

# GRATITUDE GAZETTE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY CENTRAL OFFICE OF A.A. MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS OF GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

SERVING: NEWHALL, CANYON COUNTRY, SAUGUS, CASTAIC, VALENCIA, VAL VERDE AND AGUA DULCE, AND ALL OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY



## Meeting Schedule

### SCV Central Office

26951 Ruether Avenue, B-4  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351  
Open Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
(661) 250-9922

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## Back To Basics

By Judy F.

If you have been sober for a while you are now familiar with the “foreign language” that is spoken in Alcoholics Anonymous. Today I want you to go back to those first few meetings you went to in the beginning and try to remember the confusion you experienced with the things shared in meetings or the flock of people who came up to you after the meeting. The conversations went something like this; “if you are new here today, don’t leave without a big book; make sure you get a sponsor; don’t leave without a bunch of phone numbers; oh, and by-the-way do you want to go for coffee?”

Do we do a disservice to our newcomers by not utilizing the literature provided by General Service specifically designed for the newcomer? From NY there is the pamphlet [A Newcomer Asks](#), intended for people approaching Alcoholics Anonymous for the first time. It attempts to answer the questions most frequently in the minds of newcomers. Also provided by New York:

- [This Is A.A.: An Introduction To The A.A. Recovery Program.](#)
  - [A Brief Guide To Alcoholics Anonymous.](#)
- And last- but- not- least:
- [Questions & Answers On Sponsorship.](#)

For those of us who need more assistance with this subject there is a whole chapter in our big book dedicated to “**Working With Others.**” It offers suggestions on how to approach the new person and suggests we move on if the prospect does not respond.

There is much work to be done to continue to carry the message and many tools are available to assist us.

Your local Central Office is in the process of compiling “newcomer packets” that will be available to groups/meetings in Santa Clarita Valley. These packets will be available within the next two weeks. Pricing to be determined.

email: [info@aascv.org](mailto:info@aascv.org)  
website: [aascv.org](http://aascv.org)

## Legacies for June

Step

6

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Tradition

6

An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Concept

6

The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.



## Birthday Board

We would love to acknowledge your sobriety date so help us keep our birthday info updated by emailing us at [info@aascv.org](mailto:info@aascv.org)

Kayla K. . . . . 6/14/2022  
Kyle H. . . . . 6/5/2020  
Jen N. . . . . 6/13/2003  
Michael D. . . . . 6/20/1990  
Kelly P. . . . . 6/30/1986  
Leslie W. . . . . 6/12/1978

## News from New York

### A.A. International Convention in 2025

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the gathering that will celebrate A.A.'s 90<sup>TH</sup> anniversary.

Will be held July 3 – 6, 2025 Vancouver, British Columbia Canada

Registration Opens September 2024. Cost: **\$160.00** USD

Stay tuned to [aa.org](http://aa.org) for more announcements about A.A.'s upcoming 90<sup>TH</sup> International Convention, including registration and housing information.

**Box 459** A quarterly news bulletin about A.A. service, literature, events, sharing from groups, service committees and individual US/Canada A.A. members Available at <https://aa.org/box-459>.

## Upcoming Events

### 2024 SCV Convention Corner

October 18<sup>TH</sup> -20<sup>TH</sup> , 2024  
Embassy Suites – Valencia

### Next Planning Meeting

June 9<sup>TH</sup> 11:00AM-12:00PM  
Rafters

Come and see how you can be of service. The committee is always looking for volunteers.

Their next special event will be the **Women's Day Luncheon on June 15th**. Women save the date – this is one of our favorite events of the year.

### 20<sup>TH</sup> Annual Alcathon Stepping Stones Alano Club

A Design for Living  
June 7<sup>TH</sup> (7:00 PM), 8<sup>TH</sup> (7:30 AM), 9<sup>TH</sup> (7:00 AM), 2024

24508 Lyons Avenue, Santa Clarita, California 91321

### AA Grapevine Story Writing

Zoom Workshop  
Area 93 Grapevine Committee  
Saturday, June 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2024  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Whether you want to submit your story to Grapevine or you want to be a more

engaging speaker when sharing at meetings

Questions: [grapevine@are93.org](mailto:grapevine@are93.org)  
Zoom ID: 94801757780  
Pass Code: Grapevine

### 2025 A.A. International Convention

July 3<sup>RD</sup> –6<sup>TH</sup>, 2025  
Vancouver, Canada  
[www.aa.org/international-convention](http://www.aa.org/international-convention)

### All Events

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



## Literature

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

Literature is available at Central Office.

**Daily Reflections** A book of reflections by A.A. members for A.A. members. This volume had its beginning in an Advisory Action of the 1987 General Service Conference, and fulfills a long-felt need in the Fellowship for a collection of reflections that move through the calendar year – one day at a time. At the top of each dated page is a quotation from such sources as Bill W. in Alcoholics Anonymous, The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, A.A. Comes of Age, As Bill Sees It, and the Best of Bill; Dr. Bob from Dr. Bob and The Good Old Timers; and other A.A. conference approved literature.

**As Bill Sees It** The A.A. Way of Life (selected writings of A.A.'s co-founder). This volume includes several hundred excerpts from our literature, touching nearly every aspect of A.A.'s way of life. It is felt that this material may become an aid to individual meditation and a stimulant to group discussion, and may well lead to a still wider reading of our literature.

## Meetings

[aa.org/meeting-guide-app](http://aa.org/meeting-guide-app)

*Did you know there is a meeting guide app for your smartphone?*

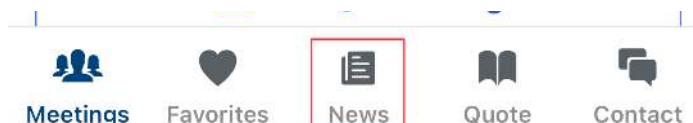
Find upcoming meetings nearby or anywhere in the U.S. or Canada. The Meeting Guide App currently includes lists of 400 A.A. service entities directly to you. Over 100,000 weekly



meetings are currently listed, and the information is refreshed twice daily. Supported by A.A. World Services. Is now available free from the Apple Store and Google Play Store. Look for the chair in the circle and download today.

When the Meeting Guide App is open, there on the bottom row, a button, called **News**. Clicking on the button will give you all the latest information from Alcoholics Anonymous in chronicle listing. This is the same information on the A.A. website at <https://www.aa.org/news-and-announcements>

When there is a red dot, on the icon, means there is new content for you to read.



## Grapevine News

[aagrapevine.org/store](http://aagrapevine.org/store)

*Grapevine Digital Subscription. Combines the Grapevine complete on-line access to the website, archive, and the App:*

June 2024 issue of Grapevine is available via subscription and is celebrating its 80th anniversary with stories by A.A. members about how much Grapevine has meant to them.

Get your digital subscription to the Grapevine and have access to the monthly A.A. magazine as well as archives of past editions dating back to 1944. There is now an audio version and the Grapevine Podcast. Cost: \$56.00 for a year subscription

### Grapevine Daily Quote

“Truly transforming spiritual experiences are nearly always founded on calamity and collapse.”

*AA Co-Founder, Bill W., August 1957, “The Physicians”, The Language of the Heart*

Want to receive a daily AA Grapevine Quote each day by email? [Sign up here.](#)

### Happy Birthday Grapevine!

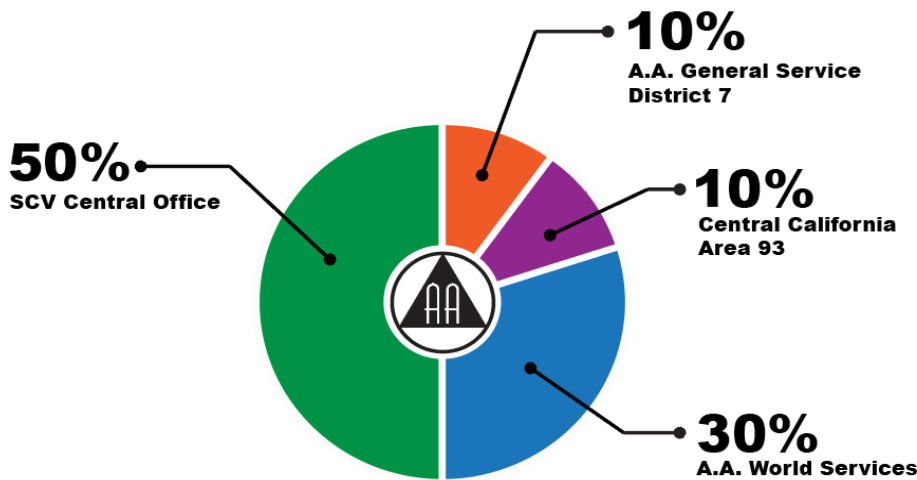
This month's issue of the AA Grapevine is “Happy Birthday Grapevine!” To celebrate the magazine's **80th anniversary**, this month they are featuring powerful stories by AA members about how much Grapevine has meant to them.

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/magazine>

# 7th Tradition

## To A.A.W.S., District 7, Area 93, & Central Office

Financial Support for District 7, of Area 93, World Services and your Central Office is suggested for each meeting that participates in Tradition 7. When a meeting meets its rent and prudent reserve, the remaining contributions are suggested to support all of the A.A. Service Structure.



## A.A. General Service District 7

P.O. Box 599  
Acton, CA 93510  
(Check payable to: District 7, CCAA)

## Central California Area 93

PMB # 140  
606 Alamo Pintado #3  
Solvang, CA 93463  
(Check payable to: CCAA, Area 93)

## A.A. World Services

P.O. Box 2407  
James A Farley Station  
New York, NY 10116  
(Check payable to: General Service Fund  
A.A. Please put Group # on check)

## SCV Central Office

26951 Reuther Ave B-4  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351  
(Check payable to: SCV Central Office)  
When making contributions to A.A.W.S.,  
Area 93, Districts, Central Offices.

It is important to add your: **Group/  
Meeting Information:**

- **A.A.W.S. Group Number**
- **Meeting/Group Name**
- **Location**
- **Day(s) of your meeting and start time**

# Monthly Service Meetings

## SCV Central Office/ Intergroup

### 4<sup>TH</sup> Monday of the month

Central Office 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
26951 Reuther Ave B-4  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351

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

## District 7–General Service

### 2<sup>ND</sup> Monday of the month

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM  
Quartz Hill Grange  
41843 50<sup>TH</sup> Street West  
Lancaster, CA 93536  
Zoom ID: 830 4964 7466

## Hospitals & Institutions (H&I)

### 1<sup>ST</sup> Thursday of the month

6:30 PM Orientation  
Business Meeting 7:00 PM–8:00 PM  
St. Stephens Church  
24901 Orchard Village  
Valencia, CA 91355

# Where Money and Spirituality Mix

By *Dougie W.*

As I grow into my sobriety, I believe that A.A. saved me from an ugly alcoholic death. I owe A.A. my life.

How can I repay my indebtedness to the organization that saved my life? What can I do? To help me stay sober, I give of my time and money. When I was new in the rooms and had a dollar (often just change), I put something in the basket when someone passed it to me. I drank a lot and had no problem finding money to buy my drinks. Yes, towards the end, the quality was substituted for quantity. I drank the cheapest and most awful-tasting thing I could afford. Due to my alcoholism, I lost my job and my wife, the respect of my children, and I had to move in with my sister.

As I worked on my alcohol problem and finished my steps, my life began to blossom. I was starting to have money to spend on non-essentials. I was still giving just a buck. My life continued to come together, and I wanted more than just not drinking; I wanted a real, tangible spiritual experience. I trusted God and was able to give more and more each year.

My relationship with A.A. is not transactional. I do not give to get. I give because of what I got. I have a life worth living, and my gratitude is reflected in my service to all of A.A., not just at the meetings I attend.

I started to double and triple my contributions in each meeting and, at times, even more. I desire to place in the basket what it would cost me to drink today, not the amount that worked in the 1950's. I gave a dollar to A.A.W.S. (G.S.O.) in New York for each year I was sober. They provide a guideline of one dollar for each year sober and up to \$5,000 a year (I am not there yet.) I went beyond that dollar and continue to do that.

A.A. does not need me, but I need A.A. I am aware of the devastating effects of alcohol on me and other alcoholics. I need to support A.A. from top to bottom. First, I contribute to my local online and in-person meetings. I give at the District and Area level and A.A. in New York. I am not trying to impress anyone; I am grateful for what A.A. has given me. I want to make sure A.A. is still around for the child who is born tonight and destined for alcoholism, the recovery of the person who is one short block of finding the rooms where they can find what I found and get full recovery and turn their lives around.

Money in the rooms is an awkward conversation. The meeting needs to make rent and pay for the cost of the meeting. After the rent and prudent reserve are met, the remaining contributions are to be given away in other areas of the entire A.A. entity structure. The money was collected as 7<sup>TH</sup> Tradition, so all the remaining money has to go to A.A. and its service enti-

ties, such as A.A.W.S. (G.S.O.), Area 93, District 7, and S.C.V. Central Office. The 7<sup>TH</sup> Tradition money cannot be used for other activities. Each group conscious decides the percentages for making contributions to each service entity. Often, a higher contribution percentage should go to the entity with the most impact on your group or you. Each group should be registered with New York, District 7, and Area 93 so they can acknowledge your contribution. If you need to know your group I.D. or if it is registered, email [registrar@area93district7.org](mailto:registrar@area93district7.org) for a report.

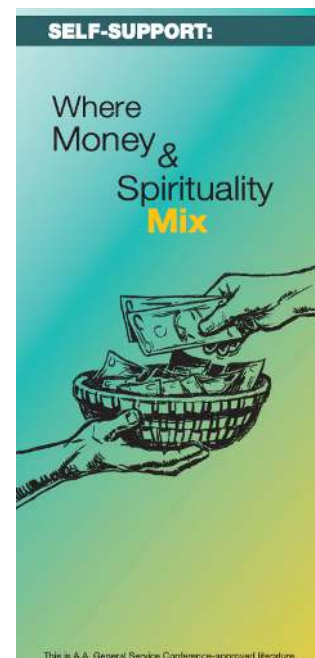
The spiritual growth I received is proportional to my willingness to give when I see a need. I know people roll their eyes when they hear of the need for more money. The service entities operate on a minimal budget, and often, almost no one is paid; those who are paid may not be making minimum wage. Refer to the long form of Tradition 9 on acceptable A.A. services. These entities have actual costs, rent, and travel reimbursements, but everyone in service gives a ton of their time to ensure A.A. will be able to help anyone in need.

**Give freely** of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny.

A.A. offers a pamphlet on "[Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.](#)"

## Responsibility Declaration

"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."



# Mark Your Calendars and Make Plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

**July 3-6, 2025**

Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around the world for the 2025 International Convention. This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding.

Please check the Convention webpage at [aa.org/international-convention](http://aa.org/international-convention) for more information, the latest news, and FAQs. As the Convention approaches, the page will be updated with registration information.

Taking place once every five years, the A.A. International Convention marks the anniversary of Bill W.'s first meeting with Dr. Bob and the birth of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935. At the Convention, members and their families and friends from around the world attend meetings, workshops, dances, and events. A highlight is the traditional flag ceremony to celebrate sobriety worldwide.

**Let's celebrate sobriety together  
in Vancouver in 2025!**