

## CENTRAL SERVICE MEETING MINUTES

### Central Office and Central Service Representatives Meeting Report

Date: April 11, 2023

Meeting called to order: Bill E. Time: 7:04 PM

Board members present: Cheryl H., William (Bill) E., Patrick A., Sara S., David G. Absent: none

Serenity Prayer: Lead by Cody, said by all who wish.

12 Traditions: Paul B.

Minutes of last meeting: Reviewed by all; Paul moved to approve, motion seconded by Brett. Vote: all in favor, none against.

Report of last Board meeting: Meeting called to order at 8:07 PM by Cheryl Hinton. President (Cheryl): Nothing new to report. Vice President (Bill): asked the board if he could sit in as president under supervision (*tonight he is doing that*). Secretary (David): nothing new to report. Member at large (Sara): The Bridging The Gap meeting is April 1<sup>st</sup> here at the Central Office at 11 AM. Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community P.I./C.P.C. (Patrick): My report is the same as at the CSR meeting. Office operations report (Carol Ann): nothing new that wasn't discussed in the CSR meeting. Old business (1): salary increase for our office manager. Carol Ann is currently making \$21.22 per hour, 22 hours a week. Proposal to increase our office manager pay by an even two dollars per hour. After much discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Old business (2): golf tournament, we need teams. Please encourage people to sign up. Old business (3): New Year's activity. Maybe we could coordinate something with the Valley Speaker Series Group. Decision was to ask CSRs to ask their group and the membership if they would support Central Office helping out with the event. New business (1): Office Manager vacation. Carol Ann will be out May 15<sup>th</sup> to May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Claudia had previously filled in when Carol Ann was out. New business (2): literature price increase. Cheryl motioned to raise the Big Book back to the regular price. Patrick seconded; all voted in favor, none against. New business (3): Central Office hours Saturday. Decision was to trial the last Saturday of the month, beginning April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Treasurer and Office report: Carol Ann provided the report.

#### Treasurer / Office Report and Financial Report

2/21/2023 thru 3/20/2023

April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Good evening!

I am happy report that we received two letters from the IRS regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters of 2021 for the ERC (Employee Retention Credit). They approved the tax credits for both quarters, adding interest to them for the amount of \$6,140.87. Once we receive the funds, we will pay the CPA group that prepared the amended 941s for us. On

a side note, we did receive one of the payments yesterday for the amount of \$3655.29, which will show up in next month's report.

Central Office had an income of \$3,666.32 and expenses of \$3,646.49 for a gain of \$19.83.

Our Grateful Givers Club brought in \$155.00 and our Birthday Club brought in \$129.00 in much appreciated contributions.

We had \$626.73 in gross sales in 14 transactions for credit and debit cards, 1 transaction in PayPal for \$20.00, and \$242.95 in gross sales in 5 VENMO transactions this accounting period.

Traffic and calls have been average.

We want to thank all the groups and individuals who contributed to show their support for Central Office.

Office operations are going well and we are still fulfilling our primary purpose of carrying the AA message of recovery.

We have lots a great stuff here at the Central Office to help you share the message of recovery! We just received some books we haven't had in stock for a while, come and see what is new!

Central Office is doing a pilot program on the last Saturday of the month for the next four months to see if it is something we want to do every month for members who can't get here during the week. The office will be open 9 to 1 the last Saturday of the month, again, this is only for the last Saturday of the month only. Please announce this to other members and your groups.

I want to add that I got a jury summons for May 1<sup>st</sup>, which means I may not be here that day.

The Spring Into Sobriety event: I didn't know anything about it. So we weren't able to pass that information on to the groups as they came into Central Office. So if any events are coming up and you have flyers, please make sure they get to us so we can spread the word.

Thank you for letting me be your office manager.

Carol Ann Gable

Office Manager/Treasurer

Public Information report: Patrick A. provided the report.

Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community (P.I./C.P.C.). We inform professionals and future professionals about A.A. – What we are, where we are, what we can

do, and what we cannot do. We attempt to establish better communication between A.A. and professionals, to establish simple, effective ways of cooperating without affiliating.

I do not have anything to report from the last month. I would like to say that we are looking for volunteers for the upcoming picnic in June.

Thank you for letting me be a service.

Patrick.

Any questions for Patrick? (Cody): What kind of volunteers for the picnic? (Patrick) So it's basically someone in the booth. You're more than welcome to help set up. We usually ask people to be in the booth in 30 minute blocks, depending on how many volunteers we have. That way you can enjoy the picnic, but we also offer people an opportunity to be of service.

Volunteers to write Step and Tradition for Central News

Step for newsletter

Issue	Step	Member	Due date	Send to
May	5	Steve P.	April 20	CentralintergroupNews@gmail.com
June	6	Paul B.	May 20	CentralintergroupNews@gmail.com

Tradition for newsletter

Issue	Tradition	Member	Due date	Send to
May	5	Sheryl E.	April 20	CentralintergroupNews@gmail.com
June	6	Cheryl H.	May 20	CentralintergroupNews@gmail.com

Newsletter report: none at this time.

Website report: David G. provided the report.

Horace with Kings County added their Unity Day Celebration for Saturday, May 6.

I added the announcement about Central Office being open on the last Saturday of the month.

Carol Ann added the Men's Spiritual Retreat in Fall Creek Oregon.

I added the Great Outdoor Beaver Meeting 2023 in Beaver Utah.

I added the Fresno Annual Intergroup Picnic for April 29.

I added the 47<sup>th</sup> Northern California Annual H&I Conference for May 19-20 in Sacramento.

I updated the CSR meeting event to note that it is not a traditional A.A. meeting where we share our experience, strength, and hope. This is a meeting of elected group representatives who come together to discuss events and group activities within our intergroup area.

Carol Ann let me know that the PayPal link wasn't working; I worked with her to get a new code, and have updated the web site. Now the PayPal link sits beside the Venmo link (on a large screen).

H & I report: Joyce R. provided the report. (*paraphrased by secretary*)

Tulare County Hospital and Institution Committee

April, 2023

A lot of exciting things are happening in H and I. They recently had a restructure and a committee meeting where there was a lot of participation from all areas. They are now doing a committee inventory, led by the past delegate from Area 6 panel 69. They also have a new co-chair, Julio B., who is spearheading the inventory. Mariposa is back into the fire camps and their county jail after being shut down due to COVID, and Fresno is expanding its facilities. H and I will be bringing a meeting and literature to a new facility that is opening at the end of the year, run by the charity Salt + Light. The committees of Public Information and Bridging The Gap will be helped by Patrick and Sara, respectively. Together, it's an exciting time of growth for H and I.

Basically, there has been a change in facility coordinators which has increased Joyce's workload. However, this has allowed her to become more spiritually connected and has led her to realize that she can do a better job than before by following the instructions in the pink pamphlet.

Joyce has introduced changes at two facilities she oversees. She has appointed meeting leaders and is responsible for coordinating volunteers who must have three years of sobriety. Joyce is excited because she has received positive feedback from the facilities and volunteers, and she plans to bring these changes to her local committee.

Joyce was contacted by someone with over three years of sobriety who will be her assistant facility coordinator, allowing them to expand. If things go well next week, they plan to reach out to three or four more places. Joyce is excited about the opportunity for growth and being of more service. She believes it's important to avoid getting stuck in a rut and always aim for the best, as temporary or seemingly good solutions can prevent us from achieving the permanent best.

In service

Joyce R.

(Bill) Any questions for Joyce?

(Bill) Would this be like a recovery support fair where people in recovery can go and find opportunities and services available?

(Joyce) No, H and I's function is to bring meetings to facilities. Salt and Light wants to provide additional services to those living in their facility; they offer housing and recovery for homeless individuals and those affected by mental health issues.

(Patrick) H and I can accept volunteers and bring meetings to their location, which is what they were looking for.

(Steve) I would really like to see you get in to Robertson House.

(Joyce) Let me work my magic and then I'll tell you. *(laughter)*

(Bill) Thank you, Joyce. You sparked a valuable conversation.

GSO liaison report: provided by David G.

GSR Liaison meeting minutes 2023-04-05

Nine people attended; we had one new Alternate GSR: Courtney R.

Finances: report not yet available.

Outgo: \$595.80 which was for the Porterville Agenda Item Workshop.

DCM report on the Area Committee Meeting March 18:

1) This year's Election Assembly has been bumped up one week to November 10, 11 and 12 to better accommodate the Regional Trustee who will lead us through the nomination and elections process.

2) April 15 & 16 is the Pre-Conference Assembly in Tracy, CA. There is still time to poll your groups for feedback on agenda items. *(That was true on April 5, but after April 16: no)*

Old business:

Our March 19th Agenda Items Workshop went very well. We had 31 people in attendance and another 5 attending online via Zoom. Thanks to Event Chair Mike C; Food Chair Jim K; Publicity Chair Mike C.; Set-up and Clean-up Chair Sean A.; and thanks to Greg G. who prepared and donated the wonderful tri-tip.

The Golf Tournament on April 23rd needs registrations and players! Send to Jim K. with team member names. A few days before the event, Jim has to tell the golf course how many teams there are. The golf course then closes the course for us to get started. If we don't have enough teams, they cannot accommodate us. ***(The Golf Tournament has since been canceled due to insufficient sign ups).***

New business: no new business.

Bridging The Gap (BTG): provided by Sara S.

We had our second committee meeting, April 1<sup>st</sup>. There were six people who attended, which was a great turnout. I had attended the area Bridging The Gap meeting on Zoom with Brad E. in Sacramento. It's connecting people coming out of institutions to their AA community. Our next meeting is Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Sara.

CSR reports

If you have a change in your meeting please notify Carol Ann here at the office so she can update the meeting schedule and get that information to David for the website.

Springville Monday Night Book Study Group, Cody R., CSR,

We are located at the Lighthouse Chapel in Springville. We meet Mondays night from 7 to 8 PM. It is an open group book study. We rotate the books that we study. We're currently reading *Language of the Heart*. We're about halfway through that book. We have coffee and sweets at every meeting. Our attendance is pretty consistent. We would love to have more visitors come. So if anyone's interested, there's that meeting on Mondays.

Gut-Level Group, Cody R., CSR,

The Thursday Night Gut Level meeting is also an open group located at the Lighthouse Chapel as well, in Springville. We meet Thursdays 7 to 8:30 PM. We offer coffee and occasional sweets. We do have a birthday meeting, which is the last Thursday of the month where we celebrate sobriety with cake and coffee. We love to have visitors, and the attendance is pretty consistent at that meeting as well.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Cody.

Civic Center Group, Brett R., CSR,

We meet every Tuesday night in Visalia at the Christ Lutheran church near Tulare and Demaree. It starts at 7:00 PM and goes to 8:00 PM. It is an Open meeting, and newcomers are welcome. We have coffee and candy, and literature every week. Books are for sale at cost, and pamphlets are free. Our business meetings are the third Tuesday of the month at 8:10 PM. We give out chips every week for sobriety under one year; we have a birthday meeting on the last Tuesday of the month, with cupcakes. We've had pretty good turnout for several months.

Monday Night Men's Meeting, Paul B., CSR.

We meet at the P.P.A.V. Hall in Visalia. We are a Closed men's meeting. We meet for 90 minutes. We celebrate sobriety milestones under a year every week with chips and a hug. Steve is our Official Hugger. On the last Monday of the month we celebrate annual birthdays with chips and a hug and dessert. Our business meeting is the first Monday of the month. Every week we ask men who have completed the steps and have the time and energy to sponsor to stand up so that newcomers know who to talk to. Our numbers have been steadily growing. Pine Recovery and Robertson House have been well represented.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Paul.

Bridge Street Drunks, Sara S., CSR,

We are a large group which hosts 18 meetings. We welcome all who have a desire to stop drinking. We are located at 526 N. Bridge Street in Visalia. Our business meetings are the last Saturday of the month, alternating between 8 AM or 1 PM. Our next business meeting is April 29<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM. Our birthday meetings are the last Saturday of the month at the noon meeting. We give chips, hugs, coffee, cake and smiles.

Our group filled out a survey form for the GSR report. Our GSR provided us with questions on the agenda items, so we filled that out.

Our meeting schedule is:

Monday through Sunday 7 AM to 8 AM

Monday through Sunday 12 noon to 1 PM

Tuesday evening 6 to 7 PM (12 x 12 book study)

Wednesday evening 6 to 7 PM (Literature study)

Thursday evening 7 to 8:30 PM (Big Book study)

Saturday evening 7 to 8 PM (open meeting)

With love and service,

Sara S.

Rainbow Group, George J., Secretary.

Hello everyone, my name is George and I want to thank you for having me. This is actually my first time attending this CSR meeting. I am the secretary for the Rainbow Group at The Source, which is

the only LGBTQ+ meeting in the area. Although I'm new to the role of secretary, I'm excited to be here and I'm taking notes to help me navigate through this meeting.

Our group meets every Saturday from 5:30 to 6:30 PM and it's an open meeting, so anyone is welcome to attend. We also have chips that we give out every week. On the second Saturday of each month, we have business meetings, and on the fourth Saturday, we celebrate birthdays with cake. We also have sponsors available to take on newcomers regularly. Our group is comprised of around 20 to 25 people and has been growing really well lately.

Just before the meeting, at 5 o'clock, we offer a 10-minute meditation session for those who would like to participate. It's a great way to center oneself and before the meeting. The meditation can be done in different ways, such as silent or guided.

Our meetings are open to everyone and we're currently looking for speakers to volunteer for the 10-minute share at the beginning of the meeting. If you're interested, please let me know and I'll take down your name and number. Lastly, I would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to visit our meeting on Saturdays at 5:30 PM.

Thank you,

George.

Crossroads Group, Steve P., CSR,

The Crossroads Group in Tulare, on Tulare Avenue – 220 W. Tulare Avenue at the Hillman House. We meet Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. We're a small group; about ten to twelve. Most most nights everyone gets to share.

Pine Recovery Friday Night Candlelight meeting, Steve P., CSR,

The Pine Recovery Candlelight meeting is on Fridays nights, from 10:00 to 11:00 PM, in Visalia at 120 W. School Avenue. Usually there's 25 to 30 people. It is an open meeting and it is open to the public; women are welcome even though it's a men's recovery home.

Thank you guys,

Steve.

Tuesday Night "Friends Of Bill W. and Doctor Bob", Patrick A., CSR,

This is a Tuesday Night Open Meeting held at St. John's Episcopal Church, 1701 E Prosperity Ave in Tulare from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. We are a fellowship of men and women sharing our experience, strength, and hope. This is an indoor meeting, averaging about ten to fifteen people every week. We give out chips for various lengths of continuous sobriety and celebrate birthdays at the end of each month with cake and ice cream. As always, we have cake and ice cream *regardless* if anyone is celebrating a



birthday. It's a good little meeting. We got the AC unit going because we're starting to get to the warmer months. Newcomers are welcome. All may attend. It's a wonderful meeting and there are multiple men and women there with quality sobriety that are open and willing to sponsor.

Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Patrick A.

Springville Breakfast Speaker Meeting, Presented by Sheryl E., CSR,

We meet the second Sunday of each month at the Springville Memorial Building on Highway 190. We open at 8:00 AM with fresh hot coffee. Breakfast is served from 8:30 until 10:00 AM. The speaker meeting starts at 10:15 and ends at 11:45, and we are done by noon. As always we can use help cleaning up.

Considering this month's meeting was on Easter Sunday we had more people than I thought we would. There were about 57 people; we had ham and eggs, pancakes and fruit. As always it was delicious and a lot of fun. Our speaker Kane was very funny, keeping us laughing and the 10 minute speaker had a great story to tell.

Next month the speaker is Katy E. from Thousand Oaks CA. It is a great way to spend a Sunday morning: good food, good friends, good fellowship. So come on up and join us.

Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Sheryl.

Tuesday Women's Changes Meeting, Presented by Sheryl E., CSR,

We meet every Tuesday from 6 to 7 PM at the 12 Step Recovery Club, 186 South D Street in Porterville. We are an open meeting for women only. We each pick a stick from a jar and share on that topic. We average about 20 girls including the girls from PAAR who might have a couple of days to women with up to a whopping 43 years, proving this program works. (*Cheryl H. just had a birthday last week, getting 43 years of continuous sobriety*).

The last Tuesday of each month we have a potluck that starts at 5:30 PM with good food and Birthday cake. We pass around a card for everyone to sign for those who are celebrating that month.

Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Sheryl.

Bill noted that these CSR reports covered 28 meetings a week.

Old business:

1. Golf Tournament April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

1. Our golf tournament is scheduled for April 23 At Valley Oaks Golf Course next door to Plaza Park in Visalia. Tickets are \$100 per person. The flyers are on the website.
2. That is looking really sketchy right now, due to insufficient sign-ups.
2. Founders Day Picnic June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  1. Cheryl H. will be the Founders Day Picnic chairperson. She need a co-chair, preferably someone in Visalia, because the picnic is in Visalia. George J. volunteered.
  2. We have a flyer, and we have a speaker, Anita B. from Lemoore.
  3. Please get the flyer to your groups.
  4. Jack E. is willing to do soda and water.
  5. The person who previously would loan their barbecue for the day will not be doing so this year (although they did note that in previous years the barbecue came back in better shape than it left).
  6. Cheryl would like to request that people bring salads, specifically potato, macaroni, or pasta salads. Please do not bring any shrimp or fish salads. We're going to have dessert cookies and the usual.
  7. Cheryl has a crew that's going to pick up the sound equipment and set that up.
  8. We need a committee of people to be there at eight o'clock in the morning to help get the table cloths on, get the tomatoes sliced, get the lettuce pulled apart.
  9. Groups are being asked to bring baskets for a raffle at the picnic, which will take place on June 10th. Cheryl suggests that groups start preparing their baskets as soon as possible, as it is currently April.
2. Central Office Literature price increases
  1. Decision was to hold off on Central Office raising prices until June (or later).
  2. We did a large literature purchase from AAWS prior to the price increase.

#### New Business:

1. Saint Paul's Church is reserved for New Year's Eve party
  1. Are groups willing to support Central Office in putting on a gala event? This used to be the big fund raising event of the year.
  2. In the past, when Central Office would plan the New Year's Eve party, planning started six months (or more) out.
  3. The Central Office event would include a Bake Sale Auction, and a large prize raffle, among other things.

4. We really need to know what the groups think. So at the May CSR meeting, please bring back any input you get from the AA community. We will make our decision in May.  
“Would members be willing to attend an AA Central Office New Year's Party, and support it?”

Seventh Tradition: \$39.00

Announcements:

- Our sister fellowship, Narcotics Anonymous, is having their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Blues Fest at the Lions Club Roping Arena in Three Rivers, May 19 – 20. The speaker meeting is Friday night, and the music on Saturday goes from 11 AM to 5 PM.
- Recovery yoga: if anyone is interested in yoga or knows somebody who would be interested, it's every Saturday at 10 AM, at Saint Paul's Church in Visalia.

Meeting adjourned: 8:25 PM.