

NORTH VALLEY INTERGROUP NEWS

Attention All Butte/Glenn AA Fellows



Let your groups have a voice & a Vote!

The attendance of Meeting Reps is low at North Valley Intergroup. This is a "WE" program. In order for our services run smoothly & efficiently we need more participation at our monthly meeting.

Please make sure your groups have an Intergroup Rep, or vote someone in. We can't do this alone!

Next NVIG Meeting: Tuesday, April 11th at 6:30 pm

Intergroups are service entities that focus exclusively on local needs (e.g. publishing local A.A. meeting lists, answering inquiries about A.A., receiving, arranging, and following up Twelfth Step calls, establishing local public information committees)

"Unity is the glue that holds the intergroup/central offices and general services together, but it is communication that jumpstarts mutual cooperation and harmony – vital both in reaching suffering alcoholics and in being attuned to the needs of those who are recovering in A.A." – Reprinted from Intergroup/Central Offices: A.A.'s Front Line – Box 459 – August/September 2007, with permission from A.A. World Services, Inc.

If your group needs Literature or Chips please Email the contact below, if interested in In-Person and Online Meetings go to: <https://aabutte-glenn.org>

LITERATURE AND CHIPS/

**NVIG ANSWERING SERVICE
COORDINATOR**

BUTTE/GLENN AA MEETINGS

Call: (530) 342-5756

Call: (530) 592-0200

www.aabutte-glenn.org

NORTH VALLEY INTERGROUP NEWS

WHAT'S NEW ON AA.ORG

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other ...



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

www.aa.org

Vol. 65, No. 3 / Fall 2019

The Meeting Guide App



This is the first installment of a new Box 4-5-9 series on the technology that is changing the way Alcoholics Anonymous communicates to suffering alcoholics and interacts with its members.

Josh R., a web developer, did most of his drinking in New York City. In 2013, he decided a geographic would help and he moved to San Jose. Unlike most geographics, this one turned out to be fruitful — for both Josh and for Alcoholics Anonymous.

Once in San Jose, Josh got sober, found a sponsor and started going to A.A. meetings in the area. Only problem was, the local central office website — while it listed meetings — wasn't so user-friendly for someone using a mobile phone. Like most A.A. websites, the site had been developed before mobile design came into general use. Such sites work fine for someone on a computer, but these days, A.A. sites get more than twice as many visitors from handheld devices as from traditional desktops or laptops.

"Essentially what I did," Josh says, "is take all the meeting listings and export them to an Excel file with links to directions, and then made my own little app, just for myself. That's where the germ of the idea for the Meeting Guide app developed — just me trying to find meetings."

From early sobriety, Josh has been a supporter of intergroups and central offices. The intergroup rep from his home group suggested that Josh develop his personal app into an app that all A.A.s in Santa Clara County could use. Josh agreed and conferred with the Santa Clara County central office. Eventually, Josh went further than originally envisioned. He came up with the idea to develop a WordPress plug-in that intergroup/central offices, areas and districts across the country (and the world) could use, so that the meetings they listed on their sites could be added to the app and automatically updated every 12 hours.

A turning point for Josh was making a presentation of his app to the National A.A. Technology Workshop (NAATW), where he received support and feedback. The free app was launched in November 2015 with seven connected A.A. websites — those in Austin, Mesa (Arizona), Oakland, Philadelphia, Portland (Oregon), San Francisco and San Jose.

Today, Meeting Guide is connected to 326 local A.A. organization websites. Getting connected wasn't easy for all of them. Some local sites had to find new web servants, while others had to draft new policies and procedures, sign up for new web hosting, and try new software. In several cases, group consciences were sought to settle concerns about the Sixth Tradition and the future of the app: Would it always be free? Does this represent affiliation with an outside entity?

In an era when smartphones dominate, Meeting Guide is a simple, useful tool for newcomers and oldtimers alike — one that standardizes meeting information so that it is always readily available and up to date. Recognizing this, Josh did something unusual, but which is also completely within the spirit of the Fellowship: he gave the Meeting Guide app to Alcoholics Anonymous, *for free*.

"I realized," Josh says, "that the only way we could continue to grow was to pass it on."

In the fall of 2018, A.A.W.S., Inc. licensed Meeting Guide and put together a working group of consultants, employees and trustees to help bring it to fruition, and an updated version was released in summer 2019. Lois L. is a member of the steering committee for the NAATW and an administrator on the Technology in A.A. (TIAA) online forum. As an A.A. member with 30 years sobriety

"Nothing matters more to A.A.'s future welfare than the manner in which we use the colossus of modern communication. Used unselfishly and well, it can produce results surpassing our present imagination."

— Bill W.

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Mail address: P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station
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G.S.O.'s A.A. Website: www.aa.org

Subscriptions: Individual, \$3.50 per year; group, \$6.00 for each unit of 10 per year. Check—made payable to A.A.W.S., Inc.—should accompany order. To have issues delivered directly to your inbox, register your email on the A.A. Digital Subscription Service on G.S.O.'s Website.

Note on anonymity: From time to time in this publication full names and/or pictures of G.S.O. employees, Class A trustees and other nonalcoholics are used. The anonymity of A.A. members is maintained, as they are identified throughout by first name and last initial only.

and a professional digital strategist and user experience (UX) consultant, she also advises G.S.O. on digital matters and technical strategy. She says, "What A.A.W.S. has done by acquiring and updating the app is to enable this vital piece of technology to live on forever, to be continually updated and improved upon. Providing the app is what G.S.O. is supposed to do — which is to disseminate public information on a national level for all A.A.s. It's also important to point out that, although the app is provided to the end user for free, it costs money and time to maintain and update — money that comes from member donations to intergroup/central offices and G.S.O. itself."

"Meeting Guide has multiple benefits," says Clement C., staff member on the Communication Services desk at the General Service Office. "Professionals such as therapists and probation officers are able to use it to steer people to meetings very easily. Anytime anyone is traveling, they find the app extremely useful. One aspect I love is being able to text my favorite meetings to sponsees and to give them all the information they need to find them."

Developed for iOS and Android, Meeting Guide is easily recognizable on G.S.O.'s website by its logo, a white folding chair on a blue background. The app clearly tells the user the name and address of a particular meeting, the time it is being held, how far it is from the user's current location, and what type of meeting it is. There are almost 110,000 meetings currently available on the app, and it currently has 186,000 monthly active users, increased from 84,000 in 2018.

"Meeting Guide is completely aligned

with A.A. and was designed with a full understanding of our Traditions and Concepts," says Beau B., a Class B (alcoholic) general service trustee and a director on the A.A.W.S. board. "It's a great example of the right use of new technology: not walking away from who we are as a Fellowship, while allowing us to do so much more."

Clement C. agrees, and also sees another benefit of Meeting Guide: "Having licensed the app, G.S.O. is now seeking to collaborate with intergroup/central offices — the places where the meeting information resides, after all — to keep it fully updated and make sure it continues to be a vital Twelfth Step tool. It's a true program-wide effort."

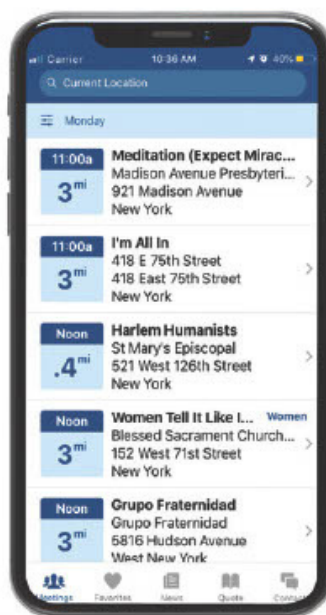
"I would hope that people are inspired by this and see it as a kind of service model — that you can create some technology on your own and then perhaps give it to the Fellowship," Josh says. "I hope there are people out there who want to create, for instance, a Twelfth Step volunteer database to get out to groups who might need it. There's a lot that we can do."

Beau B. personally feels that A.A. is at a "tipping point" when it comes to the use of technology, of which Meeting Guide is only the first example to come to full fruition. Within a year, G.S.O. will have a new website to replace the 2014 version it currently has, one in which the search function is notoriously balky. The new site, Clement says, will "speak directly to people in a conversational way and make it easier for members and people coming to A.A. for the first time to find what they want." Julie Gonzalez (nonalcoholic), Communications Services staff assistant, says that A.A. is "trying to do everything with current best practices. We're listening to industry professionals and user feedback, and participating in the NAATW and Regional Forums."

If so, it's somehow fitting that people like Josh R., and those A.A.s who gather at NAATW conferences and online at the TIAA forum, may be the ones whose service at the local level can lead to effectiveness for carrying A.A.'s message to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out, or clicks, for help.

"After five years of attending NAATW conferences," Lois L. says, "you start to see what people all over are doing and thinking about on their own. Much of what people are doing is experimental. Which is fine. The Traditions and Concepts support that. Let's try new things, and if they don't work, we'll try something else."

Part Two of this series will continue in the Winter 2019 edition.



GENERAL SERVICE DISTRICT 15 AREA 07

From the Desk of the DCM,

The General Service Conference (GSC) in New York will be held the last week of April in New York City. Your input on the agenda topics is needed by all of the groups. Your GSR (General Service Representative) will be informing you about the Proposed Agenda Items (PAI) during March and early April.

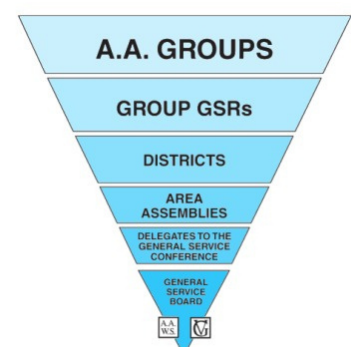
No GSR? Please consider this service opportunity. The agenda topics can be found on the newly designed CNIA (California Northern Interior Area) Area 07 website, cniia.org. At the Pre-Conference Assembly in Tracy on April 15-16, your GSR will be taking your group conscience to the Area Delegate, Jenn D. Jenn D. will then travel to New York and carry your thoughts and vote on the topics that the GSC committees bring forth to the conference.

Chico will be hosting the Post Conference Assembly May 6-7 at Chico High School in the Lincoln Center where the Area Delegate will be giving her report to her home district on what happened at the conference. This will be a great opportunity for all to attend the assembly as it is so close to home. AA members from Area 07 which comprises 29 districts in Central California from the Oregon border all the way down to Visalia will be in attendance. Registration forms for the events can be found on the cniia.org website under the events tab.

In love and service,
Lisanne T, DCM District 15
dcm@aa-butte-glenn.org

What is a GSR (General Service Representative)?

The General Service Representative has the job of linking his or her group with AA as a whole. The GSR represents the group at the district and area levels, bringing the groups' thought, news and problems to the District committee member and to the Delegate, who then passes them on to the conference.



MONTHLY AA SERVICE MEETINGS



Butte County H&I Meeting Information:

Hospitals & Institutions (H&I)
1st Monday of every month at 6PM

Monday: March 6th

St. John's Episcopal Church
2341 Floral Ave., Chico

Area: 31 Butte <https://www.handinorcal.org>

Region: 30 Northern Interior <https://www.handinorcal.org>

District 15 Business Meeting

4th Monday of every month, 6:30-8pm

2341 Floral Ave., Chico

Monday: March 20th 2022

Email: dcm@aabutte-glenn.org

Chico Central Business Meeting

1st Tuesday of the Month at 06:45 PM

Tuesday: March 6th 2023

Chico Central Building 1102 Mangrove, Chico, CA 95926

North Valley Intergroup

2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 PM

Tuesday March 14, 2023

295 E Washington Ave, Chico, CA 95926

Email: nvig@aabutte-glenn.org

<https://aabutte-glenn.org/>

BUTTEYPAA (Butte County Young People in AA)

4th Sunday of the Month at 9:00 PM

Sunday March 26th 2023

Zoom Meeting Info- Meeting ID: 539 759 619 Passcode: 532511

<https://www.butteypaa.org/>

MARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Chico Central
Birthday Meeting**
Saturday, March
25th at 5:30 pm
1102 Mangrove Ave



Volunteers Needed for Paradise Quartely Speaker Meeting on April 22nd

Positions needed to fill:

- Usher's 7th Tradition Collection (2)
- 50/50 Raffle Coordinator & Tickets (1)
- Raffle Ticket Sellers -(2)
- Gift Basket Coordinator (1)
- Greeters (2)
- Set up & take down Chairs (2)
- Clean up (3)

**Questions or want to Volunteer for a Position?
Call or Text Lewis C. @ 864-5918, with the position
you would like to do with phone number & your email
address.**



Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare

Sunday March 26, 2023 11:00AM
Chico Central 1102 Mangrove Avenue

Join us for fellowship, food and fun. We'll eat pizza
and enjoy a discussion of the safety materials
available at aa.org.



*"It is through an informed group conscience that
individual members and A. A. groups find solutions to group
matters as they relate to safety."*

(SMF-209 Safety and A.A. : Our Common Welfare)

UPCOMING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Northern Valley Intergroup PARADISE



**QUARTERLY
SPEAKER MEETING**

**Saturday
April 22**

Opens at 6pm

With dessert potluck

Speakers at 7

Veterans Memorial Hall
6550 Skyway
Paradise, Ca 95969

Main Speaker: Marilyn F, Oakland, CA 30 yrs

10 Min. Speaker TBA



Oroville Picnic/BBQ

**Saturday, May 20th
from 11-3pm**

**Church of the Nazarene
2238 Monte Vista Ave.
Oroville, Ca**

**Contact: Sally M.
or Tommy P.
for more info.**

SAVE THE DATE - UNITY DAY 2023



SUNDAY JUNE 26TH

11:00 AM- 3:00 PM

ONE MILE PICNIC AREA

**REACH OUT TO KATIE V. OR MARTHA T.
IF YOU WANT TO BE OF SERVICE!**

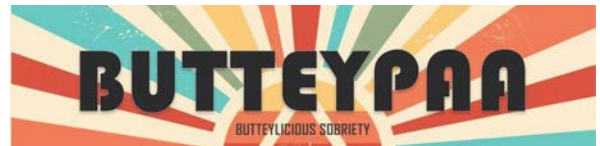


*If you would like to subscribe to our
monthly newsletters please email a
request to nvignewsletter@gmail.com*

In Love and Service,

Katie V.

**NEW
SLETTER**



Our Mission

Butte County Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (BUTTEYPAA) has one primary purpose, to carry its message to the alcoholic that still suffers. Upon this message, our common solution, we can join in harmonious action. Whether we are young in age or young at heart, we will trudge the Road of Happy Destiny as one. Many service opportunities here! Reach out to Kristy C (Chair) or Zak K (Co-Chair) or visit website butteypaa.org

MARCH INSPIRATION

Step Three

"Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him."



Third Step Prayer

God, I offer myself to Thee—to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life.



Tradition Three Short Form

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

Tradition Three

Long Form:

"Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation."

