

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

Office Info

321 N. Aviator St., Ste 115
Camarillo, CA 93010
Open Mon - Fri
10am - 6pm

Contact Info

24/7 Telephone Lines
Main: (805) 389-1444
Toll-Free: (800) 990-7750
E-mail vcaaco@verizon.net

Website

<https://aaventuracounty.org>

Shared Experience From an A.A. Member on Childcare at Meetings

As a newcomer, I was showered with love, attention, and mottos about ‘keep coming back, *no matter what!*’ I grew, matured, leveled out, and loved back while becoming a devoted member of my home group...

When my baby was born, and my need for meetings was even greater, I began to run into a problem: children aren’t always welcome in Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. That includes women’s groups!

Financially and practically speaking, there are conditions to being a parent that are not unique to me that can challenge a meeting schedule. Childcare, for one, is very expensive. Many newly

12 Steps, 12 Traditions & 12 Concepts

Step 3

Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Tradition 3 (short form)

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

Concept 3 (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.

The Tradition needs your AA related:

Stories, Writings

Poems, Artwork

Jokes, AA Quips

History, Trivia

News, Events

sober mothers have husbands who are in the program as well and have meeting schedule problems of their own. Still others are single parents with tight budgets...

I decided to take positive action! I began a meeting we call Mothers in Sobriety. It is a closed, nonsmoking meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. We have everything every other meeting has, including the Twelve Steps, Traditions, coffee, and lots of love. We also have anywhere from two to twelve kids running around the room at any given time...

Our format is simple. After the Steps are read, prayers prayed, announcements made, we pass out a basket of toys, paper, coloring books, crayons, cookies, and kisses for all. If things get too loud or crazy during the meeting someone takes the offending party for a walk, a hug, a visit to the powder room...

We even have a rather special meeting time: 10:00 AM. We found that this is a good time for mothers and children alike. We are fresher and calmer at this time than at the usual meeting times."

[AA Grapevine, September 1987]

This is an excerpt from the *Accessibility Workbook...* designed to help Accessibilities Committees explore, develop and offer resources to make the Alcoholics Anonymous message and participation in our program of recovery available to all alcoholics who reach out for it. Read the full workbook - [HERE](#)

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Districts, Area & AAWS Contacts

Ventura County Central Office serves the following Districts within Area 93

Gold Coast District

District 9: Oxnard, Point Mugu & Port Hueneme

District 12: Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark
& Santa Paula

P.O. Box 132, Camarillo, CA 93011

District 24

Simi Valley

P.O. Box 843

Simi Valley, CA 93065

District 13

Meiners Oaks, Ojai & Ventura

P.O. Box 166, Ventura, CA 93003

<https://www.aad13.org>

District 28

Agoura, Westlake Village,
Thousand Oaks, & Newbury Park

P.O. Box 3432,

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Area 93

606 Alamo Pintado #3,
PMB #140

Solvang, CA 93463

<https://area93.org>

*Sign up for the
Area 93 newsletter

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services - AAWS

Member Services Line (212) 870-3023

P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station

New York, NY 10163

<https://www.aa.org>

News, Events & Service Opportunities

Let's stay
connected

If you have any A.A. related news, events or meeting updates, please contact Central Office: [805-389-1444](tel:805-389-1444), vcaaco@verizon.net

ARE YOU WILLING TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH, AND HOPE?


THE 2023 VENTURA COUNTY AA CONVENTION NEEDS YOU!!

THE CONVENTION NEEDS PANEL HOSTS FOR THE MARATHON MEETINGS.

MARATHON MEETINGS RUN 24/7 FROM FRIDAY 9/8 AT 12PM TO SUNDAY 9/10 AT 9AM.

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO HOST A MEETING AND BRING A PANEL OF SPEAKERS WITH YOU, PLEASE CALL THE MEETING CHAIR - TIM, 805-428-0752

Young Peoples of Simi Valley



April

*Potluck
&
Fellowship*

4/25

**Meeting at 7pm
Party at 8pm**

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
280 Royal Ave. Simi Valley 93065

SIGN UP BY THE 21st!!

Serenity by the Sea

Friday
April 28, 2023

Arrive at 7:00am
for a 8:00am
Shotgun start!

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sterling Hills Golf Course, 901 Sterling Hills Dr, Camarillo

4-player Texas Scramble * Lunch to be served

Fee includes: Green Fees, Golf Cart, Food and Team Awards,
Longest Drive and Closest to Pin Awards plus Tee Prizes & more

Note: Field limited to 140 players. Must be pre-paid to play!

Form your 4-player team or submit separate entries below

Questions? Billy Hart 805-701-2069

Make check payable to Serenity by the Sea

Mail completed registration to: Golf Registration,
340 Rosewood Ave, Suite O, Camarillo, CA 93010

Entries must be received by April 21

Visit the Event Website - [HERE](#)

**Serenity by the Sea
2023 Roundup**

April 28-30, 2023
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday



2023 Serenity By The Sea
Ventura County Round Up

Ventura County Fairgrounds

Fun & Fellowship ~ Speaker Meetings
Panels ~ Golf Tournament
AA & Al-Anon Marathon Meetings
Pre-registration: \$20.00 ~ At the Door: \$ 25.00
Online registration Open until 4/21
AA BBQ: \$20.00 ~ Al-Anon Lunch: \$20.00

www.vcaaroundup.org

For more information, or to register for the round up, visit the website - [HERE](http://www.vcaaroundup.org)

More & More Events Coming up!

District 28 Workshop - 5/13

District 28 Spring Workshop Giving Back to AA: What is My Responsibility?

St. Patrick's Church, One Church Road,
in Thousand Oaks
Saturday, May 13, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

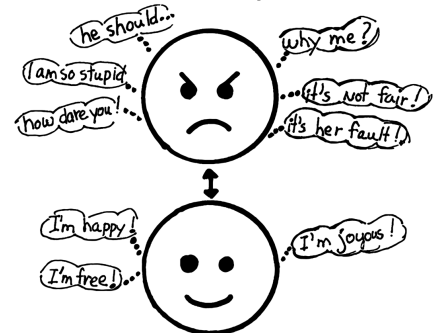
"I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere
reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A.
always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible."



For more information: Lindsay C. (310)595-5464, Laura S. (805)630-7001, or Katy E. (888)512-7507

District 13 Workshop - 5/13

Change Your Thinking For Emotional Sobriety



Saturday May 13

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Lunch Provided

Ventura Center for Spiritual Living
101 S Laurel Street, Ventura CA

3 speakers and a workshop

RSVP & Info: aad13.org/event-details

Questions? Doug (954) 629-2242

High Desert Convention June 16-18 in Hesperia, CA



More Info & Registration - [HERE](#)

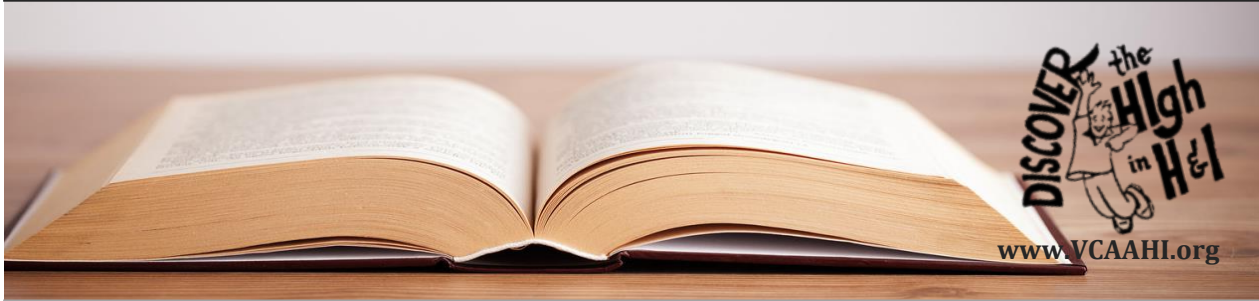
More Info & Registration - [HERE](#)

A Weekend of Celebration in Akron, Ohio - June 9, 10 & 11



More Info & Registration - [HERE](#)

Ventura County Alcoholics Anonymous Hospitals & Institutions • VCAAHI



HIGHLIGHTING QUARTERLY LITERATURE DONATIONS

MADE BY YOUR LOCAL H&I GROUP
JANUARY – MARCH 2023



The purpose of the VCAAHI is to carry the message of Alcoholic Anonymous to those alcoholics in hospitals, jails, prisons, treatment centers, and recovery homes.

A staggering 85% of your donations are set to purchase AA Big Books, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, AA pamphlets and other literature to put directly into the hands of a newcomer.

venmo HANDLE FOR DONATIONS:
@VCAAHandI

LITERATURE DONATED THIS QUARTER

PROTOTYPES WOMEN'S FACILITY

60 copies of each: Soft Cover Big Books; 30 copies each of As Bill Sees It, Daily Reflections and 12 x 12s; 30 each of Pamphlets Is AA for Me; What Happened to Joe; What Happened to Alice; 20 Questions, 20 Questions for Sponsor and Beginners Packets

CRISIS RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT (CRT)

10 As Bill Sees It; 10 Living Sober; 20 Daily Reflections; 20 12 x 12; 20 Big Books

CASA DE ESPERANZA

18 Big Books; 18 12 x 12; 24 Daily Reflections; 12 What Happened to Alice; 12 Q & A Sponsors; 12 Is AA for You; 12 What Happened to Joe

CHANGING TIDES

6 Daily Reflections; 7 12 x 12; 7 Big Books; 5 As Bill Sees It; 5 Came to Believe; 10 Living Sober; 5 Big Books; 5 24 Hours a Day; 10 Young People & AA; 10 Do You Think You're Different; 10 A New Comer Asks; 10 20 Questions

TODD ROAD JAIL

2 Cases of As Bill Sees It, Daily Reflections, and A.A. in Prison: Inmate to Inmate; 13 Cases of Big Books

"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."

For Donations, please mail your check (including meeting name and directory code) to:

VCAAHI

79 Daily Dr. Box 122, Camarillo, CA 93010-5807

venmo @VCAAHandI

Want to get involved? Join us at our next Committee Meeting!
First Sunday of the month - Orientation at 3:00 p.m.

3:30 p.m. Committee

Zoom Meeting ID: 894 2953 3154 Password: 448771

Board Meeting, Last Sunday of the Month on Zoom, 4:00 p.m.

For More Information or to Get Involved with H&I, Visit the Website - [HERE](#)



Add Your Name to the
VC Central Office 12-Step List!!

BE THERE FOR THE STILL SICK & SUFFERING ALCOHOLIC

Ventura County Central Office is creating a new list of names to contact when someone who is having a problem with alcohol calls. Be there to talk on the phone, go to a meeting, connect at a coffee shop, & share your experience strength and hope.

This is a vital part of our recovery program.

“Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics.” (A.A. p. 89)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Matthew @ (805) 389-1444 or vcaaco@verizon.net

Volunteers Needed for the Phone Line

Volunteer for a once a month shift to answer the Ventura County Alcoholics Anonymous Phone Line. Calls are forwarded to your cell phone. Answer the phone from home, in-town, out-of-town, anywhere!

To Volunteer, Call the Office at 805-389-1444





A.A. History

A.A. Around the Globe

Reprinted with Permission of AAWS Inc.



Early in its existence Alcoholics Anonymous spread from place to place through the efforts of individual A.A. members who moved to a new town or traveled on business. Even Bill W.'s first meeting with Dr. Bob came about because Bill went to Akron on business. Today that tradition continues. What follows is a brief history and sampling of the way A.A. members have helped spread the message around the world.

In 1944, Bill W. toured the United States to visit A.A. groups. Then, in 1950, he traveled to Europe. In a letter he wrote to Dr. Bob after almost seven weeks there, he says, "A.A. has come to Europe to stay."

- Bill visited Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, France, England, and Ireland.
- At the time there were 3,527 groups in approximately 34 countries. Today there are more than 120,000 groups in approximately 181 countries.

At first, the spread of A.A. was left almost to chance.

- An early Internationalist, Captain Jack, carried the message of hope from port to port where his life as a merchant seaman took him.
- Others carried the message as they traveled on business or on vacation. In 1946, an A.A. member from Philadelphia visited Dublin and took the opportunity to carry the message of recovery there. His efforts paid off and Ireland's first A.A. meeting took place in Dublin in November of that year. A.A. was likewise carried to Brazil, El Salvador, and Iceland by traveling A.A.s from the U.S.; to Japan, by a U.S. soldier serving with the occupation forces; and to Romania, by an American couple.

As A.A. grew, countries with an established A.A. service structure began to help fledgling countries. In one example, Germany sponsored A.A. in Poland in the 1980s. Poland was then in a position to help spread A.A. to other Eastern European countries. Other instances of this activity include Japan helping carry the message to Korea, and Mexico acting as a sponsor to Cuba. Meanwhile, South Africa, with the help of Great Britain and the United States, has played the role of sponsor in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The practice of country-to-country sponsorship continues today as A.A. grows around the world.

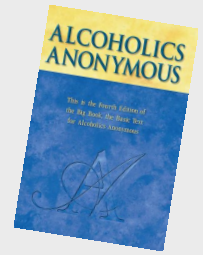
This is just the beginning of a longer article, Read the rest of the article - [HERE](#)

A.A. Quip of the Month

Secrets keep you sick.

A.A. Quote of the Month

“We pocket our pride and go to it, illuminating every twist of character, every dark cranny of the past. Once we have taken this step, withholding nothing, we are delighted. We can look the world in the eye.” (A.A., p. 75)



Good Joke of the Month

Why did the accountant do so well in AA?



He was already a friend of bills.

Another one from Steven H.!!



BAD JOKE OF THE MONTH

A drunk with dyslexia walks into a bra



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.