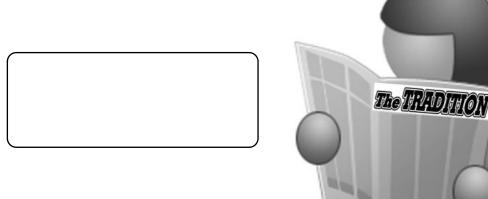
Ventura County Central Service Office Inc.

321 No. Aviador Street, Suite # 115 Camarillo, CA. 93010

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



NOTE: Members in service positions qualify for a FREE Newsletter*

Update	ail Subscription Yes! Enclos RENEWAL Name	LATEST NEWS + Events + Meetings + Recovery + Fellowship
Update		
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CityStateZIP Only \$	City	Only \$5.
		Per Year

*NOTE—FREE SUBSCRIPTION: TO ALL MEMBERS IN SERVICE POSITIONS:

Meeting Secretaries, Intergroup Representatives and GSR's who register with Cen-

tral Office, will automatically receive The Tradition each month at no charge. If

you'd like to receive a free copy in the mail, please submit this subscription form

and note the service position you are now filling. Stay informed, order now!



Monthly Newsletter of the Ventura County Central Service Office Inc.

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Info Lines ..

Visit Our Website.
Just want a meeting or other A.A. information?
Check out the expanded Ventura County website.
www.aaventuracounty.org

Ventura County Central Service Office Inc. 321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115

Camarillo, Ca. 93010

24 Hour Telephones

(805) 389-1444 (800) 990-7550

Fax (805) 389-2912

vcaaco@verizon.net

A Member's Experience... A Fourth Step Personal Inventory By - Ed P., Ojai

So, I had finally made my decision, asking Him to be in charge. It must have worked, for shortly thereafter, on a Sunday, when no one was home, I began to write my Fourth Step Inventory.

My book sponsor, David, gave me an outline taken directly from the Big Book.

What helped me a great deal was under resentments he had listed an example: Mother, Father, wife etc. all the way back to my childhood, even playmates.

Understand, that I had never taken an account of myself so I had no idea what I was doing. To that end, I followed the format that is outlined in the Big Book. It worked, as the inventory list grew beneath my pen as I remembered the phrase "Half-measures availed us nothing"

Upon looking at each name I filled in the columns.

Now I had talked to most folks since who had listed all the names first and then each column. That seemed to be the directions from most sponsors, but I didn't do it that way.

Anyway, my best friend Jerry was living at my house at the time and he had been sober for over 9 years. When the pen started flowing at that point I came out of my little room where I was writing, and said to jerry "I think I am doing this wrong". He simply waved his arm and said "go back in there". I thought to myself, "OK, but if it's all wrong, it's your fault" So I continued to write.

That's when I began to see how many people and places I resented. I came out again and said to Jerry, "I might as well just get the dictionary and put all the names on my list". Jerry's reply was" that's not a bad idea". I continued to write.

That's when I began to see how many people and places I resented. I came out again and said to Jerry, "I might as well just get the dictionary and put all the names on my list". Jerry's reply was" that's not a bad idea". I continued to write.

My writing began on Sunday afternoon. I

came out my room to go to my 12 & 12 meeting that night.

I continued to write all day Monday, went to a Monday night meeting and finished up writing on Tuesday just before lunch.

What I learned was more than Enlightening (I can't think of a better word) I saw that I had something against just about everyone I knew, from my childhood on through my life. The fears I walked with were many. My fear of spiders and bees was explained. When I was a small boy, I attempted to burn out a nest under our sidewalk and out came the bees chasing me down the street. stinging me many times.



The sex inventory told me that most of the time I was only satisfying myself without knowledge or regard for my wife's pleasure.

On completion, this man who felt he had few resentments, if any, had pages and pages of resentments. My fears numbered thirty one. It seems to me now that I was walking in quiet desperation.

In our A.A. Big Book it is written, "If we have been thorough about our personal inventory, we have written down a lot".... and I did. I was now ready to move on to step five.

Send Us Your Story

The Tradition welcomes its readers to share their own experience, strength, and hope with us. Maybe something that's happened in recovery that may be worth sharing, or an experience that happened that shows how the program worked for you.

E-mail your article to: vcaaco@verizon.net.



Quarterly Group Contributions

If you believe there is in error in your group's contributions, please contact Central Office. There are times contributions are submitted without identifying references and are entered as Unassigned Donations.

5.30 Happy Hour Group	\$108.16	OX53 It Works It Really Does_1	\$200.00
AH01 Hope Through Sharing Gp_1	\$300.00	OX65 Women's Mtg_1	\$100.00
AH09 The Best of The Big Book_1	\$197.00	PH01 It's For You Group_1	\$258.11
AH12 Agoura Pirates Group_1	\$300.00	SV02 Men's Stag_1	\$228.50
AH27 Last Chance Men's Stag_1	\$590.00	SV07 Back to the Books_1	\$150.00
CM01 Camarillo Disc Grp_1	\$140.00	SV11 The Bananas Bunch_1	\$100.00
CM04 Women's Disc Grp	\$143.52	SV14 Daily Reflections_1	\$386.58
CM05 As Bill Sees It_1	\$250.00	SV15 Mon Women's Stag_1	\$67.00
CM06 Beginner's Mtg	\$150.00	SV17 Women's Stag Grp_1	\$42.98
CM14 Noon Discussion Group_1	\$90.00	SV26 Aloha Big Book Study_1	\$30.00
CM17 Back to Basics_1	\$150.00	SV34 Spiritual Disc Grp_1	\$75.00
CM18 Noon Disc Grp_1	\$150.00	SV51 Evening Reflections_1	\$453.73
CM21 Womans Lunch Bunch_1	\$150.00	TO05 The Oaks Folks Group_1	\$67.20
Unassigned Donations	\$1,396.75	TO24 Knights of Round Table_1	\$100.00
MP02 Book Study_1	\$123.50	VE05 Safety Valve Mtg_1	\$150.00
MP03 Discussion Group_1	\$100.00	VE14 Downtowner's Gr Spk Mtg_1	\$1,237.72
MP04 Women Fellowship Spir_1	\$100.00	VE17 Women's Group_1	\$195.16
MP06 Newcomer Meeting_1	\$70.95	VE21 Discussion Grp_1	\$30.00
NP01 Wed Q&A Group_1	\$274.20	VE24 Women's 12 & 12_1	\$185.20
NP04 Women in the Solution_1	\$842.63	VE25 Keep It Simple Grp_1	\$981.00
NP06 Staying Alive Disc_1	\$90.00	VE64 Corner Group_1	\$390.00
NP11 Saturday Women's Promise_1	\$92.00	VE70 The Road Narrows_1	\$35.00
OJ02 5PM Ojai Group_1	\$350.00	VE72 Sober View_1	\$100.00
OJ03 As Bill Sees It_1	\$48.00	VE77 High Nooner's 12 Sp Stdy_1	\$100.00
OJ05 Sunrise Meditation Grp_1	\$241.19	VE79 Friday Night Diffuser_1	\$200.00
OJ08 Daily Reflections_1	\$175.00	VE81 Daily Reflections_1	\$32.51
OX01 Beach Group_1	\$100.00	WV04 Sun Night Discussion Mtg_1	\$927.94
OX109 Monday Nooner_1	\$120.00	WV13 Sat Night Live_1	\$200.00
OX19 Serenity by the Sea_1	\$40.00	WV20 Big Book Study_1	\$238.00
OX36 Marina Group_1	\$775.00	WV23 Step Study Group_1	\$643.43
OX42 Sunset at the Harbor_1	\$170.00	WV28 Tues Night Dog Pound_1	\$53.41
OX45 Noon at the Park_1	\$125.00	WV29 Cafe AA Big Book Study_1	\$99.00
			640.040.0-
			\$16,010.37

The Seventh Tradition states: "Every A.A. group out to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area and the General Service Office remain self supporting. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose - to help the alcoholic who still suffers.

Although the amount of your contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world, we may want to remember that a dollar does



AUGUST 2017

	Apr - Jun 17	Projection
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Birthdays	\$383.00	\$510.00
Group 7th Tradition	\$16,010.37	\$14,625.00
Inventory Sales	\$21,023.63	\$22,008.00
Meeting Room Contribution	\$540.00	\$345.00
Miscellaneous Contributions	\$3,020.00	
Newsletter Subscription	\$40.00	\$30.00
Total Income	\$41,017.00	\$37,518.00
Cost of Goods Sold	\$14,948.62	\$15,333.33
Total COGS	\$14,948.62	\$15,333.33
Gross Profit	\$26,068.38	\$22,184.67
Expense		
Computer	\$249.81	\$250.00
Copier	\$564.69	\$675.00
Credit Card Processing Fees	\$308.78	\$375.00
Insurance	\$740.40	\$740.40
Maintenance and Repairs	\$125.70	\$120.00
Office Supplies and Expense	\$603.14	\$876.00
Payroll Expense		
Health Insurance	\$1,400.10	\$1,400.30
Salaries Expense	\$14,872.77	\$15,250.04
Salaries Tax Expense	\$1,207.40	\$1,548.00
Total Payroll Expense	\$17,480.27	\$18,198.34
Postage	\$98.79	\$100.00
Rent & Triple Net	\$4,789.49	\$4,440.00
Room Rent-Intergroup	\$105.00	\$105.00
Seminars	\$52.00	\$60.00
Telephone	\$1,128.86	\$1,059.00
Travel Expense-Auto	\$175.00	\$150.00
Utilities	\$267.92	\$300.00
WCI (State Fund)	\$147.25	\$156.00
Total Expense	\$26,837.10	\$27,604.74
et Ordinary Income	(\$768.72)	(\$5,420.07)

I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of Alcoholics Anonymous always to be there. And for that;
I am Responsible.



District 13
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 166
Ventura, CA 93002

Gold Coast Districts (9 & 12)

PLEASE NOT E NEW ADDRESS

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 132

Camarillo, Ca. 93011

District 24
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 843
Simi Valley, CA 93065

District 28
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 3432
Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Area 93
Mailing Address:
PMB #140
606 Alamo Pintado #3
Solvang, CA 93463

AAWS

P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163 (212)870-3400 The Ventura County Central Service Office Inc. Monthly Newsletter

AUGUST 2017

MAJOR AA EVENTS Around America

Women's Sober Campout

August 18–20 Leo Carrillo Beach Contact: michellebuck76@hotmail.com

San Luis Obispo 50th Annual Convention

August 25–26 Veterans Memorial Building 801 Grand Ave district22convention.org

33rd Annual South Bay Roundup

Sept 1-4
Torrance Marriot Hotel
www.southbayroundup.org

Ventura County AA Convention

September 8–10 Westlake Hyatt vcaac.org

Seniors in Sobriety International Conference

September 14-17 Airtel Plaza Hotel Van Nuys

The Ventura County Central Office

has listings and flyers of many other
AA related events in Southern
California and throughout the
United States.

Call 805-389-1444 or drop by to see us even if it's only for a cup of coffee.

www.aaventuracounty.org

AUGUST 2017 Calendar

Wed 2nd 6:00 pm District 13 GSR Meeting @ Ventura Center for Spiritual Living @ 101 S. Laurel, Ventura

Thu 3rd 7:00 pm Inter-group Board Meeting @ Central Office

Wed 9th 7:00 pm Inter-group Meeting @ The Buck 321 N Aviador Suite 111, Camarillo

Sat 12th 10:00 am Newsletter Stuff and Fold @ Central Office

Sun 6th 3:30 pm VCAAC Committee Mtg @ The Buck

Sun 10th 5.30 pm H & I Committee Mtg @ Central Office

Tue 15th 7:00 pm GSR District 28 Meeting @
King of Glory Lutheran Church
2500 Borchard Road, Newbury Park

Wed 16th 7:00 pm Gold Coast Districts General Service Mtg The Buck 321 N Aviador Ste 111 Camarillo

Thu 17th 7:00 pm District 24 General Service Meeting
United Methodist Church 2394 Erringer Rd
Rm # 10, Simi Valley

August 21st Last day to submit items to the Sept. Newsletter

SEPT 2017 Calendar

Wed 6th 6:00 pm District 13 GSR Meeting @ Ventura Center for Spiritual Living @ 101 S. Laurel, Ventura

Thu 7th 7:00 pm Inter-group Board Meeting @ Central Office

Sun 10th 5.30 pm H & I Committee Mtg @ Central Office

Sun 10th 3:30 pm VCAAC Committee Mtg @ The Buck

Wed 13th 7:00 pm Inter-group Meeting @ The Buck 321 N Aviador Suite 111, Camarillo

Sat 16th 10:00 am Newsletter Stuff and Fold @ Central Office

Tue 19th 7:00 pm GSR District 28 Meeting @
King of Glory Lutheran Church
2500 Borchard Road, Newbury Park

Wed 20th 7:00 pm Gold Coast Districts General Service Mtg
The Buck 321 N Aviador Ste 111 Camarillo

Thu 21st 7:00 pm District 24 General Service Meeting
United Methodist Church 2394 Erringer Rd

Rm # 10, Simi Valley

Sept 21st Last day to submit items to the Sept. Newsletter

AUGUST 2017

The Ventura County Central Service Office Inc. Monthly Newsletter

Living Step #8

"Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever Non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers."

A Review of Tradition #8

- Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
- When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
- 3. Do I sometimes try to get *some* reward even if not money for my personal AA efforts?
- 4. Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters?Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
- 5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
- 6. In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
- Have I paid enough attention to the book *Twelve* Steps and *Twelve Traditions*? To the pamphlet *AA Tradition How It Developed*?

"Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all"

Steps eight and nine are concerned with personal relations. First, we take a look backward and try to discover where we have been at fault; next we make a vigorous attempt to repair the damage we have done; and third, having thus cleaned away the debris of the past, we consider how, with our newfound knowledge of ourselves, we may develop the best possible relations with every human being we know. This is a very large order. It is a task which we may perform with increasing skill. but never really finish. Learning how to live in the greatest peace, partnership, and brotherhood with all men and women, of whatever description, is a moving and fascinating adventure. Step eight is a time to remember that "half-measures avail us nothing."

CONCEPT 8

(Reprinted from the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated," pages 16-17 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.)

The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

This Concept deals with the ways the General Service Board "discharges its heavy obligations," and its relationship with its two subsidiary corporations: A.A. World Services, Inc. and the A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

Long experience has proven that the board "must devote itself almost exclusively to the larger questions of policy, finance, group relations and leadership In these matters, it must act with great care and skill to plan, manage and execute."

The board, therefore, must not be distracted or burdened with the details or the endless questions which arise daily in the routine operation of the General Service Office or the publishing operations, including the Grapevine. "It must delegate its executive function" to its subsidiary, operating boards.

"Here, the board's attitude has to be that of custodial oversight The trustees are the guarantors of good management of A.A. World Services, Inc. and the A.A. Grapevine, Inc by electing the directors of these service arms, a part of whom must always be trustees The executive direction of these functions is . . . lodged in the . . . service corporations themselves, rather than the General Service Board. Each corporate service entity should possess its own bylaws, its own working capital, its own executives, its own employees, its own offices and equipment."

Bill draws from earlier mistakes by the General Service Board in trying to run the service functions directly and warns repeatedly against "too much concentration of money and authority."

By Michele B. of Newbury Park

Twelve ways to use the AA Grapevine to strengthen and insure your sobriety

8. AS A STOREHOUSE OF GROUP EXPERIENCE.

Think your group has problems? Don't let it get you down! Instead, follow the reports of group experience that appear regularly in the Grapevine. It's the constructive way to help keep your group in tune with AA Tradition

At Wit's End

Choose your flavor

Newcomer: "I've noticed that all the meetings here serve coffee, but not tea. Why?"
Old timer: "Alcoholics have a hard time with tea."
Newcomer: "Any kind of tea?"
Old timer: "Sure, Like... humility, sanity, honesty,

Overheard

"I'm a rebel without a cause," I told my sponsor.
"No, he replied, "you're a rebel without a clue."

integrity, responsibility, dependability...'

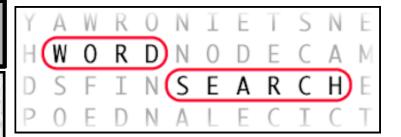


Recycle Your Copies of

The Grapevine Magazine

The Grapevine is timeless! Articles written ten or twenty years ago are still fresh and inspiring.

Central Office provides a box for collecting back issues of The Grapevine. These issues are picked up by H & I and re-circulated in institutions and jails. So . . .before discarding your back issues, bring them in for use by another recovering alcoholic! Recycle and help spread recovery!



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LEGACY TRADITIONS ANONYMITY SPIRITUAL UNITY FOUNDATION PRINCIPLES
PERSONALITIES
AUTHORITY
SERVANTS
REQUIREMENT
AUTONOMOUS

PRIMARY
PURPOSE
MESSAGE
CONTROVERSY
ATTRACTION
PROMOTION



Two drunks are walking along. One drunk says to the other, "What a beautiful night, look at the moon." The other drunk stops and looks at his drunk friend. "You're wrong, that's not the moon, that's the sun." They began to argue when they come upon another drunk. They asked, "Sir, could you please help settle our argument? Tell us what that thing is up in the sky that's shining. Is it the moon or the sun?" The third drunk looked at the sky and said, "Sorry, I don't live around here."

I was out for a drink with the wife last night and I said, "I love you". She asked me, "Is that you or the beer talking" I said, "It's me...I'm talking to the beer"!

"Didja hear the news?" asked Keenan of his pal at the saloon. "Harrigan drank so much, his wife left him!" "Bartender! Give me six boilermakers!"

AVABIRTHDAY.CLUB Celebrate Sobriety

CELEBRATE YOUR AA BIRTHDAY HERE!

Celebrate your annual sobriety anniversary with us. To participate in this tradition, just send in the form provided in this column or submit it to **vcaaco@verizon.net** with your Birthday information. *Member's birthdays submitted will be published in this section the following month.*

Join the winners and celebrate your recovery.

August & Previous AA Birthdays

HAPPY SOBRIETY BIRTHDAY

CONGRATULATIONS!



AUGUST 2017



Birthday Club Listing For:

Name______
City______
Sobriety Date ______Years_____
Voluntary Donation Amount \$

Please mail to:
Ventura County Central Service Office

321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115 Camarillo, CA 93010



Meeting Info	221
Twelve Step Calls	21
Other Twelve Steps Programs	35
Activities	58
Directions to Office	20
Other Type Calls	<u>198</u>
TOTAL	553

AATRIVIA QUESTION Of The Month

AUGUST QUESTION:

Page 136 -- 1st paragraph - "one member who spent much of his life in the world of big business" - who was that member?

JULY ANSWER:

Α

What was Jim the Car Salesman's real name?

The car salesman was Ralph F. of Springfield, MA, Ralph wrote Another Prodigal Story in the first edition of the big book.

Congratulations to Doug M., Dave B. and Steven H. for submitting the correct answer!

Answers will be published the following month. Mail your answer to: Ventura County Central Service Office Inc.,

321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115, Camarillo, Ca. 93010.
The correct answer will win a free one-year subscription to this publication. If the winner already has a subscription, a gift subscription will be awarded to another member — winner's choice.

NEWSLETTER STUFF-N-FOLD GROUP

Friends of Bill W., Paul H, Rosalie, Don, Allison, Linda, Bill C, Jessie and Visitors

INTERGROUP BOARD:

Chairperson Scott W. Simi Valley Vice Chairperson Joe N.

Secretary Camille
Treasurer Mike B. Simi Valley

Member at large # 1 Craig S Ventura
Member at large # 2 Michelle C.

Member at large # 3 Michelle B. Thousand Oaks

SPECIAL PAID WORKERS

Matthew C., Dick M.

OFFICE VOLUNTEER STAFF:

Don B., Sonya, Peter M., Mike A., Azusa S., Sam, Rick, Steve F., Ron. G., Eric N., Hiroshi

Ventura County Central Service Office Inc.

321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115

Camarillo, Ca. 93010 24 Hour Telephones

(805) 389-1444 - (800) 990-7550 Fax (805) 389-2912

E-Mail vcaaco@verizon.net

Website: www.aaventuracounty.org

Office Hours:

Monday thru Friday 9:30 am - 6 pm Saturday 10:00 am - 2 pm CLOSED SUNDAY