



SANTA CLARITA VALLEY CENTRAL OFFICE OF A.A.  
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# Gratitude Gazette

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December 2016

Volume 11 Issue 12

## Clubhouses

The relationship between a club and an A.A. group is mutually beneficial when all involved respect the autonomy of the group. An A.A. group includes all who suffer from alcoholism and we refuse none who wish to recover. A.A. membership does not depend on money or conformity and its contributions are only voluntary. A.A. meetings are encouraged to register with the General Service Office as well as their local central offices. This allows the meetings to be in directories locally, coast to coast and internationally. Usually a secretary and treasurer are elected for the meetings. Other positions like secretary, treasurer, literature person, greeter, cake person, GSR, Intergroup Rep are voted in as the group gets started. The 7th Tradition is passed at an A.A. group to take care of the expenses of the meeting which include rent, chips, medallions, literature, coffee, cakes etc. Groups are self-supporting declining outside contributions.

**There is no such thing as an A.A. Clubhouse.** In Santa Clarita we have one for profit clubhouse, the Stepping Stones Alano Club, Inc. Their main purpose is to maintain a future building fund. The building fund is a corporate investment. You can become a member at the Stepping Stones Alano Club, Inc. by buying a membership \$100.00 per year, purchasing stones along the wall with a sobriety date on it or participate in their fundraisers. It is up to the clubhouse to keep their purpose of collecting funds for profit and the A.A. 7th tradition at A.A. meetings separate. These lines between what is A.A. and what is the club profit margin can be blurred especially if a new A.A. member is not reminded or told about the dividing lines. At this club the A.A. meetings rent space to hold their A.A. meetings. The A.A. meeting held in the club pay the rent set by the club, buy the chips, cakes etc from the 7th Tradition which is passed only within the A.A. meetings. It is up to each meeting to figure out how to disperse the funds it collects. Rents range from \$60.00 per meeting or \$240.00 per month for small meetings to \$120.00 per meeting or \$480.00 per month for larger meetings. With rents this high it seems like it would be hard for A.A. meetings to buy what they need for their meetings and to contribute to the other A.A. sources which depend on their donations like the local central office, General World Service, Area 93 and District 7.

The Stepping Stones Club has many A.A. meetings and almost all of them come to Central Office for their chips. When I ring up their purchase and remind them to get recompensed from their group I am told the same story every time. "Oh they cannot afford to buy chips or cakes because the rent is so high." Listen take it from an old timer. You need to pass the basket again for those chips and cakes. An A.A. group is self supporting, meaning it takes care of itself. What happens when the person takes over the chip person's job and clearly does not have the money to buy chips on their own. This is a bad precedent to set up at meetings. In A.A. we support each other and this includes chips and cakes etc. If the rent is too high ask for a reduction, do not have chips or cakes or move your meeting to somewhere you can relax and afford to be an official A.A. meeting. The A.A. meeting controls its own destiny even in a clubhouse.

Clubhouses have a set of rules that those attending must follow in order to hold their A.A. meetings inside. Some of the rules are about safety and health which maintain those who enter the club. Following A.A. Group Traditions the third tradition states the only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking. Generally the more rules a clubhouse has the more restrictive it is. Especially if the rules ban anyone from attending the A.A. meetings inside the club. This idea of banning is a clubhouse philosophy. It is not an A.A. philosophy. In Tradition Three of our program "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. I know that sometimes someone's behavior can grind on our last nerve, but A. A. does not exclude anyone who has a desire to stop drinking. I can remember when my behavior was loud and obnoxious. I never got kicked out of any clubhouse in the San Fernando Valley for spouting off. Thank goodness. Their love and tolerance helped me to see another avenue for my missteps.

The Rafters club is a non-profit club. They provide a place for meetings, coffee and chips. They do not charge a standard rent for a space, but do expect the 7th tradition collected to come to them. Some of the A.A. meetings in the club are registered with General World Services and have their own numbers so they are listed in the national directories. The Rafters club does donate \$100.00 per month to their central office. It is the oldest club in Santa Clarita and has probably played a role in every old-timers sobriety in this valley.

The Recovery Room has several A.A. meetings. These meetings pay rent \$20.00 per meeting or \$80.00 per month. They all donate to central office and are registered with General World Service. They have a 7th tradition there and are self supporting A.A. groups.

I hope you have a better understanding of clubhouses in Santa Clarita. Make up your own mind what serves you well. We all need to get out and have fun. Socializing is the best avenue for that. Just know where your money goes and what your buying into. I always say the truth will set you free.

*December 19 is my last day as your manager in Central Office. I have enjoyed my work here It has been wonderful being of service to my A. A. community. I am still an intergroup representative for my Friday night Big Book Study at the Valencia Methodist Church so I will be attending Intergroup Meetings. The new faces selling literature, chips and medallions are Sheryl on Mondays, Roberta on Wednesdays and Dena on Fridays from 12-4PM. What a team. They rock. The position on Monday is open. Anyone who has 2 plus years of service and wants to be of service just call Central Office. We also need coverage for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-4PM until our volunteer Mike's foot heals. Call and leave a message and Sheryl our treasurer or Jane our Chairman will get back to you. Joanne M.*





## Seventh Tradition Contributions

Santa Clarita Valley Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, PO Box 803063, Valencia CA 91380-3063

GSO PO Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

Central California Area 93, PMB#140 , 606 Alamo Pintado #3, Solvang CA 93463

District 7 General Service Board, PO Box 599, Acton, CA 93510

**Birthday Board**  
**Add your day!**  
**661-250-9922**

Kelly C.	12-02-2008
Trent S.	12-20-2012
Dan C.	12-21-1998



## A.A. RELATED EVENTS 2016-2017 ENJOY

Dec 18, 2016 Rafters Christmas Children Holiday Party (sign up for it beforehand) at the clubhouse 2-4PM games, snacks and more

Dec 24, 2016 Midnight Stepping Stones Alano Club Inc. Tamales by Nick G.

Dec 31, 2016 Under the Sea on New Years Eve speaker meeting and dance  
[www.VCAARoundUp.org](http://www.VCAARoundUp.org).

Jan 27-29, 2017 42nd Annual San Fernando AA Convention Acceptance was the Answer  
[www.sfvaaconvention.org](http://www.sfvaaconvention.org). Info line 818-734-0383

Feb 16-19 2017 53rd International Women's Conference, Cleveland Ohio  
[www.internationalwomensconference.org](http://www.internationalwomensconference.org)

March 10-12, 2017 23rd NW Pockets of Enthusiasm Round-Up, Spokane Valley, Washington  
[www.NWPockets.org](http://www.NWPockets.org), [NWPockets.Register@gmail.com](mailto:NWPockets.Register@gmail.com), [NWPockets.Chair@gmail.com](mailto:NWPockets.Chair@gmail.com)

April 20-22, 2017 32nd Annual Lincoln Spring Fling, Lincoln,NE [www.lincolnspringfling.com](http://www.lincolnspringfling.com)

The Rafters Club: [Every Sunday 2:30-6PM Music Jam Sessions](#) or call them for more events at the club 661-259-0802.

Stepping Stones Alano Club, Inc: Call them for more events 661-287-9730

Although the events listed here are related to Alcoholics Anonymous most are not affiliated with A.A. directly. We simply list the events as healthy fun events for those in recovery.

# SCV CENTRAL OFFICE

## Holiday Tips:

Line up extra A.A. events for the holidays.

Keep you're A.A. phone list handy.

Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about.

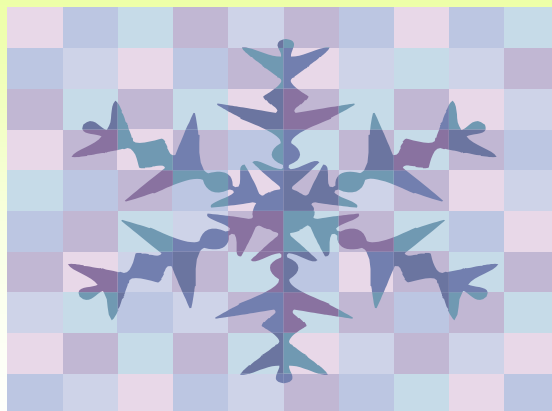
If you have to go to a drinking party, take some candy and have two straws for your drink.

Enjoy the true beauty of the holiday love and joy.

Worship your way.

Don't get worked up about the holiday temptations remember "one day at a time".

*Merry Christmas  
From  
SCV Central Office*



## November 2016 Donation

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/01/2016	New Reflections - Tues 730pm	Group Contributions	40.00
11/02/2016	Magic Mountain Group - Mon 730pm	Group Contributions	75.00
11/12/2016	Sisters In Sobriety Book Study	Group Contributions	88.00
11/14/2016	Rafters Group	Group Contributions/November Contributions 2016	100.00
11/21/2016	Rafters Group	Group Contributions/December 2016	100.00
11/28/2016	Step Sisters Friday 9	Group Contributions	100.00
			503.00
11/01/2016	Sisters In Sobriety Book Study	Individual Contributions	0.86
11/15/2016	Individual	Individual Contributions	50.00
11/21/2016	Individual	Individual Contributions	28.00
11/28/2016	Individual	Individual Contributions	100.00
			178.86
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>681.86</b>

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/04/2016	Favorite Part of the 12 x 12	Gratitude Month	11.00
11/01/2016	Favorite Part of the 12 x 12	Gratitude Month	11.00
11/01/2016	Favorite Part of the Big Book Wed 9am	Gratitude Month	39.00
11/28/2016	Favorite Part of the Big Book Wed 9am	Gratitude Month	62.00
11/06/2016	Great Reality - Sun 9am	Gratitude Month	48.00
11/13/2016	Great Reality - Sun 9am	Gratitude Month	87.05
11/28/2016	Great Reality - Sun 9am	Gratitude Month	59.00
11/28/2016	Just For Today - Mon 9am	Gratitude Month	137.99
11/28/2016	Open Participation	Gratitude Month	23.00
11/28/2016	Open Participation	Gratitude Month	7.00
11/28/2016	Step Sisters Friday 9	Gratitude Month	83.00
11/28/2016	Unknown Meeting	Gratitude Month	45.76
11/10/2016	Womens Book Study - Thurs 7pm	Gratitude Month	18.96
11/28/2016	Womens Book Study - Thurs 7pm	Gratitude Month	48.68
			<b>681.44</b>

SCV Central Office of AA  
Profit & Loss Jan-Nov, 2016

	<b>Jan - Nov 16</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Income - Literature	18,179.74
Income - Medallions	3,278.32
Income - Other Merchandise	367.94
Group Contributions	6,703.54
Gratitude Month	1,376.92
Individual Contributions	955.92
Interest Income	0.28
<b>Total Income</b>	30,862.66
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
Cost of Goods Sold - Literature	15,652.65
Costs of items purchased and then sold to customers	280.35
Cost of Goods Sold - Medallions	1,619.01
Cost of Goods Sold - Other	217.34
<b>Total COGS</b>	17,769.35
<b>Gross Profit</b>	13,093.31
<b>Expense</b>	
Bank/Card Fees	5.00
Computer	412.40
Insurance	752.50
Internet Service	884.84
Office Rent	6,160.00
Office Supplies	1,132.66
Professional - Contract Labor	1,480.00
PO Box Rental	185.40
Postage and Delivery	65.77
Professional Fees - Accounting	90.00
Professional Fees - Legal	451.00
Taxes - Sales	1,830.21
Telephone	595.00
Web Hosting	120.00
Discrepancies between bank statements and company records	49.74
<b>Total Expense</b>	14,214.52
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-1,121.21
<b>Net Income</b>	-1,121.21