

March 2025



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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I Am Responsible

by Judy F.

I AM RESPONSIBLE...when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA to always be there. And for that: I Am Responsible.

First introduced at the 1965 International Convention in Toronto, "A.A.'s Responsibility", was announced as the theme.

By this time AA was 30 years old. It was time to review the past three decades that were now history. Although, it was God's grace that made it possible to achieve the quality of responsibility,

individual and collective, that brought the fellowship into its present state of well-being, it was time to start taking stock.

Some of our great turning points were marred by fear and anger. One such was the writing and publishing of the Big Book. Some old timers felt there was no need while others shrank from the risks of preparing the invaluable text. Another was the formation of the General Service Conference. The indispensable body of delegates, which today links our Society with the AA trustees of our world services. Yet, in the end we assumed such responsibility which has made it possible for AA recovery to go forward on such a large scale as it does today.

So, it was asked at the Toronto Convention "What sort of heritage are we leaving, for the use of all those future generations that will people our Society? Is this heritage as good as we can make it? While there is yet time, what can we do

Continued on page 3

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

Intergroup Representatives

Name	Meeting	Name	Meeting
Bobby B.	Sunday Night Big Book Study, Recovery Room	Kathy B.	Secretary, Women's Happy Hour, St. Stephen's
Doug W.	Intergroup Chair, Just for Today, Stepping Stones	Leslie M.	Daily Reflections, Stepping Stones
Greg A.	Rafters Group	Linda C.	Step Sisters 12&12, St. Stephen's
Jennifer Y.	Santa Clarita Speakers Meeting, Stepping Stones	Patty G.	Women's Bean Bag Toss, Stepping Stones, PI/CPC
Jenny M.	Magic Mountain Group, United Methodist Church	Susie R.	Coyote Group & Magic Mountain Group Monday
John C.	Men's Crosstalk, OLPH	Tobiah N.	12&12 Discussion, Recovery Room, Outreach
Judy F.	Intergroup, Central Office Manager	Todd W.	Men's Stag, Recovery Room
		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

Did you know the website for Alcoholics Anonymous (aa.org) has a wealth of information for the A.A. member as well as for the A.A. Group.

Under "resources" you will find a tab for 3 different newsletters available. Box 459, a quarterly news bulletin about A.A. service, literature, events, sharing from groups, service committees and individual U.S./Canada A.A. members. About A.A. (A newsletter for professionals). A newsletter from GSO for the professionals who work with alcoholics. This includes professionals in the fields of healthcare, law, corrections and clergy. One to three issues are released per year. Sharing From Behind the Wall is excerpts from letters sent to GSO by people in custody for others involved in A.A. in correctional facilities.

Don't be shy! Visit aa.org to see what you have been missing out on.

General Service Conference

The General Service Conference will be meeting at the end of April in New York, where 135 voting members of the conference will convene. The General Service Conference operates all year long, the annual meeting (conference) is the culmination of the year's activities, the time when the collective group conscience comes together to take actions that will guide the groups in the years that follow.

GSO recently submitted the proposed agenda for the conference to our area 93 district 7 GSRs who will take it to their meetings to discuss and obtain a group conscience on the agenda items.

If your group or meeting doesn't have a GSR reach out to Central Office for information on how to access the agenda and voice your opinion on the items.

Remember you have a voice...

Legacies for March

Step 3 Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*.

Tradition 3 The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Concept 3 To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. — the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives — with a traditional *right of decision*.

that may multiply our assets and decrease our liabilities?"

As we come up on the 2025 International Convention, 60 years later, are we still meeting that responsibility so eloquently stated in our declaration of responsibility? I believe to each of us as sober members of Alcoholics Anonymous, this responsibility looks different. To some, this responsibility is showing up at a meeting and to others it also means carrying the message through sponsorship. Then there is the secretary who shows up faithfully to unlock the door and maybe make coffee. It is so much easier to get people to be "responsible" for the individual alcoholic and the individual meeting.

But, what about AA as a whole? How do we stay responsible to our General Service Office and all the work they do to carry the message to the "alcoholic who still suffers". Not many people recognize a responsibility in working with the service organizations that assist NY in the work they do. NY communicates to your area, your area communicates to your district and your district communicates to your GSR all that is going on with this "carrying the message". Believe it or not, NY does not make any major decisions without coming to the groups first. So, who is responsible at the group level to make sure this message is getting relayed? It is so easy to be responsible at the meeting level. It doesn't require me to go out of my way since I'm going to be attending that meeting anyways. But what about the IGR or GSR who has to attend at least 1 extra meeting a month and generally not just next door. Based on our own district, about 10% of the meetings have a

representative that shows up for either Intergruop or the district meetings. **10%...**

During the first 25 years of AA's maturity there were approximately 25 million men and women who suffered from alcoholism. AA brought recovery to something like 250,000.

The rest were out of reach or else gone beyond recall. Bill felt that an even larger number of drunks was in the making at that time.

As Bill stated in *Language of The Heart*, "We know that we are going to open wider and wider, ever conceivable means and channel to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. We shall remember Dr. Bob and Sister Ignatia – how they worked in Akron.

We shall remember the many years of Silky's unstinted labor for us. Thousands of AAs at that time would remember how they literally owed their lives to those 3 people. Each of us will remember their own sponsor, the one who cared enough. As the inheritors of such a tradition of service, how could we ever say "Let George do that Twelfth Job; he likes to work with drunks."

As we are constantly entering upon the "next great phase" of AAs life, can we rededicate ourselves to an ever greater responsibility for our general welfare? We need to continue to take inventory as a Fellowship, and above all we need to remember that great legion who still suffer from alcoholism and who are without hope.

Birthday Board

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

Aaron S.	3/11/2023
Cheryl L.	3/26/2022
Adriana B	3/23/2022
Isidro O	3/17/2022
Anne Mc	3/13/2022
Lia M	3/21/2020
Darren D.	3/5/2013
Aaron K.	3/5/2005
Betty H	3/2/2000
Lori T	3/27/1998
Julie G.	3/21/1983

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.

2025 SCV Convention Corner

A date has been set for the Santa Clarita Valley Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous With AI-Anon participation, to be held at the Embassy Suites Valencia.

Mark your calendar – October 17TH – 19TH, 2025. Watch the Gazette for further information on special events throughout the year as well as information on planning meetings.

Problems Other Than Alcohol

by Doug W.

webservant@aascv.org

Problems Other Than Alcohol (P-35) is a Conference Approved Pamphlet which is written from Bill W. articles on the subject. It is a short in length at 8 pages from cover to cover. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) has the Traditions which were written to protect the fellowship and has long grappled with how to address addiction issues beyond alcohol while maintaining its core mission and identity.

The Severity of Drug Addiction

Drug addiction, particularly involving substances like morphine and heroin, presents unique challenges. As Bill W. notes from page 1, "Perhaps there is no suffering more horrible than drug addiction... Such drugs twist the mind, and the awful process of withdrawal racks the sufferer's body." This recognition of the severity of drug addiction has led to important discussions within AA about how to help those suffering from multiple addictions.

AA's Primary Purpose

While sympathetic to all forms of addiction, AA maintains clear boundaries about its mission. As stated in the text on page 2, "Sobriety — freedom from alcohol — through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps is the sole purpose of an A.A. group." This focus helps ensure the fellowship's effectiveness and survival.

Guidelines for Membership

The fellowship has established clear guidelines regarding membership and participation:

- Non-alcoholic drug addicts cannot become AA members
- Drug addicts can attend open AA meetings with the group's approval
- Individuals with both alcoholic and drug addiction histories can become A.A. members

Special Purpose Groups

Page 3, "Very effective answers to problems other than freedom from alcohol have always been found through special-purpose groups, some of them operating within A.A. and some on the outside."

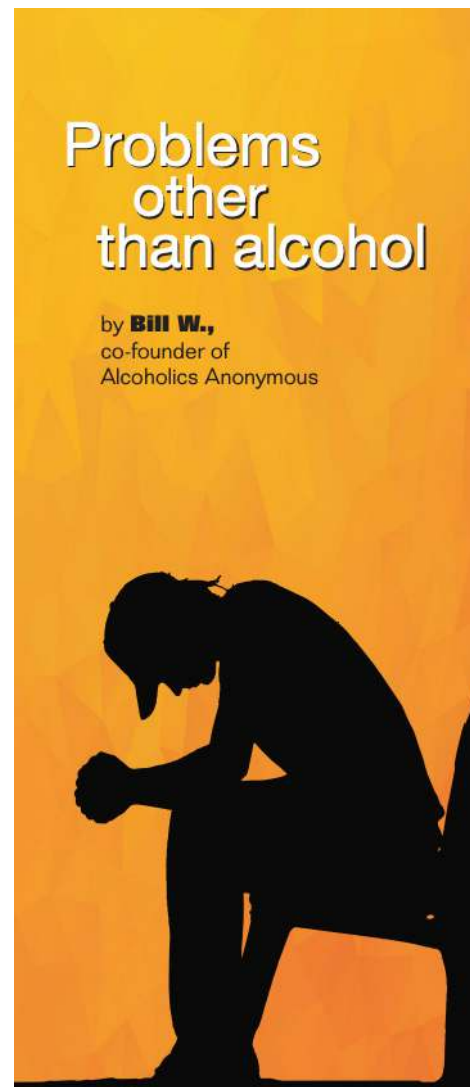
AA recognizes the need for addressing drug addiction while maintaining its primary focus. As Bill W. explains on page 5, "A.A. members who are so inclined should be encouraged to band together in groups to deal with sedative and drug problems. But they ought to refrain from calling themselves A.A. groups."

Bill continues on that page, "There seems to be no reason why several A.A.s cannot join, if they wish, with a group of straight addicts to solve the alcohol and the drug problem together. But, obviously, such a dual-purpose group should not insist that it be called an A.A. group, nor should it use the A.A. name in its title. Neither should its straight-addict contingent be led to believe that they have become A.A. members by reason of such an association."

A Path Forward

The pamphlet on page 5, concludes with an optimistic view of how AA members can help address addiction beyond alcohol: "In A.A., the group has strict limitations, but the individual has scarcely any. Remembering to observe the Traditions of anonymity and non-endorsement, he can carry A.A.'s message into every troubled area of this very troubled world."

This pamphlet and other Conference-Approved material is available at your Central Office.





Literature

aascv.org/shop

Literature available at Central Office.

The A.A. Service Manual 2024 - 2026 Edition

Two titles in a single booklet. The A.A. Service Manual opens with history of A.A. services, then explains the General Service Conference structure and its year-round importance. The Twelve Concepts for World Service, written by A.A. co-founder Bill W., are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure as it emerged through A.A.'s early history and experience. If you don't have a copy visit your local Central Office for the latest edition.

Grapevine News

aagrapevine.org/store

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

Look for the March edition of the Grapevine, the international monthly journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. March's featured section is "Sober and Out." LGBTQ+ AA members share stories of acceptance, tolerance, service, sponsorship, and love.

Other articles include: "Welcome Home, Mary", "Men With Men?", "A True Pioneer", and "Finding My Place." This just names a few - subscribe now and read more articles.

If you're not sure what the AA Grapevine is go online to aagrapevine.org to learn about this monthly magazine. Available in either hardcopy edition or digital subscription.

Grapevine Daily Quote

February 23, 2025

"Certainly, we need leaders, but we must regard them as the human agent of the Higher Power and not with undue adulation as individuals."

AA Co-Founder, Dr. Bob, September 1948, "The Fundamentals in Retrospect"

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:

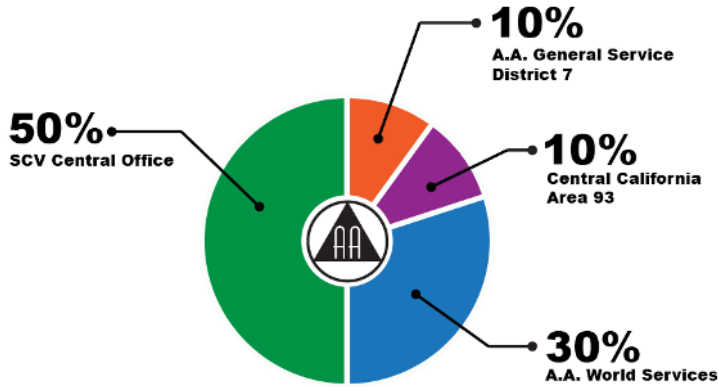
- 24 hour / 7 days a week answering inquiries from those seeking help - suffering alcoholics, sober alcoholics, meetings, groups, professionals and the general public
- Publishes A. A. In-person Meeting Schedules
- Maintains an informative and up-to-date website: aascv.org
- Orders and sells A.A. literature
- 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 GSO 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.

Date	Event	Time	Location
3/1/25	What is YPAA? (In-Person)	1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	24307 Railroad Ave, Newhall, CA 91321
3/2/25	AV Monthly Roundup (In-Person)	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	41843 50 TH Street West Quartz Hill CA 93536
3/4/25	A.A. Service Manual Online Discussion Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Meeting ID: 883 5669 9235 Passcode: 023869
3/6/25	SCV H & I Monthly Meeting (In- Person)	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	24901 Orchard Village Rd, Santa Clarita, CA 91355
3/6/25	AV Central Office Intergroup Meeting (In-Person)	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	43619 17 TH Street West, Suite 103 Lancaster, Ca. 93534
3/7/25	PRAASA 2025 (in-Person)	3 Days	555 W 5 TH Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501
3/9/25	AV H&I Monthly Meeting (In-Person)	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	42545 Wall Street, Unit 115, Lancaster CA 93534
3/11/25	A.A. Service Manual Online Discussion Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Meeting ID: 883 5669 9235 Passcode: 023869
3/18/25	A.A. Service Manual Online Discussion Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Meeting ID: 883 5669 9235 Passcode: 023869
3/24/25	SCV Intergroup Meeting (In-Person)	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	26951 Ruether Ave., B-4 Santa Clarita, CA 91351
3/25/25	A.A. Service Manual Online Discussion Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Meeting ID: 883 5669 9235 Passcode: 023869

Santa Clarita Valley Central Office IGR Minutes

Recorded by Kathy B., Secretary

Monday, February 24, 2025

- Meeting called to order: 7:03 by Doug W.
- Opening prayer: Serenity Prayer (all)
- Statement of purpose: John C.
- Motion to accept January 2025 Meeting Minutes: Motion by John C., Second by Kathy B., Minutes accepted

Attendance

- Doug W., Judy F., Suzie R., Joyce, John C., Jenny M.

Chairpersons Report – Doug W.

- Urged members to continue getting the word out to contribute stories for the Newsletter.
- March Literature share: Susie R.
- February Literature Share – Doug W. shared on – **Problems other than Alcoholism** Pamphlet (P-35) – Doug W. shared people who have addictions, other than alcoholism, could not give straight AA talks and they could not identify with newcomers., they can not not do straight AA 12 step work as Alcoholics relate to alcoholism . Our common welfare comes first.

Treasurer's Report – Judy F.

- Motion to approve 2025 central office Budget was made by Kathy B., seconded by Susie R. and approved by group.
- November, December, and January Treasurer's report accepted. Motion to accept was made by Kathy B., seconded by Susie R. and approved by group.
- January 2025 \$8,668.30 Total Revenue, \$1,918.09 Total expenditures, \$6,750.21 Net Revenue.
- Group Contributions \$1,584.00, Individual Contributions \$901.62

Office Manager and Literature – Judy F.

- For 2024 Literature sold:
 - 12&12 Hard cover, 112
 - 12&12 Large Print- 32,
 - 12&12 pocket- 362,
 - 12&12 soft cover- 456,
 - AA BB w/out pocket- 314,
 - AA LG print- 52,
 - AA BB pocket size- 362,
 - AA BB Pocket- 765,
 - AA BB soft cover- 766,
 - AA plain language BB- 40.
- For 2024 Chips sold:
 - 30 day plastic chip- 673,

- 6 month chip- 218,
- 60 day chip- 604,
- 9 month chip- 238,
- 90 day chip- 447,
- Welcome chip- 1,156.

Inquiries/Website – Doug W.

- Website up to date and running. Weekly almost 2,000 visits.

Outreach Report – Tabaiiah N.

- No report

Public information – Patty G.

- No report

Facilities – Judy

- No report

Old Business – Doug

- Still pursuing signature to have Doug on the bank account

New Business

- None

Announcements

- None

Birthdays

- John C., 8 years
- Judy F., 50 years

Meeting ended at 7:45 PM with "I AM responsible" Pledge

Pamphlets with Titles

Last month this was a check on your knowledge of the AA pamphlets and their titles. Here are 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. LGBTQ 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.

P-5 **Women in A.A.**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

P-4 **Young People in A.A.**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

P-32 **LGBTQ Alcoholics in A.A.**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

B-28 **A.A. for the Older Alcoholic**
—Never too late

P-90 **Hispanic Women in A.A.**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

P-33 **It Sure Beats Sitting In A Cell**

P-51 **Black in A.A.**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG AND HOPE

P-2 **Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.**

P-13 **Do you think you're different?**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

P-83 **ACCESS TO A.A. MEMBERS SHARE ON OVERCOMING BARRIERS.**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

P-84 **Many Paths to Spirituality**

P-42 **A Brief Guide to A.A.**

P-18 **Inside A.A. Understanding the Fellowship and its Services**

P-47 **Understand Anonymity**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

P-55 **The Twelve Steps Illustrated**

P-86 **The "God" Word**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG
Agnostic and Atheist Members in A.A.

P-1 **This is A.A.**
An introduction to the A.A. recovery program

P-36 **Is A.A. for me?**

P-24 **A Newcomer Asks**

F-4 **"Where do I go from here?"**
THE U.S.A. MEMBER SOURCE BOOK

P-15 **Questions & Answers on Sponsorship**

P-16 **The A.A. Group ...where it all begins**

P-87 **A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues—and their sponsors**
EXPERIENCE, STRONG

P-35 **Problems other than alcohol**
by Bill W., co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous

P-11 **The A.A. Member—Medications & Other Drugs**

On a mobile device scan the QR code or click on the QR code in the PDF.