

# 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](mailto:info@aascv.org)

## SCVAA Website

[www.aascv.org](http://www.aascv.org)

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



## WHAT IS H&I (“Hospitals & Institutions”) & WHAT DO THEY DO?

### HISTORY

Ever since A.A.’s co-founders first stayed sober by carrying the A.A. message into hospitals, many other alcoholics have discovered the great value to their own sobriety of working with suffering alcoholics in treatment settings.

In 1934, Bill W. kept trying to help drunks in Towns Hospital in New York City. None of them seemed interested at that time, but Bill stayed sober. Dr. Bob worked with thousands of alcoholics at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Ohio. In 1939, Rockland State Hospital, a New York mental institution, was the site of one of our first A.A. hospital groups.

Today many A.A. meetings take place in inpatient and outpatient settings all over the world. Twelfth Stepping and sponsoring other alcoholics – where they are – has long been one of the most important and satisfying ways of keeping ourselves sober.

Service and treatment facilities used to be combined with service to corrections facilities under the title Institutions Committee. In 1977 the General Service Conference voted to dissolve its Institutions Committee and form two new committees, one on correctional facilities and one on treatment facilities.

### PURPOSE

Treatment Committees are formed to coordinate the work of individual A.A. member and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in treatment and outpatient settings, and to set up means of “bridging the gap” from the facility to an A.A. group in the individual’s community.

A Treatment Committee may function within the structure of a general service committee on the area or district level, or it may serve within the structure of a central office/intergroup. Prior to forming these committees, this Twelfth Step service is sometimes handled by an individual group or member. As A.A. groups grow in number in a community, experience suggests that a committee works more effectively.

In some parts of the country, A.A.s interested in carrying the message into treatment and correctional settings work together on Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) committees independent of, but in cooperation with, general service and intergroup committees. This structure also works well in areas where lines of communication between the various service entities remain open.

*Excerpts taken from A.A. Guidelines from G.S.O New York, NY*

### **SCV Hospitals & Institutions (H & I)**

H & I meets on the **1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month** at St. Stephens Church 24901 Orchard Village Rd., Valencia, CA 91355.

**6:30 pm** new participants; **7:00pm** regular meeting

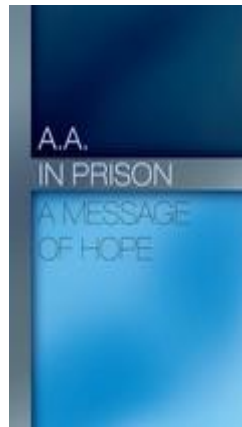
### **AMAZING PEOPLE INSIDE THE ROOMS**

Written by Tony N., Pacific Region (Prison)

*This an excerpt of Tony's letter taken from "Sharing From Behind The Walls" Spring, 2023*

"Today I have exactly 60 days of clean and sober time. My name is Tony. And what is crazy is that I don't think about my sobriety at all. I am constantly thinking about the rooms and the beautiful and amazing people inside them. For the actual first time, I am really reading the Big Book. I just finished the story 'Our Southern Friend,' and I am about to read 'The Vicious Cycle' once I complete my letter writing for the day. I am finally starting to understand the true meaning of 'thy' will and not 'my' will. I have always believed in God, yet my trust has been in question for many, many years. Reading the Big Book is like finally finding a key to the lock or placing the elusive piece to that difficult puzzle. I now know that it is my purpose to help God's children, and we are all God's kids. I am to give back, even if that means spending the rest of my life in jail. I am okay with that because I finally understand that it is God's will and not mine. What gets me emotional, though, is my A.A. family. They didn't get the chance to see me make 30 + 60 days and may never see me again. They put so much time, effort, and energy into me, from Los Angeles to Sin City Las Vegas. More likely than not, they knew I was not ready. But when I was hungry, they fed me. They didn't care for my antics outside of the rooms, but when I was dirty, they gave me clothes

and hygiene products, and in most cases, a place to change and sleep. I personally know that a lot (if not all) of them were tired of my refusal to let go of people and a past that had dragged me through the doors of A.A. in the first place. Worst of all, they will never know how much I really respect and love them from the bottom of my heart.”



The Gazette would love your AA related:

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

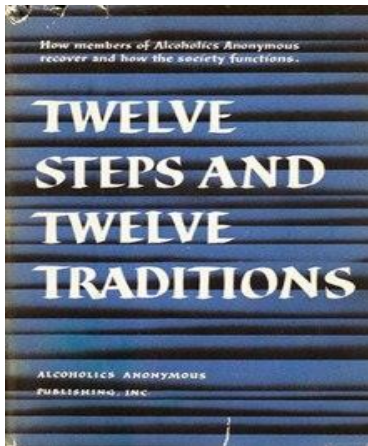
Email to: info@aascv.org



**Birthday Board**

- Dena B: 4/3/1997
- Tiffany E: 4/4/2014
- Kathy B: 4/8/2006
- Lisa B: 4/9/1987
- Jessica C: 4/10/1988
- Heather S: 4/16/2021
- Mandy O: 4/27/2009

Send your birthday to us!  
E-mail: info@aascv.org



**Step Four**

Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

**Tradition Four**

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A..as a whole.

**Concept Four**

“At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.”

**Santa Clarita Valley A.A. is part of District 7 Area 93**

**We need a voice!!**

Our Fellowship needs representation. Very few of our members attend the GSR meetings.

Please bring this to the attention of your home group and ask about a GSR for your meeting.

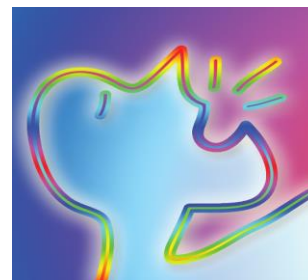
**District 7 meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month from 6:30pm – 8:00pm at Quartz Hill LaGrange. Located at 41843 50<sup>th</sup> Street West, Lancaster, CA 93536.**

**The next meeting is April 10<sup>th</sup> followed by May 8**

**GSO Area 93 Committee Meeting April 16<sup>th</sup> @ Aqua Dulce Women’s Club**

**Area 93 Assembly Meeting hosted by District 7 is May 21<sup>st</sup> @ Legacy Common Hotel in Palmdale.**

**More information will be available at Central Office. Such as the time of various meetings. As of this writing the time had not been confirmed.**





## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***SCV Convention News***

The SCVAA Convention will be **October 20 - 22, 2023.**

Location: Embassy Suites, 28508 Westinghouse Place, Valencia, CA 91355

Convention Planning Meeting & Alanon Planning Meeting:

**Sunday, May 7, 2023 @ Rafters 24307 Railroad Ave., Newhall, 91321**

**Planning Meeting: 11:00 -12:00 PM**

**Al-Anon Planning: 12:00-1:00 PM**

### ***Hospitals & Institutions (H & I)***

Meeting is on the **1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month** at St. Stephens Church  
24901 Orchard Village Rd., Valencia CA

**6:30 pm** new participants; **7:00pm** regular meeting

### ***Special Events***

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual So. California H & I Conference**

**May 5, 6 & 7**

Holiday Inn: 14299 Firestone Blvd., La Mirada, CA

**Chili Cook Off & Movie Under the Stars**

**Featuring the movie "Bill W"**

**April 29<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

Jack Bones Equestrian Center 26983 Tapia Cyn Rd ., Castaic 91384

Tickets available at Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com>

Or contact Marisa 661-877-0600 or Kathy. B 661-305-2727

### ***New Speaker Meeting 8:00pm***

Happy Campers, Lake Piru

**Third Saturday of the month from March thru October**

Directions: 5 North to 126 West (towards Fillmore).

Exit Lake Piru. Turn right on Center St., right on Main St.,

Follow to the Guard Gate. Go to the day use area.

### ***New Woman's Stag – 12 & 12 Book Study***

**Sunday @ 5:00pm** @ Stepping Stones; 24508 Lyons Ave.

Newhall, 91321

**Announcements continued:**

A.A. Desert Roundup with Alanon participation  
 June 8, 9, 10,11, 2023  
 Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa  
 For more information visit: [www.desertroundup.com](http://www.desertroundup.com)

SWACYPAA Conference IX  
 August 17 – 20, 2023.  
 Double Tree Hotel, Albuquerque, NM  
 For more information visit: [swacypaa9.org](http://swacypaa9.org)

**A Brief History of Celebrating Sobriety**

*Excerpts from article written Wooden U Recover*



There is evidence that early-on many people in A.A. carried personal mementos to remind themselves of the importance of their sobriety. Clarence H. Snyder “*The Home Brewmeister*” had his last drink on February 11, 1938 and he carried a medallion (pictured left) made from a silver dollar and a watch fob until his death on March 22, 1984. The 46 holes in the silver dollar represent 46 years of sobriety. His story “*Home Brewmeister*” can be found on page 297 of the Big Book, Third Edition.

While not officially a part of Alcoholics Anonymous in any way, the chip system is used throughout the country, and the world to commemorate special milestones in recovery. Various medallions are used to signify and mark varying lengths of abstinence from alcohol. These special tokens, usually about the size of a poker chip, are often given to those in recovery by their home group, sponsors (spiritual mentors), or even special friends or family members. Their intent is both to celebrate the accomplishment and to remind the recipient of their daily commitment to their personal recovery.

It is not the medallions themselves that keep recovering individuals sober. The importance is in the meaning behind the tokens. As those in recovery receive special tokens for one month, then two, then three months, and so on - the medallions generate a sense of pride for fulfilling their commitment to their recovery. Often a simple glance at a special token can provide motivation to continue to remain abstinent even when the thought of drinking arises.

While the A.A. chip system is of major importance to many, it represents but a small part of what is offered by Alcoholics Anonymous, and those fellowships modeled after its 12 step program of recovery. The lifesaving program and its “nearly miraculous” success rate is attributed, in part, to the power of one alcoholic helping another.



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## Districts, Area & Contacts

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: blue;">■</span> AA General Service District 7</li> <li><span style="color: maroon;">■</span> Central California Area 93</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">■</span> AA World Services</li> <li><span style="color: cyan;">■</span> SCV Central Office</li> </ul> </div>	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

<b><i>Central Office/Intergroup</i></b>	4 <sup>th</sup> 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
<b><i>District 7 General Service</i></b>	2nd Monday of the month 6:30pm – 8:00pm	Quartz Hill LaGrange 41843 50 <sup>th</sup> Street West Lancaster, California 93536
<b><i>Area 93 General Service Area Assembly</i></b>	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: <i>Circle of Love and Service</i>	<i>Twelve Concepts for World Service (Illustrated)</i>	<i>AA Service Manual</i>
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[info@aascv.org](mailto:info@aascv.org)

## Looking Within

*Daily Reflections April 1<sup>st</sup> page 100*

*“Made a searching a fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”*

*Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions page 42*

Step Four is the vigorous and painstaking effort to discover what the liabilities in each of us have been, and are. I want to find exactly how, when, and where my natural desires have warped me. I wish to look squarely at the unhappiness this has caused others and myself. By discovering what my emotional deformities are, I can move toward their correction. Without a willing and persistent effort to do this, there can be little sobriety or contentment for me.

To resolve ambivalent feelings, I need to feel a strong and helpful sense of myself. Such an awareness doesn't happen overnight, and no one's self-awareness is permanent. Everyone has the capacity for growth, and for self-awareness, through an honest encounter with reality. When I don't avoid issues but meet them directly, always trying to resolve them, they become fewer and fewer.



Available at SCV Central Office of A.A.



**And so have the weeds!!!**