# CENTRALNEWS



"Hit Bottom, Then Bounce"

"As one who found the foraging rather bleak in that black swamp and who managed some six years ago to recognize the bottom and accept the lift of A.A., and who is a winner as of today (we of A.A. go it one day at a time, I wish to talk about that hitting bottom. There is a general feeling in A.A. that if the alcoholic hasn't hit bottom, his chances of survival and, later, winning back a place in society, are practically nil. So what is "bottom?"

Many think that skid row is bottom, and it is, to some. To others, skid row is a place of residence, occupied by men who would rather live in skid row than elsewhere. It is geared to their thinking."

Skid row would revolt others; yet these others have their own bottom in life, and I have heard a middle-aged son of a great banker say, after a splendid comeback in A.A., "I was never on skid row; I brought skid row to my apartment!"

-American Mercury, October 1954

# Step 10

"Continued to take personal inventory and, when we were wrong, promptly admitted it."

The tenth step of Alcoholics Anonymous has been a real struggle in my journey towards recovery, it is however, a steadfast reminder that the path to healing is not just about abstaining from alcohol but about cultivating a deep sense of self-awareness and humility. This step, "continuing to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admit it," is harder than I thought to this recovering addict. I see how my pride creeps in even without me aware and I now realize I need my mistakes and failures to batter at the walls of my ongoing pride.

In the throes of addiction, pride was a hidden antagonist that fueled denial and perpetuated my destructive behavior. Admitting wrongs is a foreign concept, as my ego fights tooth and nail to protect its delicate façade. There is a frightened child in there who needs to be nurtured and taught gently how to accept ones humanity through the ongoing process of strengthening my ability to admit my wrongs and ask for forgiveness. As I continue to embark on this arduous journey of recovery, this step confronts me daily with the daunting task of admitting my shortcomings head-on.

Taking personal inventory becomes an exercise in vulnerability, a courageous act of peeling back layers of denial and confronting the shadows I had long ignored. It is not an easy process; it requires the strength to acknowledge the wounds I had inflicted upon myself and others. But within this vulnerability, I found an unexpected liberation. As I owned up to my mistakes, I am discovering that humility is not a sign of weakness, but through righteousness, a source of strength that allows me to rebuild fractured relationships and reconnect with my authentic self.

The prompt admission of wrongs is emerging as a beacon of accountability, a conscious choice to dismantle the defensive walls that pride has erected and continues to fortify. It means swallowing my ego daily and acknowledging when I have erred, fostering an atmosphere of openness and fostering trust within myself and those around me. This step helps me to understand that true growth isn't about perfection; it's about the willingness to learn from missteps and evolve into a better version of oneself.

Through this ongoing practice, I have learned that recovery isn't a one-time event but a continuous journey. Each day presents opportunities for self-reflection, a chance to navigate life with an honest and humble heart. The tenth step has given me a tool to combat the insidious return of pride, teaching me that the strength of vulnerability far outweighs the false sense of superiority that pride offers. It has helped me dismantle the mask of self-importance and embrace the beauty of authenticity.

As I continue to walk this path, the tenth step remains a steadfast companion, a reminder that my journey towards sobriety is more than a collection of days without a drink—it's a commitment to becoming a better, more compassionate, and self-aware individual. It is a testament to the transformative power of humility, the antidote to the poison of pride, and a beacon that guides me towards a life of genuine connection, growth, and lasting sobriety.

-Anonymous

# Tradition10

"Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues: hence the AA name ought never to be drawn into public controversy"

I have heard that the Traditions are designed to keep the GROUP from destroying ITSELF; the Steps are designed to keep US from destroying OURSELVES

In many ways Tradition 10 mirrors Tradition 6 (An AA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise. lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose). Both pertain to AA's avoidance of issues that might tarnish the organizations name. The 12 Traditions make it very clear that AA must avoid any actions that distract from the primary purpose as stated in Tradition 5. Not only must AA remain unallied with outside institutions but the group must not even voice concerns on any concern deemed not to be relevant to the goal of achieving sobriety. Not only could this hurt the organization but it might put off a newcomer who might see AA as a political group rather than a recovery tool.

I have never heard a religious, political or reform argument among AA members. So long as we don't argue these matters privately, it's probable we will not argue them publically.

-Vicki B.

## Individual, Newsletter, Memorial & Birthday Club Contributions 8/21/2023 thru 9/20/2023

# Support the Central Office

**Birthday Club** 

**Grateful Giver's Club** 

**Members** 

\$206.62

**Individual Contributions** 

Ally A Bob T James K Sandra K

**Newsletter Contributions** 

None

**Memorial Contribution** 

None



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

**Donate Today using Venmo!** 



# Central Office Contacts

### TULARE COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE

**Income & Expense Statement** 

8/21/2023 through 9/20/2023

<b>Central Office Contacts</b>
08/21/2023 thru 09/20/2023

AA Members	87
Alanon & Alateen Info	0
Bridging the Gap	0
<b>Churches and Schools</b>	0
Court Referral/Info	0
<b>E-Mail Contacts</b>	299
<b>General Info</b>	3
H & I	0
<b>Literature Sales</b>	22
<b>Meeting Information</b>	<u>20</u>
Other 12 Step Programs	1
<b>Prospective Members</b>	7
<b>Schedules &amp; Info Mailed</b>	3
<b>Spanish Contacts</b>	4
<b>Specialty Sales</b>	21
Twelve Step Calls	0
Visitors to the Office	7
<b>Voice Mail Calls</b>	13

<u>Total</u>	Central	Office	<u>Conta</u>	<u>icts</u>
				487

0/21/2023	unougn	7/20/2023
INCOME	MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
B.Day Club	0.00	646.00
ERC	0.00	6,603.50
Grateful Givers Club	206.62	2,503.88
Group Cont.	1,167.68	18,186.19
Indiv Cont	95.00	3,198.99
Interest Income	0.00	537.37
Lit. Sales	743.40	5,770.71
Memorial Cont.	0.00	298.00
Misc.	200.00	200.00
Newsletter Contribution		54.00
S & H	0.00	7.00
Sales Tax	111.60	878.35
Service Charge	0.00	20.71
Spec. Events-picnic	0.00	4,797.25
Spec. Items	561.80	4,777.61
State fund dividend	0.00	25.00
State Fund Refund	0.00	0.00
State Fulld Refulld	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	3,086.10	48,504.56
EXPENSES	MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
Bank Charge	0.00	0.00
Fees-Taxes	0.00	50.00
Insurance	0.00	550.00
Lit. Costs	495.64	6,693.54
PI-CPC Expense	84.77	92.69
Misc Expense	0.00	0.00
Newsletter Cost	0.00	0.00
Office Exp	148.86	3,649.79
Office Equip.& Maint	0.00	379.73
Phone & ISP	265.94	1,196.73
Postage	0.00	137.13
		6,255.25
Employee Taxes	0.00	
Returned Check & Chg	0.00	0.00
Rent	650.00	5,850.00
Salary	1,438.72	14,167.63
Sales Tax-Paid	0.00	1,149.00
Spec. Events-picnic	0.00	2,821.69
Spec. Events-New Year	0.00	59.00
Spec. Items	262.43	3,485.16
Card Charge	14.36	148.62
Utilities	88.18	781.16
Ph-venmo	19.00	171.00
venmo fees	4.38	35.06
Website	4.62	41.69
TOTAL	\$3,476.90	47,714.87
Net Gain(Loss)	(\$390.80)	789.69

BEGINNING ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 07/20/2023: \$23,586.87

ENDING ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF 8/20/2023: \$23,196.07

Established Prudent Reserve

\$19,000.00

# Speaker Meetings

October 2023

Porterville Recovery Club Speaker Meeting 186 W. Walnut Ave. Friday October 6th, 2023 at 8:00 PM

**Speakers: TBA** 

Sunday AM Breakfast, Speaker Meeting Veterans Memorial Building 36000 Hwy 190, Springville Sunday October 14th, 2023 (Breakfast at 8:30 to 10:00 AM) Speaker: Carla R from Tujunga California

The Valley Group, Speaker Meeting St. Paul's Episcopal Church 120 N. Hall St. Visalia, CA 93291 Every Wednesday from 7-8 pm. Speakers for October TBA

Civic Center Group Christ Lutheran Church 3830 W Tulare Ave, Visalia Birthday speaker meeting Last Tuesday of the month

Sunday PM Serenity Seekers Valley Group
Sunday 7:30-9 pm.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
120 N. Hall St. Visalia, CA 93291
Speakers for October
October 1 - Randy O of Kingsburg with 12 years,
1 month, 12 days!
October 8 - Robert M of Bakersfield with 18
years, 8 months, 21 days!
October 15 - Nikolai M of Kingsburg with 8

years, 1 month!

October 22 - Helen A of Three Rivers with 15

years, 18 days!

October 29 - Adam G of Visalia with 4 years, 3

months, 4 days!

Attention speaker group secretaries: If you want your speaker listed in the Newsletter, please get the information to the Central Office (559) 592-6999 or TCCOF@hotmail.com by the 20th of the month preceding the month of the Newsletter.

# <u>Service Meetings</u> <u>Addresses Oct 2023</u>

**Service Meetings** 

GSR Meeting at Central Office 449 E. Maple St., Exeter, CA Wednesday, Oct 4th, 2023 at 7:00 PM

CSR Meeting at Central Office 449 E. Maple St., Exeter, CA Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 7:00 PM

H&I Meeting (odd months only) in person at 526 N Bridge St (no Zoom) 2nd Saturday October 14th, 2023 9:00, Orientation, Business meeting 10:00

**TUFYPAA** 

Zoom ID 839 4820 8237 Password: service 2nd Sunday of the month, October 15th, 2023

**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

Send Contribution to: General Service Board P.O. Box 2407 James A Farley Station New York, New York 10116-2407 www.contribution.aa.org

H&I-Contributions P.O. Box 192490 San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

# Central Service Meeting Meetings

### CENTRAL SERVICE MEETING MINUTES

Central Office and Central Service Representatives Meeting Report

Date: September 12, 2023

Meeting called to order: Bill E. Time: 7:01 PM

Board members present: Bill E., Patrick A., Sara S., David G., Carol Ann G. Absent: Cheryl H.

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

12 Traditions: Sheryl E.

Minutes of last meeting: Reviewed by all. Clarification on H&I Report: Joyce is the Area 93 chair, and Area 93 is Tulare county, not Tulare, Kings, Fresno, and Mariposa counties (which is the Region, of which Joyce *was* chair). Carol Ann moved to approve, motion seconded by Cody. Vote: all in favor, none against.

Report of August Board meeting: Meeting called to order August 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:42 PM by Cheryl Hinton. All of the board members were present; only Cheryl had a report: Cheryl will be absent next month and Bill will chair the Board meeting. Old sound equipment we no longer use was tabled to next month. The New Year's Party – we need a chairperson – was tabled to next month. There are AA guidelines that the Office Manager be a voting member of the Board of Directors; this was discussed and passed unanimously, with the stipulation that Carol Ann does not vote on matters affecting her salary (due to conflict of interest). Reinstating website analytics was discussed; keeping anonymity was chosen as more important: no action taken. Asking our CSRs to ask their groups if their CSR Report should be included in the Meeting Guide app was discussed; yes, this will be added to the CSR new business agenda for next month. Office Manager pay for attending CSR and Board meetings was tabled to next month. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Treasurer and Office report: Carol Ann provided the report.

Treasurer / Office Report and Financial Report

7/21/2023 through 8/20/2023

September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Good evening!

I am please to report that David G was able to format in a QR code into our printed meeting schedule that provides a link to our website which has the most up to date meeting information. Thank you David!

Claudia covered the office for us on Aug 15th. Thank you Claudia!

Debbie C from Porterville has stepped up to be our Chairperson for the New Year's Eve event! Thank you Debbie!

Central Office had an income of \$5,342.26 and expenses of \$4,523.07 for a gain of \$819.19.

Our Grateful Givers Club brought in \$ 210.42 and our Birthday Club brought in \$ 77.00 in much appreciated contributions.

We had \$ 382.69 in gross sales in 13 transactions for credit and debit cards, \$ 20.00 in 1 transaction in PayPal, and \$ 181.10 in gross sales in 4 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. I want to mention that we are down to our last case of Big Books at the old reduced price. AA World Services raised their prices earlier this year and Central Office will be raising our prices to reflect the new costs soon.

We have lots a great stuff here at the Central Office to help you share the message of recovery. Come and see what we have!

Carol Ann Gable

Office Manager/Treasurer

(Bill): Are there any questions for Carol Ann? (Patrick): Did we have anyone come in on Saturday? (Carol Ann): Yes, we had one person come in. In tonight's Board meeting under new business, we will get a report for every Saturday.

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.

There is an upcoming Health Fair for Tulare County; it is on a Wednesday so I won't be able to attend. David volunteered to man the booth; but we will need more volunteers than that. Wednesday October 4<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM to 4 PM at the Visalia Convention Center.

David updated The Acceptance Group in Porterville – clarified which corner (North East) of Henderson and Indiana.

I added two announcements:

Serenity in the Sierras 2023 conference (36th Annual) in Oakhurst.

19th Annual Men's Spiritual Retreat in Three Rivers.

I added two events:

Serenity in the Sierras in Oakhurst October  $20^{th} - 22^{nd}$ .

19th Annual Men's Spiritual Retreat in Three Rivers December  $1^{st} - 3^{rd}$ .

A bug in our WordPress events plugin caused me to add and delete items from the front page today, until it was working again. But now our front page looks slightly different, with Announcements at the top, and four Events underneath.

Carol Ann and I did the normal monthly edits of the CSR meeting, GSR meeting, Springville Sunday Breakfast meeting, and Valley Group meetings.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

(Bill): Are there any questions for David? (none)

H & I report: Joyce R. provided the report, read by Paul B.

Tulare County Hospitals and Institution Committee

September, 2023 H&I Report

We were pleased to add an additional H&I meeting in August at TLC (Transitional Living Center) which brings us to 12 monthly facility meetings in 6 different facilities. In addition, we bring AA H&I meetings into Tulare County Jail, SATF, Corcoran and Avenal Prisons, when possible, as cleared volunteers are minimal. In August, we were able to hold 12 H&I meetings in facilities, 1 meeting at Tulare County Jail, utilized 26 H&I volunteers and delivered over of 80 AA Books to our inside members. The literature we bring to our meetings are: AA Big Books, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, Daily Reflections and Living Sober. We have these available in English and Spanish. Inside members are encouraged to take the books they would like to have as a gift from our fellowship funded by the money contributed to the Pink Can.

At our September 9, 2023 H&I Area Business Meeting, we elected Amber K. as our new Area Co-Chair Position. We believe this will create a healthier rotation of service. We're very excited to have her. I will tell you she has done an amazing job as a facility coordinator at the mission, and fills in any time I need help. We discussed how our current structure of Meeting Leaders and Facility Coordinators has now created a very sustainable committee rotation as once Meeting Leaders reach the three years of sobriety, they can rotate to Facility Coordinators

and we will bring on new Meeting Leaders. We are planning an H&I Volunteer Appreciation Event for December and look forward to appreciating our very committed volunteers.

The IVSS (Inside Visiting Sponsorship Service) is on hold at the moment at CCWF Chowchilla and SATF Corcoran. While we have interested volunteers, we are in need of a Coordinator for each facility for this program. If you or someone you know in our fellowship is interested in taking this position or volunteering for the program, please send the information to handi.ivss@gmail.com for connection with the NorCal IVSS Chair. Attached is a flyer which outlines the IVSS Program and the Service Positions.

At this time, NorCal's financial position is **neutral**. Currently, we are at a cumulative year to date loss of \$73,629.16 which exceeds our budgeted loss of \$36,915.34 year to date by \$36,713.82. We encourage all groups to pass the pink cans to ensure literature is available for those in need. As stated above this money is being put to use in our area with approximately \$850/month or \$10,200/year in AA literature being provided to our inside members locally. Please ensure that groups are passing the pink can separately from the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition and it is noted that money from the Pink Can is distributed separately from the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition funds. The Pink Can is not meant to detract from the group's 7<sup>th</sup> tradition responsibilities. When funds from the Pink Can are sent to NorCal, please indicate that the contribution is coming from **Area 93**.

The NorCal Finance Committee is scheduled to meet on September 17, 2023 to plan the 2024 budget for presentation to the NorCal Committee on October 22, 2023. If your group has any suggestions, please feel free to contact me. The proposed budget will be presented at our October 22, 2023 committee meeting. At the October 22, 2023 our new General Chair, Julio B., will also present his appointed chair selections to the Committee for approval. Julio has a lot of really forward thinking ideas. He is a very dynamic, quiet leader with a lot of experience and compassion and just a lot of excitement about growth. This is an exciting time to be involved in H&I as we move forward with an open communication committee.

Next H&I Orientation: November 11, 2023, 9:00 am followed by the Area H&I Business Meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting is held at Bridge Street Drunks Only, 526 N. Bridge St., Visalia, CA 93291.

In service,

Joyce R.

Area 93 Chair

(Bill): Are there any questions for Joyce? (Cody): When was the next Orientation? (Joyce): November 11. (Bill): So I'm hearing that we need to encourage our membership to contribute more to the Pink Can? (Joyce): Yes, absolutely. We anticipated this situation as I've been a part of the finance committee for three years now. We saw it coming due to a drop in contributions, which didn't meet our needs. At the beginning of the year, we had about \$20,000 more than our

Prudent Reserve. There were concerns, but we knew that as facilities opened and we purchased more literature, it would balance out. And it happened a bit faster than expected.

To give you some context, in Tulare County alone this year, we've initiated five new meetings. This means we've needed more literature. Keep in mind that we're a smaller county compared to others. Unfortunately, our income hasn't kept pace with our expenses because some people haven't recognized the extent of our needs. So, we're working on raising awareness.

(Carol Ann): Can you get us some Pink Cans for here at the office? (Joyce): yes, I can get ten.

GSO liaison report: provided by David G.

GSR Liaison meeting minutes 2023-09-06.

Seven people attended; three in-person and four via Zoom.

Finances: No report. Last month's ending balance was \$1,987.30

DCM report: Allen attended the July Area Committee Meeting.

Election Assembly 2023: Allen sent registration forms to all the GSRs.

Post-Conference Assembly 2024: D41/D42 Fresno backed out; do we want to host? GSRs should ask their groups if they would support it. The conference would be May 18 - 19. It typically has 100 to 150 attendees.

New business:

Laura saw in The Grapevine that requests for stories from Native Americans for inclusion in the Fifth Edition of Alcoholics Anonymous are due October 31st.

Nominations for the District 47 board will be held at this meeting next month. Nominations will also be accepted in December and elections will be in December on the first Wednesday of the month.

Members discussed attending the upcoming elections assembly. Currently three people are planning to attend (and carpool).

Any questions about the GSR meeting?

(Bill): I would like to see more personal stories from Native Americans. I think that would be a great thing. So, please reach out to Native American members of your groups spread the word that AA wants their stories.

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

I talked to Brad about the blue cards; how they have Sacramento on it: he is going to send me a link to where we can change it and put our address here. Bridging The Gap, if you don't know,

is connecting AA members coming out of incarceration or recovery homes to their AA community. I would like to plan a committee meeting for October 7<sup>th</sup> so we could set it up now and start announcing it. Let's set it for 11 AM on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup>, here at Central Office. We'll make Zoom available.

Sara.

(Bill): Any questions for Sara? (Carol Ann): Is Bridging The Gap like writing to people? (Sara): No, it's after they get out – but this is what the committee meeting is about: what we do, what we don't do.

### **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, Presented by Cody R., CSR.

We are located at the Lighthouse Chapel in Springville. We meet Monday nights 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 three quarters of the way through the book. Turnout is about average. We have coffee and dessert every Monday. We would love to have more visitors. The Lighthouse Chapel is located off the 190, turn on Bridge Drive south to Rio Vista.

### Gut-Level Group, Presented by Cody R., CSR.

The Thursday Night Gut Level open meeting is also located at the Lighthouse Chapel in Springville. We meet Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 PM. It is an open meeting with people sharing their experience, strength, and hope. Our birthday meeting is the last Thursday of the month, and we celebrate with cake and coffee. Turnout is steady. We have cake whether anyone is celebrating a birthday or not. It's a great meeting and we would love to have visitors.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Cody.

### 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 S D Street in Porterville. We are an open women's meeting. 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 of continued sobriety, proving this program works.

The last Tuesday of each month we have a potluck that starts at 5:30 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.

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

We meet the second Sunday of every month at the Springville Veterans Memorial Building, 35994 Hwy 190. Breakfast is \$8.00 a plate per adult and \$1.00 per child under 12. The speaker part of the meeting is always free, so you don't have to eat breakfast to listen to an excellent speaker.

We open at 8:00 with fresh hot coffee. Breakfast is served from 8:30 until 10:00. The speaker meeting begins at 10:15 with a 10 minute speaker, a 15 minute break then the main speaker until 11:45. 50/50 tickets are sold from 8:30 until the main speaker begins.

We have done some restructuring again with PAAR guys helping to set up tables and PAAR girls serving food. Cody is our new treasurer and Marcie sells 50/50 tickets.

I have not been able to make it to the meeting the last two months due to some major family issues. I have resigned from the ticket taker position, and won't be able to make the meeting next month. I am going to try to find somebody cover for the CSR position when I can't make it (*Cody volunteered*).

In October, our featured speaker will be Ruben L. of Van Nuys.

Thank you for letting me be of service, Sheryl.

(Debbie): I told Dusty, but the PAAR girls are not going to able to be there next month because they will be going to a camp out. (Cody): We're always looking for speakers, and we'd love to have more local speakers. If you know anyone interested, please let us know. (Glenda): If I have any suggestions, who would I contact? (Cody): Either one of us; Sheryl or I are fine.

### Tuesday Women's Amity Group, Presented by Ally A., CSR.

We are a Closed meeting for women on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 PM at Trinity United Reformed Church located at 6400 W. Walnut Avenue in Visalia. We celebrate various lengths of sobriety weekly and our annual birthdays are the last Tuesday of the month. We always welcome newcomers and are blessed by our oldtimers.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

### Monday Night Men's Meeting, Presented by Anthony P., (new) CSR.

We're also known as the Monday Night Men's Stag meeting. We meet at the P.P.A.V. Hall in Visalia. We are a closed men's meeting. We start at 7:30, and go to 9:00 PM. We celebrate sobriety milestones under a year each week with chips and hugs and cheers. On the last Monday of the month we celebrate annual birthdays with chips and hugs and dessert and cheers. Our business meeting is the first Monday of the month. Each 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.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Anthony.

### <u>Civic Center Group</u>, Presented by Brett R., CSR.

We meet every Tuesday night at the Christ Lutheran church near Tulare and Demaree in Visalia. The meeting 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, immediately after the meeting. 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. Attendance is lower now than it has been in the past, but most meetings get twenty or more attendees.

### AA Loose Women Meeting, Presented by Glenda V., CSR.

We meet every Friday night at 6:30 PM at the Twelve Step Recovery Club at 186 South D Street in Porterville. We are an Open meeting for Women only. We average about five to twelve girls, including the girls from PAAR who might have a couple of days of sobriety, to women with up to 43 years of sobriety, proving the program works.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Glenda V.

### Bridge Street Drunks Only, Presented by Sara S., CSR.

Bridge Street Drunks is located at 526 N. Bridge St. in Visalia. We have a total of 19 meetings. Our birthday meetings are held the last Saturday of the month at the noon meeting – we give chips for various lengths of sobriety, and have cake, hugs, and balloons. Our business meetings are the last Saturday of the month at 1:00 PM.

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 topic meeting)

We have a *new* meeting that just started: Sundays from 6 to 7 PM – Joe and Charlie Step study.

All who have a desire to quit drinking are welcome. I did take to the group the question of having fellowship events in AA. Somebody came up with a casino night. I was thinking about it just now and I was thinking a camping trip would be fun; an AA camping trip. Also, if people were not aware, the Big Book is now jacket-less. The jacket is now built into the cover of the book.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Sara.

### Tuesday Night "Friends Of Bill W. and Doctor Bob", Presented by 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. We have cake and ice cream *regardless* if anyone is celebrating a birthday. It's a great little meeting. Anyone may attend. Newcomers are welcome. There are many wonderful people there with quality sobriety that are open and willing to sponsor.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Patrick.

### Rainbow Group, Presented by George J., CSR.

I'm the grateful CSR for the Rainbow Group. Rainbow Group meets every Saturday for an hour at 5:30 PM at The Source in Visalia. We are located at 109 Northwest Second Avenue, which is on the south side of the oval park. We meet for one hour and we are an open hybrid group that meets on Zoom as well. The Zoom ID and passcode are on the website and in the Meeting Guide app. We offer a five o'clock meditation if you're interested in arriving early to prepare for a meeting. We have a speaker at the beginning of each meeting who speaks for 10 minutes after which the group is open. We give out chips at every session and celebrate birthdays at the end of the month with cake (no ice cream). We also have our business meeting on the second Saturday of the month.

Thank you for letting me be of service, George.

Keep It Simple Sunday, Presented by David G., secretary (we don't have a CSR).

Keep It Simple Sunday (K.I.S.S.) is an outdoor meeting in Blain Park at 3101 South Court Street in Visalia. We are currently on summer schedule, which means we meet at 9:00 AM. We meet down in the detention basin until 10:30 AM. It's a pet friendly group. We form a circle and someone reads the Daily Reflections: that's the topic for the meeting. Our group has a lot of good long term sobriety in it. Newcomers are welcome. **Bring a lawn chair**. We give out chips every Sunday for all sobriety milestones. Our business meeting is the first Sunday of the month, immediately after the meeting. We meet no matter the weather; if it's raining, bring an umbrella.

Thank you for letting me of service,

David.

### Old business:

- 1. New Year's Eve party
  - 1. Debbie C. is our new chairperson for our New Year's Eve party. Glenda V. is co-chair.
  - 2. The theme will be a 1950's sock-hop.

### 2. Service Linkage

- 1. George presented a mock up of what the page could look like, with different service organizations.
- 2. Discussion about if non-AA organizations can be included. A blended list might raise Tradition 6 questions about endorsement; but two separate lists where AA versus non-AA opportunities clear should be fine.
- 3. Two channels for communication could be the Central News newsletter, and the Tulare County AA web site.

### 3. Fellowship Activities

- 1. Patrick got together with Cody and discussed planning. We do want the CSRs to go back to their groups and ask what sort of activities our members would like.
- 2. CSRs, please go back to your group and discuss. We're looking for ideas and venues.
- 3. If we start planning an event next month, we should have plenty of time to do an event this spring. We want to avoid conflicting with our sister organizations or other events.
- 4. Another option would be Winter League Softball; the cost would probably be around \$15 per person.

### New business:

- 1. CSR Reports put into the Meeting Guide app
  - 1. Would CSRs please ask their groups if they would like the CSR report put into the Meeting Guide app for their meeting?
  - 2. This would be helpful for visitors and newcomers to use the Meeting Guide app to know more about the meetings they can go to.
  - 3. What information would the group want in their Meeting Guide listing?
- 2. Tulare Homeless Encampment
  - 1. The City of Tulare has created a Homeless Encampment; many people there would benefit from AA. There are zero meetings there currently.
  - 2. Tradition 11 says we don't promote, but rather attract.
  - 3. If you happen to know someone living there, a visit might be appreciated. You might consider going there with an AA friend.

Seventh Tradition: \$32.50

### Announcements:

None at this time.

Meeting adjourned: 8:42 PM.

# District 47 Meeting Minutes

District 47 Meeting Minutes Fred Sean David Mike Allen Jim Rafael September 6, 2023

This is a hybrid and Zoom meeting with members participating from various locations, including the Central Office in Exeter.

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:01 p.m. by DCM Allen L.

<u>Committee:</u> Allen L., DCM; Ralph D., GSR for Bridge Street Drunks Only Group; Jim K., Recording Secretary, GSR for Monday Men's Stag; David G. GSR for the Friday Freedom Fellowship; Fred F., GSR for Unity Through Traditions at Visalia Alano Club; Sean A. GSR for Practicing the Principals; Mike C. Alternate DCM and GSR for the Valley Group, Laura B., GSR for the Springville Monday Night Book Study

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 Mike C.

**Concept 9:** Concept 9 long form read and explained by Allen L

**Approval of Minutes:** August 2, 2023 minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Josh F. Was absent and will have his report later this week.

Balance Forward \$1,776.20. Income-Tuesday Women Amity Group \$49.50; Valley Group \$68.00; Women's Changes Discussion Group \$51.00; Keep It Simple Sunday \$42.60 Total Income \$211.10. Expenses-0; Current Balance \$1,987.30.

<u>CSO Liaison Report:</u> David G. Our July CSR Meeting was held 2023-07-11. The meeting was set up to be a hybrid meeting, however no-one joined via Zoom. There were eleven people present. Central Office finances: for May 21 through June 20, Central Office had an income of \$8,867.71 and expenses of \$7,882.01 for a gain of \$985.70. Old business: New Year's Eve Party: planning meeting this coming Tuesday, immediately before the CSR meeting. Both inperson at Central Office and on Zoom. New business: Elections for Central Office in December. Nominations will be in November. Cheryl H. is no longer eligible to serve due to

term limits. **Announcements:** A new meeting has started at the the old Quaker ChurchFriendship Hall with people from the Three Rivers group: Saturdays at 5:30 PM. The first meeting was well attended. Please tell our membership about this new meeting. You take the 198 Farmersville exit, turn north and follow the frontage road until it ends. Then you keep going into the Quaker Church Friendship Hall.

### At the Tulare County Central Office Inc. business meeting:

**Old business:** Sound equipment we no longer use: will sell to a member who is interested. **New business:** Unity events discussion; although time for this year may be past. Our July CSR Meeting was held 2023-07-11. The meeting was set up to be a hybrid meeting, however no-one joined via Zoom. There were eleven people present. Central Office finances: for May 21 through June 20, Central Office had an income of \$8,867.71 and expenses of \$7,882.01 for a gain of \$985.70. Old business: New Year's Eve Party: planning meeting this coming Tuesday, immediately before the CSR meeting. Both in-person at Central Office and on Zoom. New business: Elections for Central Office in December. Nominations will be in November. Cheryl H. is no longer eligible to serve due to term limits. Announcements: A new meeting has started at the the old Quaker Church Friendship Hall with people from the Three Rivers group: Saturdays at 5:30 PM. The first meeting was well attended. Please tell our membership about this new meeting. You take the 198 Farmersville exit, turn north and follow the frontage road until it ends. Then you keep going into the Quaker Church Friendship Hall.

### **Registrar:** David G. No report.

### **H&I Report:** Rafael D. Tulare County Hospital & Institution Committee

We were pleased to add an additional H&I meeting in August at TLC (Transitional Living Center) which brings us to 12 monthly facility meetings in 6 different facilities. This is triple the monthly H&I facility meetings since 2019 when we began to expand. In addition, we bring AA H&I meetings into Tulare County Jail, SATF, Corcoran and Avenal Prisons, when possible, as cleared volunteers are minimal. In August, we were able to hold 12 H&I meetings in facilities, 1 meeting at Tulare County Jail, utilized 26 H&I volunteers and delivered over of 80 AA Books to our inside members. The literature we bring to our meetings are: AA Big Books, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, Daily Reflections and Living Sober. We have these available in English and Spanish. Inside members are encouraged to take the books they would like to have as a gift from our fellowship funded by the money contributed to the Pink Can.

We are in need of additional H&I volunteers, in order to expand our services here in Tulare County. If any AA member is interested in this type of service work, please attend our next Orientation and Business Meeting.

The IVSS (Inside Visiting Sponsorship Service) is on hold at the moment at CCWF Chowchilla and SATF Corcoran. While we have interested volunteers, we are in need of a Coordinator for each facility for this program. If you or someone you know in our fellowship is interested in taking this position or volunteering for the program, please send the information to <a href="mailto:handi.ivss@gmail.com">handi.ivss@gmail.com</a> for connection with the NorCal IVSS Chair. Attached is a flyer which outlines the IVSS Program and the Service Positions.

At this time, NorCal's financial position is <u>neutral</u>. Currently, we are at a cumulative year to date loss of \$61,197.98 which exceeds our budged loss of \$30,000.00 year to date. We encourage all groups to pass the pink cans to ensure literature is available for those in need. As stated above this money is being put to use in our area with approximately \$850/month or \$10,200/year in AA literature being provided to our inside members locally. Please ensure that groups are passing the pink can separately from the 7th tradition and it is noted that money from the Pink Can is distributed separately from the 7th tradition funds. The Pink Can is not meant to detract from the group's 7th tradition responsibilities. When funds from the Pink Can are sent to NorCal, please indicate that the contribution is coming from <u>Area 93</u>. The NorCal Finance Committee is scheduled to meet on September 17, 2023 to plan the 2024 budget for presentation to the NorCal Committee on October 22, 2023. If your group has any suggestions, please bring them to the next H&I Area Business Meeting through your H&I Group Representative.

Next H&I Orientation: September 9, 2023, 9:00 am followed by the Area H&I Business Meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting is held at Bridge Street Drunks Only, 526 N. Bridge St., Visalia, CA 93291.

**DCM Report: DCM Allen L.** No Report. Allen did not attend the ACM in August. He did have information on the elections assembly in Placerville, November 10-12. They are looking for a new location for the Post Conference Assembly next year. Tentatively May 18 and 19, 2024. Allen discussed taking it to our groups if we wanted District 47 to host.

<u>Old Business:</u> Laura had some questions regarding updating the Native American in AA pamphlet. She also had questions with the IVSS program for Rafael, and also stated there was interest in a group for bringing our delegate Jenn in to do a Post Conference Delegate's Report. Normally this is a District wide event. Jenn is doing one in District 17 which may be online.

New Business: There is a new meeting called Young People on Fire which will begin August 9, at the St Paul's Episcopal Church in Visalia from 5:30 - 6:30 pm. It will be held in the basement. Laura mentioned that in the Grapevine it was asked that Native Americans who would like to submit stories have until October 31. Nominations for the District 47 board will be held at this meeting next month. Nominations will also be accepted in December and elections will be in December on the first Wednesday of the month. Some of the members discussed attending the upcoming elections assembly.

**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**: Read by all "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 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim K, Recording Secretary

# October 2023 Birthdays

	AA BIRTHDAYS	
	October 2023	
Carol J	Woodlake	60
Linda D	Visalia	51
Susan S	Visalia	48
Oly S	Visalia	44
Jerry D	Tipton	42 10/29/1981
Bill H	Tulare	41 10/30/1982
Richard W	Tulare	41
Ruben F	Corcoran	41 10/18/1982
Albert M	Tulare	39 10/1/1984
Diane L	Tulare	39 10/18/1985
Jodi B	Visalia	37
Terry C	Strathmore	37 10/10/1986
Andy C	Exeter	36 10/5/1987
Kay B	Tulare	36
Marjorie Mc	Visalia	36
Bill L BBB	Dinuba	36
Mary C	Three Rivers	35 10/4/1988
Nancy B	Visalia	35
Ron B	Visalia	35
Jerri T	Visalia	35 10/7/1988
David B	Visalia	34 10/2/1989
Gary H	Visalia	34
Gil C	Visalia	33
Jack H	Visalia	33
LGK	Visalia	33
Caryl E	Visalia	33 10/20/1990
Sharon B	Visalia	32 10/30/1991
Elizabeth M	Visalia	32
Tanya R	Visalia	32
Greg M	Tulare	31
Diana R	Hanford	30 10/24/1993
Kathy H	Visalia	30 10/31/1993
Linda J	Pixley	28 10/18/1995
Marge M	Woodlake	27 10/31/1996
Debbie J	Visalia	27
Eileen F	Visalia	27 10/7/1996
Emma T	Visalia	25 10/1/1998
Brian R	Visalia	25 10/5/1998

Melody F	Exeter	24	10/23/1999
Donna K	Porterville	24	10/21/1999
Jan P	Visalia	22	10/01/2001
Eddie J	Porterville	19	10/20/2004
John W	Visalia	19	10/25/2004
Shelly	Visalia	18	10/14/2005
Teddy B	Visalia	16	10/6/2007
Lucretia D	Porterville	15	10/16/2008
Craig W	Visalia	14	10/31/2009
Tiffany J	Porterville	13	10/13/2010
Veronica H	Springville	11	10/22/2012
Christine C	Springville	11	10/28/2012
Nora B	Visalia	10	10/3/2013
Patty R	Porterville	6	10/8/2017
Laura H	Visalia	5	10/31/2018
Robin T	Lemon Cove	2	

# That's 1,579 Years of Continuous Sobriety!!!

# Group Contributions 8/1/23-9/20/23

Group Contributions 8/21/2023 Thru 9	/20/2023	
	Month	YTD
1st Friday Speaker Meeting	\$-	\$105.00
10th Ave Men's Group	\$-	\$696.85
ABC Group	\$-	\$21.04
ACYPAA	\$-	\$-
Anonymous Group	\$-	\$2,100.00
Bill & Friends	\$-	\$-
Breath of Fresh Air	\$-	\$2,150.00
Bridge St "Drunks Only"	\$250.18	\$1,174.08
Central California Round Up	\$-	\$200.00
Civic Center Group	\$-	\$40.00
Clodbusters-Tulare	\$-	\$-
Crossroads-Tulare	\$-	\$300.00
CSO Meeting	\$32.50	\$389.48
District 47	\$-	\$400.00
District 49	\$600.00	\$600.00
Dr Bob and Friends	\$-	\$400.00
Exeter-Quiet Trails	\$100.00	\$500.00
Exeter Sunday Afternoon	\$75.00	\$125.00
Foundation Group	\$-	\$-
Freedom Fellowship	\$10.00	\$44.00
Friday Candlelight Meeting	\$-	\$246.00
Friends of Bill W and Dr Bob Tulare	\$-	\$200.00
Gem St Noon Book Study	\$-	\$-
Half & Half	\$-	\$200.00
Keep it Simple Sunday	\$-	\$398.50
Men's Valley Book Study	\$-	\$-
Monday Men's Valley Big Book Study	\$-	\$441.72
Monday Men's Mtg (PPAV)	\$-	\$1,000.00
Monday Men's Stag	\$-	\$-
Mid-Valley-Tulare	\$-	\$200.00
Monday Book Study Springville	\$-	\$152.00
Monday Women's Reflections	\$-	\$174.00
Nooners Group-Visalia	\$-	\$-
Pine Recovery AA Meeting	\$-	\$-
Practicing the Principles	\$-	\$113.00
Rainbow Group	\$-	\$341.48
Rule 62-Visalia	\$-	\$111.00
Serenity Junction-Tulare	\$-	\$-
Serenity Seekers AM-Visalia	\$-	\$-
Saturday Night Believers	\$-	\$-

Sober Sisters	\$-	\$50.00
Springville Gut Level	\$-	\$100.00
St Ritas AA Group	\$-	\$-
Springville Breakfast Meeting	\$-	\$1,000.00
Sunday PM Serenity Seekers	\$-	\$-
Tulare Young People	\$-	\$159.00
TUFYPAA	\$-	\$-
Tulare Friday Book Study	\$-	\$-
Tulare Thursday Noon	\$-	\$-
Tulare Sunday Night	\$-	\$-
Tuesday Men's Porterville	\$-	\$-
Three Rivers Monday	\$100.00	\$200.00
Tuesday Women's Amity Group (TWAG)	\$-	\$660.52
Unity through Traditions	\$-	\$600.00
Valley Group	\$-	\$301.09
Valley Speaker Series	\$-	\$782.13
Visalia Alano Club	\$-	\$151.75
Wandering Couples	\$-	\$181.00
Wednesday Acceptance Group (WAG)	\$-	\$500.00
Weekend Attitude Adjustment	\$-	\$-
Women's Changes Group	\$-	\$85.00
Women's Friday Night-Porterville	\$-	\$-
Wom- en's	\$-	\$104.12
Нарру		
Women's Saturday AM 12x12	\$-	\$488.43
Totals	\$1,167.68	\$18,186.19



Dear friends,

It is a common misconception that Alcoholics Anonymous is a religious-based or Christian organization, but that is not the case. In fact, a fundamental principle of A.A. is that the Fellowship is not affiliated with any religion, nor is it allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution. In A.A., each person determines their own pathway in their recovery from alcoholism. Click here to read more.

In Fellowship,

Public Information Desk publicinfo@aa.org

Chers amis,

L'idée fausse voulant que les Alcooliques anonymes soient une organisation religieuse ou chrétienne est très répandue, mais ce n'est pas le cas. En fait, l'un des principes fondamentaux des AA est qu'ils ne sont affiliés à aucune religion ni associés à aucune secte, confession religieuse ou politique, à aucun organisme ou établissement. Chez les AA, chaque personne trace sa propre voie dans son rétablissement de l'alcoolisme. Cliquez ici pour en savoir plus.

Amitiés,

Bureau de l'Information publique publicinfo@aa.org

Estimados amigos:

Es un concepto erróneo bastante común pensar que Alcohólicos Anónimos es una organización religiosa o cristiana, pero no es así. De hecho, un principio fundamental de AA es que la Comunidad no está afiliada a ninguna religión, ni tiene relación con ninguna secta, denominación, partido político, organización o institución alguna. En AA, cada persona determina su propio camino en su recuperación del alcoholismo. Haga clic aquí para leer más.

Fraternalmente.

Información Pública publicinfo@aa.org



### General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

Please direct all communications to:

P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163 Fax: (212) 870-3003

# Lighter Side of AA

# Why did the accountant do so well in AA?

He was already a friend of bills!

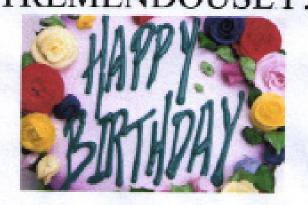




# **BIRTHDAY CLUB**

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
YEARYOU 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

# Meet The Editor

# Hello Everyone!

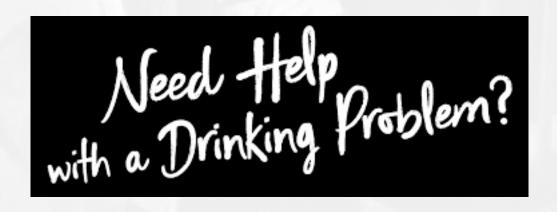
My name is Robert and I am an Alcoholic!

Its is great to meet you I am the new Editor of the Central News.

I really look forward to being of service. I invite anyone that wants to get into service to type up a short piece and share it with us, email a picture, a quote, an article or anything!

I want to thank you for allowing me to be of service!!

-Robert P.







# Your Content Here!!!

Have an event????

New group starting up?????

Have a story to share???

Take some amazing photos aorund 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

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