



52nd District

“Passing It On”

500 South Broadway, Suite 114, Santa Maria, CA 93454

www.aa52centraloffice.org

805-925-3782

Step 3

“Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him.”

“...the alcoholic is an extreme example of self-will run riot, though he usually doesn't think so.” BB p62

Tradition 3

“The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.”

Third Step Prayer

“God, I offer myself to Thee – to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy way of life. May I do Thy will always.”

Step 4

“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”

“We searched out the flaws in our make-up which caused our failure. Being convinced that self, manifested in various ways, was what had defeated us, we considered its common manifestation.” BB pg 64

Tradition 4

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

“Easy Does It” With Mental and Emotional Issues

“There are those, too, who suffer from grave emotional and mental disorders, but many of them do recover if they have the capacity to be honest.” (The Big Book, pg 58)

That is a very important saying for me because I am in recovery and I am a consumer of mental health. It is very difficult to find people who understand me and can empathize with me. I have been addicted for more than half my life and now I'm in recovery for the second time. I am taking into account that I have a mental disorder this time. I have to work with Mental Health, A.A. and my therapist very closely. I had a hard time finding a sponsor due to my trust issues. I finally found one and am working the Steps but I know I must be totally honest and open with her. Otherwise, I will set myself up for failure. Remember, “Easy Does It.” And take it “One Day at a Time” if you deal with mental health.

Yours truly,
Anonymous, Santa Maria

52's CLUES

WE HAVE A WINNER - Congratulations, Tiffany! She was the first to correctly answer last edition's trivia question. Zorro-like masks were worn during 12 Step calls to ensure anonymity.

Be the first to correctly answer the question below and win two tickets to the Central Office Tri-Tip Dinner on March 29th. Here's your clue:

- Who received the one millionth copy of "The Big Book"? E-mail your answer to nsagg98@yahoo.com and if it's the first correct answer, you win!

DID YOU KNOW THAT....

- Dr. Bob had a dragon tattoo that wound around his left arm beginning at his shoulder.
- San Quentin was the location of the first AA meeting held in a prison. It was held in 1942.
- Bill and Lois Wilson toured the Eastern part of the country 1925-1927 on a Harley.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2013

12/15 Mike C. 4 years
12/16 Shelly R. 1 year

2014

1/02 Kathy F. 11 years
1/04 Marilyn 35 years
1/12 David H. 17 years
1/19 Danelle 13 years
1/23 Shane P. 3 years
1/28 Julie 14 years
1/30 Sarah G. 8 years
2/2 JC N. 6 years
2/5 Bob H. 39 years
2/7 Marcus 1 year
2/9 Therese B. 14 years
2/10 Steve B. 1 year
2/14 Mary Ann 34 years
2/18 David S. 2 years
2/19 Darrin W. 18 years
2/19 Jim S. 34 years
2/20 Jack S. 18 years
2/24 Darin H. 1 year
2/25 Brian S. 4 years
2/28 Monica R. 13 years

Send us your March or April birthday and we'll put it in our next Newsletter!

TRI TIP DINNER – Saturday, March 29
Lutheran Church, 4725 S. Bradley, Santa Maria
Dinner is only \$10 a ticket!



5pm Bidding starts on Silent Auction items
6pm Tri-Tip dinner served
Speaker after dinner: Ruben C, Ventura

To donate items or purchase tickets, contact
Lisa B 621-4237 or Sarah G 266-0046

Happy 9th Anniversary, Central Office!!!

Step One

Step One is the most important step. It gives me a foundation to work from. Admitting I am an alcoholic isn't enough. I will find that, without complete admission to myself, my life will not change for the better. Without this admission, I am setting myself up to take a drink.

I need to keep building on this foundation and it will keep me sober. I have many tools to work with. Asking God or my Higher Power will help me find the spiritual awakening needed to build on my foundation. My dependence on God will help me walk through the seemingly endless and hopeless things that come into all of our lives in sobriety.

Step One in my life shows me the powerlessness that I have over alcohol and the continuing unimaginable consequences of again going to jail, experiencing the demoralization of having no choice when the jailer tells you to strip and grab both ankles time and time again, and not realizing or admitting that the first drink is what brought me here – again.

Where is my manageability when I am arrested for being drunk in public – again? When I don't have the will to care about myself or others? Why did I take that next drink before coming into A.A. and forgetting where it is going to take me – again? More handcuffs, a cop car, drunk tank, blackouts, drunk driving, 86'd out of bars, and another cell. The list goes on and on and on.

How much more is it going to take before I wake up and admit that I am an alcoholic and that I need help?

*Trish S.
Santa Maria, CA*

Central Office Board of Directors

Chairman: Keith D.
Co-Chair: Patrick S.
Treasurer: Wade W.
Secretary: Michael B.
Board Members

Monthly Service Meetings

1st Saturday of month: 10:00am
Intergroup Committee (Central Office)
1600 Club 324 West Cypress St. S.M.
3rd Saturday of month: 10:00am
Central Coast Round-Up Meeting
1600 Club 324 Cypress St., S.M.
2nd Sunday of month: 10:00am
GSR meeting – location varies
Call Yolanda M. 805-314-2092
3rd Thursday of month: 6:45pm
North S.B. H&I Committee Meeting
Freedom Group
113 N. V St. Lompoc

Central Office Board Meetings

Every 4th Wednesday of the month
5:15pm Starbucks in Food Max Shopping Center
South Broadway & McCoy

Alcoholics Anonymous Website

www.aa.org
District 52 Website
www.aadistrict52.org
Central Office Website
www.aa52centraloffice.org

Let Go and Let God

***Our minds are like bad
neighborhoods, we shouldn't go
into them alone.
Find a Sponsor!!!***



THANKS TO THESE VOLUNTEERS AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE

**Arlene H, Billy N, Don Mc, Donna M, Janey A, Lisa B, Michael B,
Nancy N, Samantha, Shirley M, Rick P, Tom W, Wade W**

Steering Committee Meetings

Freedom Group - 2nd Sunday of the month
Santa Maria Golden Group – 2nd Thursday of the month
Santa Maria Valley Group – 2nd Tuesday of the month

What's Happening in Central Office?

January 2014

AA Information Calls	49
12 Step Calls	4
AI-Anon Referrals	3
Office Walk-Ins	15
Out of Town Visitors	7
Chip Sales	\$ 38.08
Book Sales	\$510.90
Directory/Pamphlet Sales	\$ 72.50

SAVE THE DATE

- March 29** **Tri-Tip Dinner and Silent
Auction \$10 (see pg 2)
Celebrating the 9th Anniversary
Of Our Central Office**
- July 4th** **Central Office Barbeque
Waller Park**
- Sept 12-14** **Central Coast Roundup
(52nd District Convention)
Veterans Hall, Santa Maria**
- October** **First Annual District 52
Chili Cook-Off!!!**

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Don't believe everything you think.

**January 2014
District 52 Central Office Accounting Snapshot**

Donations

Group

6am Sickies Group	184.45
Freedom Group	52.50
Happy Hour Group	100.00
Thurs Night Men's Stag Group SY	109.60
Women's Fresh Start	<u>50.00</u>
Total Group	496.55

Individual

Danelle W.	20.00
Nancy N.	21.00
Joseph M.	4.00
Keith D.	<u>33.33</u>
Total Individual	78.33

TOTAL Donations 574.88

INCOME TOTALS

Group Donations	496.55
Individual Donations	<u>78.33</u>
Total Donations	574.88
Total Sales	<u>266.71</u>
Total Sales & Donations	841.59

Bank Balance 952.00

Due in Less Than 30 Days

Cable/Phone/Internet	198.98
Answering Service	110.00
Rent	350.00
Insurance (new policy down payment and setup fees)*	<u>350.00</u>

TOTAL 1008.98

RECEIVABLES 257.54

*Policy total approx. \$1050

**Central Office Intergroup Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 4, 2014**

Meeting called to order by Keith at 10:05am

Keys: Key accounting motion for Lizzie to receive a key passed. All keys are accounted for.

Secretary's Report: (Michael) December report was approved.

A motion was passed to accept Sarah as the new Fund Raising Chair.

Treasurer's Report: (Wade) Sales tax to be paid is \$321 (elec). The account has a balance of \$1900.

A decision was made to do the 75th Anniversary Big Book orders on a cash basis only.

IGR Reports: Robert (Pyramid Group) good attendance. Sylvia (Lion's Den) Attendance is high; finances are fine. Jim (6am Sickies) Attendance up, have newcomers, made \$180 donations. Jeff (Airport Group) Overflow attendance and strong 7th tradition. Neil (Goes to Any Length Group) Steady. Mary (Lompoc) Going well, newcomers are welcome. Dave (Golden Group) No IGR, great in new location, night attendance down, day attendance up.

52nd District Liaison: (Dave) Workshops available for secretaries. Victoria available to help. DCM Literature workshop. PRASSA meeting in San Diego.

Webmaster & Directories Report: (Robert) Making changes to meeting schedule. Researching alternatives to site maintenance software.

After Hours & 12 Step Report: (Billy) Completing lists. Trying to organize volunteers by Group.

Operations/Volunteers: (Samantha) Keith: Recognize volunteers, TY

Literature/Chips: (Vacant) Need volunteer for this function. Billy to handle pre-order of Big Book 75th Anniversary Edition

Newsletter: (Nancy) 13th Step Story, need more stories

Fundraising: (Sarah) Next meeting at Pappy's last Saturday of the month.

Old Business: Michael volunteered to be IGR Secretary with Robert as co-secretary

Donation Basket: Passed around.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am

***An alcoholic is someone who treats
loneliness with isolation.***



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THANKS, KEITH!!!

I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity of being the Chairperson on the Board of Directors for the 52nd District Central Office. It has been a very rewarding experience and has shown me more about the workings of the Central Office.

I have had the pleasure of working with a great group of people (volunteers, Board members, IGR's, GSR's, DCM's, and many others) who have helped the Central Office grow. This experience has helped me with my sobriety, and has helped me learn another aspect of service in the great group of Alcoholics Anonymous.

With all of my years in AA, I now have learned what the Central Office means to our community of AA members, and what it does for the 52nd District.

At the time of this being published, a portion of Board members have been voted into office. Welcome, new Board Members!

I want to thank all of you for your confidence and support for giving me this great opportunity to be of service.

*Thanks again,
Keith D.*

God grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the Courage to change the things I can, and the Wisdom to know the difference. Thy will, not mine, be done.

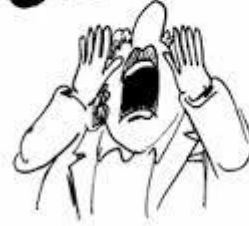
Stop By Central Office for...

- A.A. books, pamphlets, chips, District 52 meeting directories
- Info on upcoming conventions
- Mailing labels for Meeting Treasurers to send donations to General Service, Area 93, District 52, H&I, and the Central Office
- Some tea and conversation!

Did You Know We...

- Are open 7 days a week.
- Answer calls from people interested in AA, giving meeting information and answering questions.
- Have a website (www.aa52centraloffice.org) where you can find our meeting directory, newsletter, tapes of Speakers, and lots of AA information.
- Are managed by the Intergroup Committee and volunteers.
- **Need volunteers to help keep the office open.** If you've got 6 months continuous sobriety and a good working knowledge of the 12 Steps, call Samantha at 805-598-2147 and help out.
- We are located at 500 S. Broadway St. in Santa Maria and are wheelchair and disabled accessible.

Volunteers!



OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP Service is gratitude in action!!!

Central Office needs office volunteers assist visitors and answer AA calls. Must have 6 months continuous sobriety and be working the 12 Steps with a sponsor. Call Samantha, Central Office Coordinator, at 805-598-2147 for information.

After Hours Phone Service – Help a fellow alcoholic who calls when Central Office is closed. Phones will be transferred to your home. Call Billy N. at 805-406-2312 for information.

Bridging the Gap – Meet new members at a treatment program or correctional facility. Help them find meetings, introduce them to other AA's, make sure they get phone numbers, and help them find a sponsor. For more info, call Steve K. at 818-433-0257.

Become a Supporting Member of Central Office by pledging \$5/month to receive the Newsletter at home.

Grab a Birthday Envelope from Central Office and donate a dollar for every year of sobriety.

SBNC Hospitals & Institutions Committee

Santa Barbara North County Hospitals & Institutions Committee is dedicated to providing AA meetings and literature to those confined to hospitals, jails, prisons, and other facilities that request support from Alcoholics Anonymous. SBNC Hospitals & Institutions Committee serves the 52nd District and meets on the third Thursday of every month at the Freedom Group in Lompoc at 6:45pm. Join us for an indescribable experience that will greatly enhance your sobriety.

The 12 Steps are but suggestions – as is pulling the ripcord on a parachute.





Speaker Meetings

Freedom Group Speakers – Lompoc (Friday, 8pm)

- March 7 Caleb B., Santa Barbara
- March 14 Natalie B., Santa Barbara
- March 21 TBA
- March 28 Discussion Meeting

Lompoc Valley Group Unity Speaker Meeting - Lompoc Alano Club, 119 N. "D" St. (Sunday, 4pm)

South County Speaker Meeting - (1st Saturday, 8pm, Arroyo Grande)

- March TBD
- April John McA, Palm Springs

Santa Maria Golden Group - (Saturdays, 8pm)

Santa Maria Live - (4th Saturday, 8pm)

- March Johnathan C., Los Angeles
- April Niece, Santa Barbara

Santa Maria Valley Group

1600 Club (Sunday, 7pm)

Solvang Action Group

Solvang Alano Club (Saturday, 8pm)

Women's Meeting – Freedom Group

Lompoc (4th Saturday, 10-11am)

DCM/52nd District Report – 1/14/14 – 2/14/14

One year ago I "stood" for DCM and it continues to be an honor to be of service. Our District is very interested in volunteers to "stand for" committee chairs and bring that magic (aka Higher Power) back to our groups. According to our Delegate, the pressure will be on to get our group opinions in a short period of time. (Quick report from Delegate/January 2014 ACM available.)

Our focus is on PRAASA with six members to attend. Western US, Canada, Hawaii, and Alaska will meet this year. San Diego is the destination and the topic is "Communicating Our Legacies – Vital in a Changing World." For more information about this annual assembly, see www.2014.praasa.org.

We look forward to sharing with our fellowship many aspects of our experience, strength and hope, the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous. Thank you for letting me be of service, Victoria Sherwood/DCM

We'll Be Going Where???

5/1/14 \$75 Nonrefundable deposit due for Sister B's 10/17-19 retreat for women in recovery. For info, call 559-824-2526

5/16-5/18/14 **15th Annual South County Men's Spiritual Retreat**, Tar Springs Ranch, Huasna Road
Early registration (by 5/10) \$45.00;
Late registration \$55.00
For info, call: Archie 931-0601;
Esteban 260-6259; Armando 714-9074
No one will be turned away due to lack of funds – there is always an opportunity for Service.

EDITOR'S CORNER



Share your experience, strength and hope with others!

E-mail your material for the Newsletter to Nancy at:

nsagg98@yahoo.com

Or mail it to:

52nd District Central Office
500 So. Broadway, Suite 114
Santa Maria, CA 93454

15th Annual South County Men's Spiritual Retreat May 16th-May 18th, 2014

Tar Springs Ranch, Huasna Road

**Campfire meetings – Twelve Step Discussions –
Individual Step Workshops – Step Meditations**

Bring Camper, Tent, RV - Shower Facilities Available

Cost: \$45 by 5/10; \$55 after 5/10

**For info, call Archie: 931-0601, Esteban: 260-6259;
Armando: 714-9074**