

"The point is, that we are willing to grow along spiritual lines"
From Chapter Five of the book, "Alcoholics Anonymous."

The Point

JANUARY 2002

A publication
of the Intercounty Fellowship
of Alcoholics Anonymous

1821 Sacramento Street
San Francisco CA 94109-3528
(415) 674-1821
Fax (415) 674-1801
aa@aa-san-francisco.org

The Point
is published monthly to
inform AA members about
business and
meeting affairs in the
Intercounty Fellowship
of Alcoholics Anonymous
(San Francisco and Marin).
The Point's pages are open to
participation by all AA
members. Nothing
published herein should be
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AA, nor does publication
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by AA as a whole,
the Intercounty Fellowship
Board, the Central Office, or
The Point Editorial Committee.
Letters and articles to
help carry the AA message
are welcomed, subject to
editorial review by
The Point Committee.

50 cents

Central Office Hosts 55th Anniversary Party And Open House

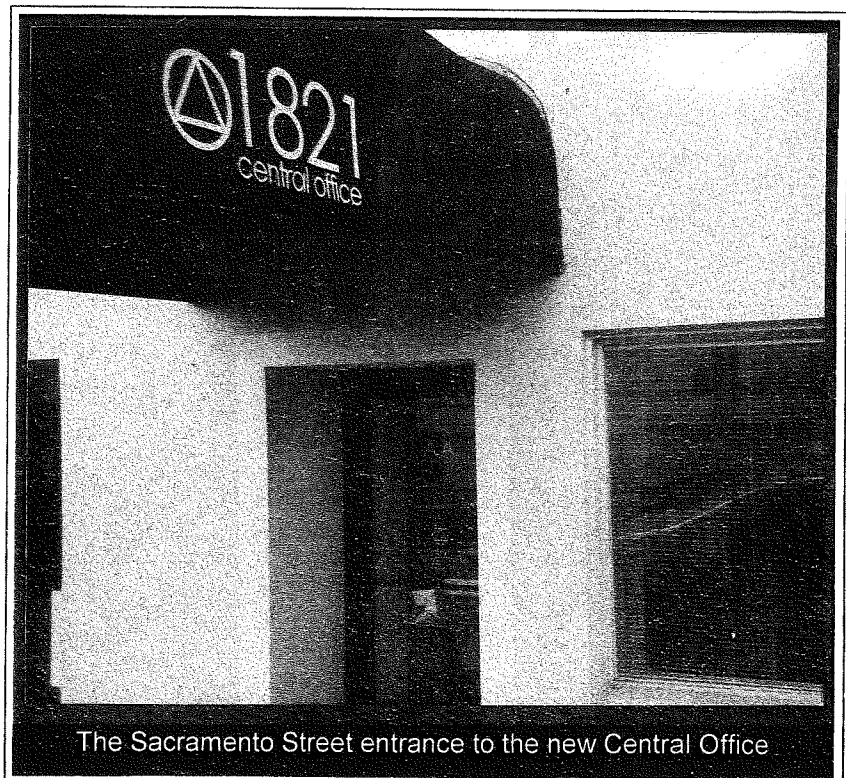
Saturday, January 26, 2002, 2:00 pm, 1821 Sacramento, San Francisco

The Central Office will host an open-house on Saturday, January 26 at its new location, 1821 Sacramento Street, just west of Van Ness Avenue. All A.A. members in San Francisco and Marin are welcome to attend the party, from 2 - 4 pm.

January 27 is the 55th anniversary of the San Francisco Central Office. On that date in 1947, after protracted debate, it was decided there was a need for an A.A. office that was *not* a club, but rather a service and business office for the Fellowship. (There

had been an Alano Club in San Francisco for about 2 years previous to this.) The first Central Office was set up at 693 Sutter Street (near Taylor Street), where it remained for about 4 1/2 years.

Our Central Office has undergone many changes over the years, and has moved five times now, but its primary purpose has never changed: to be a central point of contact for Alcoholics Anonymous in our community at large, and especially to the alcoholic who still suffers. ☺



The Sacramento Street entrance to the new Central Office

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
January 2002 ... In the Fellowship <i>Secretaries: Please make these announcements to your groups</i>		1	FIRST WED 2 * (IFB): Intercounty Fellowship Board: 1187 Franklin, SF 7:00 pm * Spirit of SF Committee 1329 Irving/7th (church) 7 pm	3	4	5
6	7	SECOND TUE 8 * Bridging the Gap: 1101 O'Farrell, SF; 6:30pm * General Service: 1101 O'Farrell, SF Orientation: 7:00p Reg. Meeting: 7:45p * Marin H&I: Lagunitas & Shady Lane, Ross 7 pm	SECOND TUE 9 * Marin Bridging the Gap 1360 Lincoln, (Alano Club) San Rafael, 7:15p	10	11	12 PI/CPC Annual Meeting: 1:00pm. Fort Mason, Building C Room C362 (12:30 refreshments)
13	SECOND MON 14 * SF Public Information (Annual meeting takes place of regular January meeting - see Sat. 1-12-02)	THIRD TUE 15 * San Mateo General Service: St. Andrews Ch. 15th & El Camino, San Mateo; 7:30p	16	17	18	19
20	THIRD MON 21 * SF Teleservice 1821 Sacramento, SF; 6:30pm * Marin General Service 9 Ross Valley Rd. San Rafael 7:00pm GSR Sharing	FOURTH TUE 22 * Marin Teleservice 1360 Lincoln (Alano Club), San Rafael: 7:30p	23	FOURTH THU 24 * Marin PI: 1360 Lincoln, (Alano Club) San Rafael, 7:15pm	25	FOURTH SAT 26 * General Service: CNCA Bus. Mtg: 320 N. McDowell Petaluma; DCMCs: 10:30am Main Meeting: 12n * Central Office Open House: 2pm - 4pm 1821 Sacramento
LAST SUN 27 * Living Sober 1668 Bush, SF; 5:30p * 2900 Steering Committee: 2900 24th St., SF 12:15 pm	28	29	30	LAST THU 31 * SF H&I Old First Church, Sacramento & VanNess Orientation: 7:15p Regular Meeting: 8pm		

This calendar lists local AA service and conference planning *meetings*, as well as any local AA related *events* of which the Central Office has been notified. Please call Mark at the Central Office (674-1821) by the 19th of the previous month if you would like your event listed.

COMING EVENTS

2002

Call 415-674-1821 or visit the Central Office for copies of any flyers of interest to you or your group.
Local events are shaded; flyers of current local events, if available, are printed on page 14.

Jan 11 - 13	13th Annual Yakima Valley Roundup—Yakima Convention Center, Yakima, WA
Jan 12	PI / CPC Annual Meeting - 1:00pm Fort Mason, Bldg C, Room C362, San Francisco (12:30pm refreshments)
Jan 18 - 20	12th Annual River Round Up - Laughlin NV (forms online at www.citlink.net/~rccoaa)
Jan 26	Central Office 55th Anniversary Party / Open House - 2:00 - 4:00pm, 1821 Sacramento (<i>see Flyers, p. 13</i>)
Jan 26	El Cerrito Fellowship's 35th Anniversary Celebration - El Cerrito, CA (<i>see Flyers, p. 13</i>)
Feb 1 - 3	27th Annual San Fernando Valley AA Convention - Burbank, CA
Feb 14 - 17	38th Annual International AA Women's Conference—Denver, CO
Feb 22 - 24	7th Annual Thailand Roundup - Pattaya, Thailand
Mar 29 - 31	Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous (NCCAA) - Monterey, CA (Convention Center)
Apr 12 - 14	14th Annual Big Island Bash - Kailua-Kona, Hawaii (email: kengold@aloha.net)
Apr 26 - 28	Southern California H&I Conference - Irvine (Orange County), CA
May 17 - 19	3rd Annual Olympic Roundup - Port Angeles, WA
June 28 - 30	30th Annual H & I Conference - Santa Rosa, CA (Veterans Memorial Bldg., 1351 Maple Av.)



JANUARY 2002

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The Central Office received its initial shipment of 2,000 4th Edition Big Books on December 10. The demand was initially so high, we re-ordered 1,000 more within a few days. As of December 26, 1,998 hard-cover Big Books have been sold!

November 16, 2001

Announcement of Job Opening

Job Title: Central Office Manager

Salary Range: \$42,000 to \$48,000 per year, plus benefits as stated in the Personnel Policies Manual.

Position Requirements: Please see the reverse side of this sheet.

Summary of Responsibilities: The Central Office Manager shall administer the Central Office and shall carry out the policies of the Intercounty Fellowship Board.

Starting Date: approximately March 1, 2002

Final Date for Receipt of Applications: January 16, 2002

Application Procedure: Applications are to consist of: (1) a letter describing the applicant's AA service experience and his or her reasons for being interested in filling the job of Central Office Manager, together with (2) a resume showing work experience. Please do not include references. If they are desired, they will be requested at a later date.

Applications are to be addressed to:

**Central Office Manager Position
P. O. Box 423678
San Francisco, CA 94142-3678**

All applicants may request a copy of the Personnel Policies Handbook, The Operations Manual, and the Bylaws of the Intercounty Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. Hiring procedures are described in the Personnel Policies Handbook.

Thank you for your help in finding the best-qualified candidates.

Equal Opportunity Employment Philosophy

The Intercounty Fellowship provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race; ethnic identification, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, handicap or disability, HIV status, or status as a Vietnam-era or special disabled veteran in accordance with applicable Federal, State and local laws and ordinances. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including but not limited to, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation, and training. This means that all persons, regardless of race; ethnic identification, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, handicap or disability, HIV status, or status as a Vietnam-era or special disabled veteran, will have an equal opportunity for employment and advancement within the organization. The Intercounty Fellowship is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to qualified applicants and employees with disabilities, as long as the accommodation does not provide an undue hardship.

Announcement of Job Opening - *continued from previous page*

Position Description

Continued on page 5

Continued from previous page - reverse side flyer

The Central Office Manager performs the administrative and clerical services of the Central Office. He or she also serves as liaison between the Intercounty Fellowship's Central Office and other service arms of Alcoholics Anonymous, other central offices and services centers, AA groups, individual AA members, and the general public.

Typical responsibilities and duties include but are not limited to the following: open office and set up for daily activities; open mail, respond to all inquiries and other correspondence, including email, be available to all callers during the day, both by telephone and in person, keep daily registry with breakdown of all monies received and deposit all daily receipts; review all invoices and pay promptly; confer with the Treasurer and the Central Office Committee regarding proper disposition of funds and accounts; take literature inventory and stock bookstore; send notices of monthly meetings to the Intercounty Fellowship Board, supervise monthly mailings, maintain records in Microsoft Office and Quickbooks, implement procedures for computerized information management, maintain database, oversee the website; receive deliveries; be available to participate at group or committee meetings when asked; carry out the policies of the Intercounty Fellowship Board as related to the business management of the Central Office; and perform other duties as requested by the Intercounty Fellowship Board.

In addition, the Central Office Manager shall be responsible for scheduling office staff, both paid and volunteer; assigning and assuring the complete and timely execution of tasks; evaluating performance of other Special Workers; serving as ex-officio, voting member of the Central Office Committee; reporting to the Intercounty Fellowship Board at monthly Board meetings; and other duties as assigned by the Intercounty Fellowship Board.

Position Requirements

Skills: Handle multiple responsibilities and prioritize use of resources, both personnel and monetary; handle detailed fiscal responsibility; carry out policies and procedures without direct supervision; good verbal and communication skills; strong skills in the use of various computer programs; remain courteous and friendly while serving varied individuals and groups; organizational and supervisory skills and the ability to lead and inspire others in the performance of services.

Experience: The Central Office Manager should have five years' office work experience with increasing levels of responsibility; two years' work under minimum direct supervision and which required supervision of employees and/or volunteers; participation in the preparation and management of a budget. Office work experience should include experience in Microsoft Office and in Quickbooks, with website experience suggested; management of materials, information and inventory control; shipping and receiving; and interaction with individuals while providing a service.

Special Considerations: Five years of continuous sobriety in the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous is suggested, although not required; demonstrated commitment to AA service at meeting level and at least one fellowship-wide service, i.e. Intercounty Fellowship Board, Teleservice, PI/CPC, General Service, H&I, etc.

Thoughts & Feelings... About AA

Putting Up With 'Ridiculous Ideas'

*Those tolerance-testers
may be part of the plan
to help us grow*

Recently, I read this definition of tolerance: the ability to listen to other people's views - after all, they're entitled to their ridiculous ideas.

It started a train of thought on the subject. A week or ten days and two A.A. meetings later, I reluctantly decided that I must practice my tolerance hardest and most often at, of all places, A.A. meetings.

The speaker tonight was an A.A. member that I love but frequently disagree with. When he was introduced as the main speaker, my little bit of tolerance went right up in smoke. For ten or fifteen minutes, I wallowed in self-pity and resentment. The reasons are immaterial. I did it, and I realized my attitude was wrong. Good thinking started to return after I said the Serenity Prayer two or three times, remembering that the speaker, too, was entitled to his "ridiculous ideas," that he was obviously telling his story and no one else's.

When I looked around the room, I noticed people who were actually enjoying his talk, listening carefully to every word. I remembered hearing, "There are no bad A.A. meetings - some are just better than others." That was a few years ago, but it is as true now as it was then.

Whether at a speaker's meeting or a discussion group, I must always fall back on the Serenity Prayer when I start to be impatient, critical, and intolerant. A.A. meetings were not, are not, and never will be designed for my mood of the day. By allowing others to express their "ridiculous ideas," I not only will improve my tolerance but might even find the answer to something that is troubling me.

R.J.,
Topeka, KS

An Interpretation of Step Three

Step Three says, "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him.*"

Drunk or sober, we all have our own lives to live, each one different from all the others. And while we are drinking, each of us has a different will, leading toward destruction in its own way.

But when we make the decision in Step Three, we surrender to God by merging with the powerful, supportive will of every member in the Fellowship of A.A.. Our own wills become blended with the total good-will of a million alcoholics. We retain individual wills in our routine affairs; but in the critical spiritual qualities that insure our sobriety, such as honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness, we become part of the spiritual potency of the Fellowship. We become intuitively aware of the enormous network of loving support woven around us by AAs all around the world. And we become contributors to this network as we merge with the one will.

We reinforce our contact with this will whenever we attend an A.A. meeting, work at the Steps, extend a helping hand, "practice these principles in all our affairs."

The total will of A.A. embraces the miracle of recovery in all kinds of distorted lives. It helps us to be worthwhile human beings - today, one day at a time. It wills us to become better than we now are, no matter what we have been.

W. K.,
Palo Alto, CA

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Focus on the 12 Concepts

Concept ONE

THE TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE

The Twelve Concepts???? What in the world are they? I've heard of the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, but, the Twelve Concepts?

Recently, at a meeting of the Intercounty Fellowship Board, we were discussing the annual budget for the year 2002. It is the responsibility of the Board to formulate (through a Budget Subcommittee) and approve our budget.

During the discussion, several Representatives said that the budget should be taken back to the Groups for their 'input' and approval. However, it was decided that our individual groups had elected us to handle the business of the Intercounty Fellowship for them. And, so, that's what we did.

Our decision was guided by The Twelve Concepts for World Service, approved and adopted by the General Service Conference of 1955. These Concepts were thought to be necessary because, up until then, the only connection between the Trustees (who were largely unknown to the Fellowship at large) and the Groups, was Dr. Bob and Bill Wilson.

Dr. Bob and Bill realized that they would not live forever and, so, would not be around to perform this vital function - of advice and suggestion based on their experience with AA - to the Trustees and the Groups. They realized that there had to be something to act in their place, to serve as liaison, as it were between the Trustees and the Groups.

So, they decided to formalize a list of suggested guidelines. Since 'twelve' seems to be a magic number to AA, they arrived at the Twelve Concepts for World Service.

The title suggests they apply only to World Service but, a careful study of the Concepts shows they can be applied at the local level as well. During the coming year, I'll discuss a Concept each month here in The Point. The purpose of this is,

not to instruct, as I'm certainly no expert, but rather, to familiarize and provoke thought and, hopefully discussion.

So, in that spirit, let's start at the beginning with:

CONCEPT I

THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY FOR AA WORLD SERVICES SHOULD ALWAYS RESIDE IN THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE OF OUR WHOLE FELLOWSHIP.

At my home group, no one individual makes decisions for the group as a whole. When a decision is necessary, we call a brief business meeting, present the issue and, after discussion, attempt to arrive at an informed Group Conscience.

To take it a step further, there are decisions that need to be made, and business that must be conducted that effect all the Groups in our Intercounty area. So we, as groups, elect a representative each and send that representative to a body consisting of the representatives from (hopefully, but not really) all the groups, the Intercounty Fellowship Board. Then, that Board, representing the conscience of the groups, acts on behalf of the Intercounty Fellowship.

A good example of this is the annual budget. Due to time constraints and the exigencies of the issue, it simply isn't practical to take a detailed budget back to each and every group for discussion and input. It would be an endless process, resulting in no budget.

Therefore, the Representatives, acting on behalf of their groups and, hopefully reflecting the group's conscience, formulate, discuss, approve and pass the budget. This also applies to other matters of Intergroup business.

Issues such as this are also covered by other Concepts for World Service but I won't go into them right now. I'll discuss them in the months to come. Hopefully, these articles will provide food for thought and discussion. I know they are for me, as I need to research and seek advice for them. I'm learning as I go.

In Love and Service,

Ben N.

(Ben N. is currently Chair of the Intercounty Fellowship Board)

San Francisco Memories - Part III

Time marches on - and yet another local Oldtimer is gone. May his experience strength and hope live forever.



The illustration above is typical of those found in Chip F.'s informal newsletter, *Chips Off The Old Block*, which delighted his AA friends for many years.

In the 40's, 46-47-48, the A.A. Groups were starting in various neighborhoods all over San Francisco - the Sunset District, Pacific Heights Group, Richmond Group and the St. Francis Men's Group. They later had Serenity House, for the Priests and Clergy. The first Priest to admit his alcoholism and become a member that we know of came to our meeting at Midtown Marian and later the Serenity House became a reality for all Clergy.

We were starting to become aware that new groups were starting in nearby towns and communities. Many were originally driving to San Francisco to meetings, then would start their own groups in their own communities. It seemed a worthwhile effort to meet with other groups in other towns to exchange ideas and ways of better using the A.A. program and making it available to those in need of A.A. help.

Some of the "old timers" suggested we gather names and addresses so Ray H. and Bob G. and others

had a meeting of the "Top Brass", I don't know where the Top Brass was - Ha! But we developed a letter to send to the leaders of other A.A. communities asking them to attend a meeting in San Francisco for the purpose of exchanging ideas and also see if it would be feasible to develop some kind of a N. California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I remember Clarence R. and myself were writing and addressing letters at his house asking for a response and would they please send five dollars (\$5.00) so we could rent a hall. We were delighted with the results. We did rent a hall, I think it was the California Hall on Polk Street. It was great to have such a place, and eventually it became the NCCAA. (Northern California Council of Alcoholics Anonymous).

At that time, about 1947, our A.A. membership was growing steadily and usually in most meetings they had a drunk-a-log from new members. This was and still is a great way to get rid of the garbage we have been packing around, also at that time much of the spiritual part of the program was talked about after the meeting. We went to some coffee shop and talked and planned until sometime in the morning...

My sponsor, Ray H..., was acquainted with Gene and his Chef at the My Am Me lodge on the North shore of Lake Tahoe. They were both members of A.A.. Gene, the owner of the lodge, invited us to use the lodge the last four days of the season before it closed for the year. We developed an agenda and invited twelve A.A. members to participate. The agenda was primarily to do with the Spiritual part of the A.A. program. We had this lodge to use for four years. We were very fortunate

to have this Spiritual experience at My Am Me Lodge. Gene sold the lodge after our last retreat. It is no longer called My Am Me lodge.

I really don't remember the exact date but sometime in the late '40's Ray and about six others, including myself, had a chance to have lunch with Bill Wilson at the Lemington Hotel in Oakland. Bill was on one of his tours and brought us up to date on what was transpiring back East. He also talked about the Traditions and then told us about his so called "Hot Flash" that he had while in the Towne Hospital in New York. To meet Bill Wilson in person and hear him tell his story himself was a great experience in my young life.

I do hope these memories are fairly accurate.

- Les (Chip) F.

- October, 1995

Chip F. died near Yreka on October 4 - 3 months shy of 57 years sober. This is the third of five "Memories" articles written by Chip about Alcoholics Anonymous in San Francisco in the 1940s.

IFB Meeting Minutes

The IFB is the Board of Directors for our local AA Central Office (San Francisco and Marin Counties)

Regular Monthly Meeting
Inter-County Fellowship Board
November 7, 2001
 Star of the Sea Church
 Sausalito, California
 Approved Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Bob B. followed by the Serenity Prayer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Bob B. followed by the Serenity Prayer.

ROLL Intergroup Rep Group or Title

Alex H.	Too Early	A
Anne G.	Sunset Niners – Friday	A
Ardis J.	As Bill Sees It – 7 AM Fri	P
Ben N.	Sunset Speaker Step	P
Bill R.	Castro Discussion	P
Bob Bi.	Daily Reflections – Tuesday	P
Casey L.	Mon. Night Stag (Tiburon)	P
Charles M.	Federal Speaker	A
Clare B.	Walk of Shame	
<i>resigned via email to scty.</i>		
Damon B.	Tuesday Downtown	A
Danny F.	Each Day A New Begin.	P
David D.	Fell Street Step Study	P
Ellen C.	Big Book Basics	P
Frank B.	Each Day a new... – Sun	P
George S.	S.F. General Service	(P)
J. E.	Friendly Circle Beginners	P
Jay H.	Gay Beginners Q&A	A
Jeff T.	Sunday Sober Sunday	P
Jim D.	Happy Joyous & Free	P
Jim H.	Alta Plaza CPMC	P
Kade H.	Fireside Chat	P
Ken C.	Marin Gen. I Svc. Liaison	(P)
Keri S. (visiting?)	Mill Valley 7am	P
Larry F.	Mid-Morning Support	P
Luis M.	7 am Smokeless Tues.	A

Manuel S.	Sesame Step	P
Jason S., <i>alternate attending</i>		
Marcia G.	SF Teleservice Rep	(A)
Margaret H.	Fairfax 7 am	A*
Mark M.	Central Office Mgr.	(P)
Pat M.	Treasurer & As Bill Sees It	A
Patrick C.	Work in Progress	P
Paul C.	Waterfront Group	P
Paul P.	PI/CPC Chair	(A)
Ray M.	Sunday Rap	P
Reginald J.	On Awakening – Daily	P
Samuel S.	New Wednesday High Noon	P
Shannon O.	A Step Beyond	P
Smithy B.	10 Years After	P
Steve P.	Richmond Big Book	A
Stu S.	No Reservations	P
Tim M.	San Mateo Gen S. Liaison	(A)
Tom K.	Common Welfare	A
Tracy R.	Sunset Niners Tues.	P
Ken Y.	As Bill Sees It	A
Ward	from SF/Marin Fellowship	(P)

* Asterisks indicate number of consecutive absences recorded. (Only group reps or their designated alternates vote—others, liaisons, visitors from SF/Marin fellowship, etc. are non-voting attendees.)

A. Review of Agenda: The agenda was approved.

B. Review of Minutes: The minutes of the October 2001 meeting were approved with correction (Ardis J. was present, not absent; correct spelling of “J.” Ebba.) (NOTE: We regret that due to clerical error the version without these corrections was inadvertently used in the Point.)

C. IFB Reports:

TREASURER’S REPORT: Pat M., treasurer could not be present. Mark M., Central office manager presented the Balance Sheet, Income & Expense Sheet, and Group Contributions Sheet. It was noted that next month there will be a preauthorized transfer of funds from the prudent reserve to cover move expenses. Current operations remain close to budget.

CENTRAL OFFICE MANAGER’S REPORT: Mark M., Interim Manager, submitted a written report, including a note that bookstore sales have risen 25 percent since the institution of the open bookstore in 1999, and also that Friday All Groups has done a group financial inventory with regard to payment for ASL signer fees and has decided the group can shoulder the cost 100 percent at this time and will no longer require assistance from the Central Office.

Continued on Page 10

IFB Meeting Minutes

The IFB is the Board of Directors for our local AA Central Office (San Francisco and Marin Counties)

Continued from Page 9

CENTRAL OFFICE COMMITTEE REPORT: Patrick C. submitted a written report including the following: Based upon the research and recommendation of its Human Resources Subcommittee, recommended the following points be included in the new job posting for Central Office Manager (listed immediately below). After lengthy discussion and dissenting opinion (covering issues ranging from the nature of skills expected or desired of the Central Office Manager to the request for more time for discussion with group membership of the specific recommendation) the recommendation was passed 23 Yes, 2 No, and 1 Abstaining, as follows:

- * Salary range for position of Central Office Manager to be \$42,000 - \$48,000
- * Suggestion of 5 or more years of sobriety
- * Applicants submit resumes and request for information to a PO box

This action was undertaken specifically as an approval of the COC's recommendation for a job posting only.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Lease Committee: Ardis J. submitted a detailed written report. *NOTE: The move has since been carried out as scheduled on Thanksgiving long-weekend to the new location at 1821 Sacramento St., SF, CA 94109 -- Telephone 415/674-1821 (from Marin 499-0400).* In an associated action item the IFB approved reassigning a portion (\$5000) of the funds already approved in July for the chair lift (where it appears the \$5000 will not be needed) to cover other previously unforeseen construction costs. This was approved by the IFB unanimously with no abstentions and no votes against.

Website Committee: Smith B. reported progress on a draft of guidelines for the website.

Bylaws Review Committee: Tracy R., Jeff T., and David D. reported briefly. The committee is actively seeking a member willing to act as committee chair.

Literature Review Committee: Frank B. briefly reported on the continuing efforts to finish the "Guide to Group Service." It should soon be ready to submit to the board for approval and will include information on responsibilities of Group Secretary, Lit. Person, Greeter, Intergroup Rep, and many others, as well as other information on various kinds of groups and group issues such as prudent reserves, etc. Frank also notes that the Central Office now carries a pamphlet (.13 each) covering the Bill W./ Carl Jung letters, previously approved by the IFB. .

There were no other IFB Committee reports.

Other Reports/Liaison Reports/and Announcements:

- * George S. (SF GS Liaison) reported that Unity Day was successful, though it was unfortunately not heavily attended.
- * Ken C. reported that Marin GS will conduct an inventory at its next meeting.
- * Reps were reminded to encourage their group treasurers to send in Gratitude Month contributions in a timely manner.
- * Mark M. announced that 12/15 will be the IFB annual volunteer Christmas Party and (this year) auction.
- * Though no representative was present from SF Teleservice, it should be noted that copies of the minutes of the October 15th Teleservice Committee meeting were submitted for members to review.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

SUMMARY**December 2001 IFB Meeting**

The following is an unofficial summary of actions, information, upcoming business, and service opportunities discussed at the December 2001 IFB meeting. It is provided for your convenience and is not intended to be the complete **or approved** minutes.

A. Business Conducted

1. Elected Bill R. as Vice Chair.
2. Elected Ken Y. as Secretary.
3. Activated Nominating Committee to qualify those available for service on the Central Office Committee.
4. Filled vacancies on the Holiday Party Host and Market Street Cleanup Committees.
5. Approved 2002 Budget as presented.
6. Referred a request from Tuesday Downtown for financial assistance to the Special Needs Committee for consideration and recommendation to the IFB.

B. Information

1. Please remind group Treasurers to mail in Gratitude Month contributions and be an example to your group when the baskets are passed.
2. The holiday party and auction will be held at the old Central Office, 1540 Market Street, on Saturday, December 15 from 1-4 pm.
3. The next IFB meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on January 2 in San Francisco at the Unitarian Center, Franklin and Geary Streets.

C. Upcoming Business

1. Electing at-large member of Central Office Committee.
2. Website Guidelines approval.
3. Special Needs Committee recommendation.

D. Service Opportunities

Although these were not announced due to time constraints, there is always need for:

1. San Francisco and Marin Teleservice volunteers.
2. H&I Volunteers.
3. PI/CPC volunteers.

CONTRIBUTIONS

To the Central Office were made

November 21 to December 20

Honoring the following members

CURRENT MEMORIALS

(None)

ONGOING MEMORIALS

RW M.

ANNIVERSARIES

Barbara M. - 44 Years

Birthdays
for
Endless
Summer
Group

*Jason - 1 Year
Annette - 2 Years
Scott - 2 Years
Jeff - 5 Years*

**Thanks to all who
honor their sobriety
through giving!**

Recent Deaths

(None Reported)

AA Group Contributions – October 2001

Intercounty Fellowship – San Francisco / Marin

Total Group Contributions for October 2001

\$10,066.67

Date	GROUP	Amount
FELLOWSHIP GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS		
10/16/2001	Brisbane Breakfast Group	24.00
10/09/2001	Living Miracle Conference 2000	91.67
10/17/2001	Oltimers & Newcomers	60.00
Total Miscellaneous Out-of-Area		175.67
MARIN1 - GROUP CONTRIBUTION		
10/02/2001	6pm Marin Alano	173.00
10/16/2001	7am Group (Larkspur)	228.21
10/16/2001	Awakenings	56.00
10/05/2001	Blackie's Pasture	259.19
10/15/2001	Bounce Back	120.00
10/15/2001	Day At A Time	900.00
10/02/2001	Extra Support Group	150.00
10/02/2001	Newcomer's Step	229.80
10/10/2001	Saturday Night Women's Speaker	257.40
10/12/2001	Sunday Friendship	161.98
10/11/2001	Tiburon Beginners & Closed	337.54
10/10/2001	Women's Big Book	80.00
Total Marin Groups		2,953.12
SF1- GROUP CONTRIBUTION		
10/03/2001	7am Grab Bag	28.75
10/02/2001	Any Lengths	240.00
10/02/2001	As Bill Sees It	34.00
10/10/2001	Back to Basics I	36.60
10/10/2001	Big Book Basics	143.87
10/18/2001	Buena Vista Breakfast	335.17
10/10/2001	Bushwackers	72.00
10/16/2001	Chips Ahoy	80.00
10/11/2001	Each Day a New Beginning (Wed)	280.54
10/16/2001	Early Start	468.40
10/19/2001	Endless Summer	24.00
10/23/2001	Fell Street Step	59.81
10/25/2001	First Step Speaker Discussion	87.00
10/30/2001	Friendly Circle	388.15
10/03/2001	Friendly Circle	204.08
10/02/2001	Gay Beginners Q&A	163.20
10/29/2001	Golden Gate Seniors	130.00
10/02/2001	Goodlands	49.75
10/18/2001	Greenhouse Meditation	52.60
10/29/2001	H&I	20.00
10/01/2001	H&I Business Meeting	27.00
10/15/2001	Happy Hour	60.00
10/17/2001	Happy Hour	65.00
10/09/2001	High Steppers	322.01
10/17/2001	Hilldwellers	120.00
10/31/2001	How it Works	86.84
10/09/2001	Huntington Square	245.00
10/08/2001	IFB	47.00
10/25/2001	Joys of Recovery	89.59
10/29/2001	Let it be Now	134.76
10/16/2001	Lincoln Park	82.37
10/18/2001	Luke's Group	60.24
10/18/2001	Mid-Morning Support	540.00
10/25/2001	Mission Terrace	43.40
10/16/2001	Mocha Group	38.90
10/10/2001	Monday Beginners	26.45
10/30/2001	Monday Blues	40.00
10/24/2001	Monday Discussion	120.00
10/03/2001	Monday Men's Stag	14.74
10/31/2001	Monday Monday	92.46
10/02/2001	Moving Toward Serenity	107.80
10/03/2001	Rap Discussion	143.41
10/05/2001	Rebound	30.00
10/01/2001	Rose Garden Big Book	146.40
10/17/2001	Seacliff	234.80
10/16/2001	Sinbar	120.00
10/11/2001	Spirit of SF Conference	11.33
10/24/2001	Sunset 11'ers (Mon)	20.00
10/25/2001	Sunset Speaker Step	60.00
10/23/2001	Thursday Afternoon Step Study	241.85
10/22/2001	Tuesday Night Step	137.70
10/09/2001	Unidentified Group	262.00

Financial Statement

October 2001 - Intercounty Fellowship of AA

	October	Year-to-Date
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
41000 · Group Contributions	10,066.67	101,086.87
41200 · Individual -Unrestricted	140.06	4,191.94
41300 · Gratitude Month-Groups	0.00	35.75
41500 · Individual - Restricted	0.00	1,500.00
43000 · Newsletter Subscript.	24.00	269.00
44000 · Honorary Contributions	45.00	1,180.00
45000 · Sales - Bookstore	6,225.06	56,519.14
Total Income	16,500.79	164,782.70
Cost of Goods Sold		
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold	4,694.03	42,607.27
Total COGS	4,694.03	42,607.27
Gross Profit	11,806.76	122,175.43
Expense		
60000 · Employee Expenses		
60500 · Workers Comp Ins.	66.97	699.27
60200 · Employer Tax Expenses	475.91	4,943.45
60150 · Employee Accomodation	528.02	528.02
60050 · Wages & Salaries	4,750.00	49,593.70
60100 · Benefits/Pension	217.00	4,312.22
60000 · Employee Expenses - Other	0.00	0.04
Total 60000 · Employee Expenses	6,037.90	60,076.70
60001 · Credit Card Clearing	0.00	30.31
61100 · Accounting Fees	700.00	1,739.43
61200 · Computer Consulting	527.07	1,505.60
61600 · Outside Services	0.00	378.00
61700 · ASL- Net -SHBB	59.00	674.05
61800 · ASL- Net- Fri All Grps	0.00	1,374.65
61900 · Insurance	170.19	2,231.00
61950 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	244.20
62000 · Bank Charges		
61650 · Processing Fee- Payroll	87.05	667.87
62000 · Bank Charges - Other	8.20	117.34
Total 62000 · Bank Charges	95.25	785.21
62001 · Office Supplies	884.27	5,324.03
62100 · Filing Fees	70.00	95.00
62300 · Postage		
62400 · Bulk Mail	0.00	1,090.00
62300 · Postage - Other	163.20	673.80
Total 62300 · Postage	163.20	1,763.80
62500 · Shipping	-92.34	-167.57
64000 · Rent - Office	3,312.70	29,814.30
64500 · Rent - Other	0.00	500.00
64700 · Security System Rental	52.75	527.50
66000 · Telephone	499.60	5,452.68
67100 · Travel	0.00	695.44
68000 · Equipment Lease	912.68	5,215.09
Total Expense	13,392.27	118,259.42
Net Ordinary Income	-1,585.51	3,916.01
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
80000 · Interest Income	724.70	2,673.13
Total Other Income	724.70	2,673.13
Other Expense		
70000 · Depreciation Expense	114.42	1,144.20
Total Other Expense	114.42	1,144.20
Net Other Income	610.28	1,528.93



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Focus on the Traditions

Tradition

12

TRADITION TWELVE
 Sacrifice - Survival

Tradition Twelve (Short Form) states: "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions; ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

Tradition Twelve (Long Form) reminds us that: "And finally, we of alcoholic Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are actually in practice a genuine humility. This is the end that our great becoming may never spoil us that we shall forever live in the thoughtful contemplation of Him who provides our soul."

In the book "Pass It On", we read that Bill W. recognized the value of honesty at the public level - outside of our Fellowship - as a means of expansion but, in our circumstances, it would be impudent to accept them for A.A. achievement.

We also learn, from the same book, that Bill believed he should not act as a superior to other alcoholics. He took every opportunity to exaggerate his own defects. He wrote and that he was a mediocre writer, but that he recognized it. He believed that the triumph of his life was his victory over himself and his becoming truly humble. Bill also thought that members (himself included) should be less important to A.A. than the program and its principles.

A.A.'s principle of anonymity is the key to long-term survival. If we keep this spiritual principle the agents of money, power and prestige will be loosed among us.

We are reminded in "A.A. Comes of Age" that each tradition expresses the definition each of us has to take the sacrifice we all have to make, in order to live and work together. Just as sacrifice meant survival for the individual, so did sacrifice mean survival for the group and for the Fellowship of A.A.

In service and gratitude,

Gayle D.
 San Francisco

Thank You!

The Point
 would like
 to sincerely

thank Gayle D. for her dedication in compiling our series on the 12 Traditions in 2001!

(Questions have been approved with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc., www.aa.org)
 Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pages 139-140;
 Twelve Steps, pages 147-148;
 Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, pages 134-136 and 200.)



Group Speakers for January 2002

TUESDAY DOWNTOWN *

St. Mary's Cathedral, Geary & Gough, San Francisco
Tuesday, 8:30pm

DATE	SPEAKER	HOME GROUP / Sobriety
Jan 1	Rudy S.	Friendly Circle / 18 yrs.
Jan 8	Nancy G.	Keep Coming Back / 25 yrs
Jan 15	Albert L.	Tucson, AZ / 13 yrs.
Jan 22	Ginny P.	Sesame Step / 27 yrs.
Jan 29	Michael D.	Monday Beginners / 8 yrs.

FRIDAY ALL GROUPS

1101 O'Farrell, St. Mark's (basement), San Francisco
Friday, 8:30pm

DATE	HOST GROUP	SPEAKER	HOME GROUP
Jan. 4	AA Classic Tweak & Freak	Dragon	Friday All Groups
Jan. 11	Happy Hour Ladies' Night	Harry	Friday All Groups
Jan. 18	Surf Group	Eric S.	Friday All Groups
Jan. 25	How It Works	Cynthia	Castro Monday Big Book

All *open* speaker meetings are welcome to publish their month's listing in The Point. The deadline for submission of the information is the **19th** of the month preceding publication. Please call Mark at Central Office, 674-1821 or fax 674-1801.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Tuesday Downtown and Attendance Verification Cards

The Tuesday Downtown Steering Committee reached an important group conscience on November 13.

While not opposed to the signing of court or 'attendance verification cards' in principle, the group felt that given the size of the group, and the attendant challenges of trying to host such large numbers, it would be best to discontinue the practice of signing attendance cards at the big 8:30 speaker meeting, and transfer this effort to the 7:15 Beginners meeting.

Starting November 20, 2001, cards will be collected before the 7:15pm meeting begins, and signed after the meeting ends at 8:00pm.

Attendance cards will not be signed at the regular 8:30 speaker meeting

Groups!

Please consider publishing your speakers in The Point. This is a great way to build Unity in our Fellowship - and may be a great way to build interest in your Group!!

MEETING CHANGES

NEW MEETINGS

(NONE REPORTED)

MEETING CHANGES

Tue	10:00am	Cath. Hill	FIREFIGHTERS - St. Mary's Cathedral, Geary/Gough (<i>Change name to: FIREFIGHTERS & FRIENDS</i>)
Wed	12:30pm	Inner Sunset	B.Y.O.L. - 7th / Irving, Church (<i>was at 5th/Irving; move effective 1-2-02</i>)
Thu	08:00pm	McLaren Park	EPIPHANY GROUP - 600 Italy / Naples (<i>add: "No entrance after 8:10pm; door is locked"</i>)
Fri	12:00n	West.Addition	FRIDAY LUNCHTIME STEPS - 1600 Divisadero (<i>change time; was 12:10pm</i>)
Sat	08:30pm	Mission	HOME GROUP - 19th / Dolores (<i>add: "No attendance slips signed"</i>)

NO LONGER MEETING

Sun	04:11pm	Inner Sunset	SUNDAY 411 SUNSET MEDITATION - 7th / Irving
Tue	07:30pm	Russian Hill	B.Y.O.B. - Broadway / Larkin
Thu	08:30pm	Tiburon	SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS - 9 Shepherd Way
Fri	06:00pm	Sunset	PROMISES, PROMISES - 19th / Judah

REPORTED MISSING

(None Reported)



Please Note: The Central Office frequently receives reports that meetings listed in our schedules are actually not there. Sometimes these reports turn out to be mistaken—and sometimes they are not. The office relies primarily on information that is given to us by AA groups, but when a group disbands, informing the Central Office is a common omission. We are therefore going to start reporting 'Missing' meetings in this space.

If you know *anything* about a meeting that is reported missing, please call the Central Office immediately (674-1821). If we hear no objections during the month following publication here, the meeting will be assumed disbanded, and removed from the schedule.

Thank You!



JANUARY 2002