

# CENTRAL NEWS

July 2022

Website: [www.aa-tulareco.org](http://www.aa-tulareco.org)

## *Only Nice Things Happened*

Back Road Majesty Parumph, NV Louie T.

One afternoon a little more than three years ago, I was riding down First Avenue in a cab. I was wedged in the corner of the seat and my brother propped me up with his two hands. With my two hands I propped up a pint of rye. The rye was a decoy to get me into the cab and to my destination—Bellevue Hospital. I'd been there before, and I knew I wasn't going to like it.

I'd been drunk a little over a month that time and after five years of kicking it around, I'd finally managed to lose a pretty good job that I'd had for 22 years. I was up to my neck in debt and all the friends I had in the world could have held their annual meeting at the Commodore—in a phone booth.

If you had met me that afternoon and said, "Kel, how are you doing?" honesty would have compelled me to admit that I wasn't doing so well.

There followed four rugged days as a guest of the Department of Hospitals. I was discharged on March 16, 1942, to make room for the expected arrival of fellow Hibernians who had overtrained for the parade and had become tired and confused.

After that there were six weeks at a place, Chester Crest, and if that name suggests a country club, I'll hasten to add that it is formally known as the New York Christian Home for Intemperate Men. I was both Christian and

intemperate—and had been called worse.

The first three weeks up in the country I learned to eat and sleep again and to walk out into the daylight without blinking. The last three weeks, when my head had cleared, I did some serious thinking.

It was during that time that I decided that I didn't really want to be a bum and that I would have to stop drinking. I left Chester Crest in good physical condition but I was loaded down with fears.

I was afraid that I couldn't stay sober. I was afraid that I couldn't get a new job which would enable me to support my two children. I was worried because I'd failed to file an income tax return and because I hadn't the money to pay the tax, if I had filed. I was worried because I knew that if I had a job, however small, it was only a question of time before the bloodhounds from the finance companies would pick up the trail and come yapping at my heels.

When I got back to New York, I met an old friend, a woman I'm very fond of. While I'd been sweating it out up at Chester Crest, she had found A. A. and it wasn't long before I found myself in the old 24th Street clubhouse. When I got an idea of what A. A. was all about, I grabbed on like a drowning man would grab a life preserver and after three years I'm still holding on.

And here's the funny thing—NONE OF THE THINGS I WORRIED ABOUT EVER HAPPENED!

I got a job and was able to take care of the children and myself. I went to the Internal Revenue boys and explained that I hadn't filed and couldn't pay because I was a drunk and I told them what I was trying to do about it. The deputy with whom I talked said that he had thousands of good answers for as many excuses but he was darned if he had one for that and he guessed he would have to sit it out and hope for the best. I stopped running from the bloodhounds and they skidded to a stop and decided, too, to wait.

After I'd been dry a year I asked for and got my old job back. Six months later the firm inquired about my debts and gave me the money to clean them up. I'm still paying back the company in slow and easy stages.

Only nice things happened to me and all I did was stay sober, stick close to A. A., and try to carry out the suggested steps of the A. A. program. Yes, only good things, thanks to A. A., and the help which I must have received from the Higher Power that I call God.

E. K., Jersey City, N. J.

## Step 7

*Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.*

I humbly ask god to remove my short comings. Having good character is what I needed to be happy with myself. Unfortunately taking away the drink did not make me a better person.

I had to start working on myself using the twelve steps to improve my character. It was no longer about my accomplishments or how many days away from my last drink I was.

Step seven was about seeking self satisfaction. I was ready to become a better me. I soon realized this is a journey. I will continue to ask god to remove my shortcomings.

—Erica D.

## Tradition 7

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

Our co-founder, Bill Wilson was an avid and enthusiastic promoter. He imagined recovery facilities world wide with his name in bright lights. He needed start-up money and with the help of his brother-in-law, arranged a meeting with a group of wealthy philanthropists to beg for it. None other than than J. D. Rockefeller, even though impressed with the success Bill and Bob had demonstrated, and having sat through Bob's

spiel, pointed out that in his opinion, big dough might very well ruin the fledgling outfit named Alcoholics Anonymous. Only later Rockefeller decided to give the founders \$5000.00 to promote the new drying out program.

Bill used the money to self publish the big book, but times remained hard for the founders and AA was not proclaimed self supporting until 1947, after news of the success of the program spurred book sales.

So outside donations probably were necessary to have AA at all. We might have survived, but who knows? Now our money trials have eased considerably and the goal of an independent program, free from non-members' charity, seems practical and attainable. That principle has always been right for us to maintain sobriety and protect ourselves from outside influence and to practice being self supporting on an individual level.

We pay rent for our meeting halls because we need assurance of a place to meet, consistent, on time, and reliable. If we accept free meeting space, we have no right to be irate when the donator is using his space when we show up for our regular assembly. This may be a nightmare for a newcomer and could end in disaster.

Many outside donations persist, especially at the national level because grateful al-anons and families of those we have restored to them, leave us money in their estates, our book is sold at bookstores, and so on. At the bedrock level of AA, our meetings, we are diligent about our responsibility to support ourselves, to provide literature, pamphlets, meeting schedules, and coffee at our expense. This is the shining star of Tradition Seven: the redemption of poorly disciplined prospects and conversion to fiscally responsible members of society. And last, but not least, we don't end up in airports, our heads shaved to a starter rope begging for cash. There are no AA bake sales, no community outreach for charity and no enchilada booths at the fair. We are self supporting through our own contributions.

—Anonymous

# Financial Report

TULARE COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE

Income & Expense Statement

5/21/22 THROUGH 6/20/2022

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DT.</u>
B.Day Club	24.00	525.00
CD & Tape Cont.	0.00	0.00
Grateful Givers Club	315.00	2,687.12
Group Cont.	2,698.32	12,694.14
Indiv Cont	578.00	4,220.44
Lit. Sales	582.78	3,757.94
Memorial Cont.	0.00	200.00
Misc.	0.00	0.00
Newsletter Cont.	0.00	30.00
S & H	0.00	0.00
Sales Tax	89.22	450.93
Service Charge	5.06	6.81
Spec. Events-picnic	4,147.50	4,197.50
Spec. Items	435.95	2,143.15
State fund dividend	0.00	50.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,875.83</b>	<b>\$30,963.03</b>
<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DT.</u>
Fees-Taxes	0.00	45.00
Insurance	0.00	550.00
Lit. Costs	0.00	4,163.02
PI-CPC Expense	0.00	0.00
Misc Expense	0.00	0.00
Newsletter Cost	0.00	0.00
Office Exp	50.00	926.73
Office Equip.& Maint	0.00	231.14
Phone & ISP	132.97	664.85
Ph-venmo	0.00	115.50
Postage	0.00	58.00
Employee Taxes	0.00	3,185.45
Returned Chk & Chg	0.00	0.00
Rent	600.00	3,000.00
Salary	1,296.69	9,127.44
Sales Tax-Paid	0.00	0.00
closed account	0.00	-35.92
Spec. Events-picnic	1,230.95	1,430.95
Spec. Items	206.00	2,462.45
Card Charge	10.58	96.71
Utilities	56.34	465.08
venmo fees	1.16	3.12
Website	5.44	29.88
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,590.13</b>	<b>26,519.40</b>
<b>Net Gain(Loss)</b>	<b>\$5,285.70</b>	<b>\$4,443.63</b>
<b>BEGINNING TOTAL ACCT BAL:</b>	<b>\$19,867.30</b>	
<b>ENDING TOTAL ACCT BAL:</b>	<b>\$25,153.00</b>	

## July AA Birthdays

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Years</u>
Bobby	Visalia	51
Jim K.	Visalia	45
Judy C.	Porterville	43
Sandy F.	Visalia	42
Jim B.	Springville	41
John R.	Tulare	39
Margaret D.	Woodlake	36
Mike P.	Exeter	36
Hank P.	Dinuba	35
Danette L.	Visalia	34
Colin M.	Three Rivers	33
Marilyn N.	Visalia	33
Michael H.	Visalia	33
Sandra B.	Visalia	33
Mike H.	Visalia	32
Sharon S.	Visalia	32
Ken W.	Porterville	32
Jim M.	Visalia	31
Ginger G.	Visalia	30
Walt N.	Porterville	30
Terry S.	Visalia	29
Chris H.	Visalia	29
Bob C.	Visalia	29
Manuel M.	Tulare	27
Rafael C.	Carlsbad CA	27
Sue J.	Henderson NV	26
Gary H.	Porterville	25
Jan F.	Squim WA.	24
George C.	Visalia	23
Jim K.	Visalia	20
Cynthia S.	Tulare	20
Tammy C.	Tulare	19
Michael	Visalia	19
Bettelu	Visalia	19
Sherry B.	Visalia	13
Chris H.	Visalia	13
Leah A.	Porterville	9
Jonathan T.	Visalia	6
Kyle S.	Visalia	5
Jerry O.	Visalia	4

Thats 1,107 Years of Sobriety!!!

## Support the Central Office

Supporting the Central Office is a very important and valuable thing for our fellowship! Now it is easier than ever!

Donate Today using Venmo

**venmo**



# Big Book Discussion

## July Discussion Topic

AA Big Book Pg. 76

My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding. Amen

### Comments

Step Seven Prayer: Humbly ask Him to remove our shortcomings. This Step can be taken the same afternoon as completing the Fifth Step (with or without your Sponsor). The Big Book says that once we have finished saying the words of the prayer, "We have now completed Step Seven" (p.76). It is as simple as that! Therefore we do not take this step daily and do not need to say the Step Seven prayer daily. I am not aware of anyone experiencing that their defects of character are completely removed as a result of this. My Sponsor explained to me that I am asking the God of my understanding to remove my defects so that my usefulness to others is improved. It works --- it really does.

Reyes A., Visalia Rainbow Group

Reyes A., Rainbow AA Group, Visalia

I came to realize that my shortcomings could be removed just like my alcoholism. To go a step further every problem I have can be removed like my alcoholism was.

For me my shortcomings stem from self-will, in order to be relieved of those short comings that I become willing to be rid of them. Then, once willingness is in place I do the footwork and give it to God. I ask him to remove them from me and abandon them to His will.

Louie T.

## August Discussion Topic

AA Big Book Pg. 83

The spiritual life is not a theory. We have to live it. Unless one's family expresses a desire to live upon spiritual principles we think we ought not to urge them. We should not talk incessantly to them about spiritual matters. They will change in time. Our behavior will convince them more than our words. We must remember that ten or twenty years of drunkenness would make a skeptic out of anyone.

There may be some wrongs we can never fully right. We don't worry about them if we can honestly say to ourselves that we would right them if we could. Some people cannot be seen—we send them an honest letter. And there may be a valid reason for postponement in some cases. But we don't delay if it can be avoided. We should be sensible, tactful, considerate and humble without being servile or scraping. As God's people we stand on our feet; we don't crawl before anyone.

Please submit your thoughts to:

[centralintergroupnews@gmail.com](mailto:centralintergroupnews@gmail.com) by 5/20/22 to be included in the April Central News!

## Contributions

### Birthdays Club

Demetra O	Visalia	1
Melanie D	Springville	4
Carol Ann G	Porterville	6
Joyce R	Visalia	9

### GRATEFUL GIVERS CLUB

Members 315.00

### Individual Contributions

#### Anonymous

Erica E  
Freeman  
Robert T  
Sandra K  
Shannon S

### Newsletter Contributions

None

### Memorial Contribution

None

## Central Office Contacts

Voice Mail Calls	7
Voice Mail Calls	11
AA Members	45
Court Ref/Info	5
Meeting Information	11
H&I	0
Alanon & Alateen Information	0
Info. re Recovery Homes	0
Schedules & Info-Mailed & Faxed	0
Bridging The Gap	0
Other 12 Step Programs	0
Visitors to Office	27
Literature Sales	17
Specialty Sales	12
Churches & Schools	0
General Information	15
Prospective Members	0
Twelve Step Calls	0
E-Mail Contacts	160
Spanish Contact	2
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<b>Total</b>	<b>305</b>

## Speaker Meetings

### Porterville Recovery Club Speaker Meeting

186 W. Walnut Ave.

Friday July 1st, 2022 at 8:00 PM

Speaker: - Julio Q with 34 years

### Sunday AM Breakfast, Speaker Meeting

Veterans Memorial Building

36000 Hwy 190, Springville

Sunday, July 10th, 2022

(Breakfast at 8:30 to 10:00 AM)

Speaker: Beverly M from Lancaster

### The Valley Group, Speaker Meeting

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

120 N. Hall St. Visalia, CA 93291

Every Wednesday from 7-8 p.m.

Speakers for October

7/6- Miranda R of Fresno 3 years

7/13- Matt S of Visalia 4 years

7/20- Ceci S of Fresno 8 years

7/27- Joe S of Fresno 9 years

### Sunday Night Valley Group Serenity Seekers

914 W. Center Ave.

Visalia, CA 93291

7:30-9PM

7/3- Ameer Y of Fresno

7/10- John B of Visalia

7/17- Andy St. P of Agua Dulce

7/24- Britta B of Visalia

7/31- Colleen F of Hanford

## Newsletter Contributions

Hello Everyone,

This is Louie T. the editor of the Central News. Since I started editing the newsletter I have noticed that there are several ways to make contributions to the Central Office such as the Birthday Club, Individual Contributions, Grateful Givers, and Memorial Contributions. However, there is one contribution I have never seen used and that is the Newsletter Contribution.

If you enjoy the Central News, I invite you to make a donation to the Central Office on the name of the Newsletter

# Service Meetings AND ADDRESSES

GSR Meeting at Central Office  
449 E. Maple St., Exeter, CA  
Wednesday, July 6th, 2022 at 7:00 PM

CSR Meeting at Central Office  
449 E. Maple St., Exeter, CA  
Tuesday, July 12th, 2022 7:00 PM

H&I Meeting at Alano Club  
**Zoom ID: 885 8119 7080 Password: Sober (capital S).**  
4th Saturday July 23rd at 9 a.m

## SERVICE ADDRESSES

Tulare County Central Office  
449 E. Maple St..  
Exeter, CA 93221  
Email: tccof@hotmail.com  
Website: www.aa-tulareco.org

District 47, C.N.I.A.  
P.O. Box 273  
Exeter, CA 93221

CNIA Treasurer  
PO Box 161712  
Sacramento, CA 95816-1712

General Service Office  
PO Box 459, Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

## Hospitals & Institutions July 2022

### Area Chair Report:

**The Hospitals and Intuition Committee continues to service Pine Manor, Mental Health, Turning Point and Women's Recovery Home. (Pine resumed to zoom) Literature is given.**

**The Tulare Jail remains closed to volunteers due to the pandemic.**

**H & I orientated 2 new volunteers and they are on fire for H & I!**

**H and I business meetings will resume IN-PERSON!**

The next business meeting is July 23rd at 10am.  
The meeting is located at 526 N Bridge St, Visalia.  
(Business meetings are on odd months) H and I orientations will remain zoom, and will be every other month. (Even months)

**August 27th at 9am.**

The meeting ID is: 848 7072 2515. Password is Sober.  
There is also a link to join on the [aa-tulareco.org](http://aa-tulareco.org).  
Note: H & I will be following CDC recommended guidelines for everyone's safety.

H & I continues to encourage all groups to elect an H&I Representative and to attend the business meetings. This will ensure we are carrying the collective conscience of Tulare County to the NorCal Committee.

Love & Service,

Boo

## Central Service Meeting

Date: June 14th, 2022

Meeting called to order: Cheryl H. Time: 7:06 PM

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

Serenity Prayer: said by all.

12 Traditions: Steve

Minutes of last meeting: Reviewed by members individually; no corrections. Brett moved to approve, Sheryl seconded.

Report of last Board meeting: presented by Cheryl H. Minutes of last meeting were reviewed. Discussed the Central Office prudent reserve.

Patrick talked about P.I./C.P.C. and the Porterville Iris Festival. We have a new credit card and a new debit card for the Central Office now. Discussed the Founders Day Picnic. Discussed SignUp Genius (matter closed). Discussed travel reimbursement for Carol Ann, but the decision was to compensate standard pay for official functions outside of the office (Founders Day Picnic). Meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Treasurer and office report: Presented by Carol Ann Gable, Office Manager & Treasurer.

Central Office had an income of \$ 4,628.94 and expenses of \$5,175.62 for a loss of \$546.68. Our Grateful Givers Club brought in \$240 and our Birthday Club brought in \$203 in much appreciated contributions. We had \$379.74 in gross sales in 8 transactions for credit and debit cards sales last

month. 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 A.A. message of recovery. Claudia has agreed to cover the office when needed. She has been coming in 1 or 2 times a week to learn office procedures. I attended a free webinar with the EDD/IRS in June, on the 8th from 9 to 1:30 to go over payroll requirement to benefit my skills for the Central Office. Claudia filled in for me that day, she was paid \$50.

Carol Ann Gable  
Office Manager/Treasurer

Cheryl H. presented information about the Monthly Income and Expense Statement. The report covers (some number of) previous days (approximately one month), from the time of the last report. For the CSR meeting in June, the financial report covers April 21st through May 20th.

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. Thank you to everyone who helped with the booth at the Founders Day Picnic. It was nice to see that Al-Anon had a booth there too. Patrick was introduced to Mary O., who is the P.I./C.P.C. for Al-Anon in this area. If she hears about an event they can be invited to, she will pass it on to us, because we could be there too. At the Founders Day Picnic, interest was better this year than last; we sold seven books, too.  
- Patrick.

Volunteers to write Step and Tradition for Central News Step for newsletter:

Issue	Step	Member	Due
July	7	Erica D.	June 20
August	8	Shelly J.	July 20

Send to CentralintergroupNews@gmail.com

Tradition for newsletter

Issue	Trad	Member	Due
July	7	Mike P.	June 20
August	8	Bill E.	July 20

Send to CentralintergroupNews@gmail.com

Newsletter report: Louie T., got busy and was not able to provide a report this month.

Website report: Provided by David G.

For May 2022, we had 1,933 visitors and 3,213 page views. Today's AA Meetings was the most popular page, at 731 views, followed by the front page at 391. The third most

popular page was the Online Meetings page, at 288 views. Fourth place was the Visalia Weekday Noon Valley Group Online AA Meeting, at 211 views. There were 12 downloads of the printed version of the meeting schedule, 7 downloads of the Founders Day Picnic flyer, and 5 downloads of the May Central News newsletter.

H & I report: Provided by Boo via email.

Boo: Tulare County Hospitals & Institution Committee June 2022 Area Chair Report

The Hospitals and Institution (H & I) Committee continues to service Pine Manor, Mental Health, Turning Point and Women's Recovery Home. All are back in-person. Literature is given. Unfortunately, the Tulare County Jail remains closed to volunteers due to the pandemic. H & I business meetings will resume IN-PERSON! The next business meeting is July 23rd at 10am. The meeting is located at 526 N Bridge St, Visalia. Business meetings are on odd months. H & I Orientations will remain on Zoom, and will be every other month (even months). The next orientation will be June 25th at 9am. **The meeting ID is: 848 7072 2515. Password is Sober.** There is also a link to join on the aa-tulareco.org. Note: H & I will be following CDC recommended guidelines for everyone's safety.

H & I continues to encourage all groups to elect an H & I Representative and to attend the business meetings. This will ensure we are carrying the collective conscience of Tulare County to the NorCal Committee. NorCal general committee meeting will be on June 12th at 11am, on Zoom - all are welcomed.

ID 872-5694-4555

Love & Service,  
Boo

GSO liaison report: provided by David G.

Finances: we've met our prudent reserve of \$2,400.

The H & I meeting will be going hybrid – both in-person and on Zoom – and will be meeting at Bridge Street Drunks in Visalia. We did attend the Post-Conference Assembly in Placerville. The GSR meeting is also going hybrid – both in-person and on Zoom – and will be meeting in this room (Central Office in Exeter), beginning July 6th. If it goes well, we will keep doing a hybrid meeting.

CSRs: please ask your groups if they want District 47 to do an event. Ideas for an event:

- Our delegate (Jen D.) went to the General Service Conference in New York; she could give her report.
- Ask It Basket (panel for questions and answers).
- Safety in A.A.
- Fifth Edition of the Big Book: how to submit your stories. Discussion of when the event should take place: August or September seems most likely; but please ask your group when would be best. Usually at these events, we do provide free lunch. We have way too few GSRs. There are 85 English speaking meetings in Tulare County /District 47, but only six people show up to our once-per-month GSR meeting.

The GSR position does have four events to travel to every year, although some groups (or District 47) reimburse their GSR for lodging, food, and registration fees. The four events are 1) Winter Assembly, 2) Pre-Conference Assembly, 3) Post-Conference Assembly, and 4) Either Mini-PRAASA or the Election Assembly (within central California, Porterville to Yreka).

Bridging The Gap (BTG) Chairperson provided by Sara S: no report this month.

**CSR reports:**

Sunday PM Valley Group Serenity Seekers, Erica E., CSR. Serenity Seekers is a hybrid meeting (both in-person, and online) that gets together at 914 W Center Ave. in Visalia, on Sundays, at 7:30 to 9:00 PM. The Zoom link is available on the A.A. Tulare County web site. We make contributions through The Valley Group. This is an open meeting that starts off with a speaker and then the group shares after. We have coffee and great fellowship. We have a business meeting on the last Sunday of every month (8:45 PM). <https://zoom.us/j/291287156?pwd=c2N2R1B4THNZT3VJbzZleEorOXVtZz09>

Lindsay Fireside Fellowship, Trudy W., CSR.

We are a small, intimate, open topic discussion meeting, welcoming newcomers and old timers alike. Membership has waned due to health issues of some long time members, but once in a while we get somebody new. We gather every Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30 PM in the Fireside Hall of the United Methodist Church, NE corner of Honolulu and Gale Hill, in Lindsay. Sometimes we use the book As Bill Sees It to generate topics, or we speak to a topic of importance to one of our members. We celebrate annual birthdays at the end of each month, and give monthly chips anytime for folks under one year.

Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Trudy W.

Bridge Street Drunks, Sara S., CSR.

We are a large group which hosts 19 meetings, in Visalia. We are hoping to make it 20, by starting a Women's meeting on Monday nights at 7:00 PM so it won't interfere with the other Women's meeting on Monday nights - we are looking for a female to secretary that meeting, so it hasn't started yet. We have literature and books at cost. We provide coffee at all meetings. We encourage anyone to join us.

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 (literature study)

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

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

Saturday evening 7 to 8 PM (open meeting)

Sunday evening 5:30 to 6:30 PM (10th step study)

Our business meetings are held the last Saturday of the month at either 8:00 AM (odd-number months)

or 1:00 PM (even-numbered months). Our birthday meetings are the last Saturday of the month at the noon meeting - we give chips and hugs, goodies, cake and coffee. Treasurer report: We have a prudent reserve of \$1,650; we discussed bumping it up to a three month reserve. We are currently meeting outdoors (tables). Dispensed 50% of our funds over our prudent reserve to Central Office, 30% to GSO, 10% to CNIA, and 10% to District 47.

Thank you for letting me of service,  
Sara S.

Valley Group Wednesday Night (Speaker Meeting), Jim L., CSR.

We are an Open hybrid meeting from 7:00 to 8:00 PM - online is via Zoom; in-person is at St. Paul Episcopal Church, 120 N Hall St. in Visalia. We are a chip meeting; we give newcomers chips at every meeting, and we give out chips for all 12 months on the last Wednesday of the month. We have a Venmo account, which some of the other Valley Group meetings use for contributions. Our treasurer, Gabe, handles that. Our business meeting is the last Wednesday of the month, at 6:00 PM (before the speaker meeting). We usually have about 100 people attending. Recovery homes are invited to our meeting.

Civic Center Group, Brett R., CSR.

Tuesday night Civic Center meeting is held at the Christ Lutheran church near Tulare and Demaree, in Visalia. It starts at 7:00 PM and goes to 8:00 PM. Newcomers are welcome. Mitch K. is our secretary. Our business meetings are the third Tuesday of the month at 8:10 PM. We have a birthday meeting on the last Tuesday of the month, with cupcakes.

Tuesday Women's Amity Group - In-Person, Claudia, CSR. We are a Closed meeting that meets every Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 PM at the Trinity Reformed Church on Walnut Avenue in Visalia. We celebrate continuous lengths of sobriety up to one year each week, with chips. Yearly birthdays are at the end of the month, where we attend a "no host" dinner at Amigos before the meeting. We are doing a Group Inventory to make sure we are fulfilling its primary purpose. Our regular business meeting is the third Tuesday of each month.

Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Claudia.

Crossroads Group, Steve P., CSR.

The Crossroads Group is an open meeting, and we meet Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, 220 W Tulare Ave. in Tulare (the Hillman House). We have had about 7 to 15 in attendance this last month; all are welcome. We have recently had several newcomers; we are happy to see all. We hope to be able to contribute to the Central Office soon.

Pine Recovery (Candlelight meeting), Steve P., CSR.

The Pine Recovery Candlelight meeting is in Visalia, at 120



W School Ave. This is an Open meeting on Fridays nights, from 10:00 to 11:00 PM. Mostly this meeting has newcomers to A.A. We've been getting 25 – 35 people, so we've getting 10 – 15 outside people attending. We've had several recovered people speak here; we're looking to get more of that to show how this program works.

Monday Night Men's Meeting , David G., CSR.

We meet at the PPAV Hall in Visalia, at the corner of Burke and Main at 7:30 PM. This is a closed meeting for men only, for 90 minutes. We usually have 25-35 attendees; two of the recovery homes have been sending people in every other week so attendance has been hitting 60. Every week we give chips for sobriety milestones under one year; the last Monday of the month we celebrate those members with full years behind them with cheesecake or apple pie. Our business meeting is the first Monday of the month. We have coffee and literature, with a good amount of fellowship before and after. Grant C. is our Secretary. Our format now includes asking men who are willing and able to sponsor to stand up, so newcomers know who to approach. Our positions will rotate in August, so elections will be in July.

Keep It Simple Sunday, David G. CSR.

We meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in Blain Park in Visalia (not Tulare), on Court Street between Whitendale and Caldwell. Our meeting is 90 minutes in a beautiful outdoor setting. This is an open meeting, and all are welcome. You do want to bring a lawn chair / camp chair with you. As an outdoor meeting, we are pet-friendly. We celebrate sobriety milestones and birthdays every meeting. We use the Daily Reflections book as a topic starter; then everyone shares, going around the circle (time permitting). Our Secretary is Scott L. The business meetings are the last Sunday of the month, immediately after. There are usually between 20 and 30 people attending our meeting. This meeting has a summer schedule (meeting starts at 9:00 AM) and a winter schedule (meeting starts at 10:00 AM). We just switched to the summer schedule, which will probably remain until October.

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 twelve 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. We have cake and ice cream regardless if anyone is celebrating a birthday or not. :-)  
Newcomers are welcome, and anyone may attend. Regarding air conditioning – it has been installed and if you want a nice cozy little area where it's cool, and want to share some sobriety, come on down. Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Patrick A.

Springville Breakfast Meeting, Sheryl E., CSR.

The meeting was a great success and was well received. It was good to see everyone again. We got tons of compliments saying they loved the buffet; the food was excellent. The speakers were top notch with excellent stories. We had 76 hungry, happy people. Our ending balance was \$1,823.93. Good to see you all again next month, July 10 – breakfast is \$5 for adults, \$1 for children. In August, we will be raising the price due to rising food prices, to \$8 for adults and \$2 for children. But as usual, the meeting is always free and the coffee pot is warm and full. Please tell everybody that we are back in session – the second Sunday of every month.  
Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Sheryl

Tuesday Womens Changes Meeting, Sheryl E., CSR.

We're an Open meeting for women only and we ask that you please leave your children at home. We meet at 6:00 PM at the Porterville 12 Step Recovery Club. We each pick a stick out of a jar and share about our topic. We are generally a small group and grow in numbers on the last Tuesday of the month when we enjoy a birthday potluck with good food and sweet dessert (usually cake).  
Thank you for letting me be of service,  
Sheryl

CSR report comments:

Trudy had a comment regarding the "Friends Of Bill W. and Doctor Bob" meeting – kudos to your group for helping out the church financially, to get the air conditioning fixed at the facility. Trudy's group did something similar for their church, who could not afford heating in the winter.  
Does anyone know about the meeting in Tulare on L Street? There have been some irate telephone calls regarding this meeting being on the schedule but the meeting is dark. Yes, though the original organizers sent email to close this meeting, and the meeting was removed from the web site, this was about the time Bob was starting to have health trouble.

Old business:

1. Adding the Venmo / Paypal / credit card surcharge to purchases – discussed. After much discussion, the decision is that Central Office will not add surcharges to credit card, PayPal, or Venmo.
2. Founders Day Picnic – Sara and Cheryl report:
  1. We haven't had the wrap-up meeting yet; but we do have a financial report. Total Expenses were \$1,504.04. Total Income was \$4,197.50, for a profit of \$2,693.46. 21 baskets were donated by groups; an all-time record. I want to thank all of the groups that participated; we had a phenomenal crowd. Really, truly, a phenomenal crowd and it was a great event. I appreciate everybody that showed up to participate. Also, we left the volleyball net, but Pine Recovery picked it up.
  3. Office coverage – Cheryl reports:
    1. It's always good to have more than one person know the

office operation procedures. Claudia volunteered; she's been coming in. I want to thank you Claudia; I really appreciate your taking the time to come in and learn. Claudia's comment "I never realized how much work goes into this office. I want you all to know that Carol Ann is doing a fantastic job as well. She's just great."

New business:

1. Venmo report – group discussed. We had to purchase a cell phone, we asked Carol Ann to keep a running tally. As of June the 10th, Venmo expenses have been \$117.79 versus income of \$81.71 for a loss of \$36.08. The agreement was that if Venmo isn't self supporting by November, that the office is no longer going to use Venmo. Like Claudia says, some people didn't know that the office is using Venmo; we've got the insignia here and people can make donations to the office, or purchases on Venmo. So we're really trying to get the word out that we do have Venmo in addition to Square and PayPal.

2. Research about changing the printed meeting schedule. This is something we're not going to vote on tonight; please take a copy of the sample meeting schedules, and present them to your group for comment. There's a problem that the printed meeting schedule and what's on the website don't always match. These sample printouts are from data in the website. The tradeoffs are that in some, they have tiny print but fit on a single page of paper; in others, the print is larger but they span multiple pages (which means stapling and bundles). This new software does let us provide separate English and Spanish meetings on different printouts. Would people be okay with the change and which one would they prefer? See <https://aa-tulareco.org/printversion-of-meeting-schedule/> for the current samples.

Seventh Tradition: \$23.69

Announcements: none at this time.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30 PM

## *Face-to-Face District 47 (GSR) monthly meetings to resume in July*

For the past two years we have been holding our monthly District 47 meetings online via Zoom. That is changing now. Our District 47 monthly business meetings will now be held face-to-face at 7PM at the Tulare County Central Office in Exeter on the first Wednesday of each month. We are also happy to announce that these meetings will continue to be accessible via Zoom.

Our groups' participation in General Service has been dismal since even before the pandemic hit, which means that for quite a while now the majority of Tulare County AA groups have not

participated in the collective group conscience of the AA fellowship as a whole.

When Bill W and Doctor Bob realized their days on earth were numbered, they created the General Service Conference and found a way to turn AA's decision making process over to the AA membership.

These past few years have produced a few controversial issues that generated some heartfelt and heated debates, and the actions taken by the Conference did not please everyone. If you are among the angry ones, ask yourself how willing you were to step up and put in a little time to serve as a General Service Representative and make sure your group was given the opportunity to participate in our General Service Conference.

Tradition One says, "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity." Participating in the debates, and being an active part of AA's group conscience (facilitated by the General Service Conference) is the manifestation of Bill and Bob's vision of AA unity. Whether the result is finding better ways to make AA accessible to any and all drunks who need our help, or preserving cherished AA traditions and values, our working together and keeping principles before personalities can be a beautiful thing to be a part of—it is more a privilege than a responsibility, but it is definitely both.

If your group does not have a GSR, ask about it. Step up, volunteer, or nominate an AA friend who is right for the job.

**NEXT GSR MEETING:**  
Wednesday, July 6, 2022 • 7PM  
Tulare County Central Office  
449 E. Maple Street, Exeter

**ZOOM accessibility:**  
**Meeting ID: 872 4177 2425**  
**Passcode: 747**

# District 47 Meeting Minutes

District 47 Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2022

This is a Zoom meeting with members participating from various locations.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:04 p.m. by DCM Allen L. Committee: Allen L., DCM; Ralph D., GSR for Bridge Street Drunks Only Group; Jim K., Recording Secretary, GSR for Monday Men's Stag; Louise G., GSR for the Exeter Sunday Afternoon Group, David G. GSR for the Friday Freedom Fellowship.

The GSR Preamble was read by all attendees. "We are the General Service Representatives. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of A.A. We realize the ultimate authority in A.A. is a Loving God as he may express himself in our Group Conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that the groups can reach an informed group conscience. In passing along this group conscience, we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us, therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups and A.A. as a whole."

12 Traditions: read by David G.

Concept 5: Concept 5 long form read and explained by Allen L.

Approval of Minutes: April 6, 2022 minutes approved with one correction. Ally A was listed as the GSR for the Exeter Sunday Afternoon Group, when in fact the GSR is Louise G. It has been corrected.

Treasurer's Report: No report as Josh was not present for the meeting.

CSO Liaison Report: The last CSR meeting was April 12. Income was \$2,500 and expenditures were \$4,500. The expenditure was for literature which will be sold, leaving a deficit of only \$300. Central Office is now taking VENMO. Founders Day planning meeting is May 11. You can join via zoom on the 7 pm Bridge St. Drunks meeting if you desire. The Founders Day picnic will be June 4, at Arbor 9, and groups are being asked to provide baskets for fund raising purposes for Central Office. A question was raised regarding what the Central Office prudent reserve is, and we will have that information prior to the next meeting. NA Blues Fest is May 21 in Three Rivers.

Registrar: No Report

H&I Report: Tulare County Hospital & Institution Committee, Rafael D. Tulare County H&I is continuing to encourage all groups to elect an H&I Representative. We encourage all H&I Representatives attend the bi-monthly business meeting and share their Groups' thoughts on matters which come before the Committee for review. This participation from Tulare County AA Groups, will ensure we are carrying the collective conscience of Tulare County to the NorCal Committee. We continue to hold meetings regularly at Pine Manor, Women's Recovery Home, Turning Point and Mental Health. We remain flexible and hold meetings in-person or via zoom as requested by the facilities to adhere to Covid restrictions. Corcoran and Avenal Prisons are open and weekly meetings are being held. SATF Prison has opened one yard for meetings. Literature is delivered upon request to all facilities. We are continuing to review the proposed restructuring of the NorCal Committee. The Area Chairs are collecting all the thoughts on this matter to share with the Regional Chair who will represent us at the upcoming NorCal Steering Committee Meeting on May 14, 2022. Please note & mark your calendars for the following change.

The May business meeting will be May 21st at 10am: Due to the Memorial weekend holiday. ID is: 848 7072 2515 and passcode- Sober with a capital S. H and I orientation will remain the 4th Saturday May 28th at 9am. ID is: 848 7072 2515 and passcode- Sober with a capital S.

DCM Report: David G. and Allen L. carpooled up and attended the Pre-Conference Assembly together. It was a great get-together with over 250 in attendance. GSRs represented their groups with a wide array of heart-felt, impassioned, funny and thought provoking positions on the various agenda items. For me, this was the most enjoyable Pre-Conference Assemblies I have ever attended. The Post-Conference Assembly will be held May 21-22 at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds in Placerville, CA. Pre-registration due by May 13th—see flyer for details at: <https://cna.org/event/post-conference-assembly-3/>

Old Business: The Post Conference Assembly is coming up May 21st. This meeting is open to any AA member.

New Business: Allen will provide the committee with a pdf for registration for the Post Conference Assembly in May. Discussion was held to potentially host a service fair explaining General Service, and the possibility of moving

our meeting back to in person rather than Zoom.

Seventh Tradition: None  
ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

DECLARATION OF UNITY: Read by all: "This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first, to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come."

RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION: "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that, I am responsible."

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted, Jim K, Recording Secretary

## Group Contributions

1st Friday Spkr Mtg	20	90
ACYPA	956.19	956.19
Alpha-Wed-Tulare		0
Anonymous Group	300	1500
As It Is Outlined in Book		0
Breath of Fresh Air		0
Bridge St. "Drunks Only"		1126.27
Civic Center Grp.		200
Clodbusters-Tulare		500
Crossroads-Tulare		0
CSO Meeting	23.69	165.44
District 47		413.24
Bill & Friends		0
Exeter-Quiet Trails	200	600
Exeter Sun Afternoon		75
Foundation Group		0
Freedom Fellowship		125
Fri. Recovery Club		0
Fri. Night Study Tulare		0
Half & Half		200
Hillman Group		0
Keep it Simple Sunday		250
Lindsay Fireside Grp		50
Men's Valley Book Study	200	350
Monday Men's Mtg.		400
Mon. Men's Stag		400
Mid Valley-Tulare		0
Mon Book Study-S'ville		0
Mon Lit Study-Visalia		320
Mon. Women's Reflections		275.36
Nooners Group-Visalia		0
Pine Recovery AA Mtg		0
Porterville Young People		0

Practicing The Principles		0
Rainbow Group		414.5
Rule 62-Visalia	100	200
Serenity Junction-Tulare		0
Serenity Seekers AM-Visalia		0
Sober Sisters		0
Wed. Sobriety Celebration		0
Sat Night Believers		0
Springville Gut Level	135	235
St. Ritas AA Group		0
Sun Bkfst Spkr Mtg		0
Sun PM Serenity Seekers		0
Tulare Young People		0
TUFYPAA		0
Tulare Fri. Book Study		0
Tulare Tuesday Night		0
Tulare Thur. Noon		0
Tulare Sunday Night		0
Tues. Men's-P'ville		0
Three Rivers-Monday		0
TWAG		405.71
Unity Thru Traditions		175
Valley Group	245	2045
Valley Speaker Series	377.39	861.93
Visalia Alano		894
Wed. Acceptance, P'ville		250
Weekend Attitude Adj.		0
Women's Amity-Visalia		0
Women's Changes-P'ville		75
Women's Fri. Night-P'ville		0
Women in Unity		0
Women's Sat AM 12x12	141.05	353.7
Young & Restless		0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2698.32</b>	<b>13906.34</b>



# Lighter Side of AA

## The Scientist

An AA Group is deep into a meeting when all of a sudden a man in a lab coat comes in the door exclaiming, "I've done it, I've done it!"

Perplexed, the attendees look over and ask, "you've done what?"

"I've done it, I have solved alcoholism! All you have to do is take this pill once a day and you can drink like a normal person!"

Slowly a newcomer in the back raises his hand and asks, "what happens if you take two?"

## Mistaken Identity

My wife told me I had to give up drinking.

So I joined the AA.

Unfortunately, I joined the Automobile Association by mistake.

At least either way I'm on the road to recovery.

## Shorties

Harrison Ford just turned up at my AA meeting. I've never seen Han so low.

My brother went to his AA meeting drunk, then he tripped down the stairs. He's been having lots of trouble with the steps lately.

Why did the anvil get sent to AA?  
He was always getting hammered.

Why shouldn't you join AA the day after Thanksgiving?  
Because all they serve is cold turkey.

An Irishman walks into an AA meeting.  
Just kidding.

Where did the alcoholic battery go?  
An AA meeting



Oh sure, now you want to call your sponsor



I never make the same mistake twice. I make it five or six times, just to be sure.

# **BIRTHDAY CLUB**

THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO SHOW YOUR GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SOBRIETY AND ALSO HELP CARRY THE MESSAGE OF RECOVERY.

JUST CONTRIBUTE \$1.00 FOR EACH YEAR YOU HAVE BEEN SOBER ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR SOBRIETY DATE TO YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE. THAT IS ONLY ONE TIME PER YEAR. IT'S REALLY SIMPLE AND WOULD HELP YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE TREMENDOUSLY.



***Would You Like Your Name on the  
Monthly Sobriety Birthday List.***

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SOBRIETY DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send information to:**

**Tulare County Central Office  
449 E. Maple St.  
Exeter, CA 93221**

**Email Info: [tccof@hotmail.com](mailto:tccof@hotmail.com)**

# *Your Content Here!!!*

Have an event????

New group starting up?????

Have a story to share???

Take some amazing photos around our district???

Want to be of service????

All this can be accommodated-we are available to help! Simply reach out to us here at Central News and we will do all we can to get the word out!!!

Carrying the message to the Alcoholic who still suffer is our primary purpose. What better way to do it then to get involved!!!!

Send your content to:

[centralintergroupnews@gmail.com](mailto:centralintergroupnews@gmail.com)

... and we will help you communicate to district 47!!!