



# THE GRAPE-SCCIN

## Birthday Speaker Meeting

**Sunday, July 22nd  
at 7:00 pm**

**Hosted by: BYOB Group  
Speaker: TBD**

**Emeline, Building D  
1080 Emeline Ave, Santa  
Cruz 4th Sunday of Every  
Month at 7:00 pm**

**A big Thanks  
To all the volunteers and  
contributors that made  
Spring Fling  
A Great Event!**

**Old Timers Speaker  
Meeting is coming in  
October!**

**More will be revealed  
NCCAA 65<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Summer Conference  
Auburn, CA -July 6,7 & 8**

## July BIRTHDAYS!

July, 2012

Mark D.	28 yrs	July 1, 1984
Michael B.	28 yrs	July 14, 1984
Kimberlee K.	28 yrs	July 18, 1984
Scott B.	28 yrs	July 20, 1984
Ingrid	28 yrs	July 1984
Dan F.	27 yrs	July 26, 1985
Carl P.	22 yrs	July 5, 1990
Chauna G.	18 yrs	July 18, 1994
Vickie B.	16 yrs	July 3, 1996
Jose D.	12 yrs	July 17, 2000

## Reminder

**There will be no Intergroup Council meeting  
on July 4<sup>th</sup>**

## Service Opportunity !!

"Working with others" and "Carry this message to other alcoholics" comes to mind when I think about having been the facilitator of the 4th step workshop at the Ben Lomond Fellowship. What an extreme privilege this has been for me.

Over 2000 Friends of Bill have attended the 4th step workshop since 1991. I had intended to do one workshop when I approached the steering committee, some 20 year ago. Go figure. And, many of you have come forward and facilitated the 4th step workshop when I had other engagements. Zoe, Mark, Craig, Brenda, Jim, Ted, Steve, Mike, Kit to name a few who stepped forward. They too expressed the positive experience of working with others, since we know, "Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics".

This will be my last year of service and July 17th, the Ben Lomond Steering Committee will vote for a new 4th step workshop facilitator for 2013. So while I may be turning over my position, the 4th step workshop will continue the second Saturday of every month, from 10:00am to 11:30.

It has been my privilege to be of service, so thanks to you all for your kind words throughout these years. And, like I tell everyone who has ever been to one of my workshops, "If you don't like how I do the workshop, be sure to spell my first name right and put it on your resentment list and then share it with your sponsor!" And to those of you who know me, know I believe in the power of service and the value of doing your 4th step. Next 4th Step workshop: July 14.

Warm regards, Janet J

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 7:30 What a concept <i>Central office</i>	3	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of July No Council Meeting</b>	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 7:30PM General Service <i>Aptos Village Park</i>	12	13	14
15	16 7:30 What a concept <i>Central Office</i>	17	18 7:30PM Steering Committee <i>Central Office</i>	19	20 Last day for Grapsccin submissions	21
22 Birthday speaker Meeting Emeline Building D 7:00 pm	23	24 6:00PM Bylaws Committee <i>Central Office</i>	25 7:00PM H&I Meeting <i>Central Office</i>	26	27	28
29	30	31				



**The Chairs Corner**

Art work by Ken C.

**Every AA Group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.**

For me this tradition seemed so practical and easy to abide by, however it wasn't long before I got to witness how controversial this very important tradition could get. By participating in business meetings with my regular groups that I attend and getting into service at the Intergroup level, I really got to see and live a lot of the stuff my sponsor and I had talked about in regards to this tradition. What I have come to learn is that it is really two traditions wrapped into one number. 7a. fully self supporting. 7b. declining outside contributions.

7a. "Fully self-supporting", This means different things to different groups depending on the groups individual logistics. What that can and shall include has been the topic of discussion many times in many business meetings I have taken part of. The great thing about this is that it is different for different groups. That is how it is supposed to be because we do not govern how a group shall run their meeting or business.

7b. "Declining outside contributions" For me, and I assume others, it is difficult to decline something when you know the gift is sincere and the giver wants to give it. The hard part of this is outside contribution, especially in this economic hardship we have had for way to many years now. One experience I had with this occurred many years ago when SCCI realized that a certain cookie company was donating cookies that they were going to discard to our monthly birthday speaker meeting. It was brought to the steering committee for discussion and found to be in conflict with our traditions being that it was an outside company contribution.

I had a great time at the Spring Fling. It felt so good to take part in a fundraiser that so many people devote their time, money and energy into. I find joy through participating in an event that aims to keep AA alive, demonstrate the unity of our fellowship, and reveal that we are not a glum lot!

**In Service as your SCCI Chair and current author of The Chairs Corner.**

**Rick A. e**

# Notices to the Group

**New Meetings** (Please find the latest meeting schedule at [aasantacruz.org](http://aasantacruz.org))

## Service Opportunities

**24 Hour Diverter - 24 hour call line staffed by A.A. members.**

Arguably one of the most rewarding service positions in Santa Cruz County AA. If you're looking for a great way to be of service then volunteer to cover one of the call line times.

*"I am responsible -  
When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help  
I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.  
responsible."*

*And for that: I am*

The times of monthly service opportunities are continually changing so there is almost always a time that will fit into your busy schedule. The service commitment consists of being available to take and respond to phone calls for a 2 to 4 hour shift once a month. To volunteer or for more information please call Central Office.

## Hospitals and Institutions (H&I)

Ever wonder what H & I does or what its purpose is? Well, now you can find out first hand. The H & I Committee will be holding an orientation every fourth Wednesday at Central Office at 6:30pm, prior to our monthly business meeting at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

The H & I Committee is looking for volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering please attend our monthly business meeting on the fourth Wednesday at Central Office at 7pm. Please contact Central Office at (831) 475-5782 if you are interested.

## Public Information/Cooperating with

### The Professional Community (PI/CPC)

Volunteers needed to inform students, probation officers, doctors and others about what A.A. is and what A.A. is not. Servicing literature racks, making sure drug court has a current list of open meetings, or attending health fairs at a school or college. The Committee meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Central Office at 7:00 PM. Sarah S. is the new Chair and can be contacted at [bsasy@aol.com](mailto:bsasy@aol.com) or at (831) 588-1863.

## Bridging the Gap (BTG) — Bridging the Gap to Lasting Sobriety

Do you remember stepping out of a hospital, treatment center or correctional facility and asking yourself, "Now what?" Sobriety was new. Many of us were full of hope for the future and fearful of what it would take to stay sober. Sometimes we found AA on our own, other times AA reached out to us. Those of us who made it to the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous found a community of people who were living the solution and eager to share their experience, strength and hope for lasting sobriety. Bridging the Gap (BTG) is a world-wide service offered by AA that supports that very important first step for alcoholics who have just been released from hospitals, treatment centers or correctional facilities. We help newcomers make the transition to AA communities in their home towns. The way it works is newcomers fill out a request for assistance at a treatment facility to get to that first meeting then BTG finds a volunteer that shares the same sex, age, and zip code. Upon release, the volunteer calls the newcomer to find out what kind of help is needed to get them to that first meeting. Frequently, sponsorship blossoms from this encounter.