

The GRAPESCCIN ~ February



Santa

Cruz

County Intergroup

Newsletter

Central Office
5732 Soquel Dr.
Soquel CA 95073
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm ~
Sat 10am-2pm
~831-475-5782

Sundays & most holidays closed

aasantacruz.org

*** All AA literature has gone up \$3 a book. ***

Do you have a short personal story, writing or art you would like to see published? I'd love to have your participation on Step 3! *What was it like to turn your will over to a god of your understanding?*

Email: newsletter@aasantacruz.org

The deadline to submit news, notices, fliers and other local AA related info to be published in the GrapeSCCIN newsletter is the 25th of every month!

We welcome your participation.

Service Opportunities

- ~Central Office help needed: Mon/Thurs 1-5 & Saturdays 10-2 (general office duties)
1 yr sobriety requirements
- ~Reps needed for Areas: 1 (Watsonville/La Selva) 7 (Downtown Eastside) 9 (UpperWestSide)
CHECK END OF NEWSLETTER FOR SPECIFICS
 - ~Bylaws Chairperson needed-
(check central office for sobriety requirement)

Bylaws Chairperson (sometimes referred to as the Chairperson of a Rules/Procedures Committee or part of the Steering Committee responsibilities) is a trusted servant responsible for ensuring that the group, district, or intergroup operates according to its established guidelines, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts for World Service. This role ensures that structural decisions are made democratically and that the group's foundation remains stable.

What is Bridging The Gap?: Bridging the Gap supports that very important first step for anyone who has just been released from a hospital, treatment center or correctional facility by providing temporary contacts who help the newcomer make the transition to Alcoholics Anonymous in his or her home community.

Get involved today! > [Click Here to get involved](#)



SANTA CRUZ INTERGROUP FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY SPEAKER MEETING

ERIK ROUSELL
SOBER SINCE 4/6/15 • SAN JOSE
SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 7
5:30 DOORS • 7:00 MEETING
MID-COUNTRY SENIOR CENTER
829 BAY AVE • CAPITOLA
HOST GROUP
APTOS WOMEN'S SERENITY GROUP



STAY FOR THE AFTERS
FEATURING DJ LUCAS
NO COVER CHARGE

Join us on Saturday
Feb.7th at the
Mid-County Senior
Center for our
monthly Birthday
Speaker Meeting
followed by "The
Afters" - a sober
dance party because
"We are not a glum
lot!"

Potluck and fellowship
at 5:30. If you'd like
to contribute to the
potluck table with
appetizers and treats
please do!



SANTA CRUZ INTERGROUP + GAY AND GRATEFUL
PRESENT

VIBE: LEATHER + LACE
SEXY + SAFE

THE AFTERS

FEATURING DJ LUCAS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 | 8:30 - 11:00 PM
AFTER THE BIRTHDAY SPEAKER MEETING
SAME PLACE | BACK ROOM
829 BAY AVE, CAPITOLA

THOUGHTS? FEELINGS? MUSICAL REQUESTS? ACTIVITIES@AASANTACRUZ.ORG

NO COVER CHARGE

ONGOING BUSINESS MEETINGS

Bridging the Gap — Sun Feb 1, 4pm · Capitola Diner

Cruzypaa — Sun Feb 1 & 15, 1-2pm · Jade St. Park

Intergroup Council — Wed Feb 4, 7-8:30 pm · MidCounty SeniorCenter

Web Committee — Thu Feb 12, 7-8pm /Zoom

General Service District — Wed Feb 11, 7:30-9:30 pm
(Orientation 6:45) · Mid County Senior Center / Zoom

Bylaws Committee —

Tue Feb 17, 6:00 pm ·
bylaws@asantacruz.org

Intergroup Steering —

Wed Feb 18, 7-8:30 pm
Hybrid/Zoom

H&I Committee — Thu
Feb 26, 6-7pm / Zoom

Joint Committee on
Safety (Events) — Thu
Feb 26th

safety@asantacruz.org



Link to zoom meetings at

<https://asantacruz.org/business-meetings/>

STEP OF THE MONTH: **Step 2**; Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

“We found that as soon as we were able to lay aside prejudice and express even a willingness to believe, we commenced to get results.”

—We Agnostics

Original artwork submitted by member: Brett W



~Restore to Sanity~

To restore is to bring something back to its original state

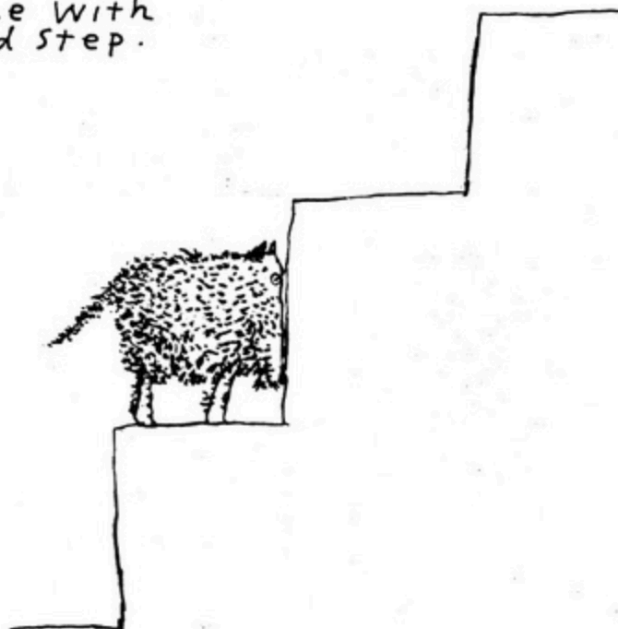
"Re" = again "Store" = to stand

Sanity "Sane" = of SOUND MIND

A Sound Mind = To be rooted in presence ~ balanced emotionally ~ access to mental clarity ~ a deep trust for the flow of life.

Life can break us, our minds become programmed and often not for the better. With willingness, trust and an open mind we can surrender to higher re-programming. Living from a peace that surpasses understanding is the original knowing of our souls.

Face to Face With
the second step.



S T I N E

(Member Story ..)

"Three months to believe step 2

Sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly.

Ah, the simplicity of those early days. Folks at the Santa Cruz Fellowship said I was a 100% success if I didn't drink today. I knew I could successfully get drunk. All it took was that first drink and away I went. Wasn't so sure about this living sober thing.

After two months in the revolving door, I got a sponsor and had my last drink. I made about 150 meetings in those first 90 days. Missed day 87 and feared I would drink again. I had moved out of the house of folks who used like I did and into a small studio. Even gotten promoted at work. I'd given my first pitch. Gone on my first date (awkward!). Left foot right, sometimes left, left, right.

Three months after that last drink, a miracle happened. At work, I remembered a 7-digit phone number from one room into the next. My brain still worked! What the hay?

This was the moment that I came to believe. My life was changing for the better. I had surrendered to the winning side; to a higher power that wants me to be "happy, joyous, and free". I wanted more of this.

Henry C.

Inch by inch. Live's a cinch. By the yard. Its very hard"

TRADITION 2

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.

“Ultimately, they divide into two classes known in A.A. slang as “elder statesmen” and “bleeding deacons.” The elder statesman is the one who sees the wisdom of the group’s decision..... and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments. The bleeding deacon is one who is just as surely convinced that the group cannot get along without him... and who continues to be consumed with self-pity. A few hemorrhage so badly that—drained of all A.A.spirit and principle—they get drunk. At times the A.A. landscape seems to be littered with bleeding formsHappily, most of them survive and live to become elder statesmen. They become the real and permanent leadership of A.A. Theirs is the quiet opinion, the sure knowledge and humble example that resolve a crisis... “tradition 2” “

Elder Statesman vs. Bleeding Deacon

1. Looks for God in the Room
2. Talks Slow & Listens Fast
3. Embodies Humility
4. Leads by Example

1. Looks for Validation in the Room
2. Talks Fast & Listens Slow
3. Embodies Ego
4. Leads Through Intimidation



A Little Bit of History

Where Step Two Came From

When AA began in the 1930s, many members were not religious, they only collectively agreed their own thinking failed them and that something bigger than themselves was required.

They noticed something important however: people began to recover **BEFORE** they believed — not after.

Why the Wording Matters

Step Two does not say "*believed.*" It says "came to believe." This was intentional. The founders understood that belief is often a slowly unfolding process.

The language was written to welcome; DOUBTERS, AGNOSTICS, ATHEISTS, the RELIGIOUSLY WOUNDED
No one was required to have answers in order to belong.

The Group Came First

For many early members, the group itself became the first "power greater than ourselves." when they could not yet trust anything else.

Their own Higher Power showed up for them as they trusted the process through the lived experience of Unity, Service & Recovery

AA Literature: CAME TO BELIEVE



*Came to
Believe*

a collection of personal reflections from AA members that explores Step Two through shared experience, showing how belief often begins with willingness, grows over time through doubt

and openness, and reflects the collective wisdom of the group rather than any single definition of faith.



*Came
to believe...*

The spiritual adventure of A.A. as experienced
by individual members

A Word From Our Sponsors...

" We can only suggest.

- can't stand in the way of anyone's bottom.
- it is absolutely true the sponsor gains more than the sponsee.
- whatever I ask of you I am doing myself.
- it is the best part of my recovery and where I have gotten most growth.
- there is no one right way.
- sponsors job is to take you through the steps.
- your sponsor is not your higher power nor your only contact.

~Annetta



"One alcoholic reading with another with no judgement is where the miracles happen." ~Tina

****Area 1 Represents the following meetings...****

Group	Meeting Day/Time	Address	Meeting Format
Sub Dist / Area 01 Watsonville/La Selva			
Make My Day Group	Sunday 7AM	95 Alta Vista (Behind Church), Watsonville	
Watsonville Fellowship	Several daily meetings (Daily noon and 8PM mtgs virtually)	939 Lincoln St., Watsonville	In-person
WFAA Candlelight meeting	Friday 9:30pm	939 Lincoln St., Watsonville	In-person
Aromas Group	Thursday 6:30PM	338 Blohm Rd. (Aromas Water District)	
Mud Flats Group	Friday 8PM	229 Stanford St., Watsonville	Virtual
La Selva Beach Mens Meeting	Monday 8PM	26 Florido St., La Selva	Virtual
11th Step Meditation	Sunday 7PM	26 Florido St., La Selva	Virtual
The Beach Combers (discussion)	Saturday 8PM	26 Florido St., La Selva	Virtual
Out of the Box	Wednesday 7PM	340 East Beach St., Watsonville (YMCA)	Virtual
Triple Winners Emotional Sobriety	Monday 6PM	95 Alta Vista, Watsonville	In-person
Sobriety in the Ville	Daily: Multiple Meetings, Various Times		Virtual
Sobriety in the Ville LGBTQ +			Virtual
La Selva Beach Discussion Meeting	Saturday 8PM		Virtual

****Area 7 Represents the following meetings.****

Sub Dist / Area 07 Downtown East Side			confir me d
Conscious Contact Meditation	Sunday 5PM	1307 Seabright Ave., (Pacific Cultural Center) Santa Cruz	Virtual
Santa Cruz Fellowship	Several Daily (6PM Daily virtually)	412 Front St., Santa Cruz	In-person
On the Beach	Saturday 9AM	Third Ave @ foot of stairs, Santa Cruz	In-person
Out of the Blue	Monday 8PM	721 Laurel St., (upstairs) Santa Cruz	Virtual
Out of the Trenches	Sunday 7PM	115C Coral St., (Shelter) Santa Cruz	In-person
Young People at Loudon Nelson	Tuesday 6PM	301 Center St., (Londen Nelson Center) Santa Cruz	
We Agnostics	Tuesday 7PM	301 Center St., (Londen Nelson Center) Santa Cruz	In-person
We Agnostics	Thursday 7PM	301 Center St., (Londen Nelson Center) Santa Cruz	Verify
Grateful and Gay Group	Thursday 8PM	301 Center St., (Londen Nelson Center) Santa Cruz	Hybrid
Blessed AA	Tuesday 12 PM	1051 Cayuga St (MHCAN) Santa Cruz	In-person
Young People's Underground Group	Wednesday 8PM	Vets Hall, 846 Front St., Santa Cruz	In-person
Sober and Sandy	Sunday 10:30 AM	Third Ave @ foot of stairs, Santa Cruz	In-person

***come to intergroup to volunteer to represent one of these greater areas**

****Area 9 Represents the following meetings.****

Sub Dist / Area 09 Upper West Side			
Ocean View Group	Friday 7PM	150 Church St., Davenport	In-person
Sober Slugs Group	Tuesday 8PM	UCSC Campus Merrill Lounge	In-person
Thumpers Big Book Study	Wednesday 7:30PM	250 California St., Santa Cruz	In-person
Westside Men's Step Study Group	Thursday 7:30PM	801 High St., (Cottage in rear) Santa Cruz	
Westside Men's Big Book Study	Monday 7PM	850 High St., (Church upstairs) Santa Cruz	
Brown Baggers Group	Tuesday 1PM	850 High St., Santa Cruz	In-person
Davenport Book and Step Group	Wednesday 7PM	150 Church St., Davenport	
Stag 12	Tuesday 7PM	850 High St., Santa Cruz	Virtual
Young People Big Book Study	Sunday 8PM	707 Fair Ave., Santa Cruz	
Women's/Nonbinary Underground Garden Group	Sunday 10AM	Harvey West Park, 275 Harvey West Park Blvd., Santa Cruz	In-person
Bonny Doon Group	Wednesday 7PM	7065 Bonny Doon Rd., (Kirk House next to Church) Bonny Doon	



Group Contributions
Santa Cruz County Intergroup Inc TS
December 2025

12/09/2025	Anonymous	54.44
12/18/2025	Brown Baggers	178.80
12/10/2025	BYOB	24.43
12/05/2025	Friday Night Live	25.00
12/18/2025	Front Desk	44.20
12/08/2025	Intergroup Council	34.25
12/10/2025	Jade Street Park	262.80
12/23/2025	Men's Crosstalkers Group	120.00
12/30/2025	Monday Mens Meeting	100.00
12/17/2025	Pleasure Point Group	232.82
12/22/2025	Roxas	241.95
12/30/2025	Sober AF	99.38
12/22/2025	Sober Slugs	32.77
12/22/2025	Sobriety and Gratitude	180.00
	Stag 11	451.20
12/03/2025	The Ville Group - Sobriety in the Ville	1,400.30
12/31/2025	Today's Women's Step Study	245.15
<hr/> TOTAL		<hr/> \$3,727.48

Positive Affirmations

for AA Step Two

01. I am open to believing in a Higher Power than myself.
02. I am willing to accept guidance from a greater power.
03. I am capable of finding peace through faith.
04. I am on a path to recovery with the help of my Higher Power.
05. I am trusting in the process of healing + growth.

Print out these positive affirmations and tape them to your mirror. Look yourself in the eye and repeat them every day. Alternatively, you can also write them in your journal.