

December

Birthday List

DECEMBER

Jack B. 12/8/80
Thom O 12/3/83
Donna E 12/26/85
Eddie E 12/26/85
Sharon C 12/30/85
Woody B. 12/30/86
Linda E 12/13/88
Dave O 12/17/90
Carol C Dec 25, 1990
Jim T Dec 20, 1991
Thomas M Dec 10,
1993
Dave N Dec 28, 1993
Greg D. Dec. 4, 1996
Marion Dec 7, 1996
Gary G Dec 16, 1996
Stephanie H Dec 4,
1997
Michaela W. Dec. 20,
1999
Roxanne L, Dec 22,
1999
Randy Nap Dec. 20,
2002
Julie Dec. 1, 2004
Clinton F. Dec. 16,
2008
Jeffrey T Dec 27, 2010
Angie K. Dec. 16, 2011
Rich G Dec 5, 2013
Paul C Dec 7, 2013
Red W Dec 12, 2014
Mary P Dec 24, 2014
Cat Dec 24, 2014
Gina S. Dec. 26, 2014
Gretchen Dec. 31,
2015
In memoriam
Diane K. Dec. 24,
1989

To be added-Email:
grapesccin@gmail.com

Pick up your chip at
Central Office. The
Birthday Speaker
Meeting is still on
Zoom till further
notice.

JANUARY 2022 GRAPESCCIN



BIRTHDAY SPEAKER MEETING

1/1/2022-7:00-8:15 pm.

hosts: MudFlats Speaker: Karen C., Oakland, 34 yrs.

ON ZOOM TILL FURTHER NOTICE

SANTA CRUZ INTERGROUP SEEKS PARTTIME OFFICE MANAGER DEADLINE TO SUBMIT RESUME & COVER LETTER 12/31/2021

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

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

Service Opportunities

-Intergroup needs Area Reps for Areas 1 -Watsonville; 8- The Little Red Church, 11- San Lorenzo Valley. If you go to meetings in one of these areas, please be of service!
-Intergroup positions rotating out: We need new Chair of council, Vice chair, Activities chair, Birthday Speaker Meeting chair, Newsletter chair in February.
GSR- Needs a co-chair and volunteers! Contact -matt.dcmc03@gmail.com
H & I: Please volunteer to be a coordinator! SC Behavioral Health (3 locations) is reopening. Jails may also. Encourage your Home Groups to elect an H and I Rep, and attend the H and I Steering Committee 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM! All Info at handisc.org . For volunteer ?s, email Kat: santacruzcountyhi@gmail.com.
All Central Office shifts are full, but we do need subs. 831 475-5782. 6 mo. suggested.
Diverter- all shifts full : But, call 831 475-5782; leave name & no. for waitlist.
Birthday Speaker Meeting committee needs a new Secretary (3 yrs.) in February, and a new recording secretary (6 mo's)
CRUZYPAA back in action!. Devon is the new Liaison. Volunteer openings available.
Meetings : Zoom links in Calendar, aasantacruz.org
Intergroup: 1/5, 7 pm new volunteers; 7:30-8:30 intergroup meeting
Birthday Speaker business meeting 1/27, 6:30-8
GSR : 1/12, 6:45-7:30 for new volunteers; district meeting 7:30-9:30
Website Committee: 1/12— 7-8 pm
Grapesccin Writing Group 1/9 Sunday 4-5 pm
Bylaws: 1/18, 6-7 pm- meeting in person. Contact kim@kimhoganfinearts.com
H and I , 12/22; 1/26, 7-9 pm. Contact Kat to volunteer, or with questions at santacruzcountyhi@gmail.com. Meeting on Zoom.

Central Office now will have a good selection of literature in Spanish. Pick up at Central office, 5732 Soquel Drive, Soquel, 95073. Call to check if particular book is in.

As was stated in the openings for service positions, most of the Chairs of various committees in Intergroup are turning over this year when people have served 2 years in that position. Please thank those who have served there, and consider using your talents and knowledge to serve Santa Cruz County AA, as it has given to you. Or if you know of someone you think would be good in a certain position, give them a nudge to attend Intergroup meeting and indicate their interest.

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: Needs to be filled by January 1st if possible! Please announce!

Birthday 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 **back on Zoom!** 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 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. Your anonymity is protected. Your name and address aren’t revealed.

IVSS is now being rolled out to the Salinas Valley State Prison. IVSS Coordinator: Dave R. at

svsp.ivss@gmail.com

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY INTERGROUP COUNCIL:
DECEMBER 1, 2021, Meeting Minutes (edited)**

OPENING CUSTOMS:

Serenity Prayer, Preamble & 12 Traditions Kimberlee & Krishna read.

7th Tradition

Birthdays – Dion celebrated 2 years!

Approval of previous month's minutes

REPORTS:

Bridging the Gap: Angie

Please pass along that Bridging the Gap is part of General Service and they need people to take people just getting out of jails or institutions to their first meeting! Please announce btg.scz@gmail.com for info. Mary is adding the info to the Newsletter also.

Chair: Magi

1. Need to give a report on Orientation – John and Mike were new, and she'll be updating the phone list. People are going to be rotating out and rotating in, so position descriptions will be sent out. Magi will not be taking any positions.
2. Office Manager Search – 5 people have been meeting as an Ad Hoc Committee, and please pass along to groups that we're looking for a manager. General Service has been notified also.

Vice Chair: Marianne. Absent by plan, no report

Treasurer: Clint – Spread very thin, his situation has changed and his new job is very demanding, December he's travelling and has family obligations. Monthly spreadsheet has been fixed. Sept Started \$9,342.27 and the ending balance was Nov \$14,497.46. Average deposits are about \$6100. Withdrawals are averaging about \$4800.00

Library \$22,205.54 and ended with \$28,955.59 Deposits were \$6,000 and withdrawals of about \$4,800. People pay for literature and make donations at the same time. He's working on sorting through that. He needs to look at each individual receipt.

Quarterly sales and payroll taxes were completed. Sales taxes will be filed mid-February 2022. Temp office managers have filled in a bunch.

Grey added that Quickbooks have been set up and the person doing is inexpensive.

Kimberlee added for a minimal amount of money, a lot of responsibility would be taken off of Clint's plate, and Magi noted that we could discuss it at Steering.

Office Manager: Mary/Grey Grey said that things are being handled. Mary has been doing book ordering and Grey has been doing QuickBooks. The office has been operating as expected. Mary reported the daily log and summary about activity.

65 Calls; 50 visitors; 18 purchases, 32 donations. 9 - 12 step phone calls; all volunteer positions are full.

BSM Chair: Kathy. At the November meeting `117 years of sobriety! Meeting this Saturday Sally F. Newport Beach 31 years, General Service is the host Group. This IS THE LAST Zoom meeting. Committee needs a chair 3 year sobriety commitment. Also Secretary position available.

Mid County Senior Center has rules about attending. All attendees must show proof of vaccination or a negative Covid test within 48 hours, ID must match the info. We can have food, etc, They're going to have wrist bands which can be used for future meetings. Central Office will have them available, by the end of the week hopefully. Intergroup Reps go to the office and pick up a dozen or so bands, and then the Rep will be responsible for checking. It'll help the line at the front door. Two lines – bands line and the gotta check docs line.

Speaker in January -Karen C from Oakland, 34 years.

*Rick said that we can't go forward with purchasing items and enforcing this wristband policy without a vote from Steering. Kimberlee asked if there would be a meeting and Kathy said she would discuss with Magi in private and let us know.

Magi said that we can take back to the group that the meeting will be happening in January.

Activities Chair: Grey – Marianne helped on the committee 2 years ago, and Intergroup did not have a dance, so we are not planning one. He thought Ben Lomond had a dance, so maybe they'll do another one. Other groups will also have an Alcahthon.

Mary asked if Ben Lomond is having a dance and Grey is not sure, they had it last time. Krishna, the Ben Lomond Rep is present and no one brought it up at the last meeting, and their next meeting is next week, so she doesn't know either. As soon as she finds out. she'll let Magi know.

Diverter Chair: Jack All shifts are full and there's a waiting list!

Newsletter Chair: Mary. Newsletter is going fine and the writing group is going well on Sunday Afternoons. Email will be in the chat. It'll be on the events calendar on the website.

Bylaws Chair: Kim They met last week, they are still in review period. Next meeting is 12-21-21 at 6pm

Website Chair: Murias – absent.

Delegate at Large: OPEN

Recording Secretary: Kimberlee – I've been having a blast! Thank you so much.

GS Liaison: Matt. Group Inventory was last month an officer showed up and they took stalk of the group. Identified ways to improve. Primary item is that Members were feeling a lack of support of transitioning into their roles. He has instituted a new "ask it basket" ask anything about General Service and he'll work on answering them. Send email. The meeting is 2nd Wednesday of Every month at 7:30 pm. Everyone is Welcome!

They need an alternate chair! This is a biggie! They need more volunteers. Info in the chat.

H&I Liaison: David T. Please look at the chat – details are in the chat. Items to highlight is that the Website has info. Financial Report and Help Wanted list. Please have a look www.handisc.org The volunteer coordinator phone number for Kit-Kat. There are quite a few service openings right now; Behavioral health, Juvenile Hall and Janice. The Inmate visiting sponsorship service is a big deal – it's only the 2nd time in the country where inmates can have civilian sponsors on the outside. 5-year sobriety requirement and male only.

CRUZYPAA Liaison: Devon-Next Event – Winter Wonderland Theme, Saturday December 18th at 420 Melrose. Meeting 4-5 pm; then cookie decorating and ugly sweater contest. Has a flier, he'll send to Magi. The business meetings are 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at Harvey West at 1:00 pm

OLD BUSINESS: Several Area Rep Positions Open:

Area 1 Watsonville/La Selva – Anyone available? No

Area 8 Little Red Church – Anyone available? No

Area 11 SLV Area. Felton, Boulder Creek, Ben Lomond Anyone Available? No

NEW BUSINESS:

“What’s on your mind?” Intergroup Related Questions. Please be considerate and kind.

Krishna wondered how much longer are we going to do Zoom for Intergroup?

Area Rep Reports:

*Area 1 (Watsonville/La Selva): OPEN

*Area 2 (Aptos): Darcy – Sent a reminder to all the reps in the area!

*Area 3 (Greater Soquel): Kimberlee reported there are only 4 meetings outside of the White Church, two of which are Men’s meetings, so she’ll double check for reps there, but we might want to consider combining the 2 areas with the White Church in Soquel.

*Area 4 (Soquel Main St): Julie, absent

*Area 5 (Capitola/Live Oak): Rick, no report tonight

*Area 6 (East Santa Cruz): Jordan

*Area 7 (Downtown Santa Cruz): David H. – There were some incidents of violence – one involved a secretary and a member. The Secretary has been suspended for 6 months. The Member that was involved was suspended for a week. They do have an Intergroup Rep – Ann M, and so she hasn’t attended any meetings until they’re off of Zoom. David is wondering if there’s a safety committee. Magi said she would bring it up to them. Mindy asked if the fellowship got a notice of closing. Some of the units on Front Street have received 30 day notices. David is not aware of a notice being delivered.

*Area 8 (“Little Red Church” Downtown): OPEN

*Area 9 (Westside/Davenport): John Has been to Sober Slugs and spreading the news about Central Office. He’s heading to Davenport and West Side Men’s Group over the next week.

*Area 10 (Scotts Valley/Emeline): Dion – tonight he hopped into the Happy Destiny Meeting and made a couple of announcements. If there are any Women who attend the Step Meeting on Wednesday nights, he would like to encourage them to have Intergroup Reps. Darcy is the Rep for that Group, so we’re good!

*Area 11 (SLV): OPEN

Tips from the Grapevine for the holidays:

The holiday season can be a difficult time for us. Navigating family gatherings, and other special events and still staying sober can be tricky. The Grapevine has 12 suggestions to stay sober and they have stood the test of time.

Line up extra A.A. activities for the season. Take a newcomer to a meeting.

Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers and those alone.

Keep your telephone list with you at all times.

Find out about special holiday parties and meetings.

Skip any drinking occasions you are nervous about.

If you have to go to a drinking party and can’t take an A.A. friend with you, keep a soda in your hand; keep some candy handy.

Don’t think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an “important date” you have to keep.

Go to a place of worship of your choice.

Don’t sit around brooding. Do some reading. Take a walk with a friend.

Don’t get worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember “one day at a time.”

Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy.

“Having had a....” we don’t need to spell out the 12th Step. Reach out your hand to a newcomer (or an old-timer).

From the Writing Group

some tools of recovery

By Peg P.

Upon crawling into the sweat lodge for the first time,
I felt as though I had come home, finally.
To a home I had not known I was missing, ever.
but one I had definitely craved, always.
Each time I enter, I absorb every part of this experience,
For future reference . . .

In order to enter the sweat lodge of my mind,
I need only evoke my sensory memories and recall
the vision of complete darkness broken by embers, of grandfathers glowing red.
the scent of kopal, of sage, and of dust turning to mud;
the taste of sweat, of smoke, and of steam-filled air;
the sound of drums, of song, and of voices in prayer;
the feel of rhythm, of heat, and of sweat soaked hair;
What a wonderful tool. Through recall, I create the sensation
that all is right in my world, and I bring about
a womb-like feeling of calm and of peace and of safety.

While in a recent hypnotherapy session,
I 'returned' after having 'been away' with an absolute understanding,
that for me, serenity is the color of blueberry pie filling.
What a wonderful tool. Through recall I picture that DeepBluePurpleBlack color.
I create the sensation that all is right in my world,
and I bring about a womb-like feeling of calm and of peace and of safety.

When I first entered the Fellowship, I felt the satisfaction
of a life-long desire, to feel a part of, like I belonged.
I was welcomed by other women in recovery--befriended, supported, sponsored.
When given the opportunity of talking with a newcomer about tools,
I mention the telephone, sharing that I will often pick up the phone
and call somebody when things are all right.
This way I practice reaching out for help.
I go on to explain that the phone sometimes weighs 500 pounds;
however, it weighs much less if I have already practiced using it.
What a wonderful tool. Through recall I picture calling others.
I recreate the sensation that all is right in my world,
and I bring about a womb-like feeling of calm and of peace and of safety.

A Powerful Current

When we start to do service, really connect to other alcoholics, selfish concerns recede and disappear as we speak with them. Whether we're truly, deeply listening to their experience and concerns, not trying to give them answers, or whether we're working with them to clean out an apartment of its bottles, sadness and shame, or coming together to plan a gathering, maybe play music with them, there sometimes comes a time when the self is gone, you are just swept up in the power of unity.

I used to work a 6-10 diverter shift every Sunday morning in another county. More than any other, those quiet, early hours put me in closest touch with the alcoholic who was (often) still suffering. Flowing across the phone, listening and responding, the current of sympathetic attention and unity swept us both up.

There but for the Grace of God go I

I saw a woman sitting on the curb today, very early, as the sun was just coming up in the cold and damp. Shopping bags with clothes poking out sat beside her as she raised her arms to make gestures at the sky. Her eyes were angry, lost in whatever story she was telling herself. I slowed the car and looked, wondering whether to pull over and offer help. I looked toward her, but she didn't even notice me.

I don't know if she was an alcoholic or an addict, maybe she was having mental or emotional troubles, but I did get that feeling that she might be one of us. What I do know is that at the height of my cocaine and alcohol use, I was frequently up all night, wandering in the streets at dawn, maybe taking pictures of reflections in puddles, or driving aimlessly in my old beater car, waiting for the liquor store to open. And I too was lost in my story of how my life was, and I couldn't see the reality of what I was doing right then, the true situation I was in, having alienated most of my friends, barely able to work, let alone set goals and work toward them to realize my dreams. I couldn't fix my car, clean my small 2 room place, or fix healthy meals.

There are so many of us, who haven't grabbed out for the help we need yet, who don't even know they can be free of the prison of a very limited mind, and the belief that alcohol and drugs are our solution. There but for the grace of a higher power, the members of AA who reached out to me and told me that things would change, if I just stayed sober one day at a time and listened, go I.

Mary K.

Flyers for Christmas Eve Alcahons follow. None are yet available for New Years' Eve, except for Sobriety in the Ville.

The Birthday Speaker meeting is staying on Zoom, see flyer for Zoom info- open at 6:30 pm. New Year's Day, meeting starts at 7 pm.

There will not be a dance for New Year's Eve in Ben Lomond this year.



Ben Lomond Fellowship Christmas 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*



SOBRIETY IN THE VILLE
Presents a winter holiday Alcathon
Honoring the Gifts of Recovery

→ **Friday, December 24th**

→ **Saturday, December 25th**

→ **Sunday, December 26th**

**MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR 7:00am, 9:00am,
10:30am, 12:00 noon, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm,
7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm all 3 days**

ALL MEETINGS ACCESSIBLE VIA:

Zoom: 761 770 9535, password: makemyday

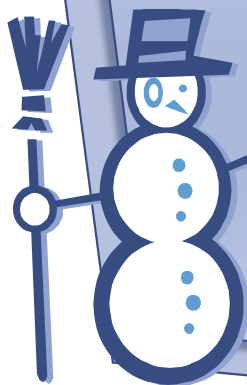
Dial In: 1 669 900 9128, password 933054912#

Please note:

***The 'room' will stay open Friday, Saturday,
and Sunday from 7am to midnight.***

For Questions, please call:

***Sobriety in The Ville at 831-508-0185
or email info@sobrietyintheville.com***





2021 HOLIDAY

ALCATHONS

Happy Holidays

Christmas schedule

**Friday, Dec 24th
8,9 & 10 pm**

**Saturday, Dec 25th
6:45 am then hourly
8:00 am till 10:00 pm
except 5 & 6 pm**

**Sunday, Dec 26th
6:45 am then hourly
8:00 am till 4:00 pm**

New Years schedule

**Friday, Dec 31st
8 pm to Midnight**

**Saturday, Jan 1st
6:45 am then hourly
8:00 am till 10:00 pm
except 5 & 6 pm**

**Sunday, Jan 2nd
6:45 am then hourly
8:00 am till 4:00 pm**

All meetings start on the hour and are 50 minutes long. Regular meetings are at their normal times.

Monterey Fellowship Hall

519 Hurrell St. Monterey Ca

Flyers for Christmas Eve Alcathons follow. None are yet available for New Years' Eve except Society in the Ville.

SANTA CRUZ INTERGROUP

PRESENTS

BIRTHDAY SPEAKER MEETING

HOSTED BY: MUD FLATS

KAREN C. — OAKLAND, CA.

34 YEARS

JANUARY 1, 2022 7-8:15 PM PST

ZOOM ID: 891 4678 6139

7TH TRADITION

PASSCODE: 8675309

PAYPAL.ME/INTERGROUP923

DIAL IN (669) 900-9128

ADD A NOTE—"BSM-1/1/22"

NOTE: The Birthday Speaker meeting will not be back in person until the BSM Committee makes that decision. Sorry!



SOBRIETY IN THE VILLE

PRESENTS

Celebrating the Promises **A New Year's Alcathon**

Friday, December 31, 2021

Saturday, January 1, 2022

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Daily meetings at 7am, 9am, 10:30am,

12 noon, 1:30pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, and 10:30pm

Our Zoom 'room' will stay open from 6:45am until midnight each day

All Sobriety in The Ville meetings are accessible via
Zoom ID: 761-770-9535 and Password: makemyday
Or Dial in: 1669 900 9128 and Password: 933054912#