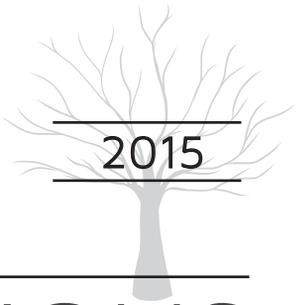




WINTER

NAPA VALLEY



2015

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Service started for me when I first got sober. Not only was it presented through the rehab I went to, but my sponsor was in general service at the time. My first job was making coffee for the Day at a Time group, which was a meeting that met in an old building at 6:30 a.m. The room was extremely cold when I got there and it would get stifling hot by the time the meeting was over. The fellowship at that time and place still burns bright in my memory. When I started going to that meeting six people would equal a big meeting. Now they need a room which holds at least forty.

"To watch AA grow up around you is something you should not miss,"

Working With Others ~ Big Book

The other meeting I became solid with was the Saturday Seven Men's Stag. There were men who had close to thirty years sobriety and they knew how the meeting was to be run.

During the first few years (by few I mean 10). I stayed in service by

- Making coffee – humility by showing up when no one was there
- Being treasurer
- Secretary– showed up and had to be accountable – found out I should accept things the way they are
- Chair Alcathons and anniversary events– easiest job because everyone knows how to do it better and will do it for you– let go
- Greeter–meet people get out of myself
- Literature chair– learned there is a lot to know about beside what goes on in Napa
- Most recently as District Committee Member Chair for District 11, Napa Valley
- Sponsor letting go of fear

When I turned 13 I felt I had entered no mans land. At the birthday meetings there were few people who would get a chip. At 13 you don't have enough experience to sound like an old timer and I felt to old to not know how AA worked.

- They passed information on by oral tradition
- When they moved or passed on their knowledge left with them
- Still held by memory the function of the groups officers became muddy

- Reading–asking questions–talking to members with experience– contacting GSO were ways to learn how to deal with questions I had about what is the collective AA experience.

I now know I am in the right place. I am at the right age to look into and answer questions I am learning to be humble and I do not have to speak up and cry foul! The greatest lessons are to seek spirituality, respect for each person, create a safe environment, let the minority person have as much say as the person who "knows the rules."

I am now learning how that all people and meetings have the right to make mistakes. I can pass on my knowledge when asked and leave the rest to God. Being of service is a great honor and lesson in humility when I practice letting go.

Looking forward to seeing you at a meeting.

Respectfully,

Thom H.

OUTGOING DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBER CHAIR

2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous July 2-5, 2015 - Atlanta, Georgia

The 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2 - 5, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia with the theme "80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free." A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 80th year with Big Meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Georgia Dome. Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the Georgia World Congress Center and local hotels.

Please visit www.aa.org for up-to-date convention information.

“Anyone can get sober. We have all done it lots of times.
The trick is to stay and to live sober.”

~ Living Sober



Results of District 11 Panel 65 Elections

Positions began Jan 01, 2015 and will be held for 2 years.

H&I Liason ~ Elisabeth B.

Intergroup Liason ~ Jeanie P.

Beginner Meeting Chair ~ Seth T.

Bridging the Gap Chair ~ Clayton L.

District Literature ~ Thomas H.

Coffee Chair ~ Thomas H.

Unity Day Chair (for June event) ~ TBA

Archives Chair ~ Jordan F.

Recording Secretary ~ John H.

District Treasurer ~ Patrick B.

District Committee Member Chair ~ Mary S.

Alternate District Committee Member Chair /
Chair of PI/CPC ~ Paulā D.

District Committee Member (district 002 -
Upvalley) ~ Chitra S.

District Committee Member (district 001 -
Napa) ~ Cheryl G.

Alternate DCM 001 ~ Jeff D.

Thank you those of you who stepped up to chair and help with the recent Alcothons - Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Eve!! It's not too early to think about stepping up to chair the 2015 alcothons :)

New Meeting Locations

Please note - the following meeting locations have recently moved:

SOS Women's Meeting, Saturday 10:30am

New location: Napa Recovery Resource Center
535 Coombsville Road, Napa

Unity, Service, and Recovery, Saturday at 6pm

New location: Napa Recovery Resource Center
535 Coombsville Road, Napa

Special Meetings

Napa Valley Intergroup Meeting

Second Saturday of every month - 10am
Crosswalk Church, blue room : 2590 First Street, Napa

H&I Business Meeting

First Friday of every month - 6:45pm
Sea Scout Building : 402 Riverside Drive, Napa

Birthday Meeting

Last Friday of every month - 7pm
Crosswalk Church, gym (in the sanctuary)
2590 First Street, Napa

Beginner's Meeting

Every Monday - 7:30pm
First United Methodist Church : Randolph Street, Napa

NAPYPAA

1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month - 7pm
First United Methodist Church : Randolph Street, Napa

Does your group need literature:

Send your orders to literature@aanapa.org or download the literature order form at aanapa.org. Orders can be picked up at the following Intergroup meeting.



ONE ACT AT A TIME

HOW TO HAVE FUN IN SOBRIETY WORKSHOP

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT

NAPA RECOVERY RESOURCE CENTER
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST 7PM - 10PM

LEARN HOW TO HAVE FUN ONE ACT AT A TIME
TYPES OF ACTS: COMEDY, POETRY, VOCAL, GUITAR,
TURNTABLEISM, SKITS, JUGGLING, VIDEO ART, ETC.

WANT TO GET IN ON THE FUN...
LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT WWW.ONEACTATATIME.NET
QUESTIONS EMAIL: INFO@ONEACTATATIME.NET

A NAPA VALLEY INTERGROUP WORKSHOP



"I thought that if I stopped drinking and I stopped using drugs...I would not be able to play anymore. In other words, those were things that were necessary for inspiration," he says. "But it was a shortcut. My experience now tells me in a long time of being in recovery, that I can be a good musician with or without that philosophy."

~ Eric Clapton

Since getting clean and sober over 25 years ago, not only has Eric Clapton penned the biggest song of his career, he has written a book and released several successful cds.

Corrections Correspondence

“A Special Kind of Service”

Since the very beginning of our Fellowship, people have written to our General Service Office in New York asking for information about the life saving program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Today, many of us are fortunate to have found the Fellowship through meetings in our local community. We came to realize that no one recovers alone. Many of us crave the fellowship we find at our local meetings. Others who seek our Fellowship, are confined in correctional facilities. Sometimes they have no access to A.A. meetings or A.A. literature. Some in corrections facilities are struggling alone with the disease of Alcoholism. Inmates sometimes reach out for help by writing to our General Service Office and ask if there is anyone who can share recovery experience, strength, and hope with them through the mail. The Corrections Desk at our G.S.O. currently receives approximately 600 pieces of mail per month. Approximately 200 of these letters are requests for an outside A.A. member to correspond with.

The A.A. Corrections Correspondence Service, (CCS), was introduced in 1971 to respond to those reaching out for help from correctional facilities. Quite simply, Corrections Correspondence is an opportunity to be of service to someone confined who is reaching out for help by sharing our recovery experience, strength, and hope through the mail. There is no other requirement. An A.A. member interested in becoming a Corrections Correspondent does not need prior experience in Corrections or H&I work, and certainly is not required to have been confined themselves.

Current Corrections Correspondents share the following experience:

“I write a letter a month on average and I never fail to feel gratitude for my sobriety and for being able to help another alcoholic when I drop that letter in the mail box”

“This is basic Twelfth Step work, it's part of my program”

“I want the hand of A.A. to be there for those reaching out for help, I'm happy to be doing it”

“It's a Special Kind of Service alright - I do it from home on my schedule and can always find the time to write a letter to someone who has asked for our help”

While men and women are encouraged to become Corrections Correspondents, the number of male inmates requesting the service is increasing at a rate significantly higher than the number of "outside" male volunteers available.

The Corrections Correspondence Service is coordinated through the General Service Office. When someone enrolls to become a correspondent, the G.S.O. aligns the outside A.A. member with an inmate, usually at least one geographical region away, and provides the inmate's mailing address. Men are aligned with men and women with women. The outside A. A. member begins the correspondence. Some A.A. members use their home Group's P.O. Box as their return address while others use their home address.

The enrollment form along with additional information on becoming a Corrections Correspondent can be found in the pamphlet "Corrections Correspondence - "A Special Kind of Service", pamphlet F-26. Look for the pamphlet in your home Group's literature rack. The pamphlet can be downloaded from the G.S.O. website aa.org, or you can email your contact information to the G.S.O. Corrections Desk at corrections@aa.org.

For further information you can talk to your Group's General Service Representative, or contact Pat B.