

THE TRADITION

Monthly Newsletter of the Ventura County Central Service Office Inc.



Serving: Agoura Hills, Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, Simi Valley, Moorpark, Camarillo, El Rio, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ventura, Ojai, Santa Paula, Fillmore

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Website

<https://aaventuracounty.org>

Sharing from Behind the Wall

“My sobriety date is July 19, 2021. At the age of 13, I had my first drink with some older fellows. Of course, that was the day my life changed. I chased that same buzz for 25 years. It cost me my house, my car and my family. I am currently serving an 11-year sentence as a result of using drugs and alcohol. I never saw myself as an alcoholic because I was in denial. I got myself in trouble, and now I am sitting here sharing a room with 28 other men just like me. In October 2017 I got involved in the A.A. program. I thought the people were crazy, saying ‘Easy does it. One day at a time.’ Little did I know that once the seed was planted, it would change me forever. I went in and out of the program until I finally hit rock bottom. All alone, walking the streets, on the run, I called a man from the A.A.

program who had always had my back through thick and thin. He picked up my calls many times — no judgment for my wrongdoing or decisions. That is when my life

Call for Contributions!

The Tradition would love your AA related:

- Cover Stories
- Writings, Poems
- Jokes, AA Quips
- Artwork
- History/Trivia
- Experience, Strength & Hope
- Events, Updates

Steps, Traditions & Concepts

Step 4

Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Tradition 4 (short form)

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. at a whole.

Concept 4 (short form)

At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

came together, and I decided to change. I am not going to say that it was easy, but with help from the A.A. program I have learned to cope with my problems One day at a time!” — Torryan H., Southeast Region

This is one story from the Spring 2022 edition of, *Sharing from Behind the Walls*. You can read the full edition - [Here](#)

(Reprinted with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.)

Corrections Correspondence

—a special kind of A.A. Service

I know how important our Twelfth Step work is and I enjoy writing to men who are locked up. It is one of the tools that I use to keep me sober. I myself found A.A. in prison almost 20 years ago. And it hasn't been necessary for me to return to prison since I was released.

—Outside Correspondent

We are in need of A.A. members on the “outside” to correspond with A.A. members in correctional facilities across the U.S. and Canada.

Having prison experience is not a prerequisite — sobriety in A.A. is. Inmates are more interested in learning how we got and stayed sober through A.A.'s Twelve Steps, rather than hearing about time we may have spent in prison.

Taken from the pamphlet, *Corrections Correspondence - a special kind of service*. View the full pamphlet - [Here](#)

(Reprinted with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.)

If you are interested in being of service in this special way, you can sign up - [Here](#)

Districts, Area & AAWS Contacts

Ventura County Central Office serves the following Districts within Area 93

District (9 & 12) Gold Coast

P.O. Box 132
Camarillo, CA 93011

Area 93

PMB #140
606 Alamo Pintado #3, Solvang, CA 93463
<https://area93.org>
*Sign up for the Area 93 newsletter

District 13

P.O. Box 166
Ventura, CA 93002
<https://www.aad13.org>

District 24

P.O. Box 843
Simi Valley, CA 93065

District 28

P.O. Box 3432
Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services(AAWS)

Member Services Line (212) 870-3023
General Service Office (GSO) Address:
P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

Mail Donations to:

P. O. Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116
<https://www.aa.org>

*sign up for the G.S.O newsletter



**Let's stay
connected**

If you have any A.A. related news, events or meeting updates that you would like to be included in *The Tradition*, please contact us at Central Office: 805-389-1444, vcaaco@verizon.net

News, Events & Service Opportunities



SERENITY BY THE SEA

Ventura County AA Roundup

April 22 - 24 @ Ventura County Fairground

Sign up online - <https://www.vcaaroundup.org>



[Download the Flyer](#)

[Download the Registration Form](#)

[Download the Golf Registration Form](#)

WOODSTOCK WEST
MAY 13 - 15TH

**SOCAL H&I
CONFERENCE**
MAY 27 - 29TH

A.A. DISTRICT 24 EVENT
MAY 28TH

a journey through the twelve steps of AA

woodstock west

Los Angeles, CA
May 13-15, 2022

Schedule
schedule and/or speakers subject to change

Day	Time	Activity	Speaker	
Friday, May 13	5:00 PM	Registration opens		
	7:00 PM	Step 1	Amy D., Louisville, KY	
	8:30 PM	Step 2	Sheldon F., Las Vegas, NV	
Saturday, May 14	8:00 AM	Registration opens		
	9:00 AM	Step 3	Deryk H., Los Angeles, CA	
	10:30 AM	Steps 4 and 5	Steve L., Nashville, TN	
	12:00 PM	Steps 6 and 7	Kent C., Sandusky, OH	
	1:00 PM	BREAK		
	4:30 PM	Steps 8 and 9	Peter M., Boca Raton, FL	
	6:30 PM	BANQUET		
	8:00 PM	Speaker	Marilyn S., Los Angeles, CA	
	Sunday, May 15	8:00 AM	Breakfast	
		9:30 AM	Step 10 and 11	Bill C., Toronto, CA
11:00 AM		Step 12	Ole S., Fort Lee, NJ	

[Visit the Event Webpage](#)

Southern California Hospitals and Institutions
Intergroup Committee is proud to announce
our 2022 Conference:

RETURN TO RECOVERY

Hiking trails, lake activities, outdoor meals, Al-Anon,
English and Spanish, Young People's dance May 28th

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
MAY 27-29TH

39707 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake, CA
92315, P.O. Box 10000

Join our ONLINE planning committee meetings:
Every Sunday @ 2pm ZOOM: 290 755 6393 PW:2021

DAVE B:
626 224
5948

SOCALHANDI@GMAIL.COM

WWW.SOCALHANDI.ORG

[Visit the Event Webpage](#)

SHARE THE MESSAGE!

AA DISTRICT 24 INVITES YOU TO LIVE MUSIC, GAMES, POTLUCK, AND FELLOWSHIP

Learn something new every day

SANTA SUSANA PARK
6503 KATHERINE RD.
SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2022
3:00 - 7:00 PM

Santa Susana Park
Park - Santa Susana, California

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ALL WEEKEND

April 22-24

VCAAROUNDUP.ORG



SERENITY BY THE SEA

VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

CONTACT CHRIS CHRISWACHNIUK@GMAIL.COM

HIGH DESERT CONVENTION JUNE 3 - 5TH

WOMAN TO WOMAN WORKSHOP WEEKEND JUNE 3 - 5TH

WOMAN TO WOMAN
41ST ANNUAL SHARING & CARING WORKSHOP WEEKEND
For Alcoholic Women in Recovery
Friday June 3rd to Sunday June 5th, 2022
Mount St. Mary's University, Chalon Campus - Brentwood, CA

Fri. June 3, 2022 Registration/Check-in: 4 - 7 p.m. Buffet Dinner: 5 - 7 p.m. Welcome Participation Meeting Evening activities	Sat. June 4, 2022 Workshops Afternoon Free Time Evening Speaker Meeting / Fun & Games Buffet Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner	Sun. June 5, 2022 Breakfast (optional) Workshops Speaker Meeting Check-out: 12:00 Noon
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REGISTER EARLY, ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED!
Price includes: TWO NIGHTS LODGING and ROBUST BUFFET MEALS! (Sunday breakfast available for purchase)
FULL PAYMENT IS REQUIRED - STRICT "NO REFUNDS" POLICY (you may have someone attend in your place)
Unfortunately, WHEELCHAIRS and SERVICE ANIMALS CANNOT be accommodated at Mount St. Mary's.
Confirmations will be mailed by: **MAY 10, 2022**
For additional information send us an email: W2Wtreasure@yahoo.com or call Jacquelyn 818-387-5837
To register online, visit our website www.WomanToWomanLA.org

[Visit the Event Webpage](#)

36th Annual
Sunshine of the Spirit
High Desert Convention
with Al-Anon Participation

Trust God
Clean House and Be of Service

June 3rd, 4th, & 5th, 2022
Courtyard Marriott
Hesperia, California

[Visit the Event Webpage](#)

CELEBRATE FOUNDER'S DAY IN AKRON, OH JUNE 10 - 12TH



[Visit the Event Webpage](#)

A.A. DESERT POW WOW JUNE 9 - 12TH

A.A. DESERT POW WOW
WITH AL-ANON PARTICIPATION
RENAISSANCE ESMERALDA RESORT & SPA
JUNE 09, 10, 11, 12, 2022
INDIAN WELLS, CALIFORNIA

[Visit the Event Webpage](#)



NEW PODCAST - A.A. Grapevine Half-Hour Variety Hour

Tune in to hear funny, poignant, and always inspiring “meeting after the meeting” conversation about getting sober and staying sober in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Free wherever you listen to podcast or at www.aagrapevine.org/podcast

VC Central Office - Phone Coordinator Volunteer



Central office is looking for a volunteer phone coordinator.
Contact Matthew at Central Office for more information.



Historic Documents on County Website COMING SOON!

Ventura County website will have a new section for historical documents.

A.A. History



A.A.'s Beginning

(Reprinted with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.)

A.A. began in 1935 in Akron, Ohio, as the outcome of a meeting between Bill W., a New York stockbroker, and Dr. Bob S., an Akron surgeon. Both had been hopeless alcoholics.

Before their meeting, Bill and Dr. Bob had each been in contact with the Oxford Group. This mostly nonalcoholic fellowship emphasized universal spiritual values in daily living. The Episcopal clergyman, Dr. Samuel Shoemaker, led the Oxford Groups in the U.S. at that time.

Under this spiritual influence, and with the help of an old-time friend, Ebby T., Bill had gotten sober. Bill maintained his recovery by working with other alcoholics. Yet, before meeting Dr. Bob, none of these other alcoholics had actually recovered.

At the same time, Dr. Bob's Oxford Group membership in Akron had not helped him enough to achieve sobriety.

When Dr. Bob and Bill finally met, the effect on the doctor was immediate. This time, he found himself face-to-face with a fellow sufferer who was succeeding.

Bill emphasized that alcoholism was a malady of mind, emotions, and body. Bill learned this important fact from Dr. William D. Silkworth of Towns Hospital in New York. Bill had often been a patient of Dr. Silkworth. Though a physician, Dr. Bob had not known alcoholism to be a disease. Responding to Bill's convincing ideas, Dr. Bob soon got sober, never to drink again. This sparked the founding of A.A.

Both men immediately set to work with alcoholics at Akron's City Hospital. One patient quickly achieved complete sobriety. These three men made up the nucleus of the first A.A. group (though the name Alcoholics Anonymous was not yet used.)

A.A. Quip of the Month

"I'm not much, but I'm all
I think about."



A.A. Quote of the Month

"Selfishness - self-centeredness! That,
we think, is the root of our troubles."
(Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 62)

Good Joke of the Month

A young boy is talking to his dad.

The boy says, "Dad when I grow up I want to be an alcoholic."

The boy's dad replies, "Well son, you can't do both."



BAD JOKE OF THE MONTH

Two peanuts walk into a bar.

One was a salted.



Meetings, Meetings, Meetings!

Check for weekly updates on local meetings

<https://aaventuracounty.org/meetings>

The Responsibility Statement

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*.

Oh Yes!
IT'S
FREE

Subscribe now to have The Tradition delivered to your email inbox!
vcaaco@verizon.net to subscribe.