

SCV-AFG Intergroup Newsletter

DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 20 Meeting

Third Wednesday of odd months, 7:00-9:00 pm.
Zoom ID: 816 8969 3953
Passcode: 498170.

District 21 Meeting

First Wednesday of all months, 7:00–8:00 pm.
Zoom ID: 632 122 5845
Passcode: D21

District 22 Meeting

Third Wednesday of odd months, 7:00–8:30 pm.
Zoom ID: 958 118 1754
Passcode: district 22

INTERGROUP MEETING

Second Tuesday of even months, 7:00–9:00 pm.
February, April, June, August, October, December.
Zoom ID: 829 3562 4652
Passcode: 999

CONTACT INFORMATION

Santa Clara Valley
Al-Anon Family Groups
1 West Campbell Avenue
Room Q82, Campbell CA
95008
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info.scvafg@gmail.com
Website:
<http://www.scv-afg.org>



Cristin oversaw eight hundred dollars in raffle sales—with a little help from her friends! Here she’s making a sale to Renie.

Courage to Change It Up FUNd Day!!

It was so much FUN! On Saturday, September 30. Santa Clara Valley Al-Anon members and volunteers converged upon Trinity Presbyterian Church for an amazing day of fellowship and fund raising titled:

“Courage to Change It Up FUNd Day!“

The event addressed a lingering funding shortfall from the pandemic years, and a lingering fellowship shortfall, too! We’re waiting for the final tally, but judging from anecdotal evidence, it was a big FUNd raising success, and a big fellowship success, as well. It was the “Pandemic Come-Back Event” of the last three years! Friendships interrupted by the three-year pandemic reconnected. A raffle event of historically high quality generated a huge buy-in, with clapping and cheering as each winner was announced. Two featured speakers shared their recovery “experience, strength, and hope”—the inspirational centerpiece for the day, reminding everyone what Al-Anon is all about.

The day got off to a great start with our first speaker, Rina, whose story took us to Idaho, where recovery was hard to find. A break followed: for volunteers to sell tickets for the anticipated raffle, and for

Clockwise from top: Linda takes a break. Chris sets up the Welcome Table. Volunteers Kim and Kathy prepare name tags and sign in sheets. Volunteers Eileen, Rina, and Michelle pose for the camera as they set up the buffet. Raffle Coordinator Cristin poses with Pepe and Terri while setting up the raffle prizes. Lastly: Eileen poses with twins Chris and Renie: looks like they could be triplets!

everyone to nosh at the excellent buffet set up in the kitchen: antipasto platters, little sandwiches, crudites, homemade cookies, and more—all lovingly prepared and served by volunteers in the adjacent kitchen.





Terri and Pepe show their skills off in moving one of nearly fifty raffle prizes into winners hands. A huge hand-crafted quilt from the first raffle session is displayed by Terri and Noelle.



Raffle Winners display their winnings: Renie and Ruth model the hats they won!

Two lollapalooza raffles were scheduled to follow each of the speakers. Close to fifty items were donated by groups and members of the local Al-Anon community, and all were of very high quality. Raffle tickets sold like hotcakes. Prizes ranged from hand-made quilts, crafts, original artworks, themed baskets of goodies, pies (!), a massage (!!), and inspirational books. Cheers and applause accompanied the reading of each winning ticket. In all, forty-seven prizes went to lucky winners, twenty in the first auction session, the remaining after the second speaker, J. J. finished his story of recovery with a local slant.

A Sing-Along around the meeting room piano followed the first raffle session. Lyrics tailored to Al-Anon accompanied familiar show tunes and pop tunes. The gathered singers really belted 'em out! Eileen provided the lyrics. Some thirty-two years ago "Keep It Simple Sisters"



Penny and Karen show off the Stationary Themed basket Penny won.

Jess holds the Beach Themed Basket she won, complete with sunbathing chair!



The mid-afternoon sing-along with Paula at the keyboard. Wish you'd heard "Will You Stay Sober...Tomorrow," sung to the pop tune "Will You Love Me Tomorrow?" Then there's this one, sung to the tune of

"My Favorite Things"

**"Just for today I will practice my program,
Using the steps and recalling a slogan.
Keeping it simple's not easy to do;
If you help me I will likewise help you.**

**Listen and learn at each Al-Anon meeting
There I can get most of what I am needing,
Then with my sponsor I learn day by day
How to keep worries and heartache at bay...**

**When I'm fretful
When I'm fearful.
When I'm feeling sad,
I simply remember my Al-Anon tools,
And then I don't feel...so bad!"**





One last photo celebrates a successful day of fun and fellowship, with some of the happy raffle winners, volunteers, and friends!

(KISS) toured Al-Anon retreats and meetings and sang all of these songs. I'm not quite sure how many members the group had, Eileen may be the only one still in Al-Anon. Some have passed away, others have left the program, including the author of most of the lyrics. Eileen said that they had so much fun being part of the group, and were well received. I suggest that we need to reprise this group with new members and get them out on tour again!

The FUNday officially closed at 5 o'clock, with happy, tired volunteers and members lifted up from the days events. Special thanks go to FUNday Chairwoman Terri and her band of merry volunteers: Pepe, Eileen, Michelle, Krystle, Cristin, Renie, Chris, Janet, Bettina, Kim, Kathy, and Paula. It was a tour de force! And so far it looks like the event brought in over three thousand dollars!





Donating to SCV-AFG

The three ways you can contribute to support our recovery work include:

1. VENMO: The simplest and easiest: @Inter-group-treasurer. Confirmation number 1916.
2. ZELLE: If your bank provides Zelle as an option to send money to others, please use it. To set it up, add email or mobile recipient and please use email: alanonscvtreasurer@gmail.com
3. CHECK: mail your check to: SCV-AFG Santa Clara Valley Al-Anon Family Groups
1 West Campbell Ave. Room Q82, Campbell, CA 95008



Refresh, Revitalize, Rebrand!

The Bookstore Task Force Charge: “Refresh-Revitalize-Rebrand” is a visionary slogan created by Nancy KR, our Alternate Intergroup Chairperson. It fits us well. We are “In recovery” from Covid, and are almost at the end of our lease with Campbell Community Center. We’re challenged by whether to renew it, move to another space, or close it in favor of a “virtual” presence in Santa Clara County. Suggestions to close it entirely: as if its time and purpose had passed, that a “virtual” bookstore would better suit our Internet times—were rejected.

The Thought Force generated survey indicates that over ninety percent of respondents want Al-Anon to have a physical presence in the community. A visionary proposal was made to reimagine the Bookstore as a “Resource Center/Hub” where we could hold weekly newcomer meetings, committee meetings, Alateen meetings, Spanish Intergroup meetings, Special Events, and yet- to-be-dreamed-of functions.

This idea of an enhanced physical presence for Al-Anon in Santa Clara County clearly won out, and generated enthusiasm. A vision for reorganizing the Bookstore as a Resource Center/Hub was presented at the June Intergroup meeting. (See the July/August newsletter for a more complete exploration of this subject.) The follow-on Task Force, led by Vassu R, is now working out where Intergroup goes from here with a Resource Center/Hub. The committee is charged with providing scenarios for it, and a financial model to consider and explore, around the following options for such a physical space, including:

Stay in existing space?

Move to a new room within CCC ? (L-53 is available)

Move to a new location?

While the Task Force is at work to sort out these issues, the November deadline for renewing our lease fast approaches! Many issues are doable without any financial impact on our budget. But the one most appealing, that of moving to another, larger space within the Campbell Community Center, would add \$4000 to our annual overhead, a substantial amount considering our recent financial history, so it has been tabled. For now, Intergroup will strive to make our current Community Center space work, and Al-Anon maintains its physical presence in the community.

*“Knowledge Based Decision Making” (an Alanon process)

About Group Contributions to Service Arms

We've left the pandemic behind, but the damage to our finances remains! Penny spells out where our donations go, and what we get back: something to consider when your group allocates its periodic donations to Al-Anon.



Info to help groups decide how to donate to Service Arms

For SCV AFG Intergroup - Our 2023 goal/budget for Group contribution is \$29,000 (this amount has us meeting our budgeted expenses). There are three ways groups can contribute to SCV AFG (and they are all individual ways a group really can't just buy literature because that won't help us to cover our expenses)

1. Make donations as a group. We have approx. 50 meetings divided into \$29K would mean each meeting (if everyone gave) would need to donate \$582 a year total. We know not everyone will do that, so if 75% donated (or 38 meetings) each meeting would need to contribute \$763 a year.
2. Pay their portion of the insurance - which is \$65 a year
3. Buy books at our Literature Depot

NCWSA from Carol the Treasurer - report at May 2023 Assembly

Groups - NCWSA would meet their budget if every group contributed \$112 per year and if every District and Intergroup contributed \$600 per year. (Note – not all of the meetings and Districts are contributing – our AIS/Intergroup has not contributed to NCWSA for years)

Carol, NCWSA Treasurer, suggested that each group increase your contributions by 25% from last year.

WSO 2022 info presented by Delegate John at the May 2023 Assembly

100% of groups are using services and only 61 % are contributed to WSO (in 2021 52% contributed)

Cost to support each group is \$321.25 per year from the WSO -- is your group meeting or surpassing that amount?

District: Check with your GR to determine if the District is in need of money.

Alateen: Currently, our SCV AFG Alateen account stands at approximately \$6500. In light of this, I recommend that future donations be directed to the SCV-AFG Intergroup general fund rather than specifically earmarked for Alateen. It's crucial to understand that these funds are designated exclusively for Alateen use.

By contributing to the SCV-AFG Intergroup general fund, you allow our trusted servants to efficiently manage the budget and address the needs of Alateen in a comprehensive manner. This approach ensures that all aspects of our Alateen program are appropriately supported and that resources are allocated effectively to benefit the individuals involved.

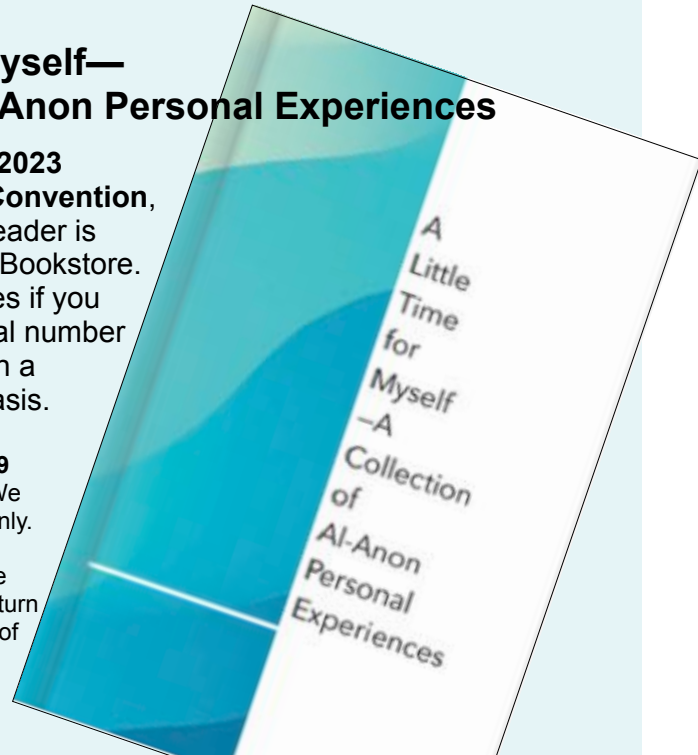
Distributed to AIS/Intergroup 10/10/2023

It's In the Bookstore Now!

A Little Time for Myself— A Collection of Al-Anon Personal Experiences

Introduced at the recent **2023 Al-Anon International Convention**, Al-Anon's newest daily reader is in stock at the Campbell Bookstore. Come and get your copies if you pre-ordered. An additional number of copies are available on a first come, first served basis.

Total cost for the reader: **\$20.29** including shipping and taxes. We accept credit and debit cards only. Advance orders will be held for 10 days from the date you were notified, after which they will return to inventory. And—we have all of our other readers in stock too!



BACK ORDERED!

So sign up on the waiting List!

SCV-AFG Welcomes Our Hispanic Al-Anon Friends

For as long as we can remember, our Santa Clara Valley Anglo and Hispanic Al-Anon Organizations have operated separately. Why? We aren't sure. But now our Hispanic members are combining with us, moving into our soon to be renamed Resource Center/Hub (now known as the Bookstore). We will share resources, share facilities, and share recovery! The old Bookstore is about to undergo a makeover, streamlining the facility and allowing us to offer more services as a Resource Center/Hub. Check out the flyer on the next page to see what our dynamic Hispanic Al-Anon is doing right now, and know that you are invited to participate too. Join us in welcoming this very dynamic group of Al-Anons into our space!



"I FOUND WINGS TO FLY TO SERENITY"

**42nd. Al-Anon and Alateen Hispanic Convention
Of the State of California.**

**SAVE THE DATE November 3,4, and 5th 2023
With the participation of Al-Anon English Speaking,
Adult Children of Al-Anon, Alateen and AA.
Holiday Inn San Jose - Silicon Valley**

1350 North 1st St - San Jose CA 95112

Reservations: (888) 465-4329 Group Code CHD or in the website
<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/san-jose/sjccc/hoteldetail>

Room price: \$139.00 + taxes.

Registration : Early bird \$25.00

At the Event \$30.00

Alateen \$10.00

Dinner : \$85.00

Information:

Ruby S. (650) 468-9340 - Registrations

Natalia N. (360) 931-1846 - Hospitality

Josefina L. (831) 277-5641 - Dinner tickets

This event conforms to B17 NCWSA requirement for Alateen member safety.

AMIAS: Rocio R. y Leticia L.

"Al-Anon is a Non-Profit fellowship, where our sole purpose is to help the families and friends
of Alcoholics"