Inland Empire

November 2021

Newsletter

aainlandempire.org

A publication of the Inland Empire Central Office Serving the Inland Empire





Inland Empire Central Office P.O. Box 189 897 Via Lata Suite A Colton, CA 92324 (Mail to P.O. Box 189)

Open 8 AM to 4 PM, Mon.-Fri. 9 AM to 1 PM, Sat. **909-825-4700**

Website:www.aainlandempire.org



aacentral@sbcglobal.net

Intergroup Meeting 1st Wednesday of the month, 7 PM 670 Carreon, Colton Zoom # 845 4840 4215 PW: intergroup

> Board of Directors Meeting 3rd Thursday of the month 7:00 PM

General Service District 8 GSR 3rd Wednesday of the month Meeting 7:00-8:30 PM New GSR School Afterwards 8223 California, Riverside

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81358831671

District 11 GSR Dark New GSRs Welcome to Attend Dist. 8 (see Dist. 8 details).

> District 14 GSR 3rd Wednesday of the month New GSR School 6:00 PM Meeting 7:00 PM Church of the Good Shepherd 308 E. Acacia Ave., Hemet

Hospitals & Institutions 3rd Sunday of the month, 3:00 PM Redlands Unity Club 1307 Brookside Ave., Redlands

> Area 9 Msca09aa.org

<u>Step</u>

Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him*, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

Tradition

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

Concept

The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

Attunement (Becoming as one with our Higher Power)

Central Intergroup Office of the Inland Empire Board of Directors

Chairman: Dan D. Vice Chairman: Duke W.

Treasurer: Wilson W. Secretary: Mary D.

> Diane L. Elizabeth E. Tim D.

Inland Empire Editor: Carolyn V. Office Manager: Carolyn V.

Letters to the Editor or Articles for the Newsletter

must be received by the 15th of the month for consideration of publication in the following month's issue.

Please submit your material for The Inland Empire Newsletter

to: Inland Empire Central Office P.O. Box 189 Colton, Ca., 92324 E-mail: aacentral@sbcglobal.net



Ernestine M. Leanne G.	21 34	
Bill S. Jeanne R. Michele B.	41 26 8	Birthday

November Central Office Activity Report

AA Calls	445
12 Step Calls	11
Other Calls	28
Visitors	113
TOTAL:	597
Web Site	
Visitors	48140
Countries	37
Subscribers	755
	100
TOTAL:	48932

Thanks to all who are of service. It makes a difference!

In Loving Memory

Gary P., Martin L., Sally R., Doug M., Pete P., Jon M.

Content

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We thank all of the birthday celebrants for their contributions to the Central Office Birthday Club.

Inland Empire Central Office Of AA

Personal Donations

September 2021

	CONTRIBUTIONS	INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS	BAM INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS	COFFEE KITTY	PERSONAL DONATIONS	TOTAL INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	TOTAL
Alexandria M.	Annesis and		Stratic contracts	the second second	39.76	39.76	39.76	\$39.76
Barbaradee F.			18.00			18.00	18.00	\$18.00
Brenda L.			4.41			4.41	4.41	\$4.41
Coffee Kitty				15.58		15.58	15.58	\$15.58
Ellie K					24.01	24.01	24.01	\$24.01
Ernest G.			10.00			10.00	10.00	\$10.00
Gil L.			10.00		60.00	70.00	70.00	\$70.00
Jay L.					78.00	78.00	78.00	\$78.00
Jeannie S.					150.00	150.00	150.00	\$150.00
Jeano M.					41.00	41.00	41.00	\$41.00
Jeff O.			4.41			4.41	4.41	\$4.41
Michael S.					9.31	9.31	9.31	\$9.31
Piers					5.74	5.74	5.74	\$5.74
TOTAL	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$46.82	\$15.58	\$407.82	\$470.22	\$470.22	\$470.22

VAGABOND GROUP

www.snafubar.com@vagabonds

NOTICE: WE MUST HAVE YOUR RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT AT LEAST THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF EACH CAMPOUT TO RESERVE A SITE FOR YOU. **THANKS!**

Saturday: Alanon meets 11 a.m., Potluck 5 p.m. during Standard Time and 6 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time, followed by Business meeting and A.A. Campfire meeting, Please bring firewood.

November 12-13, 2021 Prado Regional Park Reservations required, Contact the WAGON MASTER: John & Murya 909-633-3997 sites: 19,20,55-60 W/E \$91 w/hookups

Directions: From Hwy 15, take Hwy 76 West 11 miles West on Hwy 76. Bring Firewood !!

December 10-13, 2021 Rancho Jurupa, Rubidoux	Reservations required, Contact the WAGON MASTER: Gail & Malissa 951-845-1553 Back Row pay at gate. W/E TBD w/hookups
Directions: Hwy 60 to Rubidoux Blvd south, turn Bring Firewood !!	n left on Mission Blvd., go to Crestmoor Road and turn right.
January 14-16, 2022	Reservations required, Contact the WAGON MASTER: Jeannie 951-682-7881

Directions: Hwy 10 to Jefferson offramp. GO Right and follow Park signs. Bring Firewood !! Fishing!

Please Submit all of your events and / or letters we would love to put them in the newsletter.





THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!! Thanks to these volunteers for keeping Central Office running smoothly for the past month:

Cheryl D., Chris S., Lisa H. Teri M.

Riverside Alano Club Upcoming Events

7620 Cypress Ave, (951) 351-0100

Friday October 22nd- 8:30PM- 12:00 Midnight

Dance and Karaoke

Saturday October 23rd- 1:30PM-4:00PM

Kids Halloween Party

Bouncy House, Costume Contest, Limbo and more games

Thursday November 25th - 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Thanksgiving Turkey w/ Fixings by Club Potluck sides desserts

Saturday December 18th- 1:30PM-4:00PM

Kids Christmas Party Cookie decorating, Pinata and Santa

COOKIE DECOLATING, PINALA AND SANTA

Saturday December 25th – 2:00PM-4:00PM

Christmas Dinner Turkey and Fixings by Club / Potluck sides and desserts

Friday December 31st - 8:30 PM-1:00 AM New Years Eve Dance and Karaoke



56th Inland Empire

Christmas Alkathon

The San Bernardino Elks Lodge #836 2055 Elks Dr. San Bernardino EVENT SCHEDULE
Think your homegroup is the best? Lets put it to t

All Meetings are Represented by city

December 24, 2021 Meeting 1 - Noon to 1:30pm Redlands, Mentone, Colton & Yucaipa Meal - 1:30pm Meeting 2 - 2:00pm to 3:30pm Sun City, Banning, Beaumont, Riverside Meal - 3:30pm

4:00pm IE Homegroup Competition

<u>Register your Group Here -</u>

Meeting 3 - 5:00pm to 6:30pm Moreno Valley, Hemet, Homeland, Perris, Anza, Murrieta Meal - 6:30pm

Meeting 4 - 7:00pm to 8:30pm Rancho Cucamonga, Upland, Rialto, Ontario Meal - 8:30pm

Meeting 5 - 9:00pm to 10:30pm San Bernardino, Fontana, Victorville, Hesperia, Bloomington Meal - 10:30pm

Meeting 6 - 11:00pm to 12:30am Corona, Chino, Norco

Meal - 12:30am (Dessert)

#7 @12:45am #8 @2:00am Facility Closed 1:00am-5:30am

#9 @3:15am Meetings #7-10 will be on Zoom! #10@4:30am D# 909 307 4024

December 25th, 2021 Passcode: service

Meeting 11- 5:45am to 6:45am Highland, Rubidox, La Verne, Adelanto Meal - 6:45am (Breakfast) Meeting 12 - 7:00am to 8:30am Lake Elsinore, Temecula, San Jacinto, Glen Avon, Riverside Meal - 8:30am (Breakfast) Meeting 13 - 9:00am to 10:30am Big Bear, Fawnskin, Lake Arrowhead, Blue Jαy, Idyllwild Meal - 10:30am Meeting 14 - 11:00am to 12:30pm Wrightwood, Phelan, Crestline, Lytle Creek, Running Springs Meal - 12:30pm Meeting 15 - 1:00pm to 2:30pm Riverside, Wildomar, Mead Valley Meal - 2:30pm Meeting 16 - 3:00pm to 4:30pm Claremont, Pomona, Alta Loma Meal - 4:30pm Meeting 17 - 5:00pm to 6:30pm San Bernardino, Highland, Redlands Meal - 6:30pm Meeting 18 - 7:00pm to 8:30pm Redlands Care 'N Share Speaker Clean up!

Think your homegroup is the best? Lets put it to the test. MOST UNIFIED HOMEGROUP COMPETITION DEC. 24TH @ 4PM

EVERY ONE OF US HAS BEEN GIFTED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE SOBRIETY AND FOR MANY OF US, AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER HAVE SEEN THE SPIRIT OF THE FELLOWSHIP IN ACTION. THAT MOMENT YOU EXPERIENCED LOVE AND SERVICE FIRST HAND. WHEN THE AA MEETING YOU ATTENDED WAS NO LONGER A CHAIR AND A CUP OF COFFEE



It had become HOME.



IF YOU HAVE NOT BECOME A PART OF A HOMEGROUP, ITS AN EXPERIENCE YOU WONT WANT TO MISS. THIS WILL BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SEE VARIOUS HOMEGROUPS IN ACTION AS THEY PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS CHALLENGES THAT ARE BASED ON AA'S

THREE LEGACIES RECOVERY, UNITY & SERVICE



SEEKING AUCTION ITEMS FROM INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES & GIFT BASKETS CONTRIBUTED BY YOUR HOMEGROUP.

Auction Items will be accepted throughout the month! All bidding done Virtually During the month of November Bidding closes on December 4th at 7pm.

Check our FB or Central Office website Events Page for a link to the Auction, or check your local meetings for a flyer w/QR code to the event starting November 1st.! All proceeds benefit the IE Christmas Alkathon. Alkathon is a for Fun and For Free event!

NOV. 1 - DEC. 4 | 7 PM | UNITY CLUB REDLANDS



7th Tradition Basket is passed at <u>EVERY</u> meeting. Contributions / checks can be made payable to: Christmas Alkathon

OR BY PAYPAL OR ZELLE TO





Raffle drawing at 6:45pm, 8:45pm Christmas Eve Raffle drawing at 12:45pm, 2:45pm, Christmas Day. 50/50 drawing at 4:45pm Christmas Day

Please pass the $7^{\rm th}$ Tradition basket (whee, first for the group $7^{\rm th}$ tradition and the second time for a Central Office Gratitude donation

Mai) or deliver the November Grantude donations to the Central office after your last meeting in November, Special envelopes will be provided.

Please begin announcements at your last October meeting and November meeting when the 7th Tradition is passed the second time.

For many decades now, we in the fellowship have formally carved out from the calendar the month of November as a time to express our collective gratitude for our individual sobriety. Interestingly, no one is exactly sure why that month was originally chosen, though its connection with Thanksgiving seems obvious. AA co-founder, Bill W., thought for a while that his sobriety had begun in November, but later calculations established the date of his new beginnings as December 11.

> INLAND EMPIRE CENTRAL OFFICE PO BOX 189 COLTON, CA 92324

For many decades now, we in the Fellowship have formally carved out from the calendar the month of November as a time to express our collective gratitude for our individual sobriety. Interestingly, no one is exactly sure why that month was originally chosen, though its connection with Thanksgiving seems obvious. A.A. cofounder, Bill W., thought for a while that his sobriety had begun in November, but later calculations established the date of his new beginnings as December 11.

Misty origins notwithstanding, Gratitude Month has, since the 1940s, been November and our shared thankfullness over the years has taken many forms and will continue to do so as our membership widens.

The General Service Board began giving small gratitude dinners in the 1940s. These were precursors to the much larger Gratitude Luncheons that were orchestrated during the 1960s as a Public Information effort of G.S.O. A.A. Traditions were the undeniable anchor of our new sober life, Bill W. thought when he wrote, "What then could be more appropriate than to set aside Thanksgiving week for discussion of the practical and spiritual values to be discovered in our Traditions?" The Traditions, he wrote in November 1949, "are a distillate of our experience of living and working together. They apply the spirit of the Twelve recovery Steps to our group life and security." (The Language of the Heart, p. 96) The first sealed and approved, official recognition of an A.A. "Gratitude Week," to be specifically designated to coincide with Thanksgiving week, dates back to 1956. That year, at the Sixth General Service Conference, delegates approved a motion to that effect, stipulating that "this action be noted in the annual pre -Thanksgiving appeals to the groups for funds to help support A.A.'s worldwide services.

Carrying the message, expressing gratitude, as well as wanting to make a gesture of appreciation for the numerous published articles, books In A.A. November is Gratitude Month

A November Tradition Gratitude Month November 2021

and radio and TV interviews relating to A.A. that year, were what motivated a number of Gratitude Luncheons. These were held, always in November, during the 1960s at New York City's Roosevelt Hotel—where, incidentally, members of the media who might care to have a drink, were assured, in the invitation by General Service Board chairman (nonalcoholic) Dr. John L. Norris, that "cocktails will be served at 12:15 in the Library, and the luncheon will end promptly at 2:00 p.m."

Well-attended functions, these luncheons drew a sizable, wide-ranging representation from the media, and G.S.O. Archives served a double purpose: to thank the writers and commentators who attended for their contributions to A.A. in the preceding year and to, in the words of a G.S.O. memo written at the time, "advance A.A.'s public relations by bringing editors, publishers, writers and broad-casters in personal contact with sources of reliable information on the movement." A typical list of invitees to the 1965 luncheon, who had published articles and books on the Fellowship were from The New York Times, Medical World News, McCall's Magazine, Macmillan Publishing Company, The Christian Science Monitor, and many other news and publishing organizations.

Bill W. always addressed the gatherings, as did Dr. Norris, and, in addition to a question and answer period at the end of the proceedings, there was always plenty of A.A. literature available for the guests to take along. In 1965, Bill sent an autographed copy of the newly-released A.A. Comes of Age to each guest.

Although those who came to the luncheons found them helpful and informative, the board thought they were too expensive a way to say thank you, when a letter from Bill, after an article or TV production was completed,



Would have been enough. Others voiced the opinion that more cooperation offered on articles or radio and TV spots might have been more helpful. In any event, the luncheons were discontinued in 1968.

Gratitude. We all know it serves us best when it's kept alive, in our individual lives and in our group conscience. Realizing this, countless A.A. groups over the years have used the month of November (for Canadian groups, it's October), to open the door of gratitude even wider. It's a sure way of insuring a continued healthy sobriety, group unity, and to avoid complacency and stagnation. Many groups observe Gratitude Month by holding Traditions meetings and taking up special contributions to the General Service Office for A.A. services worldwide. This is an opportunity for all A.A.s to think of new and expanding ways to express and share their gratitude. For example, groups could hold topic meetings during the month on the power and different faces of gratitude: "How Grateful Are We?"

"Gratitude is not Passive"; "Giving it Away."

How about trying something new, something your group has never done before, which will make the members' gratitude more tangible and real? Traditions meetings, of course, always bring home to us all over again the richness of our A.A. heritage, strengthening not only our gratitude but the sobriety of A.A.s, old and new. In deepening our appreciation of A.A.'s Traditions during Thanksgiving week, Bill wrote, "We could thus reinforce our faith in the future by these prudent works; we could show that we deserve to go on receiving that priceless gift of oneness which God in his wisdom has so freely given to us of Alcoholics Anonymous in the precious years of our infancy." (ibid.)

So how about it? Let's give Gratitude a real send-off this year!

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News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.®

Vol. 63, No. 3 / Fall 2017

Intergroup/Central Office: Then and Now

Established and supported by local groups to carry out the functions of a centralized office, intergroups have provided thousands of desperate alcoholics with their first contact with Alcoholics Anonymous, either over the phone, in person, or, increasingly, online. With 469 intergroups/central offices listed with G.S.O. in the U.S/ Canada alone (and nearly 700 worldwide), A.A. is so easily "searchable" these days that we often forget that, at one time, it played a little hard to get. Back in the early days, "A.A. wasn't that easy to find," wrote one oldtimer. "A carefully selected group of priests, judges and policemen knew about A.A.; our phone number wasn't listed, and it could be gotten only by dialing Information." This was a deliberate attempt to ensure that anyone wanting to get sober was sincere enough to make a real effort. But gauging the level of someone else's desire to quit drinking was an often subjective judgment that the Third Tradition fortunately did away with.

In the very beginning, there was the Central Committee in Cleveland, Ohio, where by October 1939 a group of seven members convened on a regular basis to coordinate efforts regarding hospitalizations and sponsorship, doing crucial work at a time when the slip of just one member or the dissolution of just one group seemed to threaten the very existence of A.A. itself.

What Bill W. called "A.A.'s first organized service center" — the forerunner of today's intergroup — sprang up in the Chicago suburb of Evanston. Around 1940, an A.A. member named Sylvia used the proceeds of her monthly alimony check to rent an apartment and establish a phone line. In 1941, after publication of the Jack Alexander article about A.A. in the *Saturday Evening Post*, Sylvia's apartment began to resemble, according to Bill, "a sort of Chicago Grand Central," with so many phone calls that Sylvia had to enlist the aid of Grace Coultice, a nonalcoholic secretary. Eventually, Sylvia and Grace upgraded to an office in the Loop (only a few blocks from where the current Chicago Area Service Office now has its offices), where they welcomed, Bill wrote, "a stream of applicants for Twelfth Step attention, hospitalization, or other help."

Most early intergroup offices were nowhere near as elaborate as this: they were simply phone lines listed as belonging to A.A. but that were in fact connected to members' homes. But Sylvia's office inspired the opening of numerous early intergroup/central offices all over the Midwest, notably ones in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and



Minneapolis, Minnesota.

On the East Coast, New York Inter-Group essentially started when the doors of the 24th Street Clubhouse at 334½ West 24th Street opened in June 1940 and began serving the members of Alcoholics Anonymous in the metropolitan area. By 1942, the Club, as it was called, began to serve as more than a meeting place and to function as a de facto central committee for over 20 A.A. groups, with two paid clubhouse secretaries who answered phones and manned the desk 12 to 14 hours a day. These were some of A.A.'s first "special workers," as articulated in Tradition Eight, who were paid to make A.A. Twelfth Step work possible, as opposed to individual A.A. members who, on a voluntary basis, carry the message as part of their own Twelfth Step efforts. Eventually, in 1946, New York Inter-Group was established, moving away from the clubhouse (it was difficult to carry on the work of intergroup in a social atmosphere that included an endless poker game and, at one point, a restaurant) to a space on West 75th Street.

By the time of the first General Service Conference in April 1951, at least 16 intergroup/central offices were serving local groups. Since they predated the formation of the general service structure and performed a different A.A. function, they were not a part of the A.A. structure (except in Chicago, where the area service office and area committee are essentially one). At times over the years, there has been an overlapping of services, but, for the most part, intergroups and general service have come to work in harmony.

Matthew C., office manager of the Ventura County Central Office (VCCO), is the epitome of a contemporary

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intergroup/central office manager, dealing with all the rewards and challenges that this entails. The image of A.A. volunteers answering phone calls from suffering alcoholics, or A.A. members seeking a meeting or information, is still a relatively accurate one. "We rotate shifts of volunteers — we have at least one in the office at all times, and 60 to 70 willing to have calls forwarded to their homes after hours," Matthew says. They get about 500 to 600 calls a month at VCCO, but this is down from previous years because of the Internet, which has proved, for better or worse, a game-changer for intergroup/ central offices. Since so many people are bypassing phone calls and going to the VCCO website, the beta test site that Matthew is rolling out is geared heavily toward newcomers, opening with a banner that reads, "New to A.A.? Have Questions?" and a home page that addresses the most commonly occurring questions.

Matthew feels that there is a "certain comfort" about being able to explore the answers to questions individuals may have about their drinking without having to speak to someone, but there is also something that may be lost: "that one-on-one connection with another person. So, the website does encourage people to call, 24/7." When they do call, miracles can occur. Like so many of the intergroup/central office workers, Matthew has war stories. Once, an alcoholic attempting to detox himself called VCCO, certain that he was having a heart attack. "He was in bad shape," Matthew says, "and after a long conversation we convinced him to call EMS and get to an emergency room." Several years later, that same alcoholic — sober now — walked into the office and thanked them.

In Chicago, office manager Katie M. describes a very successful web presence for the Chicago Area Service Office (CASO). The website averages over 100,000 visits per month, and, out of these, roughly 26 percent are coming to the site for the first time.

Katie describes CASO as "an anchor" for the greater Chicago area and Cook County. "We have a bookstore, and all of our standing committees — like corrections, H&I, Grapevine, etc. — meet here in the evening, and other districts come down here to participate, so we connect people to the service structure."

CASO does receive roughly 700 phone calls a month,

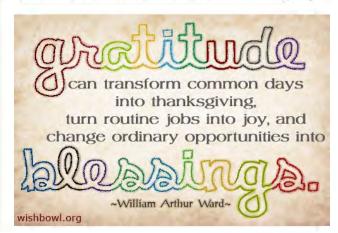
2

Katie adds, but she senses that they are somewhat different from the intergroup calls of the past. "The majority of the calls are not necessarily people wanting to go to a first meeting, or to talk about their drinking problems. We get calls from social workers, for instance, who are trying to help alcoholics connect with a meeting, often a bridgingthe-gap kind of thing."

Like many intergroup/central office managers, Katie is concerned about the finances of the office. Like all intergroups, CASO acts as a clearinghouse for information about local groups and meetings and is directly responsible to the groups it serves. In turn, these groups provide volunteers for Twelfth Step work (i.e., answering the phones), supervise office policies and procedures via their intergroup reps, and offer financial support. CASO has a strong prudent reserve, but Katie is always looking for measures to cut costs, particularly since contributions from the groups have been declining. "Only 23 percent of the groups support the office," Katie says, "and individual contributions [which can be up to \$3,000 annually] make up only 5 to 10 percent." And e-commerce affects the way they can do business. "People can get the Big Book cheaper and faster from non-A.A. online stores than they can coming down here to the bookstore and purchasing it from us."

One answer to this problem is outreach to the groups. Katie M. sends out an appeal letter every November, and intergroup reps discuss the need for financing at every area assembly. Pauline D., office manager of the Northern Virginia Intergroup (NVI), agrees on how crucial outreach is: "We had a terrible year a couple of years ago," she says. So, we did a major outreach, letting people know just how intergroup works and how it is financed. We asked all of our intergroup reps to bring word back to their groups that intergroup needed their help. We really pushed Birthday Plans in November. And we had the intergroup chair visit each of the 14 districts we serve and talk about our mission. And that seemed to work very well for us."

(Pauline and NVI are hosting the 32nd Annual Intergroup/Central Office/AAWS/AAGV Seminar, October 6-8 this year. This annual seminar provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and shared experience for those on A.A.'s front line. Attendees are intergroup/



central office managers, intergroup representatives, G.S.O. and Grapevine staff, and members of the A.A.W.S. and Grapevine Boards.)

Jennifer R., office manager of Miami-Dade Intergroup — an office with a long history, dating back to the 1940s — has seen the number of groups in the area decline. Phone calls to the hotline average only two or three a day, perhaps as a result of the website or the Meeting Finder app that many people use today. With so many groups closed and others facing increased rent, contributions to Miami-Dade Intergroup are down. Both Jennifer and another employee are part-time; despite this, they are incredibly productive, producing and distributing meeting directories, managing the website, selling A.A. Conferenceapproved literature, providing service materials, preparing

a monthly newsletter, and making sure the phones are answered 24/7 by A.A. volunteers. Jennifer speaks Spanish, and one of her many jobs is cooperation with the Spanish-speaking intergroups, which do not have a separate office, but pass the phone from one group to another, one month at a time.

Young people coming into A.A. need to be educated about intergroup, Jennifer says, and need to learn to volunteer. An A.A. without intergroup would not be A.A., really. "If we are not here, if someone calls for help and there is no one to pick up the phone, then A.A. has failed them."

Coco T., executive secretary of New York Inter-Group (NYIG), agrees that a thriving intergroup is incredibly important to the A.A. community it serves — in the case of

NYIG, a community that includes 1,438 active groups registered with the NYIG office and 3,642 meetings in the meeting book. It's no wonder that NYIG's Seventh Avenue offices are open 365 days a year from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., with phone volunteers available from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. "We don't miss any opportunity to share our experience, strength and hope with other alcoholics," Coco says, especially since the web has changed the intergroup paradigm. Up until August 2016, when their new A.A. meeting finder appeared on the website, NYIG averaged 4,500 to 4,800 calls a month. At that point, the calls were almost immediately reduced to 3,000 to 3,200 per month.

It's a mixed blessing, of course. More and more people are able to find meetings quickly and efficiently, but, says Coco, the loss of 20 to 30 phone calls a day "is physically very noticeable. When alcoholics actually call on the phone for help, they get the benefit of the A.A. volunteer who may have been taking phone calls for five years and can really connect with another alcoholic. Now we get hundreds of emails asking us to make contact with a person about their drinking. It's a challenge to answer these, and also removes the value of that one-to-one connection, the immediate Twelfth Step element." To provide human connection, Coco helps ensure that the NYIG office is a welcoming place. "There's a library and an archives area where people can and do come from all over for a cup of coffee and to read a book and look at some historic items. You can check out a book if you want. No one is ever turned away. Even in an electronic age, we are committed to providing hard copies of every flyer we produce — not everyone, particularly homeless people, has access to the Internet."

And the connection benefits not just the alcoholics reaching out to NYIG, but those 635 to 700 alcoholics with over one year of continuous sobriety who volunteer there. "You can't stop these volunteers," Coco says. "Even if there's six feet of snow outside, they'll be here." She tells

> the story of one 90-year-old volunteer — a physician who knew Bill W., and used to talk about how he had tried, unsuccessfully, to get Bill to stop smoking — who came in once a week, year after year, even as his health failed, showing up dressed in a suit and tie. "He was a man of elegance and grace," Coco says. "He used to tell his wife, 'I have to go help people.' His life's work was to carry the message."

The Area 87 Central Service Office in Montréal, Québec (which is hosting the 2018 Intergroup/Central Office/AAWS/ AAGV Seminar), carries the message to both English- and French-speaking alcoholics. According to executive assistant Ginette W., their help line receives roughly 500 to 600 Englishlanguage calls monthly, with perhaps three times that many in French. "We

New York Inter-Group's first meeting schedule — 1946.

are officially bilingual, but we also have a Spanish-speaking presence," Ginette adds. "There are about 12 Spanish-speaking groups locally that have their own intergroup, but we host them at our office and make literature available in Spanish."

Like most intergroup/central offices, some of the phone calls the Area 87 Central Service Office receives are from alcoholics who are lonely and simply want to talk, which can be a drain on resources. "We never cut these calls off," says Ginette, "but we work to direct these people to meetings, where real, face-to-face recovery can begin. We also have a group of volunteers who are willing to talk on the phone from their homes, which frees up our other workers."

Replenishing the pool of volunteers is a constant concern. "We have to keep reminding groups that things don't happen by magic in A.A.: there is hard work in carrying the message. Our area's 27 districts have 550 groups, and we reach out to all of them via our newsletter and through intergroup reps going to meetings. We also make a point of educating groups about why we need money, not how much. We need to pay for literature, for phones, for the website. The A.A. message of recovery is free; for intergroup to pass it on costs money."

3

Box 4-5-9, Fall 2017

Area 87 Central Service Office has a brand new website that features a special portal dedicated to newcomers. Ginette puts it simply: "We need to be where the people are. And, these days, people are on their computers and smartphones. So that is where intergroup has to go."

Many of those who have never had occasion to call intergroup (or who look up meetings on websites in strange towns without quite thinking of who is maintaining that website) wonder why they should support intergroup/central office with their financial donations. While cooperating closely with G.S.O. and local general service district and area committees, it is not unusual for intergroup/central offices to seem apart from the general service structure. However, as noted in The A.A. Service Manual (page S42), "Many areas find that a liaison between the intergroup/central office and the area committee is very helpful in maintaining good relations and communication. In some areas the liaison has a vote at the assembly; in others, a voice but no vote." And further, the General Service Office publishes Guidelines and other service material that share the accumulated experience of intergroups and central offices in the United States/

Canada and worldwide. These define an intergroup as "an A.A. service office that involves partnership among groups in a community — just as A.A. groups themselves are partnerships of individuals. It is established to carry out functions which are best handled by a centralized office.... It exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the Alcoholics Anonymous message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

According to Coco T., the NYIG office pays \$10,000 a month in rent alone — a relatively modest fee, considering Manhattan real estate prices, but not a stroll in the park either. When asked what the future might hold for intergroups, she replies, "We answer to the Fellowship; we are responsible to the groups. Ultimately, our future depends on them. I owe my life to Alcoholics Anonymous, and I would hope intergroup is always there."

As Matthew C. at VCCO sees it, the idea of intergroup is the idea of A.A. itself: "A suffering alcoholic talks to someone who is feeling the way they are feeling, who understands and has been through the humiliation they have experienced, who helps them know that they are not alone after all."

"Reprinted from Box 4-5-9, Fall 2017 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc."

Holiday Hours:

November 24, close at noon November 25-26, closed December 24, close at noon December 25, closed December 31, close at noon January 1, closed



The Inland Empire Newsletter Editorial Policy

The Inland Empire Newsletter is a monthly newsletter of the Inland Empire Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous.

It is about, by and for members of AA Fellowship.

Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to the AA organization as a whole, nor does publication of information imply any endorsement by either AA or the Inland Empire Central Office. Quotations and artwork from the AA books or pamphlets are printed with permission from A.A. World Services Inc. or the AA Grapevine Inc.

Contributions from AA members are encouraged and welcomed! These will be printed as space permits. Submissions must be typed or neatly handwritten and signed (your name and last initial will only be published unless requesting to be "Anonymous".)

The Inland Empire Newsletter conforms, at all times, to the Guidelines set forth by A.A. World Service as outlined in pamphlet GSO Service F-29 "Conference– Approved Literature" (available at Central Office).



Intergroup Meeting

October 2021

The meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer at 7:01pm.

Board Members in Attendance: Dan D., Wilson W., Mary D.,

Members at Large: Tim D., Diane L.

Intergroup Members: Carolyn V., Sharon G., Pat R., John L., Teri M., Grant T., Rawn Mc. Trudy – FAA., Tammy A.

- 1. Twelfth Tradition: Read by Wilson W.
- 2. New Reps: Sharon G., from the Inland Group. Tammy- Riverside., Trudy Attitude Adjustment.
- 3. Secretary's Report: Minutes for September 2021 read by Mary D., Diane L. made a motion to accept the minutes as read with changes to dates for previous minutes. Tim D. seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.
- 4. *Treasurer's Report:* Read by Wilson W., for August 2021. Tammy H. made a motion to accept the report. Pat R, seconded motion, all in favor. Motion passed.
- 5. *Public Information:* by John L. Going into high schools to speak to teachers about alcoholism and share our experience, strength and hope.
- 6. H&I: No report.
- 7. Central Office: Report by Carolyn V. Office Manager
 - a) Waiting for new Service Manuals with new reprints in them.
 - b) Carolyn had gone to IOAA/AAWS/Grapevine seminar that was very enlightening.
- 8. 12 Step Calls: Carolyn reports coverage for the calls are not being met.
- 9. GSR Liaison Report: Sharon S, District 8 Info from District 8

a) District 8 elections will be held on 10/20/21 per Zoom meeting. All positions are open. Please refer to Bill W's grapevine essay, "Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need", contained in Concept 9. Great information!

b) District 8 added a Tech Committee and Chair position. This committee will facilitate hybrid meeting options and website development.

c) Area 09 elections will be held on 10/10/21 per hybrid meeting. Please see Area 09 website for zoom login, address and additional information: <u>https://msca09aa.org</u> you may also sign up for email notifications of Area 09 events and meetings on the website.

d) District 8 has a new home for in-person meetings at CA Ave Christian Fellowship, 8223 CA AVE, Riverside, CA 92504. Zoom meetings will continue until all hybrid equipment is in place.

e) Hard copies of the 2021 General Service Conference report are available. Please contact Deborah, DCMC for District 8 at <u>district8.dcmc@gmail.com</u> if you would like a copy.

f) Grant reported for the Senior Centers Guidelines were updated.

g) Flyers are going out to help senior members of AA, 1) to get technology savvy. 2) How to get involved with what we do and how we can help them.

- 10. Picnic report: Repot by Diane that the Fundraiser Picnic will be postponed till June 2022.
 - a) New fundraiser to be disused. Meetings will start for fundraising in February 2022.
- 11. Convention Report: Report by Dan D, March 2022 IE Convention will be scheduling intergroup time slots for the literature, book table.
- 12. Alanon Report: No report.
- 13. Old Business: No report.
- 14. New Business: Cal Skate Night Fundraiser to be discussed later.

b) Mary D Secretary of the Board is resigning as of today. Diane L. will continue as Secretary.

- 15. Tradition of the month reading: Tradition 10 was read by Tim.
- 16. Birthdays: September 4, Grant celebrated 3 years.
- 17. Announcements: By Teri, Alkathon coming soon. Flyers will be in the IE Newsletter.
- 18. Adjournment: Motion made to close meeting with The Serenity Prayer at 7:48pm.

Take a Look at This

Please support your office by contributing to the:

Buck-A-Month Club – This helps pay for your newsletters and their postage.

Birthday Club – Each year on your **Sobriety Birthday** send us the dollar amount equal to the years that you have sober. This is a great way to give back and we will put you in the newsletter.

November is **Gratitude Month**. Please pass the basket twice. One for the 7th tradition and one for Central Office.

The Christmas Alkathon needs your help!!!

The new website is up and running! Go to:

aainlandempire.org You also can donate through PayPal!

Faithfully Yours in Service, The Board Members





DONATION ADDRESSES

Please let the Newsletter know, if this information is not current!

Inland Empire Central Office P.O. Box 189, Colton, CA 92324 SHOW CITY AND NAME OF GROUP

General Service Office P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station New York, New York 10164-0371 SHOW GROUP SERVICE NUMBER Mid-Southern California Area P.O. Box 51446, Irvine, CA 92619-1446 SHOW GROUP SERVICE NUMBER

Hospitals and Institutions P.O. Box 3927 Riverside, CA 92519-3927 SHOW CITY AND NAME OF GROUP

DISTRICT ADDRESSES

MSCA DISTRICT 8, P.O. Box 2673, Riverside, CA 92506-2851 Corona, Mentone, Mira Loma, Moreno Valley, Norco, Redlands, Riverside, Yucaipa

MSCA DISTRICT 11, Not active, at this time. Big Bear, Bloomington, Colton, Crestline, Fontana, Highland, Lake Arrowhead, Loma Linda, Rialto, Running Springs, San Bernardino

MSCA DISTRICT 14, P.O. Box 193, San Jacinto, CA 92581-0082 Banning, Beaumont, Hemet, Idyllwild, San Jacinto

MSCA DISTRICT 17, P.O. Box 1131, Temecula, CA 92593-1131 Canyon Lake, Lake Elsinore, Murrieta, Perris, Sun City, Temecula

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

TREASURER'S REPORT-SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

August 16, To September 19, 2021 (Respectfully submitted by Gary B. Treasurer)

GROUP / INDIVIDUAL	AMOUNT	GROUP / INDIVIDUAL	AMOUNT
BANNING- FRIDAY NOON 12X12	15.00	REDLANDS-BMC 6:30 DAILY ATTITUDE	90.00
COLTON-FRIENDSHIP MTG FRIDAY NITE 5:30PM	130.00	REDLANDS-CARING & SHARING SPEAKERS	47.00
COLTON-LA CADENA GROUP	50.00	REDLANDS-DISCOVERY GROUP	24.00
COLTON-TUESDAY NOON	50.00	REDLANDS-UNITY GROUP	118.00
CORONA-LUCKY LADIES GROUP	20.00	RIVERSIDE- GRP#000149165	100.00
CORONA-LUCKY ONES	40.00	RIVERSIDE-ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT HOUR	138.00
CORONA-ST.MELS 3RD STEP ZOOM 5:30 SUN,	15.00	RIVERSIDE-GTBA	17.00
CORONA-STEPPING STONES	37.50	RIVERSIDE-PIGS NO MORE	171.75
FONTANA-ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT 6:30/730 AM (2ea)	66.94	RUBIDOUX-UNITY GROUP	150.00
HEMET- HIGH NOONERS ARRID CLUB	25.00	SAMUEL T. INDIVIDUAL	14.73
LAKE ARROWHEAD-NORTH SHORE MEN'S STAG	208.00	YUCAIPA-VALLEY UMBRELLA GROUP	50.00
MORENO VALLEY-WOMEN IN SOLUTION	50.00		
SUB TOTAL	\$ 707.44	SUB TOTAL	\$ 920.48
		TOTAL DONATIONS	\$ 1,627.92
		TOTAL LITERATURE	\$0.00

September 2021 Financial Statement

	I	DTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		
	SEP 2021	JAN - SEP, 2021 (VTD)		SEP 2021	JAN - SEP, 2021 (YTD)		SEP 2021	JAN • SEP, 2021 (Y
evenue			Pamphlets			Other Types of Expenses	100	7.5
Credit Card Surcharge	31.00	226.00	Sales of Product Revenue	75.55	621.31	Insurance - Liability, D and O		1,252
Donations			Total Pamphlets	75.55	621.31	Total Other Types of Expenses		1,252
BAM	46.82	1,413.02	Total Net Sales Income	2,983.62	31,892.92	Payroll Expenses	5,623.79	51,130
Birthday Donations		130.00	Refunds	234.58	234.58	Travel and Meetings	alanaa	01100
Group Contributions	5,639.69	42,760.98	Total Revenue			Conference, Convention, Meeting	15.00	98
Personal	573.40	6,357.49		\$9,533.71	\$103,053.62	Total Travel and Meetings	15.00	98
Total Donations	6,259.91	50,661.49	Cost of Goods Sold		tan)	A grade and the design of the second		
Government Contracts			Cost of Goods Sold	2,120.05	21,723.53	Total Expenditures	\$8,340.32	\$71,081
Agency (Government) Contracts		0.44	Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$2,120.05	\$21,723.53	NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 926.66	\$10,248
Total Government Contracts		0.44	GROSS PROFIT	\$7,413.66	\$81,330.09	Other Expenditures		
Government Grants			Expenditures			Ask My Accountant		0
Local Government Grants		20,000.00	Business Expenses		25.00	Total Other Expenditures	\$0.00	\$0
Total Government Grants		20,000.00	Business Registration Fees		19.00	NET OTHER REVENUE	\$0.00	\$-0
Investments			Total Business Expenses		44.00	NET REVENUE	\$-926.66	\$10,248
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	24.60	30.05	Contract Services			NCT DEVENUE.	ĝ 720.00	ĝiv,e r o
Total Investments	24.60	30.05	Accounting Fees		235.00		1	
Misc. Income		8.14	Total Contract Services		235.00		EXE OF A	
Net Sales Income			Facilities and Equipment			C		
Book Covers			Deprand Amot - Allowable		100.66			
Sales of Product Revenue	50.00	335.00	Equip Rental and Maintenance	812,63	662.63	De	NATE	
Total Book Covers	50.00	335.00	Rent	1,000,00	8,809.75		,	
Books			Uilties	130.85	1,127,44			
Sales of Product Revenue	1,951,97	20,319.38	Total Facilities and Equipment	1,943.48	10,900.48			
Total Books	1,951.97	20,319.38	Operations	. la recta	(Jacob A	/ New Cl	ub Oper	ning
CD-DVD-Audio			Alarm	30.28	267.52			
Sales of Product Revenue	36.10	108.30	Books, Subscriptions, Reference		182.22		ds Recove	ery
Total CD-DVD-Audio	36.10	108.30	Merchant Service Fee	75.60	585.75	Fel	lowship	
Directories			Office Halp	360.00	1,772.00			
Sales of Product Revenue	146.90	2,471,49	Postage, Maiing Service	14.00	110.52	1235	Indian Ct	t.
Total Directories	146.90	2,471,49	Quickbooks Payroll Fee	53.00	492.10	Redland	ds, Ca 923	374
Grapevine		53.82	Register Over/Short	1.01	6.57			
Metallions	36.50	202.00	Software		89.08		**	
Sales of Product Revenue	478.50	6.025.07	Supplies		477.31		TT	N
Total Medalions	515.00	6,227.07	Telephone, Telecommunications	177.24	3,145.36			
Misc. Literature			Water	46.92	174.66			
Sales of Product Revenue	208.10	1,756.55	Website		117.00			
Total Misc. Literature	208.10	1,756.55	Total Operations	758.05	7,420.09			

September 2021 Groups Contributions

TOTAL		TOTAL			TOTAL			
	SEP 2021	JAN - SEP, 2021 (YTD)		SEP 2021	JAN - SEP, 2021 (YTD)		\$EP 2221	JAN - SEP, 2821 (VTD)
1222338		20.02	H&I	1,000.00	2,000.00	Reclards This Too Shall Pass Group		150.32
630 AA Zoom IVRS 369258		94.50	Hemet 722762	1.0.0	25.00	Rectards Thurs Nite Tom Men's Big Book		100.00
Ata Loma Older than Dirt Sat		60.00	Hemet Arid Club 12 noon Meetings		50.00	Rectards Tues 6 Stom		120.00
Anonymous		420.00	Hemet Att. Adj. 7am Daily		409.50	Reclards Tues Nite Live 730pm BMC		400.00
Banning Fri. noon 12x12 151026	50.00	110.00	Hemet High Nooners m-s		25.00	Reclarids Unity	800.00	4,950.00
Banning Monday Winners Circle Barn	00,00	250.00	Hemet Old Timers Group		55.00	Rectards Womens BB Wed. 630	140.00	250.00
Banning Notical Winners Cricle Can Banning Sat. 7am	75.00	525.00	Hemei The Luoky Ones		100.00	Reclards Womens Noon Vazarine		50.00
and the second second second second			Hemet Tues Noon	25.00	25.00	Riato Stepping Stones		50.00
Banning Sat. Nite Daily Reflection 8pm	40.00	120.00		20.00		Rieta Waneris AA Zoon BB-12x12 Riveta de 140637	5h.M	30.00 50.00
Banning Sun 7 AM		85.00	Highland 7pm Fri. Round Table		120.00	Riveside Rics No More Fri. Tort Met Step	50.00	171.75
Banning Thurs Women's TIAS		50.00	Highland it works 530pm		87.50	Riverside (RAAH) Attude Adjustment H:	553,00	3,352,00
Banning Thursday Noon Mens Stag	103.00	103.00	Highland Pepper House		30.00	Riverseda Cypress Group	444145	737.00
Banning Tuesday 7am A Day At A Time	20.00	40.00	Idylwid Daily Noon Zoom Meeting	54.40	214.19	Riversole Friday Cama to Believe		200.00
Banning Wed. Nooners 674140		250.00	IEAA Convention		959.20	Riverside Friday Sermon on the Mount		161.00
Banning Wednesday 7am		20.00	Mentone Where's The Beach	50.00	400.00	Riverside Friday Step Sisters		35,00
Beaumont AA		20.00	Moreno Valley Awakenings Club Mtg		1,210.00	Riverside GTBA Sat. 730	118.31	562.81
Beaumont Plain Wrap Mens Mig	133.10	326.98	Moreno Valley Heres How	50.00	200.00	Riverside Lunch with Bill		40.00
Big Bear 612538 Honor the Mountain Group		150.00	Moreno Valley Sat 10 AM Kaiser		30.00	Riverside Mon. Salad Bow		\$2.50
Big Bear Group		100.00	Moreno Valley Sat. 930AM		105.00	Riverside Monday 10am Entirely Ready		40.00
Big Bear Lake BB Study Bear Lake Sunday 530am BS		100.00	Moreno Valley Speaker Sat Nite	97.52	97.52	Riverside New Davining # 127984		287,43
Big Bear Mixer Group Wed. 530 pm	40.00	40.00	Moreno Valley Women in Solution	28.30	320.30	Rheiside Sat Rom Felowstip		600.00
Big Bear Monday Night Red Road	40.00	48.00	Noreno Valley Women's Wednesday 6pm Patio Meeting	244	108.46	Riverside Sat. 300am zoom		85.00
		40.00	Mt. Baldy Tuesday		16.00	Riverside Set. Night As Bill Sees It		2620
Calinesa W Big Boys 10am			Norco 3rd Step 530 Weekly	75.00	200.00	Riverside Set. roon As Bill Sees II Riverside Sober Sisters	60.00	28.00
Chino Thurs. Nite Step Study		20.00	Norco 730pm James Club	10.00	49.00	Riverside Societ Sisters Riverside Thursday Night Cass Blanca	cuiti	1,478.00
Chino Umbrella Group		250.00	Norco Wed Mens Book Study		550.00	Riversde Unknown		75.00
Claremont 11th Step Group 8am	450.00	1,380.00	The second s		50.00	Riverside West, 630 Mer's The Point is 68(650		355.73
Colton Fri Friendship Grp		200.00	Portiona Wed Speaker Meeting			Riverside Wet, Mens For Peters Sale Tpm		347.00
Colion Sunday BS 12x12 1230		5.00	Rancho Cucamonga Alano Wed 4PM		34.14	Riverside Wed, Mens Step 149165		225.00
Colton Tue. Noon		255.00	Rancho Cucamonga Wed 8pm Speaker		40.00	Riverside Wed. Mens Stag Calvary Pres 8PM		125.00
Colton-La Cadena Group Thurs		100.00	Rancho Cucamonga Older then Din 730		100.00	Rubidoux Alaria Gip		350.00
Corona Came to Believe Sun.		121.65	Rancho Oucamonga Fri, 530	2.4	200.00	Running Springs Mountain 12 Sep Club		30.00
Corona Lucky Ladies Wed 7pm		100.00	Rancho Cucamonga Human Touch	48.51	48.51	San Bernerdino INCA	80,00	300.00
Corona Men's Wed Wrecking Crew 161981		140.00	Rancho Cucamonga Valley Monday night BS	25.00	25.00	San Bernardino Inland Group Mon Bpm		798.00
Corona Serenity Club		300.00	Redlands 12x12 Mon Noon		50.00	San Bernerotino Sat. Straight Up AA		120.00
Corona Stepping Stones		244.00	Redlands Attitude Adjustment T, Th, Sat		402.00	Upland 630AM Attitude Adjustment Zoom	10.00	706.00
Corona The Lucky Ones	100.00	625.00	Redlands BMC Daily Attitude Adjustment	360.00	1,360.00	Uplant 6.3Xam Atitude Adjustment	43,50	33.50
Corona Umbrella Group		155.00	Rediands BMC Friday		130.00	Uplant Getting Real Big Book Study Uplant Group #178323		60.00 39.00
Corona Unity Group 000309468	149.00	929.00	Redlands Discovery Group		92.00	Upland Women to Women		140.00
Corona We are not Saints Monday 7pm	VV/VV	175.00	Redlands Fri Night Mens Rebel Stag		700.00	Upland Women's 88 Study	120.00	120.00
	110.00		Redlands Friday 12.15 Big Book		175.00	Yucaipa Group	100.00	1,575.00
Corona Welcome Home Group 709168	112.00	614.50	Redlands Friday Nite 7pm Meri's Stag	289.00	560.60	Yucapa Citup Yucapa Thursday Woman 1130	25.00	25.00
Crestline Mountain Unity Group		137.00	Rediands Mon. 7pm First Nighters	Contract, C	200.00	Yucaipa Tue. Mens Stag-652034	20.00	670.00
Fontana Girls Gone Sober Wed		149.50	Rediands Mon. 7pm Women's Candlelight		50.00	Not Specified		252.14
Fontana Attitude Adjustment	97.85	885.80	Reclands Sat Night Caring and Sharing	97.20	425.31	TOTAL	\$5,639.69	\$42,760.98
Grand Terrace Woman in the solution		79.42	roomaana ana tadiin annind moo anginid.	4164	TEVICI	TV/PL	<i>bolonana</i>	645 ¹¹ 00'30

101 out of approximately 1100 groups contributed to Central Office so far this fiscal year. That represents roughly 13% of the meetings in the Inland empire.

Inland Empire Central Office

P. O. Box 189 Colton, CA 92324 Return Service Requested



Inland Empire Newsletter Donation Form

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BUG	CK-A-MONTH

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