

DECEMBER 2021 GRAPESCCIN



November

Birthday List

NOVEMBER

Cathy CM. 11/13/81
Pat H. 11/28/82
Chris G. 11/17/87
George E. 11/28/87
Valerie M. 11/24/89
Robin S. 11/22/90
Bobbie B. 11/1/91
Suzy S. 11/5/91
Rich L. 11/21/91
Steve D. 11/1/94
Robin B. 11/6/95
Michelle C. 11/27/95
Paul M. 11/5/96
Mary R. 11/15/98
John T. 11/22/98
Sharon H. 11/17/99
John A. 11/20/00
Kim F. 11/26/00
Maggie D. 11/7/01
Mike K. 11/9/01
Jim D. 11/23/01
Alex G. 11/1/06
Bradley A. 11/27/07
Brian P. 11/1/10
Glenn H. 11/11/11
Aaron W. 11/14/12
Tim W. 11/10/14
Janie N. 11/19/14
Joyce H. 11/30/14
Lori P. 11/23/09
Katie B. 11/26/14
Stephene F. 11/27/15
Alex G. 11/1/16
Bill R. 11/22/16

In Memoriam

Michael G. 11/21/75

To be added-Email:
grapesccin@gmail.com

Pick up your chip at
Central Office as the
Birthday Speaker
Meeting is still
zooming!
BSM will go back in
person- Jan. 1, 2022
at the Senior Center

BIRTHDAY SPEAKER MEETING

CR

Saturday, December 4- 7:00-8:15 pm.

Speaker: Sally F. Newport Beach, 31 yrs.

hosts: General Service

SANTA CRUZ INTERGROUP SEEKS PARTTIME OFFICE MANAGER

Job Description <https://aasantacruz.org/office-manager/>

If you are receiving the paper newsletter, check our homepage: aasantacruz.org

CORRECTION! SCFAA: Thanksgiving Day Meetings from 9 am- 8 pm- music and potluck 1-3 pm 412 Front St. Santa Cruz, 95060. Bring food to share; sober fun!

Service Opportunities

Intergroup NEEDS Area Reps for Areas 1 -Watsonville; 8- The Little Red Church, 11- SLV. If you go to meetings in one of these areas, please step up & be of service!
Intergroup will be needing new president of council in February, though I can't imagine who could improve on the incomparable Magi R....

H & I: Please volunteer to be a coordinator! SC Behavioral Health (3 locations) is reopening. And jails also. **Encourage your Home Groups to elect an H and I Rep**, attend the H and I Steering Committee 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM!

Activities will need a new chair in February also.

All Info at handisc.org . For volunteer ?s, email Kat: santacruzcountyhi@gmail.com.

All Central Office shifts are full, but call with interest. 831 475-5782. 6 mo

Diverter- all shifts full : But, call 831 475-5782; leave name & no. for future.

Birthday Speaker Meeting committee needs new Secretary in February, and new recording secretary. Sobriety requirements/jobs described after minutes.

CRUZYPAA back in action!. Devon is the new Liaison. Volunteer openings available.

Meetings : Zoom links in Calendar, aasantacruz.org

Intergroup: 12/1, 7 pm new volunteers; 7:30-8:30

Birthday Speaker business meeting 12/16, 6:30-8

GSR : 12/8, 6:45-7:30; district meeting 7:30-9:30

Website Committee: 12/8— 7-8 pm

Grapesccin Writing Group 12/ 12, Sunday 4-5 pm

Bylaws: 12/21, 6-7 pm. Fingerfoods, meeting in person.

H and I , 11/24; 12/22, 7-9 pm. Contact Kat to volunteer, or with questions if meeting is continuing in person for address.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY INTERGROUP COUNCIL: NOVEMBER 3, 2021

OPENING CUSTOMS:

Serenity Prayer, Preamble & 12 Traditions

7th Tradition

Zoom norms

Magi presents the Zoom norms regarding decorum

Birthdays

Marianne celebrated five years

Bobbie celebrated 15 years

Christine celebrated 1 year

Magi celebrated 11 years

Approval of previous month's minutes

Motion to approve minutes passes

REPORTS:

Chair: Magi

Magi said a big announcement is that Bob has resigned as office manager. Mary and Gray are providing those services. Hiring committee is being organized and will determine redefinition of position roles and responsibilities.

Joint committee on safety will have another meeting 2nd Thursday of each month. Goes over issues on safety in AA. Issue brought up on inventory by general service two years ago. Safety relates to ableism, ageism, and other issues. Wants to build on materials put out by Grapevine and GSO and have community input.

Hiring committee includes Magi, Rick, Kathy, Gray and Jack.

Intergroup is a nonprofit that serves as the employer of the central office manager. Steering committee has that responsibility. Kathy will be leading that committee. Contact her for further questions.

Intergroup Officers' elections in February. Magi will be termed out.

Vice Chair: Marianne

Marianne said she has no report.

Treasurer: Clint

We do not have a spreadsheet for September. Can report on operating account.

12 groups donated for a total of \$991.91. Total expenses for the month are \$154.84. NorCal H & I has not cashed the -\$3000.00 check I sent them, so our ending balance minus prudent reserve is still \$4093.01. (but it's really \$1093.01

*Encourage your meetings to elect an H and I Rep and have them attend the monthly meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month (in person see the website for details/location)

Office Manager: Mary/Grey

Magi reads a summary of Mary's report:

A lot of effort to organize and clean out office. Completed volunteer schedule on computer. Working on getting financials organized. Getting 1 more file cabinet for financial records. More literature inventory. Will be a motion for steering on getting funding for shelves.

Gray said we are full up on volunteers. Daily log summary: October there were 136 callers; 78 visitors; 39 info; 43 purchases; 5 donations; 5 12 step callers.

Office volunteers: could still use some backups, but the office is running well.

BSM Chair: Kathy

Kathy said income for October 97 dollars. October celebrated 163 years. November speaker meeting this Saturday at 7 p.m. Doors open at 630. Speaker is Debbie D. from Concord with 45 years. Host group is Ben Lomond Fellowship speaker meeting. Flyer is out.

Kathy will term out in February. Looking for chair. Sobriety requirement is 3 years. Also need rec. sec'y. 6 month requirement. New speaker coordinator and treasurer. Announce openings at meetings.

BSM Going live on Jan. 1. Meeting regularly to work on transition. In touch with Mid County regularly because COVID requirements change all the time.

The requirements are all attendees wear mask; show proof of inoculation; not vaccinated must bring proof of negative test 48 hours before meeting; can have full capacity. Must use good judgment and will probably put chairs six inches to a foot apart.

Can bring food, sell drinks, and do raffle.

Discussing ways to streamline COVID requirements at door. Will have more detail later. By Dec. 1 will have that set up.

Activities Chair: Grey

Grey said the office is accepting people to be on 12 stepper list. Can announce at groups. Call- leave no. @ the office.

Had a successful event for Halloween. Estimates maybe 120 people. Don't have all the financials yet. Didn't make money on this like the picnic. In the planning phase for New Year's. Deciding whether zoom or in person. Magi said a car load of people from Janus did attend, so would call that a successful event. Grey's term is up in February. Get word out if know anyone interested.

Diverter Chair: Jack

Jack said there are two shifts open: 3rd Thursday, 5 to 7 p.m.; 4th Tuesday, 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Had someone call asking about 12 step list, when updated. Updated 2019. Central Office is putting some more volunteers for the list together. Will try to have a more recent list.

Newsletter Chair: Mary

Mary absent by plan.

Magi reads her report: Writing group- meeting Nov 14, 4-5. Contact grapesccin@gmail.com for info.

Bylaws Chair: Kim

Kim said they met last month; going through lengthy process of looking for inconsistencies and updating them. Will take a while. Then will bring back to steering committee for consideration.

Next meeting 6 p.m. 11/16.

Website Chair: Murias

Murias said did not have regular meeting past month because of extra steering committee meetings. Everything going well. Will be resuming next Wednesday from 7 to 7:50 p.m.

Magi said if you are representing a group that is moving back to in-person, make sure to fill out meeting request form on the website.

Grey asked if printed schedule is going to come from the website soon. Murias says yes. There is a plug in that allows the print version based on what is live. Will contact Mark to determine for sure.

Delegate at Large: OPEN

Recording Secretary: Kimberlee no report

GS Liaison: Matt

Matt said November of odd number years is group inventory season. That is this year. General Service District will be holding inventory one week from tonight. Everyone invited. Questions not finalized, but will have about six questions. Here are a few:

How effective as district?

Inclusive environment?

Following up on issues raised in inventory process?

The NorCal Coastal Area inventory assembly will be this coming Saturday. Orientation begins at 9:30 a.m. Will double check the time. Everyone invited. Will put more info in Chat including zoom information.

H&I Liaison: David

David not present. Magi read his report.

Katryn K. (Kit Kat) H and I Volunteer Coordinator contact her with any questions regarding H&I (831)278-1487

The website is: <http://handisc.org>

*We need a Coordinator and meeting secretaries for the Behavioral Health Facilities which are ready to open up.

*Clearance for institutions all volunteers needed.

*Inmate Visiting Sponsorship Service (IVSS) Email Coordinator Dave R. at svsp.ivss@gmail.com (Men 5 years of sobriety interested in sponsoring inmates at Salinas Valley Prison)

CRUZYPAA Liaison: Devon M.

is the new liaison. Just moved to the area. Had an event, Capture the Flag at Black's Beach. Ran into a newcomer. Was a great time. Next event no date yet. Happy to support Intergroup.

Young People in AA service body to help younger people get involved in recovery and service.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Open Area Rep Positions

Magi said area rep positions are open. Includes serving the entire area divided into county. Three openings need to get filled. Liaison between meetings to area to Intergroup. Meeting reps, for example, can contact the area reps if there are any issues that Intergroup could address. Requires attending all meetings at least twice a year. Help recruit host group for birthday speaker meeting. Contact meeting reps in area to notify of intergroup meeting. Jack notes that you can serve as area rep and a meeting rep. Great way to keep people connected to what Intergroup is doing.

Asks if anyone interested in Area 1? (no reply). Tell groups that is still open.

Asks if anyone interested in Area 8? (no reply). Tell groups still open.

Area 11? (no reply). Tell groups still open.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

Area Rep Reports:

Area 1 (Watsonville/La Selva): OPEN

Area 2 (Aptos): Darcy. Darcy said has no report.

Area 3 (Greater Soquel): Kimberlee. Kimberlee not present.

Area 4 (Soquel Main St): Julie

Julie said she attended the men's meeting last Thursday. Has their intergroup information. Will send that to the chat.

Area 5 (Capitola/Live Oak): Rick. Rick said no report.

Area 6 (East Santa Cruz): Jordan. Jordan said no report.

Area 7 (Downtown Santa Cruz): David H. No report.

Area 8 ("Little Red Church" Downtown): OPEN

Area 9 (Westside/Davenport): John J. Davenport meeting is back inside.

Magi said she updated info about moving Bonny Doon meeting; also has realigned some info about updated meetings within the areas.

Area 10 (Scotts Valley/Emeline): Dion. Dion- no report.

Area 11 (SLV): OPEN

John asked sobriety requirement for Area rep?

Magi said it's one year but waivable.

Rick asks if we could list meetings and what area they are in.

Magi said it's possible. Will send her list to Murias and Mark. She will also forward to intergroup members.

Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed.

Hiring committee will be looking for a new Central Office manager. Announcement on front page of newsletter, and on our homepage. Please submit application docs required by Dec. 31st. Meantime, Grey and Mary K are serving as interim co-managers.

CRUZYPAA has available positions. **We meet the first and third Wednesday of the month at 1pm at Harvey West on the benches near the friendship garden.**

OPEN POSITIONS:

Co-chair	Co-bylaws
Co-secretary	Bid Chair & Co-Bid Chair
Co-Treasurer	Facilities Chair

BSM Committee: Additional Information: We are in need of a Chair, sobriety requirement 3 years; and a Recording Secretary (sobriety requirement: 6 months). Needs to be filled by January 1st!!

Please announce at your meetings!

Birthdays Speaker Meeting Chair Guidelines-

Facilitate/manage birthday speaker meeting, giving guidance to Host Group in organizing and presenting the Intergroup Birthday Speaker Meeting.

Attend monthly Intergroup Council and Steering Committee meetings; attend the BSM and bi-monthly BSM Business Meetings

Prepare agenda for the BSM Business Meeting.

Assists Area reps with the selection of Host Groups

Sobriety requirement 3 years

Recording Secretary: take minutes, make any corrections, send them out promptly.

6 month requirement

H & I Committee- Additional Information:

Its meeting is now **in person at 420 Melrose, Santa Cruz at 7 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month.**

(11/24, 12/) Please visit the **handisc.org** website for information, & to fill out the application to be able to take meetings into the jails and prisons when they re-open. Print it out, fill in and sign and bring it to the meeting to get info to become coordinators. It takes a while, so get approved ahead of time! Most of the treatment centers have re-opened meetings.

H & I also needs committee members and a recording secretary to take notes.

Behavioral Health recovery centers are going to be opening soon.Contact

santacruzcountyhi@gmail.com with interest. **They are especially looking for coordinators** who can connect potential secretaries with meetings.

Inside Visiting Sponsorship Services.

This program has been successfully tested at San Quentin State Prison, where the response has been overwhelmingly enthusiastic. We have over 60 confined alcoholics who are currently getting the benefits of one-on-one sponsorship .Due to State Prison regulations and federal PREA requirements, regular H&I meeting volunteers CANNOT sponsor inside members at the institution they serve.

Our solution is to create an "inside visiting sponsorship service" under the auspices of the NorCal H&I Committee which operates in addition to, but entirely separate from, our H&I meeting activities at the prisons.

A special group of A.A. volunteers go into the prison as VISITORS. The clearance procedure for visitors is very simple – just a basic one-page questionnaire. Outside volunteers are matched with inside members requesting the service. After the first meeting both members are free to decide if they want to work together – like all sponsorship, it is entirely voluntary on both sides.

But what about anonymity? Due to our dedicated P.O. Box and the cooperation of the prison administration, your anonymity is protected. Your name and address aren't revealed.

IVSS is now being rolled out to the Salinas Valley State Prison.

If you have a desire to participate in this ground breaking program or if you have any questions, you can contact the Salinas Valley State Prison IVSS Coordinator: Dave R. at svsp.ivss@gmail.com

IT'S GRATITUDE MONTH!

November is here - that time of year for thanksgiving and gratitude. Intergroup Central Office has kept going and done well ,and for that we are grateful.

We have come through the unprecedented days of the pandemic, and have made the changes necessary to succeed in our primary purpose – to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. some new members got sober entirely on Zoom! Many of us came to Alcoholics Anonymous by way of a Central Office and as we grew in sobriety, we continued to benefit from the services offered. We have been able to continue this service work because of the generous contributions from groups and individuals.

This is the time of year when Central Office reaches out to you, our members and asks for your financial help. Your contribution becomes the hand that is there for the next alcoholic who reaches out. If you can, consider making a donation to Central Office by using our PayPal link:

**<https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/intergroup923> or by sending a check to:
Santa Cruz County Intergroup, 5732 Soquel Dr., Soquel, Ca. 95073**

From the writing group

Holidays in Store-A Love Hate Relationship

B.B.

The holidays seem to come quicker and closer together every year. We just start smelling the pumpkin spice; then it's time for candy canes. They flavor liquors with strange and amazing things this time of year. I have seen gingerbread, peppermint cream, caramel apple and so many more. Stores are so into selling alcohol around the holidays-it is truly scary. You can round the corner at your local grocery or pharmacy and find an endcap full of the poison.

At my local marked the bread aisle is right across from the liquor. In my first year of sobriety, I asked my husband to buy the bread. Now I think I am strong enough to avert my eyes and get my loaf of rye. Still that cunning, baffling, powerful disease causes my head to turn and my blood to crave. Insidious voices whisper "You have never tried cranberry-orange vodka have you?" I typically head for some frozen fruit juice bars and head home when such moments occur. I find a meeting on zoom and listen to someone talk. I know the libations I might make would lead me to ruin. They are simply so hard to avoid around the holidays.

So many stores sell these huge fancy gift sets filled with shiny sparkly things and frosted glassware. They crop up in unexpected places. Once I rounded a corner by the seafood and saw a display as big as a

compact car. I could not help myself. I circled and noticed the kinds of rum, brandy, and other alcohols that were displayed. Some in huge packages and bows, which made me ask myself, "Do we really need this to get through to January second?" I do not, not anymore. I am lucky in that I like my family well enough to handle a few meals and presents, and then I can go home and say "and to all a good night."

On 11/20 Daily Reflections

On November 20th I got to read one of my two favorite Daily Reflection entries at the morning meeting. The topic is, "Thy will, not mine", and it talks about how I must remember that I am responsible for the leg work in any given situation and my higher power is responsible for the outcome. I interpret this to mean that phrases like, "Let go, let God" do not mean that I just sit around and wait for good things to magically appear, but rather that if I follow suggestions and work a good program, miracles will happen; the promises will come true.

I have been thinking about the promises of late, partly because I am seeing them unfold before me, and partly because someone very dear to me has been thinking and talking about them. I often mention that my drug of choice is 'more' which I have always defined as the unhealthy playgrounds and playmates, the excessive 'blackout' activities of my past. It occurs to me that maybe I could re-define 'more' as the promises. Unfortunately, "drug of choice" has a bit of a negative connotation for me, while the promises carry a whopper of a positive, downright miraculous connotation. I do not know if I can employ the sentence, "My drug of choice is the promises." It feels a little too greedy or demanding, and too close to using behavior.

I have this image of traveling through my life with my higher power, riding a tandem bicycle together, my higher power taking the lead. If I try to ride the bike alone, from the back seat, things get out of whack, and down I go. However, if my higher power sits on the front seat, navigating and providing balance, and I sit on the back seat, peddling, then I am responsible for the leg work and my higher power is responsible for the outcome.

It occurs to me, as I watch and hear my newly beloved talking about and reciting the promises, that there is a difference between asking for and working towards — that I prefer the latter. I prefer doing the legwork and turning the outcome over to my higher power. It also occurs to me that the possibility of sharing a life of recovery with my newly beloved is most definitely an example of the promises coming true in my life, and (hopefully) in hers.

By the way, my other favorite Daily Reflection is March 4th, not so much because of what the reading says, although I quite like it, but because it is the only day of the year that speaks of action, and this is a program of action. March forth, people, to the promises and a better life!

Peg P.

Nov. 22, 2021

SANTA CRUZ INTERGROUP

PRESENTS

BIRTHDAY SPEAKER MEETING

HOSTED BY: GENERAL SERVICE

**SALLY F. — NEWPORT BEACH, CA.
31 YEARS**

DECEMBER 4, 2021 7-8:15 PM PST



ZOOM ID: 891 4678 6139

PASSCODE: 8675309

DIAL IN (669) 900-9128

7TH TRADITION

PAYPAL.ME/INTERGROUP923

ADD A NOTE—"BSM-12/4/21"



SAVE THE DATE!!

**The Birthday Speaker
Meeting is going live**

Saturday, January 1, 2022

Mid County Senior Center

829 Bay Ave Capitola CA 95010

7-8:15pm

**BSM SPEAKER MEETING
COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

Contact Kathy C for more info

bsmcommittee@gmail.com

Masks and proof of vaccine mandatory

MORE WILL BE REVEALED!!

All the Thanksgiving flyers!

Thanksgiving Day Alcathon

Join us for a day of ongoing meetings,
fellowship and food!

Watsonville Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous
939 Lincoln St.
Watsonville

Noon- 2pm Potluck

Bring a dish or dessert to share.

Meeting Times

7am, 10am, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm,
10pm & Midnight Pie Meeting





Ben Lomond Fellowship Thanksgiving Potluck

Potluck following noon meeting

*Please sign up for dinner contributions
& service positions*

Food drops off begins at 11:30a.m.

*Cooked Turkey's & Ham's
Mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes,
stuffing veggie dishes, gravy, rolls,
desserts etc. needed*

*Please pass sign up book around for
food contributions & service*



Sobriety in The Ville

Presents

An Attitude of Gratitude Thanksgiving Weekend Alcathon

Zoom # 761-770-9535 password makemyday

Dial In: 1669 900 9128, Password: 933054912#

Thursday, November 25 through Sunday, November 28, 2021

**Daily meetings at 7am*, 9am, 10:30am, Noon*,
1:30pm, 3pm, 5pm**, 7pm*, 9pm, and 10:30pm**

***Regularly Scheduled Meeting **Thursday: Men's Meeting**

**All Other Meeting Topics focus on Gratitude and
include readings from As Bill Sees It, The Big Book,
and The Daily Reflections**

Hosted by Sobriety in The Ville

**For questions, call 831-508-0195
or email info@sobrietyintheville.com**



The Ville Group
P.O. Box 1752
Aptos, CA 95001

Together we can do what we can't do alone.