

GRATITUDE GAZETTE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY CENTRAL OFFICE OF AA

Serving: Newhall, Canyon Country, Saugus, Castaic, Valencia and Aqua Dulce



SCV CENTRAL OFFICE

26951 Ruether Avenue, B4
Santa Clarita, CA 91351

Open Monday, Wednesday &
Friday
10:00am to 5:00pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

(661) 250-9922

EMAIL:

info@aascv.org

SCVAA Website

www.aascv.org

For current SCV meeting schedules use this QR Code; it will bring you to our website.



WHAT IS A CENTRAL OFFICE / INTERGROUP?

A Central or Intergroup Office is an AA service office that involves partnership among groups in a community – just as AA groups themselves are partnerships of individuals. An intergroup/central office is established to carry out certain functions common to all the groups – functions that are best handled by a centralized office – and it is usually maintained, supervised, and supported by these groups in their general interest. It exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

AA experience has demonstrated that intergroup/central offices are helpful, particularly in populous areas. There are nearly 700 intergroup/central offices throughout the world, performing vital AA services. These constitute a network of service outlets and AA contacts to help carry the AA message. The following are suggestions that outline the basic services of our central office:

- AA inquiries – numerous calls from those seeking help is often the first step people take to learn about meetings and the basics of AA.
- Office facilities – a conveniently located office where we coordinate local AA services.
- Meeting lists and AA literature – updated meeting schedules and other information about AA services. Our office also maintains a variety of AA literature for the convenience of local groups and individuals.
- Information exchange – the office functions as a clearinghouse for the circulation and exchange of information among all the AA groups in the community.
- Public Information & Professional Community -in cooperation with our District, central office is an ideal contact with those in the community seeking information about AA.

AA’s relations with the public and professionals in the alcoholism field are often handled through the cooperation of General Service committees and Central Office.

- AA in Correctional and Treatment facilities – We work in cooperation with our local H & I committees to ensure literature is available so they can carry the message.
- AA Newsletter – Central Office prepares a publication for periodic distribution to AA groups.

SCVAA Central Office has no authority on their own account; they derive it from the participating groups. The office is essentially an AA service entity, “directly responsible to those they serve.” Local group representative reflects the group’s conscience in the service center operations. To learn more about the administrative activities of central office **send a representative from your meeting**. This person will bring information from your group and in-turn will bring information to your meeting group. This keeps a two-way flow of communication going between our central office and your meeting group. **The meeting is the 4th Monday of each month @7pm @Central Office.**

All information contained in the article has been taken from the 2023 edition of the AA Service Manual

The Gazette would love your AA related:

- Stories, Writings
- History, Trivia
- News, Events

Email to: info@aascv.org



Birthday Board

- Cathy Z: 2/6/17**
- Jennifer Y: 2/8/16**
- Marisa R: 2/20/19**
- Patrick B: 2/20/20**
- Sara R: 2/20/21**
- Ella A: 2/21/22**
- Judy F: 2/23/75**
- Meghan R: 2/27/21**



WE DID IT!!

BY: K.S.B. | SEATTLE, WASHINGTON; STORY FROM AA GRAPEVINE, FEB., 2022

When COVID hit, everything went haywire—kids, stress, technology—you name it. AA to the rescue!

The moment I knew the COVID pandemic was going to be a major disaster was when my kids were sent home from school. The governor said we had to shelter in place, and all of a sudden, my AA meetings couldn't meet in person. I immediately went into disaster mode and started controlling everything in my life—the kids' schedules and happiness, the cleanliness of my kitchen, my mother's, and my sponsees' well-being. Have no fear, Kelli is here! That was my motto, which lasted about 14 days, until I had this moment of clarity and realized that we might be shut down for a while and my behavior wasn't sustainable or helpful. As with every other disaster that has struck during my sobriety, I turned to AA for answers.

Our First Tradition has been the greatest help for me during this time: "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity." When applied to my life, it reminds me to put the well-being of others first. The common welfare of my family comes first. The common welfare of my community comes first. It's my job to ensure that I don't pass along the COVID-19 virus to someone else. It's my privilege to think of how I can help meet the needs of my family and community.

Right away, my home group began meeting online. We struggled to mute and unmute, to teach the Oldtimers how to use the technology and to connect in fellowship so we wouldn't separate. But I found myself finding fault with our meeting, with how people had set up their cameras, talking with the volume up or down, you name it. I was finding fault with everything. Again, I thought, this isn't sustainable or helpful.

So, I picked up my spiritual AA toolbox and tried to be of service. The regular service positions in my meeting had changed, so I reached out to members to see how they were doing or to tell them I missed seeing them. I reached out to people after they shared to tell them how much I appreciated what they said. I ended up developing amazing new relationships. I began to feel so fulfilled and supported just by supporting others.

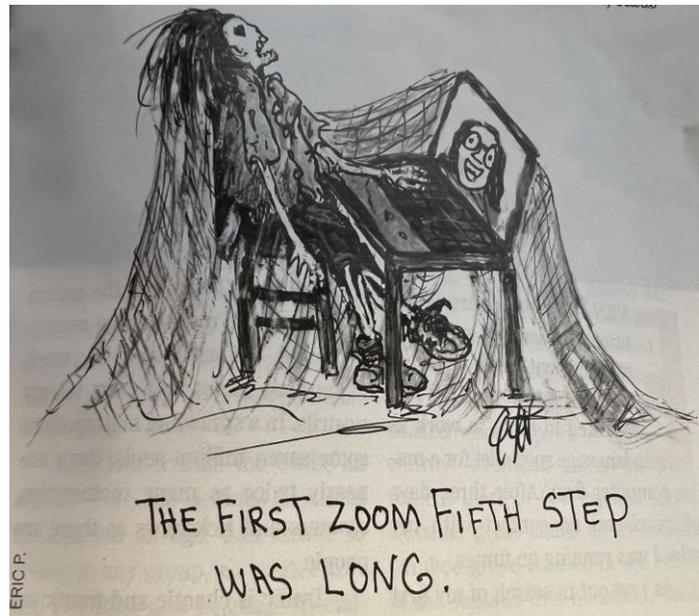
One of my home group members is a photographer and he has begun texting me a photo every morning. It has turned into part of my Eleventh Step morning meditation time and is something I look forward to every day—another unexpected gift as a result of

reaching out to others.

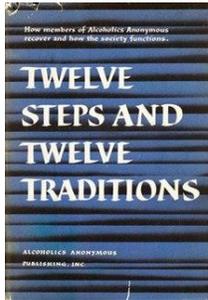
There have been many times when I feel like this pandemic will never end. Sometimes I think it's all too much and I can't do this anymore. I'm tired and lonely and overwhelmed with the stress of it all. But then the principles of our program have helped me. I can't live in this shut-down pandemic world forever—but I can live in it today. Just for today I can follow the rules, limit my activities, and do the things to keep myself and others safe. Just for today I can live life on life's terms. Freedom from the bondage of self has come from being of service to my home group and sponsees.

One of my sponsees started a new meeting for our sponsor family and we have women from all over the country who come together to meet online once a week. It has become a favorite meeting for us all.

There will likely be more disasters and emergencies as I move forward in sobriety. Living one day at a time, putting first things first and approaching life on life's terms will see me through again and again, just as it has these past two years



STEPS, TRADITIONS & CONCEPTS



Step Two

Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Tradition Two

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express himself in our group conscience, our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Concept Two

When in 1955, the AA Groups confirmed the permanent charter for their general service conference, they thereby delegated to the conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the conference – *except for any change in the 12 Traditions or in Article 12 of the conference charter-* the actual voice & effective conscience for our whole society.

ANNOUNCING a new meeting location!!

SCV Recovery
24631 Arch Street
Newhall, 91321

Meetings: Mondays @3pm & Wednesdays @7pm

SCV Convention News

The SCVAA Convention will be **October 20 - 22, 2023**.
Location: Embassy Suites, 28508 Washington Place, Valencia, CA 91355

The next Planning Committee Meeting is **Sunday, 3/12/23 @ Noon at Rafters** 24307 Railroad Ave., Newhall, CA 91321

Convention Fundraiser **SPECIAL EVENT**: Alanon Brunch is **Saturday 2/25/23 @ St. Kateri Church**. Tickets available on Eventbrite. NO tickets available at the door on day event.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/al-anon-brunch-special-event-for-2023-scv-convention-tickets-523030778137>

Hospitals & Institutions (H & I)

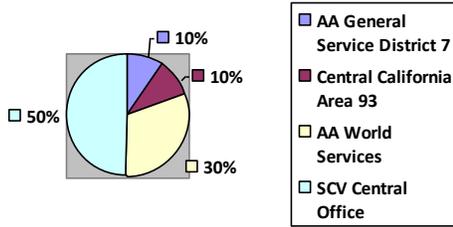
Meeting is on the 1st Thursday of the month at St. Stephens Church
24901 Orchard Village Rd., Valencia CA
6:30 pm new participants followed by 7pm regular meeting.

Special Events

40th Annual So. California H & I Conference
May 5, 6 & 7
Holiday Inn: 14299 Firestone Blvd., La Mirada, CA

56th Annual Pacific Region AA Service Assembly (**PRAASA**)
March 2-5
Los Angeles Airport Marriott: 5855 W. Century Blvd., LA

Districts, Area & Contacts



AA General Service District 7
P.O. Box 599
Acton, California 93510

Central California Area 93
PMB # 140
606 Alamo Pintado #3
Solvang, California 93463

AA World Services
P.O. Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, New York 10116

SCV Central Office
26951 Reuther Ave B4
Santa Clarita, CA 91351

Monthly Service Meetings

Central Office/Intergroup

4th Monday of month at
Central Office
7pm – 8pm

Send a representative from your meeting; find out what is happening at your local Central Office and within the AA community of Santa Clarita Valley

***District 7
General Service***

2nd Monday of the month
6:30pm – 8:00pm

Quartz Hill LaGrange
41843 50th Street West
Lancaster, California
93536

***Area 93 General Service
Area Assembly***

Meets every 3 months

Location will be updated as information is available.

Literature is available at Central Office that explains the various service offices and their functions.

Come in and ask for: *Circle of Love and Service*

Twelve Concepts for World Service (Illustrated)

AA Service Manual

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info@aascv.org

“For thousands of alcoholics yet to come, AA does have an answer. But there is one condition. We must, at all costs, preserve our essential unity; it must be made unbreakably secure. Without permanent unity there can be little lasting recovery for anyone. Hence our future depends upon the creation and observance of a sound group Tradition. First things will always need to be first: humility before success, and unity before fame.”

*AA Co-Founder, Bill W., October 1947, “Traditions Stressed in Memphis Talk”,
The Language of the Heart*



HAPPY VALENTINES DAY