December 2023

Volume 24, Issue 12

THE VALLEY VIEW

The Voice of the Valley

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Valley Service Center

Office: 925-829-3160 24hr Hot Line: 925-829-0666 Toll Free: 888-859-3230 Email: info@valleyservicecenteraa.org www.valleyesrvicecenteraa.org

HEADLINES

What's New?

- You can now purchase Literature at the Valley Service Center using Credit/Debit Cards.
- There will be hourly Marathon meetings at both Crossroads and Tri-Valley Fellowships on Christmas and New Year's and the day before each.
- On Sunday, December 17rd, starting at noon, the Valley Service Center will be conducting its annual physical inventory. A easy way to be of service to the VSC.

Coming Soon:

- The **54th Anniversary Dinner on January 27th.** Get your tickets now. It is going to be sold out.
- Registration is now open for the Pacific Regional AA Service Assembly on March 1-3, 2024 in San Francisco at the Marriott Marquis.
- Western Area Conference of Young People in A.A. (WACYPAA) is happening in Oakland from December 28th through 31st, followed immediately by a New Year's celebration to remember.
- June, 2025, International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous in Vancouver, Canada.

"90 Years—Language of the Heart"

To receive the Valley View each month, email us at: info@valleyservicecenteraa.org

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

<u>"Our Primary Purpose is to</u> <u>carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers</u>."

Here are several ways you can help carry that message:

- Board Member-at-Large 1 hr/mo
- Hotline volunteers
- Workshop Coordinator
- Accessibilities Chairperson
- NCCAA Liaison
- Central Office Volunteers 2 hrs/mo

... Does your Group have an Intergroup Representative?

... Does your Group have a General Service Representative?

To participate in Alcoholics Anonymous, email

info@valleyservicecenteraa.org

VALLEY SERVICE CENTER PHYSICAL INVENTORY

"A business which takes no regular inventory usually goes broke. Taking a commercial inventory is a fact –finding and a fact-facing process." Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 64

We'll be gathering in the Service Center on December 17th, 2023 to count stuff All the Literature, (books and pamphlets) as well as chips and other service items.

Contact: info@valleyservicecenteraa.org to sign up to help.

Speaking of Service ...

If you have the privilege to serve Alcoholics Anonymous, did you know that we have a comprehensive *Service Manual* that is combined with the *Twelve Concepts for World Service*. Published every few years, it is filled with updated helpful information.

Several members participate in a **Third Legacy Workshop** every Wednesday night at 6:00pm. You can join in online at Zoom ID: **996 628 347**, password: **warranties**. They're reading the Service Manual and the Twelve Concepts together and discussing what they find. Grab a Service Manual and join in.

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS (H&I) - Area 53

You may have wondered what those Pink Cans are for.

"Why do we pass those Cans around with the 'basket'?" "Where does that money go, anyway?"

In 1942, San Quentin Prison Warden Duffy invited a few members from the A.A. groups in San Francisco to bring a meeting into the prison, and San Quentin Group #1 was born.

The Hospitals and Institutions Committee is a 9th Tradition entity that carries the message of recovery with meetings and literature to folks who are institutionalized, and it is directly responsible to those it serves. For many years the H&I Committee been one of the largest purchasers of A.A. literature.

Here some ways we can support the work of the H&I Committee:

- 8 different facilities have opportunities for Coordinators, Secretaries and Speakers. If you are wondering how to do that, don't worry, there is a resource titled "Guidelines for Guest Speakers".
- H&I is also working to provide in-person sponsors for Rehab facilities.
- There are inmates at San Quentin are requesting A.A. Sponsorship from men on the outside.

Financial Support – Contributions to H&I

In Alameda County, we are in Area 53 of H&I. Thanks to the response from many people like you, there's been enough support to provide literature and service in our local Area. However, Northern California H&I (NorCal H&I) is facing a serious shortfall of funds needed to provide services where needed.

Please consider a modest financial contribution. Every little bit really does help.

https://www.handinorcal.org/contribute

PARTICIPATION IN A.A.'s TRADITION OF SELF-SUPPORT

On November 17, 2023, the General Manger of Alcoholics Anonymous, Bob W. sent out an appeal for consideration by the Fellowship's, Groups and Members.

The nationwide shutdown in 2020 left many people uncertain about how to support A.A. What followed was a steep decline in Contributions, and Literature sales nearly ceased. A.A. lost over \$1 Million the next year and this year's Budget looks just shy of that figure. Fortunately, the Fellowship responded with increased Contributions, however Literature sales, always the answer to any shortfall, have not rebounded.

Bob W. said, "Your generosity has sustained us through very difficult times in the past. If your group is able, in the spirit of Gratitude Month, please consider a special contribution to the General Service Board."

A.A. World Services (AAWS), the General Service Board (GSB), and the Grapevine Board continue to look for ways to reduce costs while supporting the Fellowship's Primary Purpose carrying the message of recovery. All three Boards have deferred essential projects and Advisory Actions from the General Service Conference.

GSO Facts (these are just a few of the services provided by the GSO:

- 87 employees support the needs of over a million members of the Fellowship
- Publishing meets goals by the GSB, AAWS, and the General Service Conference.
- Communications Website, Meeting Guide app, coordination with Public Information, and many types of correspondence.
- Staff Services Coordinates the staff efforts of departments with special attention the 2025 International Convention in Vancouver, Canada.
- Member Services supports the Fellowship's needs for order fulfillment, managing contributions, as well as direct links to Area Registrars.
- Finance processes over 80,000 individual contributions each year, develop budgets, expenses and receipts from Literature sales.
- Archives Permanently documents the work and history of A.A.

Contribute online at contribution.aa.org, or if using mail,:

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

STORY SOLICITATION

"Do You Think You're Different?" Pamphlet Update

Deadline for submissions: April 30, 2024

The Trustees Literature Committee is seeking stories from AA members with diverse backgrounds. This is in response to the 2022 Conference Advisory Action that the trustees' Literature Committee revise the pamphlet "**Do You Think You're Different?**" to update the stories to represent greater diversity.

The Trustees' Literature Committee requested that consideration be given to stories from multicultural populations, stories from A.A. members whose experience reflects multiple factors, and from diverse populations not addressed in other current A.A. literature.

Please encourage members in your area to write their personal stories for possible inclusion in the revised pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different." Stories should reflect "in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now."

The suggested format for typed manuscripts is 500-800 words, double spaced, in

12-point font. Handwritten manuscripts should be approximately 5 to 6 pages.

Please include your complete name, address, and email/phone information on the first page of your manuscript. A copy of your manuscript should be retained for your files.

The anonymity of all authors will be observed whether their story is selected for publication or not.

Instructions for submitting your manuscript:

Deadline: Please submit on or before April 30, 2024

Submit your story by following this link:

https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/5a77c27d179d4856b32eed86b01e3426

Additional ways of sending your story: Email: pamphletstories@aa.org

Subject Line: "Do You Think You're Different?"

Postal Mail:

Attn. Literature Assignment, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

On the envelope: The word "Pamphlet" should be written on the envelope

and at the top of the first page of the manuscript.



Akron, Ohio - October, 2023

The day, Wednesday starts in the 6:45am Akron Morning Meditation group and ends in the King School Group #1 of Alcoholics Anonymous. After the morning meeting, a visit to the Central Office and not enough time in the Archives there. The next stop is the 'Seiberling Gatehouse', now called the Gate Lodge at the Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. There is no one else is in the house and you can feel



the warmth and comfort of this Tudor home, built in 1915. Just past the baby grand piano in the living room is the 'room where it happened' in 1935. Here where Henrietta Seiberling introduced Bill Wilson to Dr. Bob Smith, two chairs rest under a plaque spelling out the spiritual significance of our limitation, our weakness. There is a small wooden chair in the room. I sit there imagining the two men talking for hours in this space. Sunlight pours through the window and suddenly my eyes fill with tears.

Sometime later, the piano in the living room begins playing without anyone at the keyboard and I feel like I can leave with my spirit filled. Walking back to the car, between ancient apple trees, I 'hear' a powerful message. "Now you've felt this experience; get busy! Pass it on."

That afternoon, at 855 Ardmore Ave, the restored home of Dr. Bob and Ann Smith. It is maintained by a dedicated group of friendly volunteers who greet folks at the door with a warm, "Welcome home!"

Late in the tour of the house with my guide, we arrive at the room where Dr. Bob sobered up after his short trip east. The on his bed, a copy of Alcoholics Anonymous lies open to page sixty-three and the Third Step Prayer is highlighted. My guide says, "Some people like to pray in here." I ask if I can too. He steps out into the hall and I kneel alone at Dr. Bob's bedside, offering, where he did, my prayers of surrender and thanks for the life I have been given because of what he did.

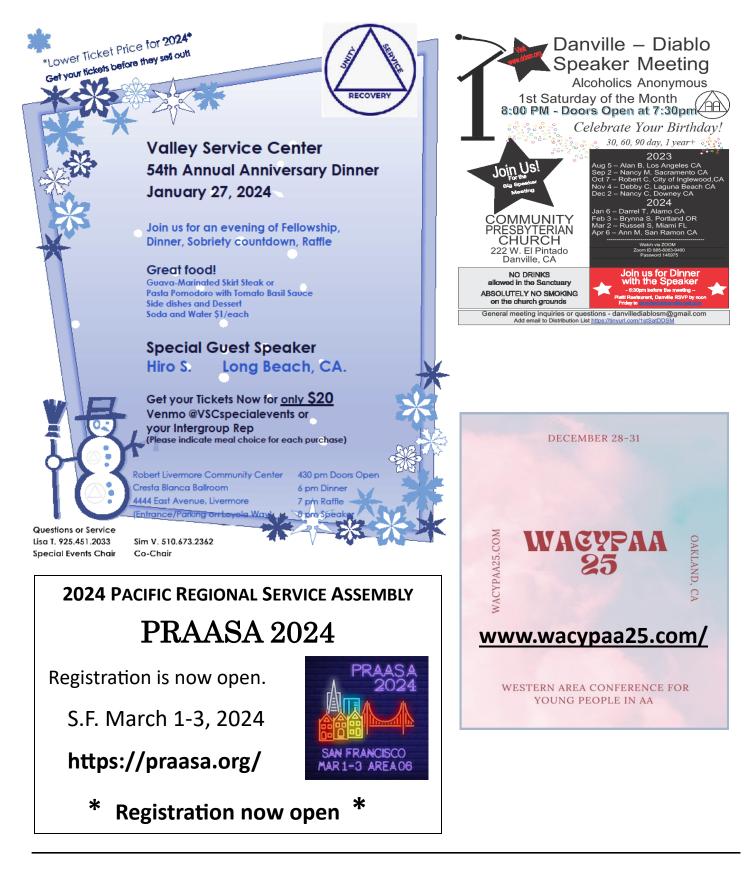


Today, I am grateful to a sponsor who has instilled in me

the habit of prayer, so that when the opportunity arises, I intuitively know what to do. I leave there changed,

Later that night, the meeting at the King School #1 feels so warm, comfortable and yes, familiar. I leave Akron the next day filled with gratitude, having received the same message that Dr. Bob and Bill Wilson received in 1935, "Now you've felt this thing, get busy! Pass it on."

- Anonymous (October 11, 2023)



2025 International Convention of A.A.— Vancouver, B.C.- July 3-6, 2025

https://www.aa.org/international-convention

DECEMBER 2023 CALENDAR

December 2	D <u>anville Diablo Speaker</u> - 7:30pm (Nancy C - Downey, CA) 22 W. El Pintado, Danville, CA also: 885-8083-9460, Password: 146975
December 6	<u>Area 53—Hospitals & Institutions</u> - Orientation 7:00 pm 1st Christian Church, 29th & Fairmont, Oakland
December 6	VISC Intergroup Meeting - 07:30 PM Only: 871 5409 5843, Password: IG94566
December 9	<u>Crossroads Fellowship Business Meeting</u> - 09:00 AM 386 Preston Court, Livermore, CA
December 12	<u>Tri-Valley Fellowship Business Meeting</u> - 06:30 PM 6500 Dublin Blvd. Also: 516 196 4435, Password: 807945
December 16	<u>CNCA06 Area Committee meeting</u> - 10:00am—3:30pm 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954. Also: 632 553 607 / 1935
December 17	Valley Service Center Physical Inventory—(Noon til ?) Email: info@valleyservicecenteraa.org - if you can help
December 18	<u>District 70</u> - 6:30pm—Pot Luck Dinner Faith Lutheran Church 20080 Redwood Rd, Castro Valley Also: 774 061 7133 / CNCA
December 24 -25 <u>H</u>	<u>Hourly Marathon Meetings</u> Tri-Valley and Crossroads Fellowships
December 28—31 <u>V</u>	<u>Western Area Conference of Young People in A.A.</u> (WACYPAA) See: Wacypaa25.com Oakland Marriott 1001 Broadway, Oakland (Dec 31—Jan 1, 2024 - New Year's Party)
December 31 thru January 1, 2024	Hourly Marathon Meetings Tri-Valley and Crossroads Fellowships



12/22 - 11/23	
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS	

GROUP	12/22	1/23	2/23	3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23	5/23	10/23	11/23	7th Tr.	Literature	Total funds
Individual	00'0 1 /E			10.00	20.00	2.00		93.00	349.00	81.00		391.00	1,097.00	1,397.53	2,694.33
Aptos Women's Conf.													0.00	0.00	0.00
As Bill Sees It								430.00				73.00	430.00	0.00	430.00
Big Book Energy										73.00			75.00	0.00	75.00
Broken Elevator												842.00	0.00	61.50	61.50
By the Book			228.25		241.50			224.40			138.60		694.13	0.00	694.13
Carrying the Message													0.00	226.50	226.50
Crossroads Fellowship		1,800.00											1,800.00	1,133.00	2,953.00
Dist 70													0.00	42.50	42.50
Friday Night Live								118.95					118.95	32.00	130.95
Friendship Group			143.00										143.00	0.00	143.00
Happy, Joyous and Free	17.90	53.70							208.00				279.60	137.75	417.35
Hard Knox									100.00				100.00	0.00	100.00
Hilttop Group	304.45						339.15	386.37				332.17	1,049.97	0.00	1,049.97
Jaywalkers			494.38		168.00								662.38	33.00	715.38
Knuckleheads	172.00			132.00				133.00					437.00	93.00	532.00
Ladie's Liteline		205.41	130.19		223.50	196.33	42.46		47.00	136.80		100.80	1,001.69	243.00	1,244.69
Language of the Heart													0.00	34.00	34.00
Mocho Park													0.00	20.00	20.00
Monday Night Live	394.00								201.32				595.32	434.73	1,050.07
Muslim Community Cntr													0.00	228.00	228.00
No. Cal. H&I									178.35				178.35	59.23	277.60
Primary Purpose	1,290.28		868.93		1,128.43			971.87					4,239.51	106.23	4,363.76
San Ramon Com. Cntr													0.00	0.00	0.00
Sat. Moming Breakfast		828.71						364.16	143.98	184.92	83.66		1,521.77	194.23	1,716.02
Serenity Seekers													0.00	0.00	0.00
Sunday AM Coffee - Dublin	123.98		92.29	83.51	83.00	84.90	93.61	83.40	191.40	143.10	90.60	187.20	1,238.99	60.30	1,319.49
There is a Solution						36.00							36.00	26.30	82.50
Triangle Fellowship													0.00	110.73	110.75
Triple Twelve					30.00			130.00	20.00	33.00		33.00	235.00	0.00	235.00
Tri-Valley Fellowship				84.23		78.25			33.73				1,348.00	392.50	1,740.50
Unscripted Men's Grp		366.30						1,132.60					1,518.90	0.00	1,518.90
Women Staying in the Boo	30.34			128.40	63.77	271.50	121.60	117.00	81.97		114.97	132.44	1,101.99	137.00	1,238.99
Words of Wisdom		202.72		208.22			212.50					132.67	623.44	100.73	724.19
Workshops							81.00						81.00	232.50	313.50
Total	26'269'2	3,456.84	1,977.04	646.38	1,980.20	688.98	25-32	4,226.75	17.477,1	633.82	427.83	2,468.28	18,929.05	6,323,33	23,434.60
		-													

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

pink = Venmo blue = cash/check

11/24/2023



Our Address is:

Valley Intergroup Service Center 6500 Dublin Blvd Suite 216 Dublin, CA 94568

on the Web at: valleyservicecenteraa.org or Email us at: info@valleyservicecenteraa.org

7th Tradition Contributions can also be made using valleyservicecenteraa.org/contribute/

..... the Venmo address is @ValleyServiceCenter

to support Special Events (Anniversary Dinner or Summer Picnic) Venmo funds to @VSCSpecialEvents

>>> Note: Venmo contributions to Tri-Valley Fellowship should be sent to @Trivalley.

Those are 7th Tradition contributions to a Group, NOT the Valley Service Center

New Address for CNCA06 Area Contributions ... **1390 N. McDowell Blvd Suite G - 339 Petaluma, CA 94954** <u>https://www.cnca06.org/donations/</u>

The General Service Office addresses:

For contributions:	PO Box 2407
	James A Farley Station
	New York, NY 10116-2407
	<u>https://contribution.aa.org/</u> *

For correspondence: PO Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163

The address for **District 70** (Southern Alameda County):

PO Box 3412 Hayward, CA 94544

Hospitals & Institutions (H&I) :

P.O. Box 192490 San Francisco, CA 94119-2490 https://www.handinorcal.org/contribute *

* Online Contributions are more efficient. Paper donations are more costly to process.

WHAT'S YOUR GROUP'S NUMBER ?

A few years ago, the General Service Office in New York upgraded their database of A.A. Groups in the U.S, and Canada. Registration numbers of listed groups have changed.

GSO Group Services desk sent us a full updated report showing old and new Group numbers, including the names of the groups as listed, which may vary from the names we use.

See your Group's info in the chart below.....

Group Name	Gra Mumbo	ENV	Data / Time	Matac
		LINV		NULES
As Bill Sees It Group	000036909	150495	Friday 7pm - Trinity Lutheran - Pleasanton	Listed as No Name Stag Group
By the Book Group	000097546	178319	Tuesday 7:30pm - St Clare's - Pleasanton	
Carrying the Message Group	000098290	711751	Wed. 8pm - Holy Cross, 1020 Mocho St, Lvrm	n
Crossroads Fellowship Group	000100556	101434	41 meetings / week	
Friday Night Live Group	000106358	101181	Friday 7pm - Online	
Friendship Group	000106658	156103	Fri 7:30pm - St Joan of Arc - San Ramon	
Happy, Joyous and Free Group	000241984	729039	Thurs 7pm - Crosswinds Church - Lvrmr	Happy, Joyous, And Free Young People Group
Hard Knox Group	000109648	617487	Tuesday 7pm - John Knox - Dublin	Listed as Hard Knox (Stag) Group
Hilltop Group	000050037	101833	Wed 7:30pm - Lynnewood Methodist - Pltn	Listed as Pleasanton Hill Top Group
Jay-walkers Group	000112283	655930	Saturday 9am - St Phillips - Dublin	
Knuckleheads Group	000223986	727856	Tuesday 7:30pm - St Phillips - Dublin	
Ladie's Lifeline Group	000006350	177611	Tuesday 6:30pm - Trinity Lutheran- Pltn	
Mocho Park - Men's Group	000056102	125714	Fri 8pm - Holy Cross Lutheran - Lvrmr	Step Study Mens Stag Group / Inactive / 106383?
Monday Night Live Group	000102140	101182	Monday 7pm - Crosswinds - Livermore	Listed as Monday Nite Live Group
Muslim Comm. Cntr Group	000432307	N/A	5724 W Las Positas Blvd	Muslim Community Center East Bay AA Group
Nursery #3 - Men's Group	000040695	100941	Thursday 8pm - Creekside Church - Alamo	Listed as Nursey Group #3
Primary Purpose Group	000051935	631847	Monday 7pm - St Phillips - Dublin	
San Ramon Comm. Center	000098956	146977	Mon/Thurs Noon - San Ramon Comm. Cntr	Listed as San Ramon Group
Saturday Morning Breakfast	000062601	177691	Sat 8am - TriValley Fellowship - Pleasanton	Listed as Saturday Breakfast Group
Serenity Seekers Group	000068266	172674	Sunday 7pm - St Phillips - Dublin	
Sunday AM Coffee - Dublin	000102141	137971	Sunday 8am - St Phillips - Dublin	Listed as Dublin Sunday Morning Coffee Group
Sunol Underground		121570	Tues/Thurs 7:30 - Little Brown Church	Unable to locate this group
There is a Solution Group	000005884	711511	Wed 12:10pm - Holy Cross Lutheran - Lvrm	Listed as status Unknown
Triangle Fellowship Group	000011078	136954	26 meetings / week - Hayward	Listed as status Unknown
Triple Twelve	000375732	N/A	Monday 7pm - Online	Listed as Triple 12 Group
Tri-Valley Fellowship Group	000011035	118110	66 meetings / week - Dublin	
Unscripted Men's Group	000017822	703470	Wednesdy 8:00pm - St Phillips - Dublin	Listed as Unscripted Group
Women Staying in the Book	000079492	684151	Thursday 5:30pm - Trinity Lutheran -Pltn	Listed as Staying in the Book Group
Words of Wisdom Group	000039837	174708	Friday 6pm - St Augustine's - Pleasanton	
Valley Service Center	000004716	NA		Not listed as a group

DECEMBER 2023 - CROSSWORD 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 21 22 23 24 25 28 26 27 29 30 31 32 33

<u>Across</u>

- 1 Pg. 83 reading in many meetings
- 8 Gen. Service ____ /... or Intergroup ___ (people)
- 9 Acronym for "Edging God Out"
- 10 Water below 32 degrees
- 11 _____ about the day in question (2 words)
- 13 Less than some
- 14 Extreme anger
- 15 Drug store chain
- 16 Overtime (abbr)
- 17 No way!
- 19 In other words (abbr)
- 20 Earth below, _____ above
- 21 International (abbr)
- 22 Temporary supports, theater stage furniture
- 24 Station (abbr)
- 25 Tick carried disease
- 27 Expression of deliciousness
- 29 Belly Button
- 32 Alcoholics Anonymous (abbr)
- 33 "Having had a _____ experience,"

<u>Down</u>

- 1 "____ before personalities"
- 2 "Personal _____ depends on Unity."
- 3 "Unlocked by willingness, the door _____"
- 4 Feminine address
- 5 "A Power could restore us to _____"
- 6 "God grant us the _____."
- 7 "_____ through prayer and meditation."
- 12 Either/____
- 16 Approvals
- 18 Happening each year
- 20 Ancient weapon with a point on one end
- 23 Prefix = everything; ____vore, ___present, __scient
- 26 A consequence that hasn't happened is a _____. (slang)
- 28 Pa's partner
- 30 Roman Numeral 6
- 31 Lincoln University (abbr)