, CA 94404**

**March 11, 12, & 13, 2011**

**Friday, March 11, 2011**

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

Registration Opens  
Early Bird Meeting  
Open Speaker Meeting



**Betty H., Moapa, NV**

**Saturday, March 12, 2011**

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

General Service Panel  
Host Committee Workshop  
H & I Panel  
Young People's Meeting



8:00 PM

**Paco D. San Jose, CA**  
Open Speaker Meeting



10:00 PM

**Rosie T., Lakewood, CA**  
Dance Following Drawing

**Sunday, March 13, 2011**

9:30 AM  
11:00 AM

All A.A. Services Panel Meeting  
Open Speaker Meeting



**Gary Ann, Modesto, CA**

**Marathon  
Meetings**



**Fellowship – Workshops – Speakers – Raffle –  
Pre-Registration Is Appreciated**

\*Hotel and map on back\*

**Juntas en  
Español**



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 \_\_\_\_\_ (more room on back of form) Amt. Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

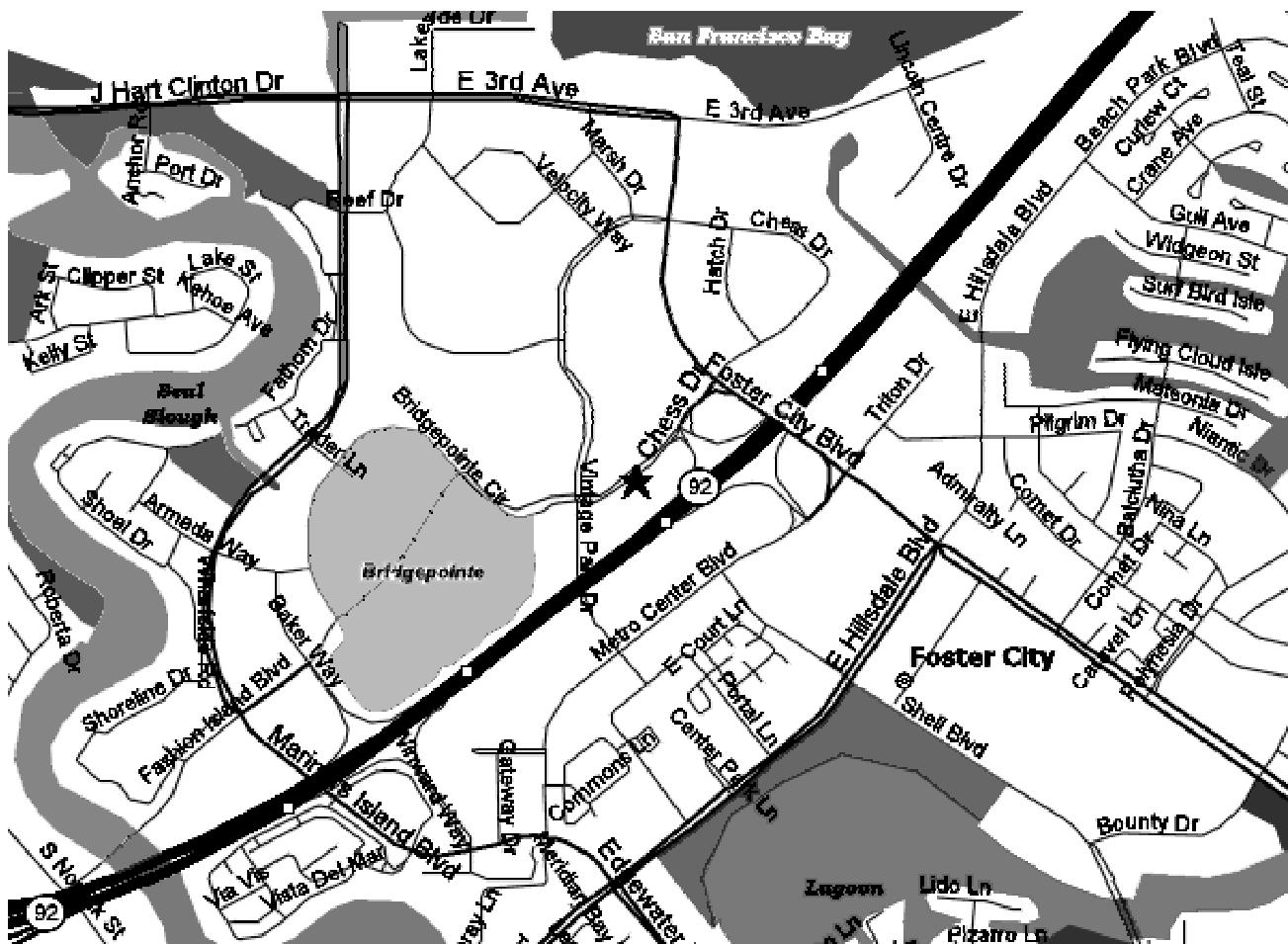
Are you staying at a hotel or motel? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ Hotel/ motel name \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mention NCCAA when you register at the hotel or motel of your choice. It helps defray our costs.**

**64<sup>th</sup> Annual NCCAA Spring Conference  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
1221 Chess Drive  
Foster City, California 94404  
March 11, 12 & 13, 2011**

The following hotel is offering special rates for those attending the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual NCCAA Spring Conference in Foster City. We have a strong room requirement for this Conference and per the NCCAA Steering Committee, we will only list this hotel. To ensure your reservation, you should register at least 30 days in advance of the Conference, and you **must** mention that you are attending the NCCAA Foster City Conference in order to obtain these rates. For reservations, please call: 1 (800) 477-5700

	<b>Hotel / Motel</b>	<b>Single</b>	<b>Double</b>	
1	<u>Host Hotel</u> <b>Crowne Plaza Hotel</b> 1221 Chess Drive Foster City, CA 94404 (650) 570-5700	\$ 112.00	\$ 112.00	Indoor Pool, whirlpool, high- speed internet access Health/fitness center on-site, 3 restaurants



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

# COME & JOIN US FOR OUR 4TH ANNUAL INTERGROUP CHILI COOKOFF! CELEBRATING THE HOME GROUP

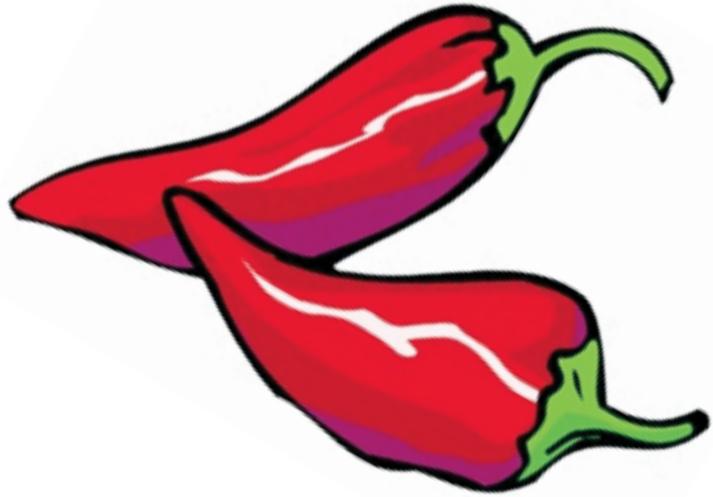
SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2011

12 NOON TO 3 PM

LINCOLN GLEN CHURCH

2700 BOOKSIN AVE.

SAN JOSE, CA



\$10.00 donation per person

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!!!**

Sample great chili, then vote for your fave - live music - fun and frivolity - it'll be a blast!

For more information on how to signup your group as a

CHILLI team

DESSERT team

COFFEE team

CORBREAD team

SET-UP team

CLEAN-UP team

(we do need lots of volunteers!) call Gloria @ 408.286.2065

# **Santa Clara County Intergroup**

## **2011 Calendar of Events**

**Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 12noon – 3pm**

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off**

**Lincoln Glen Church, 2700 Booksin Ave., San Jose**

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**Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 11am – 4pm**

**2nd Annual Founders Day Picnic**

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**July 22, 23, 24 and July 29, 30, 31**

**“In Our Own Words: Pioneers of  
Alcoholics Anonymous”**

**2pm matinees and 8pm evening performances**

**(times subject to change)**

**Theater on San Pedro Square**

**29 N. San Pedro St.**

**Downtown San Jose**

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**Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 11am – 2 pm**

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Take Your Sponsor To Brunch**  
**Lincoln Glen Church, 2700 Booksin Ave., San Jose**

**Flyers with full details will be distributed prior to events**

**To volunteer for these events contact Central office on (408)374-8511 or**

**Activity Chair on 408-286-2065**

**Visit our website at [www.aasanjose.org](http://www.aasanjose.org)**