



May/June 2015

Volume 5, Issue 3

**52<sup>nd</sup> District**

# "Passing It On"

500 South Broadway, Suite 114, Santa Maria, CA 93454

805-925-3782

Central Office Website: [www.aa52centraloffice.org](http://www.aa52centraloffice.org)

District 52 Website: [www.aadistrict52.org](http://www.aadistrict52.org)

Alcoholics Anonymous Website: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

## Step 5

**"Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."**

"Without fearless admission of defects, few could stay sober." Twelve and Twelve p 6

"Once we have taken this step, withholding nothing, we are delighted. We can look the world in the eye. We can be alone at perfect peace and ease. Our fears fall from us. We begin to feel the nearness of our Creator." BB p 75

## Step 6

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

"If we would gain any real advantage in the use of this Step on problems other than alcohol, we shall need to make a brand new venture into open-mindedness. We shall need to raise our eyes toward perfection, and be ready to walk in that direction." Twelve and Twelve p 68

## Tradition 5

**"Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."**

"It is the great paradox of A.A. that we know we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away." Twelve and Twelve p 151

## Tradition 6

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

"We of Alcoholics Anonymous could not be all things to all men, nor should we try." Twelve and Twelve p 157



**Sobriety Delivers Everything Alcohol Promised!**

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**Recovery Rocks!**  
**Central Coast Roundup Fundraiser**  
**Saturday, May 30, 2015**



**Dinner 5pm-6pm, Speaker 6:30pm**  
**\$10**

**Lutheran Church of Our Savior**  
**4725 S. Bradley Rd., Santa Maria**

**Featuring:**

**A 50/50 Raffle, a Silent Auction, a Speaker, and...**  
**A No Talent Talent Show**  
**Starring a bunch of untalented A.A.'s. (If you**  
**are talentless and would like to participate, call**  
**Bobbi Jo at 805-314-8780)**



**Call Kevin at 805-332-0345 with any questions.**  
**Join us for fun, fellowship & laughter!**



**80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free!**

**2015 International Convention of Alcoholics**  
**Anonymous**  
**July 2-5, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia**  
**Convention and Housing Registration now open.**  
**[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)**

**If you're planning on going and want to meet**  
**up with area A.A.s, contact Michael B. at**  
**[mvbarriere@msn.com](mailto:mvbarriere@msn.com)**

**Saturday, July 4th Pot Luck**  
**Waller Park, Area 7, 12:30pm**  
**Pie Eating Contest, Games**



**Southern California H&I Intergroup**

The Southern California H&I Intergroup is made up of H&I Committees from all over Southern California. Each year the SoCalHandI hosts a Conference to promote a better understanding between ourselves, the professionals from the Institutions we provide services in and the rest of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

We of the SoCalHandI Conference would like to extend an invitation to all who are interested in H&I to attend our Conference, May 15th, 16th and 17th at the Holiday Inn in La Mirada.

Please visit our Web Site for more details and pre-registration. **[www.socalhandi.org](http://www.socalhandi.org)**

# HELP WANTED!!!

*Looking for a service commitment? Want to give back to fellow A.A.'s? Want to enhance your Program? Here are some opportunities.*

## **After Hours Phone Person**

**Answer calls from alcoholics after hours in your home. Get their contact info and pass it on to someone on the 12 Step Referral List. Call Vicki at 805-268-2397.**

## **12 Step Referral List**

**Put your contact info on the 12 Step Referral List. Be there for fellow alcoholics in need. Call Vicki at 805-268-2397.**

## **What If....**

**What if** there had been no one to call when you decided to get sober?

**What if** there had been no meeting guides online or in print when you needed a meeting?

**What if** there hadn't been a Central Office for you and your meeting to purchase AA books, literature and chips?

**What if** there were no speakers or rooms for speaker meetings?

**What if** no one stepped up to be a sponsor?

**What if** everyone just decided to do nothing...

**Where** would we be then?



***"I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that I am responsible."***

## **Central Office Volunteers Needed**

**No experience necessary, will train. Answer phones, sell books and literature in Central Office. The following days and times are available.**

**Mondays**      **Between 3pm and 5pm**

**Tuesdays**    **Between 11am and 5pm**

**Wednesdays** **Between 11:45am and 1pm**

**Between 3pm and 5pm**

**Thursdays**   **Between 9am and 11am**

**Between 1pm and 3pm**

**Saturdays**    **Between 8am and 12pm**

**Call Vicki at 805-268-2397**



## **Bridging the Gap**

**Help new members in treatment programs or correctional facilities find meetings in the community. Introduce them to other AA's, make sure they get phone numbers, and help them find a sponsor. For more info, call Steve K. at 818-433-0257.**



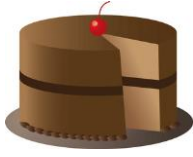
**Intergroup Representatives Needed  
for the Following Groups:**

**Santa Maria Valley Group**

**Golden Group**

**Pyramid Group**

**6 AM Sickies**



### Some 52's Celebrating Anniversaries

3/01	Jim T.	35 years
3/01	Bob C.	35 years
3/04	Jessica L.	4 years
3/04	Robert S.	6 years
3/06	Todd R.	10 years
3/06	David C.	1 year
3/10	Mike F.	1 year
3/12	Lynn	26 years
3/15	Trish	36 years
3/17	Terry C.	23 years
3/19	Arlene	19 years
3/20	Jim S.	35 years
3/23	Andrew T.	7 years
3/23	Francine H.	10 years
3/25	Brian S.	5 years
3/25	Dan K.	32 years
4/03	Raquel T.	4 years
4/06	Susanne N.	26 years
4/09	Gwen J.	1 year
4/07	Shauna C.	4 years
4/11	Liz R.	5 years
4/15	Beverly T.	24 years
4/18	Victoria S.	5 years
4/18	Malieh	3 years
4/23	Bre	1 year
4/23	Jessica	1 year
4/25	MaryEllen R	25 years

#### Steering Committee Meetings

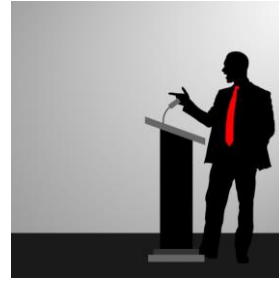
**Freedom Group** - 2nd Sunday of the month, Lompoc, 1pm

**Happy Hour** – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of even months, 1600 Club, 6:45pm

**Santa Maria Golden Group** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, 6:30 pm

**Santa Maria Valley Group** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 6:45pm

**Santa Ynez Valley Action Group** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, Alano Club, 10am



### **Speaker Meetings**

**Freedom Group Speaker Meeting** – 113 N. V St., Lompoc (Friday, 8pm)

**Happy Hour Group** – 1600 Club, 324 W. Cypress (last Monday of the month, 5:30pm)

**Lompoc Valley Group Unity Speaker Meeting** - Lompoc Alano Club, 119 N. "D" St. (Sunday, 4pm)

**South County Speaker Meeting** - Arroyo Grande (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 8pm)

**Santa Maria Golden Group** – 500 S. Broadway, Suite 252 (Saturdays, 8pm)

**Santa Maria Live** – Bethel Lutheran Church, 624 E. Camino Colegio (4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, refreshments at 7:30pm, speaker at 8pm)

**Santa Maria Valley Group** - 1600 Club, 324 W. Cypress (Sunday, 7pm)

**Solvang Action Group** - Solvang Alano Club, 320 Alisal Rd. (Saturday, 8pm)

**Women's Meeting – Freedom Group** – 113 N. V St., Lompoc (4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 10-11am)

#### Monthly Service Meetings

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of month: 10:00am**

Intergroup Committee (Central Office) 1600 Club 324 W Cypress Santa Maria

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month: 10:00am**

GSR meeting – location varies, Call Joe C. 805-757-6847

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month: 6:45pm**

North S.B. H&I Committee Mtg. Freedom Group, 113 N. V St. Lompoc

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month: 10:00am**

Central Coast Round-Up Meeting, 1600 Club 324 Cypress St., Santa Maria



***One of Our Old Timers Talks About Open Mindedness and How He Saw the Light,  
Literally!***

When I was first introduced to Alcoholics Anonymous, it was by way of the court system for a DUI. I did not believe that I had a problem with alcohol. I would go to meetings, get my card signed, and head off to get drunk. I kept on drinking for another two years. Once in a while I would try to show my wife that I didn't have a drinking problem. I would try not to get drunk for a couple of days or a week but was back to drinking myself into oblivion within a few days. I would even try drinking, as the Big Book says, "Like a gentleman," even throwing out booze. Nothing worked. I just would not get out of that closed mindedness.

At this time I was in a partnership with my brother. We lived in a small town where everybody knew everybody. I became a blackout drinker and usually ended up driving the 5 or 6 miles home in a blackout, always wondering how I got home and what happened. I would start my drinking for the evening before I left work, go through a 6 pack or more of beer, and stop off at one of the local watering holes before heading home.

November 6, 1980 is my sobriety date. I had been working late and stopped off at a favorite drinking spot. While in a blackout driving home, I totaled the store vehicle and downed a street light. I overheard an officer say if I'd hit that light pole a foot over, I would not be alive. I was laid up in bed a few days and had time to think. My wife had given me an ultimatum which was another deciding factor. I vowed to quit drinking and smoking.

Prior to my appearance in Court, my attorney suggested I get into a recovery program. A good friend of the family came to the store and I mentioned I was going to start going to AA. He had a brother with 30 years sobriety and said, "Do me a favor and go in with an open mind." I did what he suggested and that has kept me here all these years. When I Twelve Step a newcomer, one of the first things I suggest to them is to have an open mind.

Without an open mind, I would not have listened to the old timers, as well as the newcomers. I would not be doing service or have stayed sober (and smoke-free) one day at a time for so many years. I have been married to the same wonderful lady for over 48 years. I have a nice home, two wonderful daughters and two lovely granddaughters. I am very grateful that I can enjoy life today by having that open mind!

Without this great fellowship of men and women, no telling where I would be today. So "Thank You" to all the members of Alcoholics Anonymous. You have given me a great and wonderful life since I became sober and started living this Program to its fullest. In my story at meetings I always say that God showed me the light!

Keith D., Santa Maria

## 52<sup>nd</sup> District Central Office Happenings

### Central Office Board of Directors

Chairperson: Sylvia M.  
 Co-Chairperson: Marilyn G.  
 Treasurer: Terry S.  
 Secretary: Veroneka  
 Literature & Chips: Vicki D.  
 Fundraising: Sarah G.

#### Member at Large

Deborah W.

### What's Happening in Central Office?

	<u>Feb/March</u>
Calls	16
Office Walk-Ins	26
Book Sales	45
Chip Sales	139
Directory packs/Pamphlets	185
Miscellaneous	14

*Handmade Cards Now At Central Office! Custom Cards can be ordered as well!*

**Special Order your recovery books from Central Office!**  
**805-925-3782**



**Thanks, Central Office Volunteers!!!**

**Carmel A., Christina N., Kristina S.,  
 Lisa B., Martin, Paul C., Terry S.,  
 Tom W., Vicki D., Wade W.**

### New Central Office Board Members

**Welcome to the following new Board of Director members who were elected at the March IGR**

**Meeting:** **Secretary - Veroneka R.**  
**Fundraising Chair - Sarah G.**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Board Member - Deborah W.**  
**Convention Liaison - OPEN**  
**52<sup>nd</sup> District Liaison - OPEN**

**Thanks for stepping up!**



### District 52 Central Office Accounting Snapshot

<u>Donations</u>	<u>02/15</u>	<u>03/15</u>
<b>Group</b>		
6 AM Sickies	141.16	144.38
Women's Fresh Start	30.00	
Happy Hour	100.00	
Anon. Women's Group	30.00	56.00
Women's Book Study		61.62
Wed. Night Mtg. of AA	100.00	
Santa Maria Valley Group	<u>1250.00</u>	
Santa Ynez Valley Action Grp		<u>59.11</u>
<b>Total Group</b>	<b>1644.16</b>	<b>325.11</b>
<b>Individual</b>		
Chris J.	100.00	
Danelle W.		20.00
Nancy		10.00
Terry & Diane	25.00	
Wade W.	25.00	
Yolanda	100.00	
Carmel A.	5.00	
Keith D.	<u>15.00</u>	<u>15.00</u>
<b>Total Individual</b>	<b>270.00</b>	<b>45.00</b>
<b>Misc. &amp; Change Donations</b>	<b>12.53</b>	<b>4.22</b>
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>1926.69</b>	<b>374.33</b>
<b>Total Sales</b>	<b><u>273.36</u></b>	<b><u>326.62</u></b>
<b>Total Sales &amp; Donations</b>	<b>2200.05</b>	<b>700.95</b>

## 52<sup>nd</sup> District Central Office Happenings

### Meet Your Central Office Board

**Vicki D., Santa Maria**  
**Central Office Coordinator**



*Vicki took over coordinating duties last year and has focused on organizing the office, finding volunteers to keep it open, and increasing the variety of recovery books offered for sale to members. Aside from coordinating Central Office, Vicki is Secretary of the Santa Maria Valley Group Sunday Night Speaker Meeting and works full-time. She feels volunteering continues to make a big difference in her sobriety. Vicki will celebrate her 2<sup>nd</sup> AA birthday May 23<sup>rd</sup>.*



### **Davey Jones and Gary Johnson**

*We lost two beloved old timers in the last couple of months. Davey Jones shared the lessons he learned in his 44 years of sobriety both professionally and personally. Gary Johnson shared his wisdom for almost 32 years. Thanks, guys, we'll miss you!*

### **Coming October 9-11...**

#### **Recovery Rocks!!!**

**52<sup>nd</sup> District of Alcoholics Anonymous Roundup**  
**Veterans Hall, Santa Maria**



## News From Around the District



Welcome to Deborah W. who was elected 5<sup>th</sup> Central Office Board Member. She is also the IGR for the Action group.

The Santa Ynez Valley Action Group Steering Committee Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at the Alano Club, is now at 10am.

Santa Ynez Valley Action Group has a new Closed 10<sup>th</sup> Step meeting on Mondays at 6pm at the Buellton Senior Center (behind the Post Office).



This space  
reserved  
for future  
stuff

### **Coming in November...**

#### **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual District 52 Chili Cook-off!**

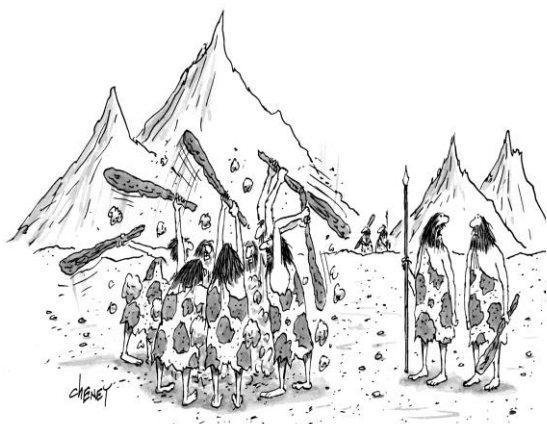


**The smack talk has begun!**

Which one changed your life for the better?



Which one do you contribute the most money to?



"It's some new thing called an intervention."

AA has a wrench to fit every nut that walks through a meeting room door.



"I think my mistake was making Carrot Top my Higher Power."

### What's Happening???

5/15-17/15 H&I Conference, Holiday Inn, La Mirada [www.socalhandi.org](http://www.socalhandi.org)

5/30/15 Fundraiser for Central Coast Round Up (see page 2)

7/2-7/5/15 2015 Int'l Convention of AA, Atlanta, GA [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) (see page 2)

7/4/15 4<sup>th</sup> of July Barbeque, Waller Park (page 2)

10/15 Recovery Rocks! Central Coast Round Up (page 7)

11/15 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off (page 7)

Without memory, there is no healing.  
Without forgiveness, there is no future.

### EDITOR'S CORNER



Got a birthday coming up? Have some wisdom to share? E-mail your material to Nancy, at:

[nsagg98@yahoo.com](mailto:nsagg98@yahoo.com)