



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

Email: info@aascv.org

Website: aascv.org

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Meetings Update Process

by Doug W.
webservant@aascv.org

The Santa Clarita Valley Central Office maintains 165 in-person and on-line meetings. To keep meeting information accurate, we need help from your meetings, Trusted Servants. If you are a Trusted Servant for your meeting, please help the Central Office by providing updates to ensure your meeting’s information is current and accurate.

Meetings

Meetings must be listed weekly (one or more days per week). Those that meet less frequently are considered events and

can be added to the event calendar.

The meeting’s start and end times and the day(s) it meets are required information.

Additional notes, such as room numbers, church names, or community center details, can be added to help attendees find the location.

The meeting guide will include the location information for meetings held in homes or other private spaces. If privacy or safety concerns you, you may choose not to list your meeting with the Central Office.

In-Person Meeting

In-person meetings occur at an exact physical location. Therefore, it is essential to provide an accurate address that can be found in mapping applications.

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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Intergroup Representatives

Name	Meeting	Name	Meeting
Andrea G.	Women’s Happy Hour, St. Stephen’s	Kathy B.	Intergroup Secretary
Bobby B.	Sunday Night Big Book Study, Recovery Room	Leslie M.	Daily Reflections, Stepping Stones
Doug W.	Intergroup Chair, Just for Today, Stepping Stones	Linda C.	Step Sisters 12&12, St. Stephen’s
Greg A.	Rafters Group	Patty G.	Women’s Bean Bag Toss, Stepping Stones, PI/CPC
Jennifer Y.	Santa Clarita Speakers Meeting, Stepping Stones	Susie R.	Coyote Group & Magic Mountain Group Monday
Jenny M.	Magic Mountain Group, St. Stephen’s	Tobiah N.	12&12 Discussion, Recovery Room, Outreach
John C.	Men’s Crosstalk, OLPH	Todd W.	Men’s Stag, Recovery Room
Judy F.	Intergroup, Central Office Manager	Viktorija T.	New Reflections, Christ Lutheran

How to Become an IGR

You can get involved by becoming an Intergroup Representative (IGR) for your meeting or group if they do not have one. An IGR should have at least one year of sobriety and be able to attend the monthly Intergroup meeting on the 4TH Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. You can also get involved by participating in one of the Intergroup committees.

If your meeting or group is not represented, you can take a group conscience to decide on representation, make a motion, and vote to have an IGR. You can then vote for a member to be your representative. The term is two years. A group may also elect an alternate IGR.

The Central Office can assist with questions and the process to help anyone interested in becoming involved in this service work. Central Offices are essentially AA service entities, "directly responsible to those they serve," as described in Tradition Nine. Local group representatives reflect the groups' conscience in the service center operations.

AA Meetings

aa.org/meeting-guide-app

Did you know your Central Office updates meetings in the SCV for the meeting guide app for your smartphone?

Your Central Office has 163 meetings in English and Spanish both in person and on-line listed. If you need to update or add your meeting information, please reach out to the Central Office at webservant@aascv.org.

To find upcoming meetings nearby or anywhere in the U.S. or Canada, use the Meeting Guide App. This app currently includes listings from 400 AA service entities, providing you with access to over 100,000 weekly meetings. The information is refreshed twice daily and is supported by AA World Services.



The Meeting Guide App is available for free from the Apple Store and Google Play Store. Look for the chair in the circle and download the app today.



News from New York

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) has announced the launch of **Our Primary Purpose**, the official podcast from the General Service Office (GSO) of Alcoholics Anonymous for the U.S. and Canada. Available beginning Jan. 14, 2025, the podcast offers listeners a behind-the-scenes look at how GSO supports AA groups and members in their efforts to carry the message of recovery to those seeking help for their drinking problem.

Through interviews with GSO staff, AA members, and voices from AA history, *Our Primary Purpose* sheds light on the crucial work being done to fulfill the mission of Alcoholics Anonymous. The podcast aims to engage listeners inside and outside AA with compelling stories and information about the many ways the General Service Office serves the Fellowship. You can access the podcast through all most Podcast channels.

2025 AA International Convention in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Registration is now open. **Rooms are available** Go to aa.org to learn more about the international convention or to register. Registration is \$160.00 per person through April 15TH, 2025; \$185.00 per person starting April 16TH. The International Convention is July 3TH – 6TH, 2025.

Legacies for February

Step 2 Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity..

Tradition 2 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 2 The General Service Conference of AA has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

Birthday Board

We would love to acknowledge your sobriety so help us keep our birthday info updated by emailing us at info@aascv.org

Bobby B	2/28/2023
Cecily G.	2/10/2023
Ella A	2/21/2022
Meghan R	2/27/2021
Sara R	2/20/2021
Patrick B	2/20/2020
Marisa R	2/20/2019
John C	2/10/2017
Cathy Z.	2/6/2017
Jennifer Y	2/8/2016
Linda C	2/27/2015
Judy F	2/23/1975

It's a common tradition for AA members to make contributions to the AA. Structures to celebrate their sobriety anniversaries, also known as AA birthdays. This is a way for members to give back to support their journey to recovery.

Faithful Friends

Consider supporting your Central Office by giving monthly or one time. Visit AASCV.org to contribute.

Meetings Update Process

Continued from page 1

On-line Meetings

On-line meetings that originated in the Santa Clarita area can be listed. A city location must be specified. For Zoom meetings, you'll need to provide either a URL (preferred method, example: <https://zoom.us/j/84746724366?pwd=SzJMWTEWeGxNtnRoRi82TE5LS21EZ>) or the meeting ID and password. You may also include phone numbers for dial-in access. All on-line meetings will use the Los Angeles time zone.

Dark Meetings

If a meeting is canceled or discontinued ("goes dark"), please notify the Central Office so we can remove it from the listing.

Website

If a group has a website, that can be added to their listing.

7th Tradition

Meeting listings can include digital payment information for Venmo, Square Cash, and PayPal. For meetings using Zelle or other payments, that information can be added to the meeting notes.

Meeting Types and Details

Each meeting or group is autonomous (Tradition 4) and chooses its own meeting format. Many format options are available; select only those that apply.

Open or Closed meeting

- Open (default)
Open Meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous' program of recovery from alcoholism. Nonalcoholics may attend open meeting as observers.

- Closed

Are for AA members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking."

Meeting Topics

- 11TH Step Meditation
- 12 Steps & 12 Traditions
- As Bill Sees It

- Big Book
- Candlelight
- Daily Reflections
- Discussion
- Grapevine
- Literature
- Living Sober
- Meditation
- Newcomer
- Speaker
- Step Meeting
- Tradition Study

Language: (there are many other languages as well)

- English (default)
- Spanish

Accommodations

- Babysitting Available
- Birthday
- Child-Friendly
- Digital Basket
- Fragrance Free
- Outdoor Meeting
- Proof of Attendance
- Sign Language
- Wheelchair Access
- Wheelchair-Accessible Bathroom
- Concurrent with Al-Anon
- Cross Talk Permitted

Experience, Strength, and Hope

- Men
- Women
- Gay
- Lesbian
- LGBTQ
- Non-Binary
- Professionals
- People of Color
- Secular
- Seniors
- Transgender
- Young People

Updates and New Meetings

If you notice incorrect information or your meeting is not listed, please email webservant@aascv.org. When contacting us, please include the meeting name, the day(s) of the week it meets, and the start time.

The pamphlet "AA Group: Where It All Begins" (P-16) is a helpful resource when starting a new meeting. While beginning a group rather than just a meeting is preferable, some meetings

mature into groups (they will then have a voice in the AA service structure.)

Questions & Answers on Sponsorship (P-15)

This month, we'll review "Questions & Answers on Sponsorship" (P-15). Becoming a sponsor is one of the most rewarding ways to strengthen your recovery while helping others navigate their



journey. This short article explains what sponsorship means, what it involves, and how to serve effectively as a sponsor.

What is Sponsorship?

Sponsorship is a mutual commitment between two people in recovery where one (the sponsor) guides another (the sponsee) through the program of recovery by sharing their experience, strength, and hope. This relationship is built on trust, respect, and a shared goal of maintaining sobriety while working through the steps.

The Role of a Sponsor

- Share personal experience with recovery
- Guide sponsees through the Twelve Steps
- Provide support and

accountability

- Listen without judgment
- Maintain appropriate boundaries
- Share recovery tools and coping strategies

What Sponsorship Is Not

Understanding what sponsorship is not is as important as knowing what it is. A sponsor is not a professional counselor, financial advisor, marriage counselor, loan officer, or medical advisor. Sponsors should never give medical advice or attempt to diagnose health conditions - these matters should always be referred to qualified healthcare professionals. The relationship should focus primarily on recovery and working the program. Sponsors share their experiences but do not attempt to control their sponsees' lives or make decisions for them.

Qualities of Effective Sponsors

- Has worked through the Twelve Steps
- Maintains regular AA attendance
- Has established continuous sobriety

- Willing to be available within reasonable boundaries
- Practices patience and compassion
- Demonstrates commitment to their recovery

Common Responsibilities

The role of a sponsor typically involves regular meetings with sponsees, being available for phone calls during challenging times, guiding sponsees through step work, and sharing personal experiences relevant to recovery. Sponsors often help their sponsees understand program literature, develop healthy coping mechanisms, and maintain accountability in their recovery journey. This relationship requires dedication, time, and emotional energy, but the rewards of helping another person find their path to recovery are immeasurable.

Setting Healthy Boundaries

- Establish clear communication expectations
- Define acceptable contact hours
- Maintain appropriate emotional distance
- Be clear about limitations and availability
- Focus discussions on recovery-related topics
- Refer medical concerns to healthcare professionals

Getting Started

Before becoming a sponsor, ensure you have:

- Completed the Twelve Steps with your sponsor
- Maintained consistent sobriety
- Developed a strong foundation in recovery principles
- Regularly attended meetings
- Discussed your readiness with your sponsor

Conclusion

Sponsorship is a cornerstone of recovery that benefits both the sponsor and sponsee. While the responsibility may seem daunting at first, remember that you're simply sharing your experience and what has worked for you in recovery. You don't need to be perfect - you just need to be honest, willing, and committed to your own recovery while helping others.

Ready to take the next step? Consider discussing your readiness to become a sponsor with your own sponsor and your home group. Remember, the best sponsors are those who continue to work on their own recovery while helping others.



Literature

aascv.org/shop

Literature available at Central Office.

Plain Language Big Book (B-90): A tool for reading the book Alcoholics Anonymous. Now off press in the Second Printing of the First Edition, the Plain Language Big Book is written to help readers better understand the book Alcoholics Anonymous — fondly called “the Big Book” by AA members.

This new Conference Approved book describes AA’s Twelve Step spiritual program in simpler language than the original Big Book, which was first published in 1939.

A Member’s-Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous (P-41)

This pamphlet is designed to explain to people in the helping professions how AA works. Though the AA program relies upon the sharing of experience, strength and hope among alcoholics, the recovery process itself is highly individual, adapted by each member to meet his or her needs. Therefore, the program is described here as it appears to one member; but the pamphlet does reflect Fellowship thinking since it has been approved by the AA General Service Conference.

Grapevine News

aagrapevine.org/store

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

As of February 1, 2025 AA Grapevine, the international monthly journal of Alcoholics Anonymous, will add a \$1.00 increase to all book prices. This increase will help AA Grapevine, Inc keep up with the steadily rising costs of paper, printing, and shipping that all publishers currently face.

YPAA World Tour

Grapevine’s YPAA World Tour features audio stories from YPAA (Young People in AA) members at events around the world. The playlist kicks off with stories by members at the 64TH ICYPAA (International Conference of Young People in AA) in Austin, Texas. Stories from more [YPAA events will follow!](#)

Submit Your Story! Upcoming Topics...

- **Gratitude** — What were you like before AA compared to what you’re like today? How do you stay grateful each day? Share some stories that illustrate your journey with gratitude now that you’re sober. (Stories due February 15TH, 2025)
- **Technology in AA** — On-line meetings, hybrid meetings, smartphones, texting, meeting apps, social media ... and yes, good old-fashioned phone calls. How has technology helped your sobriety and changed the way you connect with your sponsor, sponsees, and fellow AA’s? (Stories due March 15TH, 2025)

Over 1 million served! The AA Grapevine Half-Hour Variety Hour has exceeded 1 million downloads.

Tap the podcast icon at the bottom of the app home page to join the fun! New episode every week.

www.aagrapevine.org/podcast

Grapevine Daily Quote

January 23, 2025

“Genuine peace will always be a chief ingredient of AA’s freedom. But let none suppose that we shrink from major conflict only because we are afraid. Nowadays we believe we keep the peace because we love each other.”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., November 1960, “Freedom Under God: The Choice Is Ours”, The Language of the Heart

FAITHFULL FRIENDS

Contributions to the Santa Clarita Valley Central Office

Faithful Friends are A.A. members who choose to contribute five dollars or more each month to support the Santa Clarita Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous in its efforts to carry the A.A. message of hope and recovery to those alcoholics who still suffer. As a Faithful Friend, your personal contribution will help your Central Office provide the services necessary to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Your Central Office Provides:

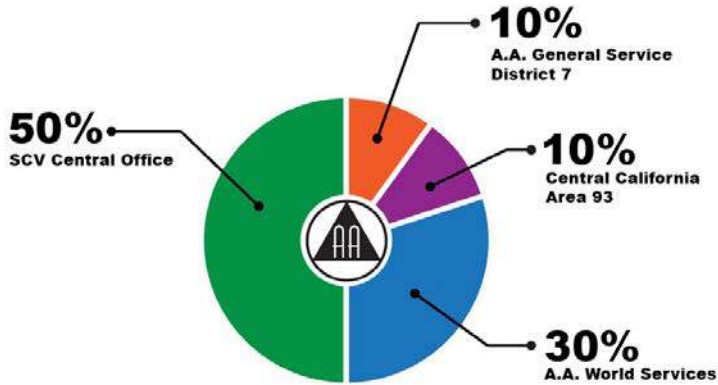
- 24 hour / 7 days a week answering inquiries from those seeking help - suffering alcoholics, sober alcoholics, meetings, groups, professionals and the general public
- Publishes A. A. In-person Meeting Schedules
- Maintains an informative and up-to-date website: aascv.org
- Orders and sells A.A. literature
- Publishes the monthly Gratitude Gazette Newsletter
- Acts as an information exchange for all SCV meetings
- Cooperates closely with our Area 93 Assembly, Hospital and Institutions, and CSO in New York

Yes ! I wish to participate as a Faithful Friend!
 Visit aascv.org and fillout the PayPal form (Debit Cards Accepted) No PayPal account needed.

7TH Tradition

To AAWS, 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 it rent and prudent reserve, the remaining contributions are suggested to support all of the AA Service Structure.



Monthly Service Meetings

SCV Central Office/ Intergroup

4TH Monday of the month

Central Office 7:00 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 AA community of Santa Clarita Valley.

District 7- General Service

2ND Monday of the month

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

Hospitals & Institutions (H&I)

1ST Thursday of the month

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

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)

AA World Services

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

SCV Central Office

26951 Reuther Ave B-4
Santa Clarita, CA 91351
(Check payable to: SCV Central Office)

Group IDs

When making contributions to AAWS, Area 93, Districts, Central Offices.

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

Meeting Information:

- **AAWS Group Number**
- **Meeting/Group Name**
- **Location**
- **Day(s) of your meeting and start time**

Privacy Tip on the Venmo App

Many AA members use Venmo to make contributions. Follow these instructions to set your transactions to private.

1. Open the Venmo app on your mobile device.
2. Go to the lower right-hand corner and click "Me," then the "Gear" icon on the upper right-hand corner.
3. Choose "Privacy" under the Settings options.
4. Change the Default Privacy Setting:
5. Under the "Default Privacy Setting" section, tap on it and

select "Private". This will ensure that all future transactions are private by default.

6. Set Past Transactions to Private:
 - Scroll down to the "Past Transactions" section.
 - Tap on "Change All to Private" to update the visibility of all your past transactions to private.

By setting your transactions to private, only you and the person you're paying or receiving money from will be able to see the details of the transaction.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

IN PERSON & ONLINE PROGRAM



61ST INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
SAN DIEGO, CA | JANUARY 30TH - FEBRUARY 2ND, 2025

You can register here: *In person, \$70.00 (USD)*
and online, \$15.00 (USD)

<https://internationalwomensconference.org/registration-form-2025/>

Speaker, Marathon, and Panel Meetings!!
Hospitality Room – Fun, Games, Yoga, Meditation

Questions – onlineiwc61@gmail.com



THE TOP 5 LIST

What do I need to know to attend the International Convention in 2025?

Where will the 2025 International Convention be held?

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

What are the dates of the 2025 International Convention?

July 3 - 6, 2025.

When can I register and reserve housing?

September 2024.

How much is the registration fee?

When registration opens in September of 2024, it will cost \$160.00 (USD) per person. A few months leading up to the convention, the price will increase to \$185.00 (USD), where it will remain that price for those registering on site when the convention begins.

I have a criminal history, is it possible to get across the Canadian Border?

Yes, but each member must do the footwork to understand your individual circumstances. You can find resources to help at: [AA.org/international-convention-2025-faq](https://aa.org/international-convention-2025-faq)

Events

See <https://aascv.org/events-and-announcements/>

Date	Event
Feb. 1 ST , 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	What is YPAA? (In-Person)
Feb. 2 ND , 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	AV Monthly Roundup (In-Person)
Feb. 4 TH , 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM (weekly)	AA Service Manual On-line Discussion Meeting (On-line, Recurring)
Feb. 6 TH 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	AV Intergroup Meeting (In-Person)
Feb. 6 TH , 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	SCV H&I Business Meeting (In-Person)
Feb. 6 TH – 9 TH	ACYPAA 52 (In-Person, Santa Cruz)
Feb. 8 TH , 5:00 PM – 8:30 PM	The Men of AA Serve You (In-Person)
Feb. 9 TH , 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	AV H&I Business Meeting (In-Person)
Feb. 10 TH , 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	District 7 General Service Representative (GSR) Monthly Business Meetings. (Hybrid)
Feb. 14 TH – 16 TH	Palmdale Group 38 TH Alcathon (In-Person)
Feb. 16 TH , 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Central California Area Assembly (Hybrid)
Feb. 22 ND , 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Laughing Sober (In-Person)
Feb. 24 TH , 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	SCV Intergroup Meeting (In-Person, Recurring)
March 7 TH – 9 TH	PRAASA 2025 (In-Person)
July 3 RD – 6 TH	2025 A.A. International Convention Vancouver, Canada aa.org/international-convention

Santa Clarita Valley Central Office IGR Minutes

Recorded by Douglas W., Chairperson

Monday, January 27, 2025

- Meeting called to order: 7:02 PM by Doug W.
- Opening Prayer: Serenity Prayer (All)
- Statement of Purpose: Read by Doug W.
- Motion to Accept Minutes: Motion by Leslie M., seconded by Greg A. Minutes accepted.

Attendance

Doug W., Leslie M., Patty G., Bobby B., Greg A., Susie R., Tobiah N., Jennifer Y., Jenny M., and John C.

Chairperson's Report - Doug W.

- Urged members to contribute stories for the newsletter.
- February Literature Share: Open.

Literature Share - Leslie M.

- Shared insights on Understanding Anonymity, (P-47). Leslie shared on personal and public levels on anonymity and on social media. The spiritual significance of anonymity. She touched on and encouraged everyone to read the pamphlet including the Q&A section.

Treasurer's Report - Judy F.

- Judy is on a well-deserved vacation and no report.
- She supplied the 2025 budget to review and we will vote on the budget at the February meeting.

Office Manager and Literature - Judy F.

- Judy is on a well-deserved vacation and no report.

Inquiries/Website - Doug W.

- Website updated with current events. John C. supplied a flyer on the Easy Does It Weekend, May 2-4.

Outreach Report - Tobiah N.

- No Report

Public Information - Patty G.

- No Report

Facilities - Judy F.

- The Central Office is Being covered by Gina D. during the time Judy is on vacation.

Old Business

- Computer Upgrade: The Central Office received and configured the new Dell laptop.
- Bank Account Issue: No changes made yet due to challenges with cash deposits when switching to a digital banking platform.

New Business

- The new Central Office Logo was presented to the IGRs.

Announcements

- None

Birthdays

- No Birthdays from 11/26 - 1/27/2025

Meeting closed at 7:35 PM with "I AM RESPONSIBLE" Pledge.

There was a conversation after the meeting on General Service work and how it relates to the groups and AA at large.



Pamphlets with Titles

This is a check on your knowledge of the AA pamphlets and their titles. Next month we will post the answers. This was produced by Teri M. from Area 09.



- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Questions & Answers on Sponsorship | 13. Inside A.A. | 25. Bridging the Gap |
| 2. The "God" Word | 14. Too Young? | 26. Is A.A. For Me? |
| 3. Young People in A.A. | 15. Women in A.A. | 27. Experience Has Taught Us |
| 4. The A.A. Group | 16. The Twelve Traditions Illustrated | 28. Frequently Asked Questions About A.A. |
| 5. Understanding Anonymity | 17. A.A. For the Older Alcoholic | 29. Hispanic Women in A.A. |
| 6. Is There a Problem Drinker in the Workplace? | 18. A.A. in your Community | 30. This is A.A. |
| 7. Speaking at Meetings Outside A.A. | 19. A Brief Guide to A.A. | 31. The A.A. Member Medication & Other Drugs. |
| 8. Twelve Concepts Illustrated | 20. Do You Think You're Different? | 32. Behind The Walls: A Message of Hope |
| 9. A.A. Tradition How it Developed | 21. Circles of Love & Service | 33. A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues |
| 10. Problems Other Than Alcohol | 22. The Twelve Steps Illustrated. | 34. A Newcomer Asks |
| 11. Many Paths to Spirituality | 23. A.A. in Treatment Settings | 35. A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional |
| 12. LGTBQ Alcoholics | 24. A Members Eye view | 36. Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life? |
| | | 37. Sure Beats Sitting in A Cell. |

On the next page, you will find a QR coded literature document. Small Groups or On-line meetings can use it to share with members.

