

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](tel:(805)389-1444)
Toll-Free: [\(800\) 990-7750](tel:(800)990-7750)
E-mail vcaaco@verizon.net

Website

<https://aaventuracounty.org>

Brief History of the Grapevine

Grapevine was started by a group of six volunteers in June 1944 as a newsletter for A.A.s in the New York City area, but Bill W. and the editors soon saw that it had a broader potential for unifying widespread groups and letting the public know about the new program.

In the first issue, Bill wrote: "May its rays of hope and experience ever fall upon the current of our A.A. life and one day illumine every dark corner of this alcoholic world."

The first issue went to all known groups in the U.S. and Canada and to A.A.s serving in the armed forces during World War II. A year and a half later, Bill W. wrote to the groups and asked if they would like Grapevine to be their national publication. He called for a magazine that "reflects, as accurately as possible, the Voice of all A.A." as he put it, and "not the views of any one individual, group, or organization — even our Central Office or the Alcoholic Foundation — though it should, of course, be tied loosely to the Alcoholic Foundation to insure its continuity and basic soundness."

I2 X I2 X I2

Step 2

Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Tradition 2(short form)

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Concept 2(short form)

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.

Call for Contributions!

Send Us Your -

- Stories, Writings
- Poems, Artwork
- Jokes, AA Quips
- History, Trivia
- News, Events

The groups adopted the magazine immediately and by 1949 it was being called “the international monthly journal of Alcoholic Anonymous” as well as popularly called “our meeting in print.”

Between 1944 and 1971, Bill W. published approximately 150 articles and editorials in Grapevine, including two sets of essays introducing the Twelve Traditions. Bill also used Grapevine to try out his proposal to change the ratio of alcoholic to nonalcoholic trustees on the General Service Board and to introduce the General Service Conference to the Fellowship. For him, the magazine was a primary means of communication with the groups; and in later years, his Grapevine articles clarified and developed his thoughts on many of A.A.’s fundamental spiritual principles.

First published in the June 1947 issue, the A.A. Preamble (based on the foreword to the first edition of the Big Book) was written by a Grapevine editor, and a number of Grapevine articles have been reprinted as stories in the second, third and fourth editions of the Big Book and in other Conference-approved books and pamphlets.

In 1986, a Conference Advisory Action stated: “Since each issue of the Grapevine cannot go through the Conference-approval process, the Conference recognizes AA Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous.” This recognition extends to La Viña as well.

Take from the A.A. World Service Manual
Reprinted with permission of AAWS Inc

Visit the AA Grapevine website -

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/>

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>



UPCOMING A.A. EVENTS!!

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

Join us for an evening of Fellowship & Speaker for Women in Alcoholics Anonymous at the 2025 CSSU Banquet

March 15th, 2025
6:30-9:30pm
Camarillo Community Center
1605 Burnley St.

Baskets & Opportunity Drawing
Catered Dinner & Dessert
Sobriety Countdown

celebration of sober guests united

ROCKETED INTO FOURTH DIMENSION

Scan QR Code to Preregister until March 7th

Event Page - [HERE](#)

HOW CAN YOU BE OF SERVICE?

VCYPAA ELECTIONS

JOIN THE FELLOWSHIP!!!

2ND ROUND

VENTURA COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE
331 N. AVIADOR AVE.
SUITE 115
CAMARILLO, CA
(NEXT TO THE BUCK)

VCYPAACOMMITTEE@gmail.com

WORKSHOP

If physical sobriety is the key to sanity, emotional sobriety is the key to serenity.

What is it? Do I have it? How do I get it?

emotional sobriety

SATURDAY 2/22 2025

VCAAC BINGO

Experience A New Freedom by Supporting Your 45th Annual 2025 Ventura County AA Convention with Al-Anon Participation

Bingo Fund-raiser*

Saturday, March 29th 5:30pm to 9:30pm
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. - Bingo begins at 6:30 p.m.

Goebel Adult Community Center
1385 E Janss Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
Must be over 18 to be admitted

\$35 Buy-In

Includes: Bingo Game Packet, Food and Drink
Raffle will be held between games 8 & 9
Scan QR Code Below to Reserve Your Spot
Space Limited to 200 Players

Seeking Donations for Raffle*
Cash - Completed Baskets
Gift Cards Any Amount

*VCAA is a non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible.

For questions and to donate items please contact:
Paula F. (805) 279-4433
Brenda K. (818) 309-6717
Lexi O. (805) 907-5220



vcaac.org/bingo

February 22
10am - 2pm
Lunch included

101 S. Laurel St.
Ventura

Sponsored by Alcoholics Anonymous District 13

Presented by Patricia K.

LAUGHING SOBER Feb 22nd

MEETING 7PM
COMEDY SHOW 8:30PM - 10PM

RAFTERS MEETING HALL 24307 RAILROAD AVE NEMHALL, CA 91321

HOSTED BY SANTA CLARITA VALLEY YPAA

It's ok if all you did this week was eat fruit gushers, & NOT relapse

SUGGESTED DONATION \$20
SCAN AND PRE-REGISTER!

For more info @SCVYPAA.org

Event Page - [HERE](#)

Event Page - [HERE](#)

OUR PICK STRUCK GOLD
PG 128

Visit www.iwroundup.com Or email us at Indianwellsvalleyroundup@gmail.com

35TH
Annual Indian Wells Valley Roundup!

APRIL 11 - 13
2025
DESERT EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS

\$85.00 for the weekend package if booked before April 4. \$15 Registration at the door.

FEATURING

- SPEAKERS
- BREAKFAST
- LUNCHEON
- DINNER
- MOVIE
- MEETINGS
- MUSEUM TOUR
- MERCHANDISE
- HIKING
- SOBER FELLOWSHIPING

SPEAKERS

AA* Jim W.
NA* Shawn C.
AA* Jerry & Jill K.
Al Anon* Matt R.
AA* A. Nolin
AA* Father Leo
AA* Kirk P.

Book the Holiday Inn Express for \$145 a night using code "Roundup 2025" when Reserving. (760)227-6751

MESQUITE HALL
520 S RICHMOND ROAD
RIDGECREST, CA

Pre-Registration cutoff is April 1, 2025

SAN DIEGO SPRING ROUND UP 2025

RESTORED TO SANITY

April 17-20, 2025 • The Town & Country Resort, San Diego

SAVE \$\$\$

Register Now!

meetings • entertainment • meditation
golf • fishing • yoga • bowling
merch • fundraisers • poker run

sandiegospringroundup.com

Event Page - [HERE](#)

Event Page - [HERE](#)

From Shipwreck to Shore
42nd Annual
Southern California Hospitals & Institutions
Conference



May 16, 17 & 18, 2025
Four Points by Sheraton Ventura Harbor Resort
Banquet - Comedy Show and Magician
With Alanon Participation - Lunchi & Speakers
Register at: socalhandi.com \$30 by May 4, \$35 day of
ROOMS \$176 KING, \$186 2 QUEENS
SPECIAL RATE GOOD TILL APRIL 18
MARRIOTT.COM (888) 236-2427
GROUP CODE: HAI PROPERTY CODE: OXRFP
Questions call: Lance (818) 419-2244 John (714) 858-8194

Find us on Facebook

SOBOBA
951-665-1000

NEW 3 FULL DAYS

IEAAC

36th Inland Empire AA Convention
April 4-6, 2025

Event Page - [HERE](#)

Save the Date!

2025 A.A. International Convention
July 3-6, 2025

AA.org/International

VANCOUVER 2025
Language of the Heart
Lenguaje del corazón
Le langage du cœur.

Scan here!

Event Page - [HERE](#)

Soboba Casino Resort Event Center
San Jacinto, CA

Speaker Line-up

Bill C. - Torrance, CA * Amy S.D. - Louisville, KY *
Glynis H. - Los Angeles * Terry M. - Phoenix, AZ *
Mark C. - Palmdale, C.
(Al Anon) - Jida S. - Agua Dulce, CA

Events

- Workshop W/ Steve L. - Redondo Beach
- Gary P. Golf Tournament
- Friday Night Ice Cream Social & Interview with a Drunk
- Friday night Fun for the Young and Young at Heart
- Saturday Night BBQ
- A Day at The Races - Competition
- Sunday Breakfast & Sobriety Countdown 'Darkness to Light'
- Sober Family Feud - Sponsor vs. Sponsee

Visit www.IEAAC.org for more Info

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.

Event Page - [HERE](#)



Newcomer Card

Welcome Home
Scan to learn more about
Alcoholics Anonymous

This is AA
An introduction to the AA recovery program

Is AA for You?
12 Questions only you can answer

Questions and Answers on Sponsorship

Frequently Asked Questions about AA
Informative reading for those seeking help with a drinking problem, as well as for their families and friends.

A Newcomer Asks
Straightforward answers to 15 questions those new to Alcoholics Anonymous frequently ask about getting sober in A.A.

How it Works
An excerpt from Chapter 5 of the Big Book. This page includes the Twelve Steps, and is often read at the start of meetings.

Ventura County AA Website Local Meeting Directory **Free Meeting Guide App Find an AA meeting near you**

Ventura County Central Service Office

Need help? Someone to talk to?
The group members listed below shared their phone numbers because
THEY WANT TO HELP!

NAME	PHONE

...or call the 24/7 Ventura County AA Hotline (805)405-2182
www.aaventuracounty.org
vcaaco@verizon.net

Available to pick-up at VC Central Office, and downloadable on the website - [HERE](#)

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

You can make recurring or individual donations and directly support your Ventura County AA Central Office.

DONATE TODAY

AAVENTURACOUNTY.ORG
24/7 HOTLINE (805)389-1444

PayPal Link - [HERE](#)



2025 H&I Donation Can Label

VCAAHI Contributions

venmo

Please include the meeting you attended in the notes when submitting a donation via Venmo.

Donations made with this H&I Can help support the Ventura County A.A. Hospitals & Institutions Committee to provide A.A. literature to those alcoholics in hospitals, jails, prisons, treatment centers and recovery homes across the county.
Your support is greatly appreciated!

Consider attending an H&I monthly meeting to get involved. The date, time and place of our meetings can be found at vcaahi.org or at aaventuracounty.org

Please bring or send your group's contribution:

- Send to: H&I Venmo acct. @vcaahand
- Mail to: P.O. Box 122 Daily Drive Camarillo, CA 93010-5807
- Drop off: at A.A. Central Office.

*To insure contributions are recorded properly please include your Meeting's name and GBO number.

Thank You!

Download the label - [HERE](#)

This Just In!!

The aaventuracounty.org website can now be viewed in both English and Spanish at the click of a button!

NEW PRINTABLE DIRECTORIES!!

Available to download from the Central Office homepage <https://aaventuracounty.org>
Copies can be picked up at the office. Directories are now available for English speaking meetings, Spanish speaking meetings and combined.

SERENITY BY THE SEA

Ventura County AA Roundup *With Al-Anon Participation*



Thus we grow 2025

We're back at the PAC!

Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA
April 25-27, 2025

Fun & Fellowship * Speaker Meetings
Panels * Golf Tournament Friday
AA & Al-Anon Marathon Meetings
Team Trivia and Bingo!

Online registration open until 4/8
Pre-registration: \$25.00 * At the door: \$30.00
AA BBA: \$25.00 * Al-Anon Luncheon: \$25.00

www.vcaaroundup.org

45th Annual VCAAC Logo Contest

This Year's Theme:

A New Freedom

"If we are painstaking about this phase of our development we will be amazed before we are half way through. We are going to know a **new freedom** and a new happiness. We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it. We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace..."

Page 83-84 The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous

Winner of the VCAAC Logo Contest will receive the following package:

- Registration for 2 to the 2025 VCAAC on September 5-7th 2025
 - 2 Tickets to the Al-Anon Luncheon Saturday September 6th 2025
 - 2 Tickets to the AA Banquet Saturday September 6th 2025
 - 1 Personalized Mug with logo, name, and sobriety date and a logo T-shirt
- Bragging rights for winning the 2025 Logo Contest!**

All entries are due to Web Chair, Matt G., no later than Saturday, March 8th 2025
Design entries, questions or requests may be emailed to: vcaalogo@gmail.com
Entries should be in digital format with high resolution. Formats include .pdf, .jpg, .tif
All designs must be a maximum SIX color or less design for best printability!
If you cannot submit a digital format, inform us in an email and bring your entry to the planning meeting at 3:30 pm on March 9th 2025 located at:
The Buck 321 N. Aviator St. Suite 111, Camarillo, CA 92010



Pre-Registration is **OPEN** - <https://www.vcaaroundup.org/>

Serenity by the Sea 2025 presents
with Al-Anon participation

Bingo!

Saturday, March 22nd

Doors open at 6:00pm
Game time: 6:30pm - 9:00pm

\$25.00 Adults * Kids Free
Free Coffee * 50/50 Opportunity
Balboa Middle School
247 S. Hill Road, Ventura

Pizza, Snacks & Beverages available
for purchase

Free blackout card with SBTS
pre-registration at event

www.vcaaroundup.org

Serenity by the Sea

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, April 25, 2025

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 + Tee Prizes & more!

Note: Field is limited to 140 players. Must be pre-paid to play
Form your 4-player team or submit separate entries below

Questions? Call Billy Hart 805-701-2069

Make check payable to Serenity by the Sea
Mail completed form to:
340 Rosewood Ave, Suite O, Camarillo, CA 93010

Arrive 7:00am for
8:00am shotgun start
Entries must be received
by April 18

Do you have old Grapevine magazines laying around?

Reduce your clutter and donate them to Central Office!
In addition to distributing copies of the Grapevines to meetings and individuals in our community, we have received a donation of Grapevine binder and are increasing our archived editions.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES!!



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

Be there to talk on the phone, go to a meeting, connect at a coffee shop, & share your experience strength and hope.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Matthew @ [\(805\) 389-1444](tel:8053891444) 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!

Need Coverage:

Mon 9-9, 1st & 5th Tues 9-9, 5th Weds 9-9, 1st & 5th Fri 9-9

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

It's for you!



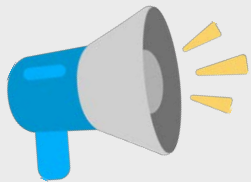
Ventura County Central Office

January 2025 - Group Contributions

If you don't see your meeting's donation for January listed, please have your treasurer contact Central Office. Donations that are received without meeting information are placed in the unassigned category.

1215 Participation	\$ 29.00
AH01 Hope Through Sharing Gp_1	\$ 126.00
AH04 Agoura Morn Fellowship	\$ 743.00
AH09 The Best of The Big Book_1	\$ 376.00
AH11 Primary Purpose Group	\$ 219.00
AH13 Monday Night Women's Gro_1	\$ 40.00
AH27 Last Chance Men's Stag_1	\$ 150.00
AH29 Friday Eleventh Step_1	\$ 241.00
as bill sees it zooming	\$ 128.05
CM01 Camarillo Disc Grp_1	\$ 100.00
CM21 Womans Lunch Bunch_1	\$ 315.99
Famingo Group	\$ 32.30
Filmore Fellowship	\$ 19.90
Hueneme Bay Friends of Linc H.	\$ 50.00
lady face	\$ 200.00
MP04 Women Fellowship Spir_1	\$ 515.47
MP07 As Bill Sees It	\$ 100.00
NP06 Staying Alive Disc_1	\$ 80.00
NP11 Saturday Women's Promise_1	\$ 119.63
NP19 The Fellowship We Crave	\$ 76.50
OJ05 Sunrise Meditation Grp_1	\$ 68.35
OJ07 Sun Spiritual Mtg_1	\$ 448.00
Sat Women's Discussion, Sat Wom	\$ 160.00
SV14 Daily Reflections_1	\$ 293.00
SV54 Into Action 4th Step Study	\$ 200.00
SV60 Just The Big Book, SV60 Ju	\$ 25.00
TO09 Last Sunday Breakfast_1	\$ 200.00
TO21 Women Who Care_1	\$ 120.00
VE13 Back to Basics Men Stag_1	\$ 153.00

VE17 Women's Group_1	\$ 137.00
VE18B I Can't Together We Ca_1	\$ 104.63
VE24 Women's 12 & 12_1	\$ 78.20
VE64 Corner Group_1	\$ 97.00
VE89 Burning Desires_1	\$ 25.00
Visions Meeting Hall	\$ 307.00
WV03 Fellowship Grp Spk_1	\$ 764.51
WV04 Sun Night Discussion Mtg_1	\$ 2,300.00
WV23 Step Study Group_1	\$ 100.00
WV28 Tues Night Dog Pound_1	\$ 155.26
zooming promises	\$ 123.20
Unassigned	\$ 100.00
Unassigned	\$ 10.00
Unassigned	\$ 252.97
Unassigned	\$ 27.67
Unassigned	\$ 9.22
Unassigned	\$ 18.93
Unassigned	\$ 48.06
Unassigned	\$ 61.00
Unassigned	\$ 400.14
Unassigned	\$ 248.11
Unassigned	\$ 23.79
Unassigned	\$ 28.64
Unassigned	\$ 18.93
Unassigned	\$ 151.00
Unassigned	\$ 5.34
Unassigned	\$ 166.00
Total Contributions	\$11,090.79



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS!!

Ventura County Intergroup's monthly newsletter is asking for your contribution.

Yes, you! We would love to publish your writings about:

- ◆ Your Story: Experience, Strength, & Hope in Recovery.
- ◆ One of the 12-Steps, 12-Traditions, or 12-Concepts.
- ◆ How your sponsor or sponsee contributes to your recovery.
- ◆ What it was like attending your first A.A. meeting.
- ◆ Your experience at an A.A. event: Round-up, Convention, NYE Dance, Bingo, VCYPAA Event, etc.
- ◆ A service commitment, your home group, first sober holiday, favorite line in the Big Book, and any other recovery related writing.

Suggestion for Main Article length: 400 - 600 words; *can be longer

Suggestion for Smaller Articles: 200 - 300 words

The Tradition is sent out via email to a list of subscribers, mainly people in A.A. in Ventura County, and published on the website, <https://aaventuracounty.org/>

****We also love jokes, quips, poems, artwork, trivia, event info, meeting updates, and A.A. history!!**

Send in Your Contributions Now!

Email: vcaaco@verizon.net Phone: 805-389-1444

A.A. Quip of the Month

My solutions are worse than my problems.

A.A. Quote of the Month

“They sound like the philosophy of the man who, having a headache, beats himself on the head with a hammer so that he can’t feel the ache.” - A.A., pg. 23.

Good One-liner of the Month



“A vodka please.”

“Sir, this is McDonalds...”

“Ok, a McVodka please.”



BAD JOKE OF THE MONTH

A jumper cable walks into a bar.

The bartender says, “I’ll serve you, but don’t start anything.”



Meetings, Meetings, Meetings!
 Check for weekly updates on local meetings - [HERE](#)

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!
FREE

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