

April 2026



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

A Day In The Life Of SCV Central Office

By Judy F., info@aascv.org

Hi, I'm Judy and I'm an alcoholic as well as your special worker at your local Santa Clarita Valley Central Office.

It's Monday, March 23RD of 2026 and the office was opened at 10:00AM to the ringing of the phone. Someone calling in looking for Spanish meetings in Santa Clarita. He is temporarily working in the area and looking for meetings to go to while here. Because our local meeting directory is current I was able to direct him to the Spanish speaking meetings at the Rafter's location every evening at 8:00PM.

Another call came in from someone wanting to make a contribution to

Alcoholics Anonymous because he was feeling especially grateful for his sobriety today. I was able to provide him with a couple options for his contribution- he said he wanted to keep it local since it is our office that assists in carrying the message here in Santa Clarita. In our conversation I was able to learn a little about this individual who was nine years sober and pretty much housebound. I'm sending him a directory via mail and offered some suggestions as to local transportation for disabled individuals. I just know when he gets to a meeting people will step up and offer him the transportation needed because that's just what we do.

I will be getting ready for our Intergroup Meeting tonight. Once a month (4TH Monday at 7:00PM) individuals representing meetings here in Santa Clarita give of their time to come and

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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/Function
Barbara W.	Step Sisters, St. Stephen's Church
Bobby B.	Rafters
Douglas W.	Intergroup Chair
Ida B.	New Reflections, Saint Stephen's Church
Jasmine G.	Wednesday Women's Night Happy Hour
Jennifer Y.	Santa Clarita Speakers Meeting
Jenny M.	Magic Mountain Group, United Methodist Church
John C.	Men's Crosstalk, OLPH, Easy Does it
Joyce R.	Convention Liaison
Judy F.	Intergroup, Central Office Manager
Kathy B.	Secretary, Friday Step Sisters
Leslie M.	Daily Reflections, Stepping Stones
Patty G.	Women's Bean Bag Toss, Stepping Stones
Stephanie M.	By the Book, Stepping Stones
Susie R.	Coyote Group & Magic Mountain Group Monday
Tobiah N.	12&12 Discussion, Recovery Room

Legacies for April

- Step 4** Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
- Tradition 4** Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.
- Concept 4** 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.

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.

Birthday Board

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

Deanna S	4/14/2025	1
Joseph N.	4/3/2024	2
Todd W.	4/26/2023	3
Kyra J.	4/24/2023	3
Kelly S.	4/5/2023	3
Elma A	4/1/2023	3
Viana R.	4/7/2022	4
Heather S	4/16/2021	5
Scott P	4/3/2021	5
Mia F	4/1/2020	6
Doug W	4/5/2015	11
Tiffany E	4/4/2014	12
Mandy O.	4/27/2009	17
Tara P.	4/15/2007	19
Kathy B.	4/8/2006	20
Dena B	4/3/1997	29
Jessica C.	4/10/1988	38
Lisa B	4/9/1987	39

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.

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 In-Person and Online 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 provided 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.

A Day In The Life

Continued from page 1

find out what is happening at Central Office, provide their input as to our financial status, literature we carry, what we can be doing better to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. These trusted servants carry the message from central office back to their groups. At the next month's meeting these IGRs (Intergroup Reps) bring back input and questions from the reports provided. Each meeting here in Santa Clarita can send a representative to Intergroup. We look to these reps for feedback as to the particular needs of the AA fellowship here in Santa Clarita. About 10% of the meetings have representatives.

An order of books from New York was delivered. And I want to shout out to the people who are of service that help make that happen. I order the books, that's the easy part. They have to make it up those stairs, that's the hard part. Delivery is made to a sober member who has access to a warehouse for the shipment. Then they are brought to the office to replenish our supply. This is part of the "village" that keeps your local central office running.

People wander in and out all day to purchase literature and chips for meetings. It's great when a newcomer comes in and they are looking to purchase their first copy of the Big Book and the 12 & 12 because their sponsor suggested they have a copy of both.

I'm not quite sure where I wanted to go with this article as it is now, Wednesday, March 25TH and I'm late in getting it to the newsletter team for production.

Whether you are aware of it or not, Central Office is an important link, not only for the AA fellowship here in Santa Clarita but also with GSO in New York. Information on new literature comes directly to Central Office, which then passes it on to your Intergroup Rep, who then brings it to the individual meetings. The financial status of GSO is passed down to Central Office and then can be shared with meetings within their area.

CPC Committees (Cooperation With The Professional Committee) can be set up within your Intergroups. Those committees can then work on carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the professionals within the community. Literature has been created just for committees as this and available through your local central office.

I have been blessed over the last few years to be your special worker at SCV Central Office. This position has afforded me the opportunity to meet and talk with more people than I could have at any AA meeting. I have learned so much more about Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole - between the history and the organization - I believe it has grounded me more in the importance of our primary purpose and that I am truly responsible "when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help I want the hand of AA to always be there And For That I Am Responsible".

Change for Change

You've seen those small change dishes at coffee counters—pennies and quarters that don't seem like much on their own, but together make a real difference. The same is true for supporting our Santa Clarita Valley Central Office.

Central Office is where newcomers find their first meeting, where literature and chips are available, and where the phone is answered day and night by someone who understands. These services rely on rent, utilities, phone lines, and supplies—costs that add up.

We're inviting you to help in a simple way: contribute your spare change. Keep a small bowl or jar at home or in your meeting labeled "For Central Office." When it fills, drop it off. Small, steady gifts keep our local AA heartbeat strong.

Every call answered, every Big Book sold, every meeting list printed is powered by generosity—one coin at a time. Your change truly helps change lives.

You can also contribute through our "Faithful Friends program at [AASCV.org](https://www.aascv.org) with either a one-time or monthly contribution.

AA Links

- AA - aa.org
- Area 93 - area93.org
- AA Grapevine - aagrapevine.org
- Area 93, District 7 - area93district7.org
- Stepping Stones Alano Club - steppingstonesalanoclub.org
- Central Park Group - centralparkgroupsantaclarita.com
- SCVYPAA - scvypaa.org
- Rafter Group - raftersaa.com
- AV Central Office - avcentraloffice.org
- Santa Clarita Valley Central Office - aascv.org

Southern California AA Convention Corner

- The 74TH Southern California AA Convention is scheduled for the weekend of October 16TH 2026
- The 2026 Southern California AA Convention will take place at the The Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & Spa, located at 71333 Dinah Shore Dr., Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Visit their website at aasocal.com for information on their planning meetings scheduled for 2026

Getting Involved in Pre-Conference

By Douglas (webservant@aascv.org)

How to Have a Voice in General Service

I used to think “General Service” was something other people did—people with more time, people who knew the “right words,” people who had been around longer or had some kind of special confidence I didn’t have.

But over time I learned something simple and freeing: **General Service is not a separate club inside AA.** It’s the way our Fellowship stays connected, stays accountable to the groups, and keeps carrying the message in a changing world. And the most important part? The informed group conscience is where it starts.

Your group may already have the key role built in: the GSR (General Service Representative.)

This is a practical guide to help you participate in General Service and have a real voice in the Pre-Conference process.

So if you want a voice at Pre-Conference—and any AA member may participate in the process leading up to the General Service Conference (GSC)—you don’t need to “be somebody.” You just need to show up on April 12TH at the Moose Lodge, 3101 E Ave Q, Palmdale, CA 93550 around 8:30 AM, learn the pathway, and use the simple tools AA already gave us. I’m also sharing the 76TH General Service Conference final agenda items as the “map” for what the Fellowship is being asked to consider this year.

What is the General Service Conference

The General Service Conference is where AA’s “service conscience” meets. It is the annual gathering where trusted servants from across the U.S. and Canada some 93 Area Delegates and GSO Trustees come together to discuss agenda items that affect AA as a whole. This year’s conference is from April 26TH - May 2ND in New York.

If you have ever benefited from:

- AA literature being updated thoughtfully
- Sent emails or letters to GSO asking for clarity on a subject
- Public information efforts that protect anonymity and carry the message
- Resources for Corrections, Treatment, Accessibility, and Cooperation with Professionals
- The AA Service Manual being kept current
- AA Grapevine and La Viña adapting to the times

...then you have benefited from General Service and the Conference process.

But here’s the crucial principle: Conference members are not

there to express personal opinions. They are there to represent the informed group conscience that rises up from Groups, Districts and Areas through the service structure. That’s where you and I come in.

The Pre-Conference Process

Most members first hear about “Pre-Conference” as a special meeting. But it helps to think of it as a process, not just an event. The Pre-Conference is the time when:

- Agenda items are shared
- Background information is reviewed
- Districts are assigned items, members and groups discuss the issues in detail
- Input is gathered
- Delegates hear what the Fellowship thinks before Conference

In other words, Pre-Conference is one of the main ways the delegate can honestly say: “This is what the groups in our area believe.”

If you want your voice heard, the question becomes: How does your voice travel from you to your group to the delegate? And the answer is usually: through your GSR. What if you do not know your GSR or your meeting is not a group. It is still your AA and you can reach out to your delegate directly.

The General Service Conference meets April 26TH - May 2ND in New York and we will send our Delete Rudy M to the conference to participate in the conference.

This year’s it is referred as Panel 76 and the agenda has 76 items (The pre-conference Area 93 will discuss 32 of those items), but you can reach out to Rudy M. on any or all the conference items.

The Simple Path of a Group Conscience

Here is the basic pipeline that makes AA’s service structure work. AA does not communicate with meetings (Your Central Office does.) Meetings are not part of the General Service Structure. Groups are the top of the Service Structure. Read **The AA Group... Where it all Begins (P-16)** pamphlet for information on Groups.

Get the details of the agenda items from a GSR, District 7 member, or Area 93 General Service member. The agenda is available at (area93.org) but requires a password, since it contains members’ private information. This protects member anonymity. If you contact me, I will share it with you privately—I can’t post it in the article.

- You learn about agenda items
- You bring discussion to your group

- Your group forms an informed group conscience
- Your GSR carries that conscience to District 7 and Area 93
- Your delegate carries it to the General Service Conference

That may sound formal, but in practice it's often very simple:

- You ask for time on Group's meeting agenda or share at your meeting
- You share one or two agenda items
- You offer printed or emailed summaries
- You ask the group to discuss and vote as an informed Group conscious.
- Your GSR records the input and takes it forward

You do not need to be the GSR to help. You can support your GSR by doing the legwork:

- Reading the material and background information
- Summarizing the content for easy communication
- Bringing clarity to the information for your group
- Helping the group stay focused on principles

That's service.

Agenda Items

This year's conference agenda items are organized into 14 topics, each containing several agenda items. I've listed the items by committee and numbered them starting with A, B, and so on. For example, the first topic is the Agenda Committee, and its first item is labeled A. 1.

Agenda Items Can Look "Misplaced"

The final agenda list explains the **Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW)** process. The EDW process allows some new agenda items to be assigned to committees with shorter agendas, to create a fair and balanced experience for Conference members. For us at the group level, this matters because:

- You might see a topic land in a committee you wouldn't expect
- The goal is not "perfect categorization," but **fair participation and workable agendas**
- It is a deliberate, approved process that helps distribute the work

So if you're reviewing agenda items and something seems out of place, that's likely EDW at work. I've labeled those topics with (EDW).

What's on the 76th GSC Agenda

The agenda is organized by Conference committees that work throughout the year. You don't need to tackle all of them—just focus on the topics your group cares about. Below is the title of each agenda item. Not all items will be discussed at Area 93's

Pre-Conference on April 12TH. Progress reports, for example, don't require area-level discussion. Items marked (PC) will be discussed at Pre-Conference.

1) Agenda Committee

- 1.A Theme and workshop ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference
- 1.B Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference
- 1.C Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2027 General Service Conference
- 1.D Review the 2026 General Service Conference Evaluation Form, distribution process and the 2025 Evaluation Summary
- 1.E Discuss progress report on Conference improvement
- 1.F Discuss offering 10 minutes of presentation time during the General Service Conference to La Vigne

2) Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)

- 2.A Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page. (PC)
- 2.B Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals
- 2.C Review content and format of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook
- 2.D Review progress report on the effective use of CPC videos on aa.org (PC)
- 2.E Consider a request that standalone audio/visual clips be created when developing any new/revised videos for professionals (PC)

3) Corrections

- 3.A Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook
- 3.B Review progress report on development of a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in AA
- 3.C Consider a request to update the pamphlet *The AA Member - Medications and Other Drugs*. (PC)

4) Finance

- 4.A Review Self-Support Packet.
- 4.B Discuss motion to add wording to Item F-3, *Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix* (PC)
- 4.C Consider a request to create a Twelve Step study guide or workbook (PC)
- 4.D Consider a request to discuss the location of the General Service Conference (GSC)

5) Grapevine / La Viña

- 5.A Review AA Grapevine Workbook
- 5.B Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine and La Viña book topics for 2027 or after
- 5.C Review the 5-year plans for both Grapevine and La Viña
- 5.D Review the progress on the AA Grapevine Survey of the membership to identify relevance, usefulness and financial viability of products and services provided by Grapevine, such

as magazines, books (print, digital, and audio), podcast and social media (Instagram and YouTube)

- 5.E Review AA Grapevine / La Viña Media Platforms report (PC)
- 5.F Consider that the AA Grapevine, Inc, accept contributions (PC)

6) Literature

- 6.A Annual review of recovery literature matrix
- 6.B Review content and format of Literature Kit and Workbook
- 6.C Review progress report on the development of the Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* - Spanish (PC)
- 6.D Review draft of the Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (PC)
- 6.E Review progress report on the update of the book *Living Sober* (PC)
- 6.F Review progress report on the development of a *Plain Language Big Book* amendment process
- 6.G Review progress report of subcommittee exploring the needs of Spanish-speaking members for tools to access the Big Book (PC)
- 6.H Review progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the Asian and Asian American Alcoholic
- 6.I Consider publishing the personal stories from the Fourth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* not included in the draft Fifth Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* (PC)

7) Policy and Admissions

- 7.A Review GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection
- 7.B Review dates for the 2030 General Service Conference
- 7.C (EDW) – Discuss the suggestion to discontinue the annual review of service kits and workbooks by Conference committees:
 - 7.C.1 Discuss the suggestion to discontinue the annual review of service kits and workbooks by Conference committees (PC)
 - 7.C.2 Discuss the suggestion that a similar number of agenda items be assigned to each Conference committee (PC)
 - 7.C.3 Discuss creating a "Conference Committee on Digital Communications" (PC)

8) Public Information (P.I.)

- 8.A Review progress report on PSA Development and Review Plan
- 8.B Review report on the GSO Podcast, *Our Primary Purpose*. (PC)
- 8.C Review report on the AAWS YouTube channel (PC)
- 8.D Review report on Google Ads
- 8.E Review report on Meeting Guide app
- 8.F Review report on GSO's A.A. website (PC)
- 8.G Review report for AAWS "Online Business Profiles"
- 8.H Review report on AAWS Social Media Policy
- 8.I Review proposed plan for 2026 Membership Survey (PC)

- 8.J Review draft revision of the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" (P-47)
- 8.K Review content and format of P.I. and Workbook

9) Report and Charter

- 9.A.1 Discuss the A.A. Service Manual, 2026-2028 Edition: Review list of editorial updates
- 9.A.2 Discuss the A.A. Service Manual, 2026-2028 Edition: Consider a request to remove a quote from Dr. Bob in *The AA Service Manual* (PC)
- 9.A.3 Review progress report on the development of a new "Amendments" section added to *The A.A. Service Manual/ Twelve Concepts for World Service*
- 9.B Discuss the General Service Conference Final Report (PC)
- 9.C Discuss workflow and anonymizing practices for the Final Conference Report (PC)
- 9.D Discuss progress on classification of AAWS and AA Grapevine Literature (PC)

10) Treatment and Accessibilities

- 10.A Review progress report on the Military/Veteran Interview Project
- 10.B Review content and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook
- 10.C Review content and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook
- 10.D Review the A.A. Guidelines on Accessibility
- 10.E Consider a request to review locally produced safety-related video service material and provide input for this video service material to be adapted for use by GSO (PC)

11) Trustees

- 11.A.1 Review resumes of candidates for: Pacific Regional Trustee
- 11.A.2 Review resumes of candidates for: Eastern Canada Regional Trustee
- 11.B Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- 11.C Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- 11.D Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
- 11.E Review progress report on process for receiving motions to censure (PC)
- 11.F Review progress report on the revision of the pamphlet *Do You Think You're Different?* (PC)
- 11.G Consider the request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet *The Twelve Steps Illustrated* (PC)
- 11.H Consider the request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet *The Twelve Traditions Illustrated* (PC)

12) Archives

- 12.A Review content and format of Archives Workbook
- 12.B Consider a request to define eligibility for Area-level service for members residing outside of the geographic area they want to serve (PC)

13) International Conventions / Regional Forums

- 13.A Review progress report from Subcommittee on Inclusion of Sovereign State Flags in the IC Flag Ceremony
- 13.B Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums (PC)

14) Inventory Implementation

- 14.A Review Inventory Implementation Report (PC)

A Five-Step Plan to Participate

Here is a simple, realistic way to get involved. Even if you are not the GSR or you do not know who your GSR is, or you do not participate in a group (only meetings)

Step 1: Ask another GSR or General Service Member

- “Which agenda items are you focusing on?”
- “Would it help if I summarized a few?”
- “When is the best time to bring this to group conscience?”

You’re not trying to take over. You’re trying to support.

Step 2: Pick 2–4 Agenda Items and Prepare a Summary

Choose items that connect to your group’s or your experience:

- Does your group do H&I or corrections work?
- Does your group rely on the Meeting Guide app?
- Does your group have members passionate about literature?

Then create a simple not longer than a one-page summary:

- The agenda item (in plain language)
- What decision or discussion seems to be requested (review background material)
- 2–3 key questions

Step 3: Bring it to a Group Conscience

A good group conscience isn’t a shouting match. It’s an informed spiritual process. A simple structure that helps:

- Read the agenda item
- Share relevant facts and context
- Discuss, one person at a time
- Vote or sense of the group
- Record results clearly

Step 4: Make it easy for the GSR to Carry the Message Forward

Help by giving:

- A written summary of your group’s vote
- Key minority viewpoints if they matter
- Any questions your group wants answered at Pre-Conference

Step 5: Attend Pre-Conference

If you attend Pre-Conference:

- Listen first
- Speak once or twice
- Keep it short
- Tie it back to group conscience and experience

The goal is not to “win.” The goal is to help the delegate hear the Fellowship.

Common Fears

“I don’t know enough.” — You will learn by participating. Start with one agenda item. Read it, summarize it, and ask questions.

“I’m just one person.” — Yes. And that’s exactly how AA works: one alcoholic helping another, and one member participating so the group conscience is real.

“I’m afraid it’ll get political.” — Some topics feel hot. The antidote is to keep returning to:

- AA’s primary purpose
- Unity
- Informed Conscience
- Spiritual principles over personalities

Your Voice Belongs Here

Service is one of the ways AA keeps me sober. Not because it makes me important, but because it makes me useful. If you want to participate in General Service and have a voice in Pre-Conference, you can start at the level that matters most: **your group**. The GSR is your bridge, but your participation is the fuel.

So where does this leave us? It leaves us with one simple next action: Pick a few committee item from this year’s agenda, bring it to your group, keep the discussion short and help form a group conscience. That’s not extra. That’s A.A. working exactly the way it was designed to work.



Literature

aascv.org

New literature available from AA Grapevine, Inc.

“Gratitude” is a collection of powerful, personal stories about being thankful. With warmth and humor, the stories, written by AA members, illustrate the many ways the program of recovery can improve one’s perspective to help enjoy each day to the fullest. The book includes chapters on spirituality, fellowship, family, service, getting through tough times and more. All stories were previously published in Grapevine. A great book to start the day.

Price: \$ 14.99 each Can be ordered aagrapevine.org

To learn more, visit aagrapevine.org/store

News from New York

It’s important that we share news from New York with our local fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous so everyone feels a part of the fellowship as a whole have an understanding of how the 7TH tradition at their local meeting helps to support New York as well.

March 18, 2026: Dear Friends, I have been asked by the General Service Board, in my role as chair of the AAWS Finance Subcommittee on Self-Support, to contribute to the AAWS monthly communication letters. I do so with gratitude and a keen awareness that any understanding I have comes from shared experience within our Fellowship. As a relatively new director on the AAWS Board, it has been both humbling and eye opening to serve in this capacity. I am especially grateful to witness the establishment of the new Self-Support/Finance Desk and to see the care with which staff and trusted servants approach this work. Serving at this level has broadened my perspective and deepened my appreciation for the quiet, steady efforts that sustain A.A. Our Fellowship continues to encounter new challenges as we navigate an increasingly digital world. Many members no longer carry cash. Contribution tools and payment methods change quickly. Treasurers are thoughtfully working through new tools and technologies. These are not problems so much as reminders that while our principles remain steady, our methods must adapt. As Bill W. said in his 1960 keynote address to the General Service Conference: *“Our Twelve Steps probably won’t change. Our Twelve Traditions? Not at all likely. But our manner of communication, our manner of organizing ourselves*

for service – let us hope that this goes on changing for the better, forever...” I have experienced that evolution firsthand. In 2020, when the church where our small rural group met was shuttered during the pandemic, we moved online almost overnight. We were grateful to remain connected, but a simple and sobering question emerged: How would the still-suffering alcoholic find us now? Without a physical meeting place, we realized how easily we could become invisible. Members who already knew us could follow a link. But someone new; someone frightened, isolated, or desperate, had no clear path. We did what many groups did. We placed simple notices in our local newspaper. A few members put flyer’s at the grocery store, the library, the banks, and even the boat ramp. It was not polished. It was simply members trying to make sure A.A. could still be found. For some of us who had never served beyond our home group, that season revealed how fragile our connection to the still-suffering alcoholic could be, and how much we relied on services beyond ourselves. When in-person meetings resumed, we did not want to forget that lesson. We formed an outreach effort that began at the group level and gradually extended into neighboring groups. We worked with our Intergroup to ensure meeting information remained current. We created simple business cards with phone numbers and QR codes that linked to our local Intergroup/ Central Office. With guidance from aa.org and by drawing on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) and Public Information (PI) resources and shared experience, we reached out to local healthcare providers, businesses and agencies. What became clear over time was this: none of these services existed by accident. They were available because members before us had participated, contributed, and remained involved. Serving as chair of the Self-Support Subcommittee has allowed me to see those same principles at work on a broader scale. Self-support is not merely about placing money in a basket. It is about participation. It is about accepting responsibility for the health and continuity of our Fellowship. When I contribute today, I am helping sustain the services that allow A.A. to be found; meeting listings, phone lines, literature, shared experience, translation, digital access, and so much more. These are not abstract concepts. They are lifelines. There is also a quiet dignity in shared responsibility. Being self-supporting reminds me that A.A. is not something I simply receive; it is something I help carry. I stand on the shoulders of those who came before me, and I contribute so that others may stand after. When the basket is passed in my home group, I contribute not only to meet today’s expenses, but as an expression of gratitude and participation in something larger than myself. Through shared responsibility and collective support, the hand of A.A. remains available; sometimes in ways we never see.

With humility and gratitude for the opportunity to serve,

Julie C.

Non-Trustee Director, AAWS Chair, Self-Support Subcommittee

Grapevine News

aagrapevine.org/store

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

The April issue of Grapevine is here! The hot topic for the month is *"Getting Into General Service,"* featuring inspiring stories of experience by AA members about how they got into service below the group and how it changed their sobriety. The writer of "Running the Circus" tells how her eyes used to glaze over when she got into service and heard of the Concepts. But when she looked further into the way AA works, she found a treasure trove of spiritual principles and her outlook began to change. "I feel oddly proud," she writes, "like I'm part of something grown-up, spiritual and weirdly functional."

Other articles include *Why I Get Involved, The Love Of Service, And The Big Picture.*

Subscribe to the AA Grapevine today by visiting aagrapevine.org today.

Daily Quote

"I discovered that there really is an easier, softer way – the way of striving to be a part of."

"The Key to Belonging," Manchester, New Hampshire, September 2000, ***I Am Responsible: The Hand of AA***

The Recovering Corker Column

info@aascv.org

Dear Corker,

I am curious about Tradition 7. What does it mean for a group to be self-supporting? -- **Just Curious**

Dear Curious,

I have gone to the 7th Tradition in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book. For AA groups to exist and function we had to have meeting places; for the newcomer literature had to be available; coffee certainly was made available. Who would be responsible for these expenses. It would be the group's responsibility to collect enough money from its members to be able to afford these things. They could not accept funds from outside that group's membership.

I suggest reading the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money And Spirituality Mix".

The Corker

Spring Cleaning as a Newcomer

Akeem A. (rashinatkinsonperez@gmail.com)

The month of April and experiencing the 4th step. The 4th step was and continues to remain one of my most important steps and an assessment of myself. Before the gift of sobriety I was unaware about anything pertaining to a fearless and searching moral inventory of myself. The only thing that was accounted as inventory was the number of drinks I drunk and if exceeded that limit will I have enough for tomorrow when I sober up. The strange of obsession of my own mind.

As I was writing this I decided to research the word April in my Latin Dictionary it translated the word to mean "To Open." Honesty, Open-mindedness and Willingness were going to be my keys to growth. My experience with the 4th step was exactly as defined. As a newcomer it took a lot of humility and honesty to be Open for a moral inventory.

As April in the season of spring this month signifies renewal, growth and new beginnings. For years of my alcoholism I suppressed my own Freedom from Fear. I was afraid of the "What If's." What if I reveal my secrets and the truth comes and hurts me. Another part of the delusion that secrets are meant to be kept secret. Which was not true. The truth was that I revealed my deepest and sometimes darkest secrets the promises specified in pages 64-70 in the Big Book that I would be given the reward of experiencing emotional and mental change. My Perspective would change. And I would gain Freedom from Fear.

With the months and days counting of my sobriety I can honestly and openly say my God of my understanding as well the gift of experiencing these 12 steps; the 4th step has given me a gift as a newcomer of newfound freedom from fear and a another day of renewed growth. The 4th step was my "Spring Cleaning."

2026 SCV Convention Corner

The 2026 SCV Convention season is starting with our next special event, **Sober Saddle Up**, on April 25th. You can purchase tickets online at aascvconvention.org.

The 2026 Steering Committee has been selected, and our trusted servants, Kevin D., Chairperson, and Viktoria T., Co-chair, will guide us in planning the 2026 Convention.

To join one of the Planning Committees, come to the Rafters on Sunday, April 12th, at 12:30 P.M.

The Actor Leaves the Stage

By Kimberly C.

kimberlycooperstudio@gmail.com

In the Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book, in Chapter 5, "How It Works," there is a passage often referred to as the "actor" passage (pages 60–62). It describes the alcoholic as an actor trying to run the whole show — arranging the lights, the ballet, the scenery, and the rest of the players in their own way. If only everyone would do as they wished, the show would be wonderful. But when the play does not go according to plan, the actor becomes angry, resentful, self-pitying, or depressed. The book explains that this way of living — driven by self-will and self-propulsion — leads to constant conflict with life and other people. The solution, it suggests, is to stop trying to direct the play and instead allow God to be the Director, while we become the actor who follows direction rather than controls the stage.

When I first read this passage, I understood it intellectually. But over time in sobriety, I began to understand it personally. I realized that I had been an actor from a very early age, long before alcohol ever entered my life. I operated on self-will because it was how I learned to survive. I did not have the emotional nurturing I needed as a child, and I grew up with a deep internal hunger for love, safety, and reassurance. Without realizing it, I spent most of my life trying to fill that hole with anything that would temporarily make me feel okay.

In my early years, this showed up as food. Later it turned into sex, work, achievement, and eventually drugs and alcohol. The substances and behaviors changed over the years, but the underlying need never changed. I was always trying to soothe something inside me that felt empty, scared, and not quite safe in the world.

I eventually realized that I had two roles in life. One was the actor — the face the outside world saw. This actor appeared confident, capable, kind, generous, and in control. When I was young, this showed up as being an excellent student, well behaved, responsible, and high achieving. As I got older, that same role became career success, productivity, and the appearance of having everything together. From the outside, it looked like I was doing very well.

But inside, my inner child was steering the wheel.

When I was not performing for the audience, I was constantly self-seeking and self-protecting. As a child, I often lived in chaos and unpredictability, so I became hyper-vigilant about getting my needs met on my own. I was always scanning the environment, always calculating, always making sure I would be okay. If there was a pizza party, I was watching the slices to make sure I got my fair share. If I was in line for a carnival ride, I was more aware of what everyone else was doing than I was able to simply breathe

and enjoy the moment. At family gatherings or events, I felt like I needed to monitor everything so nothing bad or dramatic would happen.

I rarely did anything without first thinking about what it meant for me. Would I be okay? Would I get what I needed? Would I feel safe? Almost every decision was rooted in a deep internal desire to feel good and avoid pain. Looking back, I can see that I was operating from a scarcity mindset — a kind of emotional poverty mentality — even when my life looked successful from the outside. I always felt like there was not enough love, not enough safety, not enough reassurance, and so I tried to control everything around me to make sure I would be okay.

This sickness permeated everything. During COVID, I would secretly go to liquor stores because I needed my self-medication more than I cared about possibly exposing my family to the virus. That is a hard thing to admit, but it shows how powerful self-will and addiction can be. In those moments, I was not thinking spiritually, morally, or rationally. I was thinking about relief — about not feeling uncomfortable in my own skin.

When I entered Alcoholics Anonymous and was asked to find a higher power, I struggled at first. But eventually, the easiest way for me to understand a Higher Power was to imagine God as a benevolent and unconditionally loving parent — the parent I never really had growing up. If I could not properly parent myself, and had never learned how, it was a tremendous relief to imagine that something above me could do that for me now.

As a mother myself, I realized there was nothing I wanted more in life than for my child to be happy, healthy, safe, and loved. I would never want my child to poison herself, put herself in dangerous situations, stay in toxic relationships, or sacrifice her health and safety for temporary pleasure or material gain. When I applied that same logic to a Higher Power, everything began to make more sense.

As I fumbled through the awkwardness of early sobriety, I started imagining running my decisions, actions, and words past a loving creator who only wanted the best for me. I would ask myself simple questions: Would a loving parent want this for me? Would a loving parent be proud of this decision? Would a loving parent want me to treat myself this way?

This way of thinking slowly began to change my behavior. It allowed my wounded inner child to begin reintegrating with my adult self. I began to develop something I had never really had before — trust in myself. Or more accurately, trust in the version of myself that was trying to live according to something greater than my own impulses and fears.

My Higher Power's will was very different from my will. My will wanted comfort, control, approval, pleasure, and security at all costs. My Higher Power's will seemed to want honesty, safety,

growth, humility, patience, and love. Those are very different goals. But by continuing to ask questions, to pause before acting, and to imagine guidance from something loving and wise, my habits and patterns slowly began to change.

Over time, something surprising happened.

The actor in me began to leave the stage.

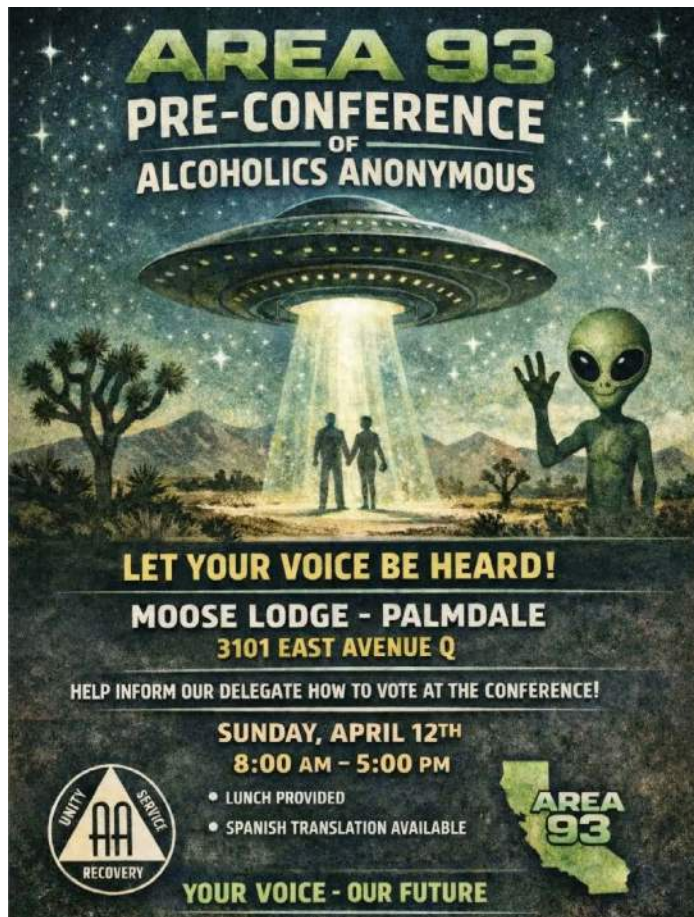
I no longer felt like I had to control every scene, manage every person, or predict every outcome. I did not have to arrange the lights, the ballet, and the scenery anymore. I could simply show up, do my best, and trust that I did not have to run the entire show. Life became less exhausting. I had spent decades trying to direct a play that I was never actually in control of anyway.

Today, I understand the “actor” passage in a completely different way. It is not just about ego or selfishness in the obvious sense. It is about fear. It is about trying to control life because we are afraid life will hurt us if we do not control it first. It is about trying to manage outcomes so we can feel safe, loved, and okay.

For me, sobriety has not just been about putting down alcohol. It has been about stepping off the director’s platform and becoming willing to be guided instead of controlled by fear and self-will. It has been about learning that I do not have to run the whole show, and in fact, I never could.

The greatest relief of my sobriety has not been that I do not drink anymore. The greatest relief has been that I do not have to be the director of the universe.

I can just be an actor who shows up, says my lines honestly, treats the other actors kindly, and trusts that the Director knows what He is doing.



AREA 93
PRE-CONFERENCE
OF
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

MOOSE LODGE - PALMDALE
3101 EAST AVENUE Q

HELP INFORM OUR DELEGATE HOW TO VOTE AT THE CONFERENCE!

SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

- LUNCH PROVIDED
- SPANISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

YOUR VOICE - OUR FUTURE

AA SERVICE RECOVERY logo and AREA 93 map logo.



Hoppin' into Recovery!
A Palmdale Group Event

BBQ
EGG HUNT
SPEAKER

Saturday, April 4 10-3
Desert Sands Park

This event is FREE as long as you RSVP: text your name and number attending to 661.418.2514. If you would like to donate sides, candy for our Egg Hunt, etc., text Natalie at 661.524.3485. Text Joe M 661.860.7602 to assist with setup, cooking, serving or cleanup.

Dessert Sands Park: 39117 3rd Street East in Palmdale



Newsletter

Santa Clarita Valley Central Office
Join to read our monthly newsletter. Each month, you will receive our newsletter with articles, calendar of events, links to meetings, distribution information and other nuggets of current information.




74th Southern California AA Convention
Planning Meetings
Come Join Us and Be of Service!
February 8th, 2026,
March 8th, 2026,
April 19th, 2026,
May 17th, 2026,
June 14th, 2026,
July 12th, 2026 **WALK THROUGH** at The Westin
August 9th, 2026,
September 13th, 2026...
2026 Planning Meetings Starting at 10:30am
74th SCAAConvention at The Westin on October 16-18, 2026
November 15, 2026: (Wrap Up Meeting)
For more info: info@asocal.com
visit us at: www.asocal.com
at The 502 Club
510 S. 2nd Ave #10, Covina, CA 91723

Calendar Events

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

Date	Event Name	Time	Location	Address
2026-04-02	SCV H & I Monthly Meeting	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	In-Person	24901 Orchard Village Rd Santa Clarita, CA 91355
2026-04-02	AV Central Office Intergroup Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	In-Person	43619 17th Street West, Suite 103 Lancaster, Ca. 93534
2026-04-04	Hoppin' into Recovery!	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	In-Person	39117 3rd St E, Palmdale, CA 93550
2026-04-05	AV Monthly Roundup	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	In-Person	42545 Wall Street, Unit 115 Lancaster CA 93534
2026-04-07	The 2026 Unity in Action	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	On-Line	ID: 202 006 1935 PW: 624101
2026-04-12	Area Pre-Conference	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	In-Person	3101 E Ave Q Palmdale, CA 93550
2026-04-12	AV H&I Monthly Meeting	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	In-Person	42545 Wall Street, Unit 115 Lancaster CA 93534
2026-04-13	District 7 Monthly Business Meetings	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Hybrid	41843 50th Street West Quartz Hill CA 93536; ID 835 1211 4894
2026-04-17	Inland Empire AA Convention — IEAAC 2026	All Day	In-Person	22777 Soboba Rd San Jacinto, CA 92583
2026-04-17	Easy Does It Weekend	All Day	In-Person	250 CA-138 Crestline, CA 92325
2026-04-19	Area ACM (CCAA)	8:30 AM - 1:30 PM	Hybrid	33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd Agua Dulce, CA 91390
2026-04-19	SCV Convention Planning Committee Only	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	In-Person	22607 6th Street Newhall, CA 91321
2026-04-20	Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	On-Line	ID: 825 7541 7228 PW: Workbook
2026-04-25	Sober Saddle Up	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	In-Person	26983 Tapia Canyon Rd Castaic, CA 91384
2026-04-27	SCV Intergroup Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	In-Person	26951 Ruether Ave., B-4 Santa Clarita, CA 91351

March IGR Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Kathy B., Secretary

Monday, March 23rd, 2026

- Meeting called to order: 7:00 PM by Doug W.
- Opening prayer: Serenity Prayer (all)
- Statement of purpose: Bobby B.
- Motion to accept January and February's 2026 Minutes pushed to next month due to no printouts

Attendance: 11

- Doug W., Barbra W., Ida B., Jasmine G., Jenny M., Kathy B., Patty G., Susie R., Susan C., Judy F., and John C.

Chairpersons Report – Doug W.

- Requests remain: Each month I would like a volunteer to write an article for the Gratitude Gazette, written by IGR's and other AA members. I'm happy articles are being written. I need your articles by the 25TH of each month. Thank you.

March Literature Share – Barbra W.

- Barbra shared on the stories in the Big Book – She chose the story My Chance to Live on pages. 316-317 because it emphasized the two principles willingness and action
- April – John C.

Meeting Share

- Kathy B. Shared on the 10+ meeting Friday nights at Stepping Stones from 7PM-8PM. She emphasized that this meeting you must have 10+ years to share. A topic and leader are chosen the week before. The meeting is great and well attended by Alcoholics with various sobriety times.

Treasurers Report – Judy F.

- February's treasury report stated Central office was in the red by \$743.28. There were two big bills in February one being liability insurance at \$411.00 and legal and professional Services at \$1,500 led us to be in the red. Central office is continuing to do AA's primary purpose.
- Central Office Checking account runs between \$11,000 - \$16,000 in order to pay the bills and run the office. The prudent reserve has \$16,000. Going forward, the treasurer's report will include the monthly checking and prudent reserve balances.

Office Managers Report -Judy F.

- Central office Annex will not be going forward at the Rafters.
- There are a few health issues in the Central Office building. We are looking into moving.

Literature Report – Judy F.

- There is a new Grapevine book. It will not be carried in Central office, however if you would like to purchase one, Judy will order a copy.

Public Information – Patty G.

- No Report

Outreach – open

- No report

Old Business – Doug W.

- None

New Business – Doug W.

- Current Chair Doug W. is moving, and a new chair is needed. He will continue to provide online and website services. Thank you, Doug W., for being of service – from all intergroup volunteers.
- Duties of the chairman were discussed. Motion to nominate Susan C. for Central Office Chairman by Kathy B. Susan accepted the nomination. The motion was seconded by Judy F. Motion approved by all.
- Due to health concerns from the central office building, a discussion ensued on finding a new office. Barbra W. made a motion that we may pursue finding a new place for central office, without current health issues, not to exceed \$1,000.00 monthly. Motion seconded by Susie R. Motion was approved by all.

Website – Doug W.

- All meetings are current. The in-person meeting directory does not include online meetings. However, If you scan the QR code on the front of the directory, it will bring you to the meeting list that includes in person and online.

Announcements

- SCV AA Convention is having a special event at Jack Bones Equestrian Center: Sober Saddle up. Event April 25TH, Tickets are \$25.00. More information at aascvconvention.org.
- April 17, 18, and 19TH Easy Does It Weekend at camp Seely in Crestline. AA and Al-anon weekend celebrating 47 years of recovery fun. More information at easydoesitweekend.org

Birthdays –

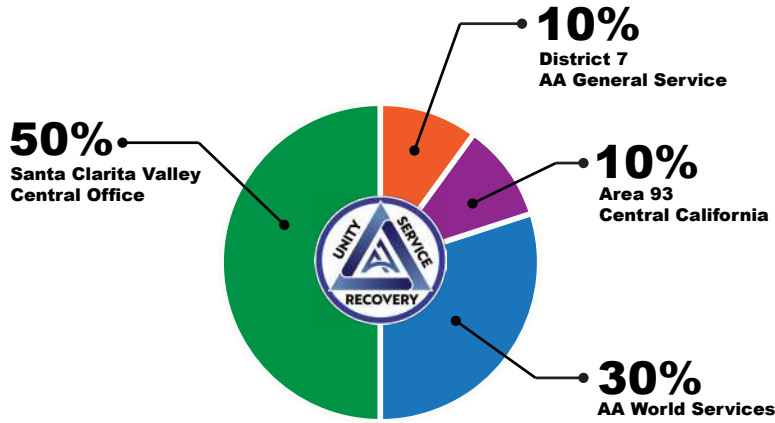
- John C. 9 year sober. Happy Birthday!!!

Meeting ended at 8:30 PM with the pledge I am responsible.

7TH Tradition

Contributions to Central Offices, District 7, Area 93 and GSB

Financial Support for your Central Office, District 7, Area 93, and General Service Board of AA it is suggested for each group 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. The percentages are suggestions.



SCV Central Office

26951 Reuther Ave B-4
Santa Clarita, CA 91351
(Check payable to: SCV Central Office)
(Electronic: <https://aascv.org/7th-tradition/>)

District 7

P.O. Box 599
Acton, CA 93510
(Check payable to: District 7, CCAA)
(Electronic: <https://area93district7.org/make-a-contribution/>)

Central California Area 93

PMB #140
606 Alamo Pintado #3
Solvang, CA 93463
(Check payable to: CCAA, Area 93)
(Electronic: <https://area93.org/contributions/>)

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)
(Electronic: <https://contribution.aa.org/>)

Group IDs

It is very important to add your: **Group/ Meeting Information to all checks and other payments.**

- **AAWS Group ID Number (9-Digits)**
- **Meeting/Group Name**
- **Location and Time**

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

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:
7. Scroll down to the "Past Transactions" section.
8. 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.