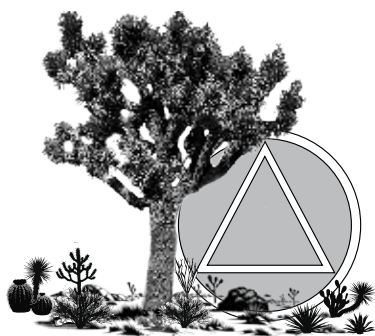




VICTOR VALLEY INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE

Newsletter for the Fellowship

18888 Hwy 18 Suite 107, Apple Valley, CA. 92307 • (760) 242-9292 • www.victorvalleyaa.org

E-mail: vvffnl2025@gmail.com • Issue One: May 2026

LET THERE BE LIGHT

GRAPEVINE MAGAZINE • MAY 2026

AUTHOR: KAY P. T. PAUL MINNESOTA USA

When I completed Step Five I realized I had spent much of my life in that space in my head where my dis-eased thinking was in charge. It was my “living” room. Until the Fifth Step, that living room was dark, so dark, in fact, that I couldn’t see what was in there or how things were arranged. I bumped into things, tripped over things, and was more often than not bruised, distressed and confused. Sometimes I would just howl and lash out at others.

Completing the Fifth Step turned on an overhead light. I could suddenly see the big mess in my head: the furniture that had gotten in my way and caused me to hurt myself and others. These character defects had blocked me from God, others and my true self. Suddenly after doing the Fifth Step, instead of despair I now had possibilities and choices. The Step wasn’t so much about the judgment and shame that I feared it would be. Instead, it was about the chance to redecorate. I could rearrange the furniture up there. I could toss things out that didn’t work. I could even get new furniture.

What would be beautiful on the walls? It wasn’t always an easy rearrangement. There was that old mahogany hutch that belonged to my grandmother. Would I dare give that up? Even if I had no place for it and it didn’t work anymore? I needed help.

Fortunately, in AA I had access to world-class home decorators—free of charge. My sponsor and AA friends had all kinds of experience and ideas about redecorating that room in my brain, and they were on call—24/7. I could create a new, lovely space in my head. I could welcome people in, invite them over. For the first time I wasn’t alone hiding in the dark. My new space was so lovely that I could even spend time with myself. But most of all, I found God had been living there all along.

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/magazine/2026/may/let-there-be-light>

CONCEPT FIVE

Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

The Spiritual Principle of step 5 is Integrity

No one is perfect. However, a person with integrity is willing to face their failings and do all they can to remedy them. In step 5, we practice integrity before God and begin to bring it to our relations with others.

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Revised: June 2025
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Illustrations by Karlotta Freier



TRADITION FIVE

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

Based on a series of drawings in the AA Grapevine.
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Victor Valley Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Meeting Minutes 03/21/26

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Kim W. Introductions around the room were made with positions, if one was held. Group prayed in with the Serenity Prayer.

Present: Kim W., Celeste N., Scott C., Sandy B., Marlene C., John D., Sue C., Melissa S., Christa S., Rosie G.

Call Outs: Courtney Q. (leave), Shannon W., Shelly J.

Rosie G. read minutes from 2/21/26. Sandy B. motioned to accept the minutes, Melissa S. seconded, AIF.

2. Intergroup Reports

- Chair – Shannon W – Absent, no report
- Co-Chair – Kim W - No report.
- Secretary– Rosie G – Report under New Business.
- Treasurer – – Sandy B. reported the following February 2026 Financial Summary (details attached).

Account Balances:		Donations:	
Checking:	\$ 1,175.21	Group (Square)	\$ 773.00
Savings:	\$ 2,705.32	Individual (Square)	\$ 355.00
		Group (Zelle)	\$ 308.40
Total Income:	\$ 1,902.34	Individual (Zelle)	\$ 0
Total Expenses	\$ 3,640.18	Total Donations:	\$ 1,436.40

Sandy stated we have received a quote for Worker's Comp coverage in the amount of \$525. After some discussion, it was decided to go forward with this AmTrust policy offered through Lamb Insurance.

A transfer of \$800 was made from savings to the checking account in February to cover expenses.

- Newsletter – John D. – March Newsletter is ready for distribution.
- Webmaster – Courtney Q – Absent, no report
- GSR – Shelly J. – Absent, no report.

- Office Manager – Melissa reported the following:

Office Visits	26
Information Calls	22
Call Forwarding	35
12 Step Calls	0

Associate Member – Celeste N. – No report.

3. Old Business (updated with current status):

- Audit Committee Update – Carol W. has the 2025 files and is currently reviewing.
- Amended Bylaws Signatures – Rosie obtained signatures of board members present. Shannon W. was absent, she will need to sign the document at April's Regular Meeting. Once all board members have signed, Rosie will provide a scanned copy to be added to the website, the original will be retained at Central Office.
- Springo Bingo – Scott C. has not heard back from the Alano Club to confirm whether the rental fee will change for this year. He called the club during the meeting and reported back the amount remained the same at \$200, including a \$50.00 refundable deposit. . Melissa said a limited number of tickets have been sold, there are still more available. Also, she is still looking for gift card donations for prizes.

4. New Business

- Central Office Table Update – Rosie read notes from the subcommittee meeting held on 2/25/26. There was extended discussion about what book inventory to bring. The group agreed to only bring books currently available at Central Office and AA conference approved pamphlets. The discussion was around limiting expenses and using current stock. We will need volunteers to cover the table in two hour shifts, one year of continuous sobriety in AA is required. On Friday, table will be manned from 2pm to 7pm, Saturday, 9:30am to 5:30pm, and Sunday from 9:30am to 11:30am. The group also discussed ordering a banner from an overseas vendor. John D. and Rosie G. are willing to contribute funds to purchase a better quality product locally.
- Co-Treasurer – Christa S. was nominated and elected as Co-Treasurer effective immediately.

5. Close of Meeting

Sandy motioned to adjourn the meeting, Celeste seconded, AIF. Meeting adjourned at 9:41. Group prayed out with Serenity Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Rosie G.

VICTOR VALLEY INTER-GROUP CENTRAL OFFICE

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF February 28th, 2026

	CURRENT		
Savings	\$2,705.32		
Transfer from Savings to Checking	\$800.00		
Cash in Chase Banking	\$1,175.21		
Central Office Petty Cash			
INCOME	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Group Donations (Square)	\$773.00	\$1,306.00	\$2,079.00
Individual Donations- Uncategorized (Square)	\$355.00	\$96.00	\$451.00
Group Donations (from Zelle)	\$308.40	\$0.00	\$308.40
Individual Donations (from Zelle)	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Chips and Medallions	\$220.84	\$324.22	\$545.06
Literature	\$241.10	\$1,017.20	\$1,258.30
Square Credit Card Fee	\$4.00	\$13.00	\$17.00
Uncategorized items on Square printout		\$0.00	\$0.00
AA Mountain Conference		\$0.00	\$0.00
SOTS-HDC Convention		\$0.00	\$0.00
Ride for Recovery		\$0.00	\$0.00
Womens Banquet		\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,902.34	\$2,806.42	\$4,708.76
EXPENSES	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Rent (prev recorded & Paid Jan for Feb)		\$1,031.28	\$1,031.28
Southern California Edison	\$40.27	\$41.77	\$82.04
Southwest Gas	\$45.88	\$0.00	\$45.88
Spectrum	\$140.00	\$140.00	\$280.00
High Desert Alarm			\$0.00
Gusto (Manager Salary) x 2	\$1,092.60	\$1,092.60	\$2,185.20
Gusto (Payroll Taxes) x 2	\$248.40	\$241.20	\$489.60
Gusto (Monthly Fee)	\$55.00	\$0.00	\$55.00
Maintenance/Office			\$0.00
Insurance		\$247.50	\$247.50
Amazon Prime (Monthly Fee)	\$16.30	\$16.30	\$32.60
HP Instant Ink	\$8.69	\$8.96	\$17.65
Literature	\$1,588.62		\$1,588.62
Banking Fees			\$0.00
Other Expenses (Debit Card Transactions)	\$104.42	\$23.48	\$127.90
CDTFA (Sales Tax)		\$671.00	\$671.00
Federal Taxes			\$0.00
Square Fees			\$0.00
Fundraisers (Ride for Recovery Permit)	\$ 300.00		\$300.00
Miscellaneous Office Expenses (paid with Checks)			\$0.00
Website		44.88	\$44.88
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,640.18	\$3,558.97	\$7,199.15

Central Office has a new Zelle account for all contributions and donations going forward. Scan this code in your bank's app to pay Victor Valley Intergroup Central Office



vvigco.aa.treasurer@gmail.com

To ensure your contribution is received without delay, please update your Zelle contact information with this new email address and when donating, please make sure to list your home group for group donations and your name if donating as an individual. If you have any questions or need assistance with the update, feel free to reach out to

Sandy B, Treasurer at 760-475-2569

VVIG meets 3RD Saturday • 8:30^{AM} Central Office
18888 Hwy 18, Ste.107 Apple Valley CA • 760 242-9292

Victory Valley Intergroup Central Office

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD

Office Manager.....Melissa S
Chair.....Shannon W
Co-ChairKim W

2026 GROUP DONATIONS

	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
APPLE VALLEY			
Big Book Study (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Campfire Group (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Children of Chaos (COV)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Coffee Talk (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Friday Night Lights (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Front & Center (VV Alano Club)	\$315.00	\$321.00	\$636.00
Luz Del Sur (21887 Outer Hwy 18)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Men's Stag (Serenity Hall)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Men's Stag (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
O.L.D. AA Big Book Study (Our Lady of the Desert)		\$100.00	\$100.00
Original Big Book Study (COV)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Pride Group LGBT+ (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Sober LGBT (Online)	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Primary Purpose (COV)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Primary Purpose (Online)	\$188.40	\$0.00	\$188.40
Question & Answer (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Sisters in Serenity (COV)		\$50.00	\$50.00
Speaker Meeting (COV)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Step Workshop (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
T.G.I.F. (COV)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Women's Big Book Study (VV Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Women's Meeting (Church of the Nazarene)		\$0.00	\$0.00
BARSTOW	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Attitude of Gratitude (Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Barstow Desert Group (Alano Club)		\$25.00	\$25.00
Desert Dogs (Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Desert Road Runners (River of Life Methodist)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Friday Night Live (Alano Club)		\$400.00	\$400.00
Happy Hour (River of Life Methodist Church)		\$30.00	\$30.00
Into Action Men's Stag (Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Literature in the Parking Lot (Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Los Coyotes Men's Stag (Alano Club)	\$162.00	\$0.00	\$162.00
Our Primary Purpose (Alano Club)		\$200.00	\$200.00
Prayer and Meditation (Alano Club)		\$25.00	\$25.00
Sisters in Sobriety (Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Una Nueva Vida (Alano Club)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Women's Rule 62 Group (River of Life Methodist)	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
BIG BEAR	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Honor The Mountain Group			\$0.00
FORT IRWIN	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Daily Reflection (3rd St/G Avenue)			\$0.00
Soldiers for Sobriety (3rd St/G Avenue)			\$0.00
HELENDALE	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Ladies Willing to Go to Any Lengths (Community Church)		\$0.00	\$0.00
No Valid Complaints (Lion's Club)		\$65.00	\$65.00
Serenity Group (Community Church)		\$0.00	\$0.00
HESPERIA	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Hesperia Umbrella Group (HUG)			\$0.00
Spanish (Main Street)			\$0.00
Spanish (Mariposa Road)			\$0.00
PHELAN	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Open Book Study (Montara Road)			\$0.00
Phelan Sober Group (Sunnyslope Road)	\$60.00		\$60.00
Spanish (Manos Unidas De Phelan)			\$0.00
VICTORVILLE	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Big Book/12 and 12 Study (Holy Innocents Church)			\$0.00
Latino de Victor Valley (St. Andrews)			\$0.00
Mojave Riverwalk (VV Lower Campus)			\$0.00
Tumbleweed Group			\$0.00
WRIGHTWOOD	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
12x12 (Old Firehouse)		\$0.00	\$0.00
12x12 Study (Hillside Community Church)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Big Book Study (Old Firehouse)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Friday Night Reflections (Old Firehouse)		\$0.00	\$0.00
LGBTQ + (Old Firehouse)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Men's Stag Meeting (Old Firehouse)		\$90.00	\$90.00
No Frills (Old Firehouse)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Open Participation (Blessed Junipero Serra Church)		\$0.00	\$0.00
Open Participation (Old Firehouse)	\$186.00	\$0.00	\$186.00
Women's Meeting (Old Firehouse)		\$0.00	\$0.00
YERMO	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Open Participation (Peggy Sue's Diner)			\$0.00
Peggy Sue's Diner (Peggy Sue's Diner)			\$0.00
UNKNOWN	CURRENT	PRIOR YTD	YTD
Steppers	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
Individual Donations	\$355.00	\$146.00	\$501.00
TOTAL GROUP DONATIONS	\$1,436.40	\$1,452.00	\$2,888.40

Treasurer.....Sandy B
Secretary.....Rosie G
Associate Member.....Celeste N
Newsletter Editor.....John F. D

DISTRICT 19

GSR COMMITTEE

MONTHLY MEETING

EVERY 4TH SUNDAY 12:30 PM

Address:
H.U.G.
15885 Main St.,
Hesperia, CA 92345

Zoom:
Meeting ID: 529 852 2733
Password: District19

Panel 76

DCMC- Daniel H
 Alternate DCMC- Danielle C.
 Secretary- Courtney G.
 Treasurer- Stacy H.
 Registrar- Sandy D.
 Archivist- Lesliee A.

H&I Liaison- Open
 Intergroup Liaison- Shelly J.
 Convention Liaison- Jerry M.
 CPC/PI- Mike E.
 CEC- Open
 Grapevine/La Vina- Bob O.

District 19 Correspondence

P.O. Box 3096 Victorville, Ca.92393
 E-mail: msca09d19@gmail.com

MID-SOUTHERN CA. AREA 09

PO BOX 51446
 IRVINE, CA. 92619-1446
<https://www.msca09aa.org>

CITIES IN THE DISTRICT

ADELANTO, APPLE VALLEY, BARSTOW,
 HESPERIA, LUCERNE VALLEY, NEWBERRY
 SPRINGS, PHELAN, PINON HILLS, TRONA,
 VICTORVILLE, WRIGHTWOOD, YERMO

Panel 76/MCSA09

District 19 Hi-Desert

District - HIGH DESERT

Agenda April 26, 2026

HUG 15885 Main St suite 310, Hesperia

Zoom ID: 529 852 2733 | Password: District19

Call meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer.

New GSRs: N/A

Birthdays: Danielle C. (March 7, 2022) Michael O. (Feb 28th, 2017)

**Members present: Stacy H., Michael O., John D., Danielle C.,
 Veronica R., Bob O., Larry, Michelle C., Teri M.**

Previous Month's Minutes Approved: Bob O.
 makes motion to suspend all other agenda items and
 give Francine the floor to do share forward, second by
 Lesliee, AIF.

1. Francine W. Share Forward

- Francine serves AA as District 9 General Service (GS) Rep Chair and has talked about and studied the information relating to the General Service Conference for a long time.
- Everyone should have a copy of their service manual. Francine encourages all to take a look at Ch. 6 that talks about the GS Conference and the connection between our delegate and how she will take the input that she gathers with all groups and Districts from Area 09 and take that information forward to the GS Conference.
- GSR representative's job is to speak to their groups either during the business meeting or as a sharing session in a separate meeting. The deadline for getting all feedback to our delegate is April 20th. All AA members have the right of participation and it is important to bring the information to your group so no one feels blindsided about decisions and things that were voted on at the GS Conference. Know your homegroup and how much time makes sense for the people of your home group. You must select the GS

Items to talk about with your homegroup based on what you think would be important to them (choose 7 or less depending on the amount of time you will be sharing).

- Francine shared the Area 09 website as a resource. Click Delegate > then click 76 GS Conference Material (highlight background material and General Service Items list).
- Section 1 talks about what will be on the agenda for next year which is decided by the delegates on the agenda committee so this is not necessary to discuss with your groups.
- Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC): #2 review progress report on development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals, background for this was limited. #3c Consider the request to update the pamphlet on AA members, medications, and other drugs, this pamphlet also deals with mental health issues that require medication.
- Finance: Review self-support packet, discuss the motion to add wording to item F3 which is the pamphlet. Request to create a 12 step study guide is under finance because the literature committee used to receive the bulk of proposed agenda items that became agenda items so the last few years it was discovered that because literature had so much material to review and others nothing, they wanted to equitably distribute the info among all committees so everyone has something important to review.
- Grapevine: May want to review. It is important to take a look at the workbook especially if you are involved with Grapevine matters. There are three new books being proposed, two in English and 1 in Spanish. The Grapevine has NEVER accepted financial contributions. The only way to support the Grapevine is by subscribing to the magazine or purchasing one of the many books that the Grapevine offers. Whether the Grapevine should be allowed to take financial contributions is on the agenda for the first time ever.
- Updates to the 5th edition of the Big Book include many changes in the stories at the back of the book. #6i considers publishing stories from 4th edition that are not in the 5th edition (maybe Experience, Strength and Hope Vol. 2).
- Policy and Admissions: Review sites and dates of GS Conference
- Public Information: Progress reports on PSAs, GSO Podcast, reviewing social media presence.
- Report and Charter: Our delegate will be attending this but not super relevant
- Conference Final Report: This is talked about during GSO school. This is important to know about so that you can answer any questions after the conference.
- Request to produce an animated video based on the pamphlet 12 Steps Illustrated.
- We do not have enough members who attend regional forums and they would like to know why.
- Background on each item gives what you might want to talk to your group about, and the history (who

submitted and their reasoning).

- Francine reviewed how to navigate the website, find agenda list items, summaries, background information, and gave an example using the Grapevine 5 year plan of how you would review this with your group.

4. GSR Reports:

Teri Wrightwood Monday Night Woman's Meeting from 6:30-7:30pm we celebrate birthdays, there was 2 this month. It is a Big Book and 12X12 study meeting

Michael Sunday Night at 4176 Harbor Rd Pheland, CA.

They study 12 x 12 led by Natasha, the secretary is Natasha. This is the second meeting there was about 6 people, Some items were reviewed during the business meeting, there were 3 birthday celebrations. They reviewed a prudent reserve amount to make sure they are self-supporting before sending money out to different constituents of AA.

Sister's in Serenity: No report

Daniel Wrightwood Sunday morning 9am leader and discussion for 1 hour. We always have sweets and celebrate birthdays at the end of the month.

5. AA related Announcements:

Michael announces that he recently requested to be the GSR at another meeting and was wondering if that is allowed. You can only be GSR for one meeting and vote for that meeting but you are able to report-out and report to multiple meetings.

Michelle would like to volunteer to be elected to the CEC position. Leslie nominates and Teri seconds. AIF.

Every district has their own GSR school. In D19 the Alt DCMC runs the school for our own GSRs. Danielle has put packets together for new GSRs and GSR school will be coming soon.

Readers next month:

GSR Preamble: Michael

Tradition: Danielle

Concept: Leslie

April Birthdays: Veronica

Next District 19 committee meeting will be April 26th.

Next MSCA09 meeting Pre-Conference will be on April 12th 9am-3pm.

Hotspot for April meeting: Stacy

Motion to Adjourn: Leslie

Dismiss with "Responsibility Pledge"

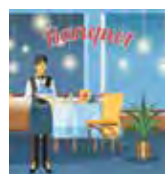


40TH ANNUAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPIRIT HIGH DESERT CONVENTION JUNE 5-7, 2026

COURTYARD MARRIOTT
9616 Mariposa Road, Hesperia, CA 92345 • 760-956-3876

2026 REGISTRATION
Pre-registration is open until May 15, 2026!

Mail in registration forms may be downloaded at:
<https://www.sunshineofthespirit-highdesertconvention.com/registration>



Registrations and available event tickets will be on sale at the convention at an increased cost.



12th Step Opportunities!

Join us as we carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to those who cannot attend regular meetings. Current panel opportunities include Federal Prison, High Desert Detention Center, and Phoenix House.

Come see what we do!

Join us at our monthly committee meeting. H&I meets the 3rd Monday of the month at the Alano Club at 6:30PM

Contact us!
H&I Director: Shannon W.
(760) 221-5907
H&I co-Director: Scott P.
(760) 267-5907



HESPERIA UMBRELLA GROUP

**Saturdays:
5:30 PM**

15885 Main Street Ste. 310, Hesperia, CA

5/9/2026 Grant Thompson Forrest Lake S/D- 03/21/2005
5/16/2026 Clyde George Bakersfield S/D-01/03/1995
5/23/2026 Michele Lyon Orange County S/D-06/28/1998
5/30/2026 Christopher M Riverside S/D-10/05/2000
6/6/2026 Denisa E Upland S/D-12/26/1991
6/27/2026 Pat Ochoa Redlands S/D-10/23/2002

**Come show your support for out of
Town Speakers and carry this message!**



Mojave Riverwalk

Saturday 10:00AM to 11:00AM

*Pay attention to what others say at meetings because
One learns more by listening than by speaking.*

Mojave Riverwalk, VVC Lower campus parking lot.
18564 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395





The Meeting Guide App.
*This is the first installment
 of a new Box 4-5-9 series
 on the technology that is
 changing the way Alcoholics
 Anonymous communicates
 to suffering alcoholics and
 interacts with its members.*

Josh R., a web developer, did most of his drinking in New York City. In 2013, he decided a geographic would help and he moved to San Jose. Unlike most geographics, this one turned out to be fruitful – for both Josh and for Alcoholics Anonymous.

Once in San Jose, Josh got sober, found a sponsor and started going to A.A. meetings in the area. Only problem was, the local central office website – while it listed meetings – wasn't so user-friendly for someone using a mobile phone. Like most A.A. websites, the site had been developed before mobile design came into general use. Such sites work fine for someone on a computer, but these days, A.A. sites get more than twice as many visitors from handheld devices as from traditional desktops or laptops. "Essentially what I did," Josh says, "is take all the meeting listings and export them to an Excel file with links to directions, and then made my own little app, just for myself. That's where the germ of the idea for the Meeting Guide app developed – just me trying to find meetings." From early sobriety, Josh has been a supporter of intergroups and central offices. The intergroup rep from his home group suggested that Josh develop his personal app into an app that all A.A.s in Santa Clara County could use. Josh agreed and conferred with the Santa Clara County central office. Eventually, Josh went further than originally envisioned. He came up with the idea to develop a WordPress plug-in that intergroup/central offices, areas and districts across the country (and the world) could use, so that the meetings they listed on their sites could be added to the app and automatically updated every 12 hours. A turning point for Josh was making a presentation of his app to the National A.A. Technology Workshop (NAATW), where he received support and feedback. The free app was launched in November 2015 with seven connected A.A. websites – those in Austin, Mesa (Arizona), Oakland, Philadelphia, Portland (Oregon), San Francisco and San Jose. Today, Meeting Guide is connected to 326 local A.A. organization websites. Getting connected wasn't easy for all of them. Some local sites had to find new web servants, while others had to draft new policies and procedures, sign up for new web hosting, and try new software. In several cases, group consciences were sought to settle concerns about the Sixth Tradition and the future of the app: Would it always be free? Does this represent affiliation with an outside entity? In an era when smartphones dominate, Meeting Guide is a simple, useful tool for newcomers and oldtimers alike – one that standardizes meeting information so that it is always readily available and up to date. Recognizing

this, Josh did something unusual, but which is also completely within the spirit of the Fellowship: he gave the Meeting Guide app to Alcoholics Anonymous, for free. "I realized," Josh says, "that the only way we could continue to grow was to pass it on." In the fall of 2018, A.A.W.S., Inc. licensed Meeting Guide and put together a working group of consultants, employees and trustees to help bring it to fruition, and an updated version was released in summer 2019. Lois L. is a member of the steering committee for the NAATW and an administrator on the Technology in A.A. (TIAA) online forum. As an A.A. member with 30 years sobriety and a professional digital strategist and user experience (UX) consultant, she also advises G.S.O. on digital matters and technical strategy. She says, "What A.A.W.S. has done by acquiring and updating the app is to enable this vital piece of technology to live on forever, to be continually updated and improved upon. Providing the app is what G.S.O. is supposed to do – which is to disseminate public information on a national level for all A.A.s. It's also important to point out that, although the app is provided to the end user for free, it costs money and time to maintain and update – money that comes from member donations to intergroup/central offices and G.S.O. itself."

*"Nothing matters more to A.A.'s future
 welfare than the manner in which we use
 the colossus of modern communication.
 Used unselfishly and well, it can produce
 results surpassing our present imagination."*

– Bill W.

box459 Vol 65, no.3/Fall 2019



HELP US CARRY THE MESSAGE!

Victor Valley Intergroup Central Office is seeking: **Individuals to be added to the "12 Step Call List"**
We Need Women and Men from all Cities in the HD! Anyone interested please contact: Office Manager Melissa S. at: 760-220-4016

FUNCTIONS OF AN INTERGROUP/CENTRAL OFFICE

A.A. experience has demonstrated that intergroup/central offices are helpful, particularly in populous areas. There are over 800 intergroup/central offices throughout the world, performing vital A.A. services. These constitute a network of service outlets and A.A. contacts to help carry the A.A. message. The following suggestions outline the basic services an intergroup/central office might offer:

1. A.A. Inquiries – Because local A.A. offices are often the front door of A.A. to those seeking help, many central offices maintain easy-to-find websites, easy-to-navigate meeting lists, and hotlines staffed with sober A.A. members. They will refer the caller to a nearby A.A. group or meeting, where sponsorship may be arranged, or have a twelfth stepper contact them.

2. Office Facilities – The intergroup/central office can maintain a conveniently located office in which paid workers and/or volunteers coordinate local A.A. services.

3. Meeting Lists and Other Literature – At regular intervals, the intergroup/central office may publish and distribute up-to-date lists of meetings and other information about local A.A. services. Many intergroup/central offices sell AAWS and AA Grapevine literature for the convenience of local groups.

4. Information Exchange – The service office may function as a clearinghouse for the circulation and exchange of information among all the A.A. groups in the community. In this same connection, a logical function of the intergroup/central office is to provide "exchange" meetings, where group program chairpersons meet regularly to exchange meetings with other groups.

5. Local Committees on Public Information (PI) and Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) in cooperation with district and area PI and CPC committees – Because a central office is often the most visible and easy-to-find A.A. resource, it is frequently the first point of contact for professionals and the general public seeking information about A.A. Thus, A.A.'s relations with the public and professionals in the alcoholism field are often handled through the cooperation of general service committees and intergroup/central offices. To avoid duplication of efforts and other difficulties, good communication between all parts of A.A. is paramount. A.A. Guidelines and Workbooks on PI and CPC are available on GSO's website at www.aa.org.

6. A.A. in Correctional and Treatment Facilities – The intergroup/central office can maintain contact with local groups in correctional facilities and treatment facilities, offering literature and prerelease A.A. contacts and arranging for A.A. speakers and visitors to meetings. When there is a corrections or treatment committee for this purpose, the service office may assist it through close cooperation with local hospitals and prisons. *Intergroup/central offices handling institutional contacts can find A.A. Guidelines and other service material on aa.org for shared experience in providing these services.* A.A.® Guidelines Intergroup or Central Offices from GSO, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163 The A.A. Guidelines below are compiled from the shared service experience of A.A. members throughout the U.S. and Canada. They also reflect guidance given through the Twelve Traditions and the General Service Conference. In keeping with our Tradition of autonomy except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole, most decisions are made by the group conscience of the members involved. The purpose of these Guidelines is to assist in reaching an informed group conscience.

7. Local A.A. Events – An A.A. intergroup/central office is a logical body to manage the details of an annual dinner, picnic, or convention, if the participating groups wish it. *See suggestions in MG-04 Conferences, Conventions and Roundups for A.A. experience with putting on an A.A. event.*

8. A.A. Bulletin or Newsletter – The preparation of a publication for periodic distribution to A.A. groups is often a function of the intergroup/central office. Many offices save postage and increase distribution by using digital delivery as well.

9. Accessibilities – Many intergroup/central offices carry information on groups that are wheelchair accessible, or which may provide American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation for members who are Deaf. Some offices have equipment or materials for communicating with alcoholics who have visual and auditory challenges, those who are housebound or chronically ill, those who are living with the effects of brain damage or stroke, and others who may have less visible challenges. Some offices maintain lists of certified sign-language interpreters who are available for meetings or events.

10. Website – Many intergroups and central offices provide online chat services, offer digital A.A. materials in the languages of their communities, and use an ADA Accessible website format. When adding materials from aa.org to local websites be sure to use the weblinks instead of downloading PDFs. This will ensure the most recent versions of these materials. – *A.A. Guidelines MG-2 Rev 3/24*

Meeting Guide is a free app supported by Seventh Tradition contributions

The app helps people quickly find A.A. meetings and resources using information provided by A.A. service entities.

Available on both iOS and Android

About Meeting Guide

Meeting Guide syncs with area, district, intergroup/central offices and international general service office websites, relaying meeting information from more than 400 A.A. service entities directly to the app. Over 100,000 weekly meetings are currently listed, and the information is refreshed twice daily.



Meeting Guide features

- Listing of both in-person and online meetings
A default view that provides a list of meetings showing time, location and meeting name
- A meeting detail view that offers extra information such as meeting format and any notes provided by the group
- A search function to find meetings by location or keyword
- A daily quote feature lets users read from "Daily Reflections"
- Multiple access points that make finding local A.A. contact information easy
- A news feature with the latest from the General Service Office and Grapevine