

◆ Anonymous Times ◆

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A.A.'s Seventh Tradition

A Commentary by Kellie T.

“Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

The decision to make AA a self-supporting organization must have been an agonizing one. Further funding from outside contributors would have provided resources for medical research and treatment of the disease, housing facilities providing food, clothing and shelter to every needy alcoholic and upscale meeting facilities more appealing to mainstream society. The quantity of people **introduced** to the program would have been much greater, but the quantity of **recovery** would have been undermined, if not destroyed. As difficult as declining outside contributions may be in the short term to the group and to the individual, it is essential to program success.

AA as an enterprise is clearly unique. It has no product to sell, no marketable services, no membership fees, and it delivers to the consumer without cost. What AA offers is entirely esoteric: the promise of a new, successful way of life. Recovery is offered by self-centered people helping one another. How could such an entity ever become a successful organization, with a recovery rate greater than anything science, psychology, institutionalization or medicine have to offer? How has AA been able to transform a single individual into the state of sobriety? It is an organization which has incorporated spirituality into all of its affairs, even into financing. It is recognition that, as unlikely as each of us is individually to succeed, we can work together and prosper beyond anyone's expectations.

Were AA to have accepted endowments, gifts and support from those who would have assisted us, there would have been no autonomy. Adding treatment facilities, hospices and nicer meeting places would have meant overhead and soliciting further donations to pay for added facilities and amenities, and compelled compromise to reconcile the inharmonious interests of contributors. AA would

(continued on page 12)

CENTRAL OFFICE NEEDS YOU!

Give Our Volunteers a Break

Central Office needs substitutes to fill shifts during summer vacation season. If you are reliable and looking for a short-term commitment, come see us! Volunteers are the lifeblood of the office and essential tools in maintaining the machinery of A.A. in North Orange County. The work is also an essential part of your Twelfth Step-carrying the message of A.A. to other alcoholics. For more information, call Roxy at 714-773-4357. Six months sobriety is required.

Remember...to keep it you gotta give it away!

NORTH ORANGE COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE

1111 E. Commonwealth, Suite D
Fullerton, CA 92831

OFFICE HOURS: Daily 9am-9pm

PHONE:(714) 773-4357 (24 hrs)

FAX: (714) 773-0179

WEBSITE: www.aanoc.com

E-MAIL: officemanager@aanoc.com



Tradition Seven Quote

FROM "THE 12&12" (PG. 160)

“Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

Probably no A.A. Tradition had the labor pains this one did. In early times, we were all broke. When you add to this the habitual supposition that people ought to give money to alcoholics trying to stay sober, it can be understood why we thought we deserved a pile of folding money. What great things A.A. would be able to do with it! But oddly enough, people who had money thought otherwise. They figured that it was high time we—now sober—paid our own way. So our Fellowship stayed poor because it had to.

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Year-to-Date Donations (through May 2007)

Thank you for supporting YOUR Central Office!

AREA	DAY & TIME	MEETING NAME	YTD	AREA	DAY & TIME	MEETING NAME	YTD
Anaheim	6:30pm Fri.	Gratitude is action	341.00	La Habra	Womens 8pm	Open Discussion	35.00
Anaheim	Fri. 8pm	202 W Broadway	59.96	Loma Linda	Thurs.8pm	Meeting #119601	160.00
Anaheim	Mo 7:30 PM	12 & 12 Oasis	100.00	Los Alimtos	Wednesday 7pm	Girls Night Out	50.00
Anaheim	Mo 8:30 PM	Big Book Study Group	100.00	Los Alamitos	Saturday		200.00
Anaheim	Serenity Hall	Just for Today	60.00	Los Alamitos	ALL	Surrender is Freedom	354.00
Anaheim	Tues 6:30 PM	Women's 6 & 7	124.00	Los Alamitos	Thurs 7PM	Cover to Cover	50.00
Anaheim	Thurs. 7:30pm	Oasis Big Book	221.33	Los Alamitos	Sun. 6pm	Big Book Study	30.00
Anaheim Hills	Mon. Night	"Experience, Strength, Hope"	81.00	NOCCO	Central Office	B-Day Frank& Sandy	36.00
Anaheim Hills	Sa 6:00 PM	Winner's Circle	240.00	NOCCO	Central Office	Audrey L	20.00
Anaheim Hills	Sa 8:30 AM	It's In The Book	182.00	NOCCO	Central Office	Anonymous	5,000.00
Anaheim Hills	Th 7:00 PM	Women's Solution	67.20	NOCCO	Central Office	Lou H	61.00
Anaheim Hills	Tu 7:30 PM	Women's Big Book & Step	34.43	NOCCO	Central Office	Bud S	40.00
Anaheim Hills	Wed.730pm	Big Book Study	130.00	NOCCO	Central Office	Jim D B-Day	50.00
Brea	Tues 530pm	Mens Stag	191.00	NOCCO	Central Office	Faithful Fivers Colleen B	50.00
Brea	Fr 5:30 PM	Happy Hour BB Study	35.00	NOCCO	Central Office	Faithful Fiver Julie L	60.00
Brea	Mo 10:00 AM	Women's Discussion	239.50	NOCCO	Central Office	Soda Coffee	93.00
Brea	Sa 10:30 AM	Women's Step Study	290.00	NOCCO	Central Office	Telephone Calls	16.00
Brea	Th 5:30 PM	Living in the Solution	100.00	NOCCO	Central Office	INTERGROUP	185.95
Brea	Wednesday 630pm	Daily Reflections	100.00	Orange		SOBERFEST	4,000.00
Buena Park	Thurs.8pm	Kitchen Table Meeting	80.00	Orange	Fri 7:30 PM	"T.G.I.F., Friendship Club"	120.00
Buena Park	Couples	Couples Group	70.00	Orange	Group 660951	Kevin O.	140.00
Cerritos	Sunday 6-7 pm	11th Step	60.00	Orange	Mon.630am	Early Bird Discussion	70.00
Cypress	Tues 7:30 PM	Big Book Study	180.00	Orange	Sa 7:00 PM	Not a Glum Lot	120.00
Cypress	5-6pm	Sun. Happy Hour	10.00	Orange	Sun 8:30 AM	Attitude Adj. OrangOlive	240.00
Cypress	Tues.730pm	Big Book Study	175.00	Orange	Friday noon	Freindship Club	258.00
Cypress	Fri. 8pm	Lunatic	440.00	Orange	Tues 8 PM	Hartpark Newcomer	50.00
Cypress	Tu 5:30 PM	Happy Hour BB Study	120.00	Orange	Tu 7:00 PM	Walnut TustinCl.Disc.	225.00
Fullerton	daily6:00AM	Att.Adjt.FAC	428.00	Orange	Tu. 6:30am	Doughnut Meeting	75.00
Fullerton	FAC WED.200pm	Women's Coffee Talk	35.00	Orange	Wed.7pm	Easy Does It	100.00
Fullerton	Fr 8:00 PM	St. Jude Speaker	350.00	Placentia	Mo 6:30 PM	Beginners' Sober Start	120.00
Fullerton	7pm Tues.	FAC Participation	20.00	Placentia	Su 7:30 PM	Sunday Nite Bradford	266.00
Fullerton	Fri 8:30pm	Valencia mesa 12-12	36.00	Placentia	Su AM	Right Start	140.00
Fullerton	Fri. 6pm	Singles 4 Sobriety	25.00	Placentia	Tu 7:00 PM	Palm Ladies 12 x 12	55.00
Fullerton	Mo 6:00 PM	Kats on the Roof	31.00	Placentia	Wed 7:00 pm	Palm Ladies Big Bk Study	152.40
Fullerton	Mo 6:00 PM	Men's Stag	50.00	Portola Hills	Tu 8:00 PM	Bradford Discussion	60.00
Fullerton	Mo 6:30 PM	Women Living in the Solution	100.00	Santa Ana	7:00	Tues. Drunks R Us	50.00
Fullerton	Mon.730pm	Freedom Meeting Place	50.00	Whittier	Su 7:00 PM	11th Step Meeting	89.00
Fullerton	Sa 6:00 PM	Sat Night Live	52.50	Whittier	Fri.7-8pm	Big Book Study	25.00
Fullerton	Sa 9:30 AM	Feelings-Fullerton Alano	25.00	Whittier	Saturday 730pm	Shepard of the Hills Spk	25.00
Fullerton	Su 10:30 AM	Speaker Alano	70.00	Whittier	Mo 7:00 PM	As Bill Sees It	35.00
Fullerton	Sat. 6pm	Calvary Comm. Church	43.92	Whittier	Sat. 10:30 am	Women's Acceptance	25.00
Fullerton	Th 8:00 PM	Women's KISS	51.13	Whittier	Sa 8:00 AM	12 x 12 Group	25.00
Fullerton	Thurs 8:00pm	Men's Stag	125.00	Whittier	Sunday7am	AAGolden Key	75.00
Fullerton0	Thursday 600pm	Womens FAC	30.00	Whittier	Thursday 8pm	The Den	20.00
Fullerton	Tu 1:30pm	Womens meeting	42.00	Whittier	Tu 7:00 AM	Attitude Adjustment	40.00
Fullerton	Tu 6:30 AM	Val Mesa Big Book	60.00	Whittier	Wed.630pm	Happy Hour Big Book	87.50
Fullerton	We 8:00 PM	FAC Speaker Mtg	37.10	Yorba Linda	Wednesday night	Shepard of the Hills Particip	18.00
La Habra	Fri. 8pm	Beginners Basic	200.00	Yorba Linda	ALL 6:00 AM	Attitude Modification	1,442.40
La Habra	Monday 8:00pm	Greenwood Fireside	100.00	Yorba Linda	Fr 5:30 PM	Happy Hour Big Book	80.00
La Habra	Sun.10:30am	Participation Meeting	75.00	Yorba Linda	Mo 12:00 PM	Nooners	60.00
La Habra	Sat. 800pm	Participation Meeting	160.00	Yorba Linda	Mo 7:30 PM	Monday Nite Book Study	180.00
La Habra	Sun.7pm	Sober Sunday	30.00	Yorba Linda	Mo 8:00 PM	Yorba Linda Lutheran Ch.	120.00
La Habra	Tu 8:00 PM	Participation	60.00	Yorba Linda	SatNite 8 PM	8:00pm Speaker	100.00
La Palma	Friday	Big Book Group	70.00	Yorba Linda	Th 7:30 PM	Serenity Seekers	40.00
La Palma	Wed.8pm	Sobriety First	105.00	Yorba Linda	Tu PM	Rose Dr. Babtist Womens	145.00
La Habra	Sunday 10:30am	La Habra Sunday AM	250.00	Yorba Linda	10:00am	Womens Tuesday	65.00
La Habra	Thurs.8pm	Participation	60.00	Yorba Linda	We 12:00 PM	Noontimers	165.00
La Habra	Tuesday 8pm	Discussion	60.00			TOTAL	14,679.25

ALL DRESSED UP and NO PLACE TO GO?

Don't forget to pick up the your Orange County A.A. Meeting Directory, available at Central Office, Clubs and Fellowship Halls. For less than the price of a cup of coffee (54 cents including tax), you'll have the latest meeting information at your fingertips. Buy one for yourself and one for a friend – It's a great way to welcome a newcomer to the Fellowship!

APRIL/MAY 2007 DONATIONS

*If your meeting is not listed here,
PLEASE see your meeting secretary.*

ATTENTION MEETING SECRETARIES

Suggested Donations are as follows:

- ♥ **70% N.O.C CENTRAL OFFICE:**
1111 Commonwealth, Suites C&D, Fullerton, CA 92831
- ♥ **20% GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE:**
Box 459, Grand Central Station, NY, NY 10163
- ♥ **10% MID-SO. CAL AREA #9:**
P.O. Box 51446, Irvine, CA 92619
- ♥ **OPTIONAL 5% Local District Office or Hospitals & Institutions**

See page 67 of the Orange County Meeting Directory for more info.

Please include the following important information when submitting your group donation: Full Meeting Name, Day, Time and City. Please include your name and return address so we can mail you a receipt.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!

During April and May Central Office took 1661 calls:

**948 from men and
713 from women.**

*Keep up the great work —
YOU make a difference!*



North Orange County Central Office Revenue and Expense Report thru May 2007

Revenue	Thru May 2007	Thru May 2006
Sales - AA Books and Literature.....	\$17,373.97	\$15,920.04
Sales - Chips and Non-AA.....	\$13,016.94	\$14,712.82
Donations- Groups and Individuals	\$30,368.93	\$22,501.64
Fundraisers.....	\$4,000.00	\$2,200.00
Interest	\$11.97	\$186.66
Total Revenue.....	\$64,771.81	\$55,521.16
Cost of Goods.....	\$22,530.00	\$19,270.91
Gross Profit	\$42,241.81	\$36,250.25
Operating Expenses.....		
Salaries.....	\$16,700.00	\$16,700.00
Bank Charges.....	\$28.00	\$25.00
Bad Checks.....	\$19.40	\$0.00
Computer Expenses.....	\$1,155.36	\$49.99
Depreciation	\$405.97	\$286.54
Dues & Subscriptions.....	\$0.00	\$80.00
Insurance - Work Comp.....	\$328.78	\$695.36
Insurance - Medical	\$1,125.00	\$1,138.88
Legal & Accounting	\$975.00	\$875.00
Newsletter Cost.....	\$1,480.50	\$969.76
Office Supplies.....	\$1,350.12	\$1,078.43
Office Rent	\$5,931.73	\$4,200.00
Equipment Rental.....	\$737.29	\$0.00
Relocation Expense	\$770.00	\$0.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$490.20	\$174.95
Seminars & Education	\$0.00	\$724.40
Taxes- Payroll.....	\$1,389.53	\$1,424.56
Taxes- Annual Filings	\$60.00	\$80.00
Telephone.....	\$2,170.98	\$1,318.04
Utilities.....	\$670.44	\$214.03
Total Operating Expense.....	\$35,788.30	\$30,034.94
Net Income/(Loss)	\$6,453.51	\$6,215.31

AREA	DAY & TIME	MEETING NAME	APRIL	MAY
Anaheim	Serenity Hall	Just for Today		60
Anaheim	Womens 6&7	Tuesday 630pm	42	40
Anaheim Hills	Mon. Night	"Exper. Strength. Hope"		81
Anaheim Hills	Sa 6:00 PM	Winner's Circle	120	120
Anaheim Hills	Sa 8:30 AM	It's In The Book		42
Anaheim Hills	Tu 7:30 PM	Women's Big Book & Step		34.43
Brea	Fr 5:30 PM	Happy Hour BB Study		35
Brea	Mo 10:00 AM	Women's Discussion		95
Brea	Sa 10:30 AM	Women's Step Study		100
Brea	Th 5:30 PM	Living in the Solution	50	50
Brea	Wed 630pm	Daily Reflections	100	
Buena Park	Thurs.8pm	Kitchen Table Meeting	40	
Cypress	Tues 7:30 pm	Big Book Study	60	60
Cypress	Fri. 8pm	Lunatic	100	100
Cypress	Tu 5:30 PM	Happy Hour BB Study		60
Fullerton	daily6:00AM	Att.Adjt.FAC	254	
Fullerton	WED.200pm	FAC Women's Coffee Talk	35	
Fullerton	7pm Tues.	FAC Participation	20	
Fullerton	Fri 8:30pm	Valencia Mesa 12-12	36	
Fullerton	Mon.730pm	Freedom Meeting Place	50	
Fullerton	Sa 6:00 PM	Sat Night Live	52.5	
Fullerton	Sa 9:30 AM	Feelings-Fullerton Alano	15	
Fullerton	Su 10:30 AM	Speaker Alano	70	
Fullerton	Th 8:00 PM	Women's KISS	51.13	
Fullerton	Tu 1:30pm	Womens mting		42
Fullerton	We 8:00 PM	FAC Speaker Mtg.		37.1
La Habra	Fri. 8pm	Beginners Basic	100	100
La Habra	Sat. 800pm	Participation Meeting	40	40
La Habra	Sun 10:30am	La Habra Sunday		175
Loma Linda	Thurs.8pm	Meeting #119601		160
Los Alamitos	Wed 7pm	Girls Night Out		50
Los Alamitos	Saturday		200	
Los Alamitos	ALL	Surrender is Freedom	120	
Los Alamitos	Thurs 7PM	Cover to Cover		50
Los Alamitos	Sun. 6pm	Big Book Study		30
NOCCO	Central Office	B-Day Frank & Sandy		36
NOCCO	Central Office	Audrey L		20
NOCCO	Central Office	Anonymous		5,000.00
NOCCO	Central Office	Lou H	61	
NOCCO	Central Office	Bud S	10	10
NOCCO	Central Office	Jim D B-Day	50	
NOCCO	Central Office	Faithful Fivers Colleen B	25	
NOCCO	Central Office	Soda Coffee	51	
NOCCO		INTERGROUP	46	30
Orange		SOBERFEST	4,000.00	
Orange	Sa 7:00 PM	Not a Glum Lot		60
Orange	Sun 8:30 AM	Attitude Adjust OrgOlive	120	
Orange	Friday noon	Freindship Club		258
Orange	Tu 7:00 PM	Walnut TustinCl.Disc.		135
Placentia	Su 7:30 PM	Sunday Nite Bradford	117	
Placentia	Su AM	Right Start	140	
Placentia	Wed 7:00 pm	Palm Ladies BB Study		62.4
Santa Ana	7:00	Tues. Drunks R Us		50
Whittier	Su 7:00 PM	11th Step Meeting		49
Whittier	Mo 7:00 PM	As Bill Sees It	35	
Whittier	Sa 8:00 AM	12 x 12 Group	25	
Whittier	Sunday7am	AAGolden Key	75	
Whittier	Tu 7:00 AM	Attitude Adjustment	40	
Yorba Linda	Fr 5:30 PM	Happy Hour Big Book	80	
Yorba Linda	Mo 12:00 PM	Nooners		60
Yorba Linda	Mo 7:30 PM	Monday Nite Book Study	180	
Yorba Linda	Mo 8:00 PM	Yorba Linda Lutheran Ch.		60
Yorba Linda	Sat 8:00 PM	8:00pm Speaker		100
Yorba Linda	Th 7:30 PM	Serenity Seekers		40
Yorba Linda	Tu PM	Rose Dr. Baptist Womens		75
Yorba Linda	We 12:00 PM	Noontimers		165
		TOTALS	6,398.63	7,114.50

**UPCOMING
EVENTS!**

Looking for something to do?

Here are some upcoming events that might be of interest.

Techachapi Mountain Round-Up

The 6th Annual Tehachapi Mountain Roundup will be held at the Indian Hill Ranch Campground July 13-15, 2007. Join in for Speaker Meeting, Friday night dance and karaoke, BBQ, fishing derby and so much more. Not a camper? Not a problem - log on to www.tehachapiroundup.com for a list of local hotels, registration form, directions and the schedule. Don't miss out on the fun!

ICYPPA International Conference

The 49th ICYPPA International Conference of Young People in A.A. will be held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel and Suites Aug. 31-Sept. 2, 2007. Log onto www.49thICYPA.org for a sneak peek at the conference program.

District A.A. Convention

The 15th Annual 52nd District A.A. Convention will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Santa Maria September 7-9, 2007. "Pass It On" is the theme of this year's convention. For additional information, please call (805) 878-2153 or (805) 922-8032.

NOCPIC Speaker Workshop

Come learn how to carry the message at non-A.A. events.

Tentative date is Sunday, August 19 – time to be determined – at North O.C. Central Office, 1111 E. Commonwealth, Suite D, Fullerton. For info call: Brian K. (714) 658-4581 or email bkanonymous@adelphia.net

56th Annual Southern California AA Convention *The Keys to the Kingdom*

September 21-23, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency in Anaheim. Fellowship and sharing the message is what this convention is all about. The Convention Features: Sobriety Count Down, Around the Clock AA Marathon meetings, Friday and Saturday Night Dances, Saturday Banquet Meeting Dinner, Spanish Speaker Brunch, Alanon Luncheon, a Golf Tournament, a Fishing Tournament, 5/10k Run-Walk, a Motorcycle Poker Ride as well as Bowling and Tennis Tournaments.

There will be activities for the entire family including Al-Anon Marathon Meetings, Al-Ateen Events and a weekend full of Kid Activities. *Central Office volunteers, please plan to attend a special Saturday afternoon meeting — see program for more information.*

Go to www.aasocal.com to register.

Regularly Scheduled North Orange County Meetings

North Orange County Intergroup Association
2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
109 E. Wilshire, Fullerton (First Christian Church)

Orange County Hospitals and Institutions Committee
2nd Sunday of each month as follows:
Institutions Committee: 4-5 p.m. (Orientation at 3:15 p.m.)
Hospitals Committee: 6-7 p.m. (Orientation at 5:15 p.m.)
Garden Grove Alano Club, 9845 Belfast, Garden Grove

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
1st Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m.
202 W. Broadway, Anaheim

North Orange County Hispanic Intergroup Association
Every Friday at 8:00 p.m.
330 N. State College Ste 207, Anaheim
Call (714) 956-7243 for information

North Orange County Public Information Committee
2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
NOCCO, 1111 E. Commonwealth, Ste. D, Fullerton
For information call Brian K. (714) 658-4581

BIRTHDAY DONATIONS



Sandy S.	6/3/89	\$18
Frank S.	7/8/89	\$18
Audrey L.	6/25/90	\$17
Jean P.	6/3/85	\$22

In Memory of Big John \$50
 Donation by Jean P.

*Thank you for contributing to OUR sobriety
 It's a WE Program!*

IS SOMEBODY SPECIAL CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY?

Gold, silver and tri-plated chips can be ordered through Central Office. Specialty medallions like sponsor chips, friendship chips and women/men in recovery are also available. All orders must be pre-paid and require one week for delivery. Please plan accordingly.

PUBLISH YOUR BIRTHDAY or SOBRIETY STORY TODAY!

To publish your birthday, send us your name, sobriety date and your contribution check (**DO NOT SEND CASH**) in the mail to: North Orange County Central Office, 133 West Chapman Suite C, Fullerton, CA 92832

THE ANONYMOUS TIMES NEEDS YOU!!

*Do you have a burning desire to share your story?
 Want to help somebody else stay sober?*

Tell us how **YOU** did it! Send us your articles. Please keep the stories **700 words or less** (sorry, no poetry), and **confine the subject matter to alcoholism**.

If you include material from another source such as the Grapevine or the Big Book, please specify which page # and book. Submit your article to Central Office or e-mail to: aatimes@aanoc.com

CHECK IT OUT—DUDE! YOUNG PEOPLE'S AA MEETINGS!

Sunday

Fullerton	6:00 pm	216 N. Malden (Alano Club)
Orange	7:00 pm	261 N. Glassell @ Chapman (The Ugly Mug)

Monday

Irvine	7:30 pm	Wild Bunch Men's Step Study 5001 Newport Coast Dr Mariners Church (Port Kid Zone room)
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Tuesday

Anaheim Hills	7:30 pm	Step Study/Kaiser Lakeview-Bsmt
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Wednesday

Anaheim	8:00 pm	Young Peoples Meeting 9581 #B W. Ball Rd. Between Brookhurst & Gilbert
Huntington Bch	8:00 pm	Triangle Group Big Book Study 2721 Delaware @ 17th
Irvine	7:30 pm	Wild Bunch Beginner Q&A 18842 Teller Avenue @ Campus (New Song Church).
Newport Beach	8:30 pm	Topic Discussion, 414 E. 32nd St.
Yorba Linda	8:00 pm	Topic Discussion, 5320 Richfield Rd.

Thursday

Costa Mesa	8:00 pm	Moorehead Podium Call-up 2476 Newport Blvd @ Fair (Oddfellow Hall)
Laguna Beach	8:00 pm	Romper Room Beginners 20456 Laguna Canyon Rd.

Friday

Anaheim Hills	8:00 pm	Discussion-411 Lakeview Ave. @ 91 Fwy. (Medical Bldg., Basement, Room # B-4)
Huntington Bch	7:00 pm	Seacliff, 225 7th St., Garage #1 @ Olive
Irvine	7:30 pm	Boys in Sobriety, 4400 Barranca & Culver
Anaheim Hills	8:00 pm	Discussion, Kaiser Lakeview, Bsmt.
San Clemente	10:00 pm	Voluntary Participation 929 Calle Negocio, Ste H @ Calle Amanecer

Saturday

Rancho Santa Margarita	7:30 pm	RSM 1 Hour Discussion 30322 Via Con Dios (Church)
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SUBSCRIPTIONS/GIFTS

Treat yourself or a friend to the A. T. for only \$6.00 a year!
 Send us your name and address:

Name: _____ Date: _____


Address: _____

City & Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Please send this along with \$ _____ for _____ subscriptions at \$6.00 per year to:

ANONYMOUS TIMES: 1111 COMMONWEALTH, SUITE D • FULLERTON, CA 92831 • Phone: 714-773-4357

Note: Group subscriptions available-call Central Office for more info.



In Memoriam – Big John

May 20, 1922 – May 24, 2007

Sobriety date: June 7, 1984

“Leaving a Legacy of Love”



I have had the honor of working with Big John for the past five years at Central Office. Big John was a volunteer here since 1985; this was way before I had gotten sober so I can only imagine how many lives this one man had touched over the phone. We can forget at times where we come from and lose our gratefulness for “just being sober”, let alone all of the many written and unwritten gifts that we experience in sobriety. Big John never forgot to be grateful, humble and loving. If you ever had the opportunity to come to the office on Wednesday mornings at 9 AM you would have been invited to have one of Big John’s “best in the world” cups of coffee. He made it a point to be here early so that when I got to work there was fresh pot of coffee. For a few years there was a doughnut ritual on Wednesday morning. So in his memory, for all of his service work both in and out of Central Office, for all who knew Big John, ate with Big John, enjoyed his friendship, we will always have a little more of all of the good things because he was here.

*We love you Big John
Roxy and all of the volunteers at the office*

I loved Big John so much. He was truly a giant among men, physically, mentally and emotionally. The facts are that he remembered literally ALL of our names every time he saw us; that he NEVER said anything negative about anybody; that he never complained or told us of his pain; that he made us all feel like the most important person in the room when we were talking to him; that he always had time to listen to us; and MAINLY that the fact that he was the personification of the LOVE in our program! I will remember him always with gratitude, love and feel honored to have known him.

Bonnie H. – Sunday Night Bradford Meeting

Big John was one of the few people who was older than me. He was considered part of the “great generation.” He participated in two of the world’s great events, as he was in World War II, both Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941 and the Normandy D-day invasion. Big John also had the best sense of humor. I am the temporary fill-in for Big John at Central Office and, although I don’t think I can fill his shoes, I can dispose of the Wednesday morning donuts he and Es had together. His commitment to the program and the example he set was great to follow.

*Es and Foster R.
Wednesday 9-12 AM Volunteers*

I met Big John in August 1984. At that time he was sober only two months. A giant of a man with the charm and charisma of a world leader or movie star, he gave me a giant Big John hug that night. He looked me eye ball to eye ball and said “Welcome home my little friend.” We became close friends in and out of program and throughout the years I grew to respect, honor and love this man beyond words.

His stories of being a Pearl Harbor survivor, our monthly AA poker games and our sharing in thousands of meetings together, he always remained positive and encouraging and entertaining. He understood AA’s Steps and Traditions and practiced them in all his affairs. He shared with me that AA meetings are for the sole purpose of delivering the message of hope to the alcoholic still suffering and not to air our daily sagas. He demonstrated this by never sharing in an AA meeting his personal daily issues; rather he shared the message of hope and love directed to the ones still suffering.

In private Big John shared many of his life issues with close AA friends but never whined or complained. He lived in the solution and not the problem. Big John told me a few months ago that he wanted to be remembered for living and dying a sober man. He did not want to be remembered as a hero or as anything special; he said that he was merely a man that came into AA close to death and as a result of his God, twelve steps and the Fellowship, he was able to grow up and become the man he had always hoped to become. He said that the key to his love and his blessed life was a direct result of his willingness to be of service in and out of AA. Big John was there to set up and clean-up a meeting place. He volunteered at central office and made hundreds of twelve step calls and he did all of this with grace and humility.

Big John’s legacy is one of hope, love, service and humility. It is said that ultimately we will be judged not by our intentions but rather by our actions and Big John’s actions and example is a legacy that will live in my heart and hearts of thousands of people forever.

Big John’s presence will be missed but his message must be carried on and that is in our hands. Let’s once again resolve to carry ourselves with dignity, honor, love, respect and humility while we trudge this happy road of destiny together as recovering Alcoholics, one step, one day, one moment at a time.

Karate Brad W.

SPEAKER MEETINGS: July/August 2007 DON'T MISS THESE!!!

Anonymous Times would like to publish your list of speakers for September/October 2007. Contact Central Office or email to aatimes@aanoc.com. Deadline for publication is August. 15.

Friday Dreams Come True - Fullerton

7:30 pm 109 E Wilshire, Fullerton
First Christian Church
7-06 Teresa K. - Newport Beach
7-13 Bobbi T. - Pacific Palisades
7-20 Bud L. - San Pedro
7-27 Tom S. - Anaheim
8-03 Anthony M. - Glendora
8-10 Micheal W. - Los Angeles
8-17 Kenny - Inner City
8-24 Cindy V. - Fullerton
8-31 Jaimie L. - Fullerton

Friday St. Jude Speaker-Fullerton

8:00 p.m. St. Jude Hospital, Erickson Building
101 E. Valencia-Mesa
7-06 Don L. - Simi Valley
7-13 Jennifer OB. - Orange
7-20 Junie H. - Huntington Beach
7-27 Kenny Bob D. - N. Hollywood
8-03 Mellissa S. - Orange
8-10 Harvey P. - Los Angeles
8-17 Ron W. - Gardena
8-24 Brad E. - Irvine
8-31 Ray M. - Long Beach

Friday La Habra Speaker Meeting

8:00 p.m. 631 N. Euclid, La Habra
(Church, 1 block south of Whittier Blvd);
7-06 Larry J. - Huntington Beach
7-13 Tim S. - Fullerton
7-20 Dave C. - Whittier
7-27 Mike C. - Yorba Linda
8-03 Kelly L. - Pasadena
8-10 Tricia W. - Long Beach
8-17 Clancey O'H. - Torrance
8-24 Frances O. - Dana Point
8-31 Roxanne B. - Orange

Saturday Oddfellows Speaker - Fullerton

8:00 p.m. 109 E Wilshire, Fullerton
First Christian Church
7/07 Frank O'R - Santa Ana
7/14 Rick H. -
7/21 John S. - Norco
7/28 Jill B. - Santa Monica
8/04 Kristine W. - Santa Monica
8/11 TBA
8/18 Craig S. Yorba Linda
8/25 TBA

Friday

8:00 p.m.

Back 2 Basics

Anaheim Alano Club
202 W. Broadway (Broadway & Lemon)
7-06 Valerie - Mission Viejo
7-13 Billy Bob - Anaheim
7-20 David S. - Santa Ana
7-27 July Birthdays
8-3 Preston L - Orange
8-10 Rick T - Orange
8-17 T.B.A
8-24 Danny F - Anaheim
8-31 August Birthdays

Saturday "Liverpool Speaker" Yorba Linda

8:00 p.m. 4861 Liverpool, Messiah Lutheran Church
Yorba Linda
7-01 Edward M - Placentia
7-14 Joyce J.. - Anaheim Hills
7-21 Nicole H. - Long Beach
7-28 Bill M. - La Habra
8-04 Diane W. - Fullerton
8-11 Jack H. - Brea
8-18 Mike - Yorba Linda
8-25 TBA

Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Fullerton Alano Center

216 N. Malden Avenue
7-2 Marianne F - Huntington Beach
7-8 Bill C.
7-15 Larry J - Huntington Beach
7-22 Jerry C - Downey
7-29 July Birthdays
8-5 Bruce B - Covina
8-12 TBA
8-19 TBA
8-26 August Birthdays

Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Western Medical 24 Hr Speaker Mtg

1025 S. Anaheim Blvd., Anaheim
7-1 Howard R.
7-8 Janie
7-15 Fred L.

Sunday

8 p.m.

Fireside Speaker Meeting

Ehlers Community Center
8150 Knott Ave, Buena Park Ca,90620
7-08 Ralph W. - Los Angeles
7-15 Patti C. - Pomona
7-22 Paul S. - Simi Valley
7-29 Sandy E. - Cypress
8-5 Franck C. - Pacific Palisades
8-12 Lee C. - Santa Maria
8-19 Steve C. - San Diego
8-26 Peter F. - San Diego



Show up and hear the message of recovery!

TRADITION SEVEN

“Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”



The phrase “self-supporting” seems to stand out in the wording of this most important of our twelve traditions. One of the more popular sayings amongst the southern hillbillies regarding their wives is “keep ‘em barefoot and pregnant.” Perhaps this could translate to our A.A. groups by saying, “Keep ‘em broke and happy.”

In the early days, keeping the groups broke was surely no problem. Most everybody on the program was one step ahead of the poor house and this reflected upon the financial status of the group. This didn’t quench our habitual alcoholic thinking, however, so most of us thought that our collective problems could be solved by large amounts of money.

As the program developed, people and outside enterprises began to shower A.A. with contributions and donations. We were endowed with everything from hospitals to large amounts of cash from our would-be benefactors’ wills. What to do with the money became a major cause of dissension and the ensuing havoc threatened to destroy A.A. It soon became apparent that the only safe way for us to operate was to decline ALL outside contributions and become fully self-supporting. Because of these

complications, most of the group treasurers carried a zero balance in their treasury.

But what about our expenses? Who pays rent and who buys the birthday cake and who pays for our supplies? The obvious answer is that we, THE GROUP, do. Every group strives to become fully self-supporting by passing the basket at the end of the meeting. From these inside contributions, we must learn to make do and most of the time we find we have enough left over to make our donations to New York and our local Central Office. When sometimes the meeting grows small and our intake goes down, we have to tighten up our belts and do the best we can. Most meetings that go belly up are victims of personality conflicts and because the treasury is flat. Usually all the Secretary has to do is mention the fact that the rent can’t be met or we can’t buy coffee and every member kicks a little something extra into the basket.

When the Traditions were written, our Founders decided that bare running expenses plus a prudent reserve would be our financial policy. All outside contributions were refused and, in some cases, returned to the donor.

So it is clear that Tradition Seven will keep our program free from the internal strife that too much money from outside sources will bring. If we are to survive we must, as the Tradition says, decline outside contributions and concentrate upon becoming fully self-supporting.

Traditions Checklist

From the AAGrapevine – www.aagrapevine.org

The questions on the Traditions Checklist were originally published in the Grapevine in conjunction with a series of articles on the Twelve Traditions that ran from November 1969 to September 1971. While they were originally intended as suggestions for individual use, many A.A. groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

Tradition Seven: Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

- ✓ Honestly now, do I do all I can to help A.A. (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can’t afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?
- ✓ Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
- ✓ If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn’t it be okay to let the government subsidize A.A. groups in hospitals and prisons?
- ✓ Is it more important to get a big A.A. collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
- ✓ Is a group treasurer’s report unimportant A.A. business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
- ✓ How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

She Who Must Be Kept...

My name is Marcia N., also known as “she who must be kept”. My current sobriety date is September 27, 2006. I say “current” because there have been others.

I first came to Alcoholics Anonymous in 1989. I was sure this would be my one and only sobriety date, but I am what the Big Book calls “the defiant one”. I had been running on self-will all my life and thinking I was doing a pretty good job! I was self sufficient, except for my mom. She owned the house I lived in, financed my car, and paid my credit card debt; but besides all that, I was on my own. Did I mention that I was “she who must be kept”? Well this required that I have a few “dude de jours”. You know, so I could practice what I fondly called “dating for dinner”. This loosely translated to: if I intended to eat dinner, I’d better find a date! Still young, that wasn’t hard to do. You find a guy at the park, the liquor store or wherever. Smile that ‘maybe you’re going to get lucky’ look and bingo, dinner, booze and some of whatever else he may have. Man, what a life!

Then the years passed quicker than I could follow. I wasn’t so young any more. Being around another human being was just too much work! The dudes were no longer lining up at my door, the bank of “mom” had suspended my credit and I found myself deep in the disease of alcoholism and drug addiction. By now my mom no longer would pick me up after my 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. shift at St. Jude. It became increasingly harder to stay sober enough to get to work at 3 p.m. One New Year’s Eve a co-worker brought a bottle with him to work and, well that pretty much ended my medical career at St. Jude. Many other jobs at many other hospitals followed, always leaving before they fired me.

Then by a stroke of luck (or an act of God), I got my dream job working in veterinary medicine! This would certainly straighten out Marcia! Well not exactly. Did you know animals take many of the same drugs that I had become hopelessly addicted to? They do! Despite my dream job, I just couldn’t keep my hands out of the cookie jar. As my addiction increased to the point of complete hopelessness, I prayed that perfect alcoholic prayer (did you know there is a perfect alcoholic prayer?). It went ...God, help me! I can not do this myself!” And for the first time, I asked for help as only the dying can, with all the faith I could muster. That was September 7, 1989. But wait, I told you my sobriety

date is September 27, 2006. Yes, there were many dates to follow... September 14, 1998 and even March 5, 2004.

I have made many mistakes in A.A. But the one thing I have come to know is that a “sin” is merely falling short of the mark and as mere humans we will often fail. Each time I fall, my God picks me up, dusts off my knees and sets me back on my path. I don’t believe it matters how many times I fall. Only that when I do, I pray that perfect prayer, “God, I can’t do this without your help!” You know, that has never failed me to this day!

I am no longer “she who must be kept”. Today I pay my own way, I trust God to direct my thoughts, my words and my actions. And when I do, God graces me with the strength to fall short and try yet again. I have a husband who takes care of me; I don’t sit on my laurels expecting him to do my job. Today we work as a team to obtain the kind of life I only dreamed of. I have a little job that pays my car payment, a little toward the mortgage and allows me to do lunch with the women in A.A. who have carried me from the woman I once was to become the woman I am today. It’s a far cry from then and now!

If I could have dreamed a life sweeter than the one I have found in the rooms of A.A., I don’t know what it would look like. My life today is filled with the love of the women who came before me and promise of those who will follow. And one day a woman will come in thinking she has no hope and I will be able to tell her that I was once like her. But today I have the hope of a better life and the promise that God will forgive me my weaknesses, brush off my skinned knees and set me back on my path. With a little hard work, maybe I can lower the bar of sobriety so that this time I may clear it.



*God, help me!
I can not
do this myself!”
And for the
first time,
I asked for help
as only the
dying can...*

NOC Central Office BULLETIN BOARD

H & I 2ND SUNDAY July 8 & August 12	NOCPIC 2ND WEDNESDAY July 11 & August 8	INTERGROUP 2ND WEDNESDAY July 11 & August 8	VOLUNTEER 2ND SAT. Quarterly TBA at 10 a.m.
<p>Orange County Hospitals and Institutions Committee 2nd Sunday of each mo.</p> <p>Institutions Committee: 4-5 pm (Orientation at 3:15 pm)</p> <p>Hospitals Committee: 6-7 pm (Orientation at 5:15 pm)</p> <p>Garden Grove Alano Club 9845 Belfast Garden Grove Call (949) 278-5173 for more info.</p>	<p>North Orange County Public Information Committee</p> <p><i>Learn about sharing the message of AA with Non-AA people like high school and college students.</i></p> <p>Meets at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at NOCCO 1111 E. Commonwealth, Ste. D, Fullerton</p> <p>If you have questions, call Brian K. at 714-658-4581</p>	<p>North Orange County Intergroup Association</p> <p><i>Be an Intergroup representative for your meeting.</i></p> <p>Meeting at 7:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 109 E. Wilshire Fullerton (First Christian Church)</p>	<p>CENTRAL OFFICE holds a quarterly volunteer meeting. <i>Coffee and donuts provided.</i></p> <p>Learn how to fill shifts at Central Office, be of service and meet fellow volunteers.</p> <p><i>Did I mention free donuts?</i></p> <p>Call 714-773-4357 for information.</p> <p>MEETING 10 A.M.</p>

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL CENTRAL OFFICE 714-773-4357

North Orange County General Service Meetings

District	Day	Time	Location	Contact
5	2nd Thu	7:00 pm	19211 Dodge Ave @ Newport Tustin (Church of the Foothills)	Alex N. (714) 218-8867
7	1st Mon	6:30 pm	9845 Belfast Dr, Garden Grove (Garden Grove Alano Club)	Cheryl M. (714) 235-5019
10	1st Wed	8:00 pm	109 E. Wilshire, Fullerton (First Christian Church)	Donna S. (714) 572-1716
15	1st Thu	7:00 pm	441 N. Lakeview, Anaheim (Kaiser Hosp. 8th Floor, Room B)	Lynn C. (714) 671-0285

Orientation for new GSRs is held one half hour prior to Monthly North Orange County General Service Meetings

Send Us Your Story Online!

Articles for the **Anonymous Times** can now be submitted on the **NOCCO website:**
aanoc.com

Come visit us at
www.aanoc.com

HIGH FIVES TO OUR 2007 FAITHFUL FIVERS!!!

♦ Colleen ♦ Julie ♦ Bud

What are Faithful Fivers?

Faithful Fivers are A.A. members who pledge at least \$5.00 each month toward the support of their local Central Office. This idea is catching on around the country. In the publication of the Tucson Area Intergroup *Just For Today*, a story noted that "the plan is used in several other cities and came about when we remembered that many of us had spent more than \$5.00 every week on alcohol during our drinking days."

PAYMENT PLAN: I agree to pledge and here is my contribution of \$ _____ for _____ months.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Make checks payable to: North Orange County Central Office (NOCCO)
Mail checks to: 1111 E. Commonwealth, Suite D • Fullerton, CA 92831

YOU CAN MAKE THE LIST GROW TODAY!!!





SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE



A.A. Commitments: Why I take them (Why I keep them!)

Anonymous

kuh-mit-muh nt: a pledge, promise or obligation. Just three short syllables, yet the word *commitment* is capable of striking terror into the hearts of alcoholics. Why? Well, if you're like me, personal accountability is not second nature. During my drinking years I became an expert at making commitments, faking commitments, breaking commitments, and then blaming everybody else for my failure to fulfill them.

Whether it was showing up to work late or walking out of a troubled relationship, my alcoholic mind reasoned that, when I couldn't meet an obligation, it was always 'the other guy's fault': The woman in front of me on the freeway drove too slow. . . (TRUTH: I was too hung-over to get out of bed on time) . . . my alarm clock didn't go off (TRUTH: I was too drunk to set it before I passed out) . . . my husband spends more time at work than he does at home (TRUTH: Who wants to come home to a drunken nag of a wife?) All that blame led to resentments and, you guessed it - another reason to drink! Like I need one, right?

Alcoholics Anonymous has given me the solution I needed to end that destructive cycle. And part of that solution, as I learned early on, is to be accountable, or as they say in the rooms of A.A., to "suit up and show up." In these rooms I learned about taking and keeping commitments.

At first the commitments were very simple. My sponsor would ask me to read a page in the Big Book, to call her at a certain time, to show up at a meeting that night. That was all I could handle when I was a newcomer and it was OK. I always felt good after I did the things she asked.

As time went on, I took commitments at meetings: literature person, "chip chick," meeting secretary. I began to enjoy those commitments. It made me feel good to have a job to do and to

show up on time to do it. Having a commitment kept me actively involved in the meeting and allowed me get to know more people and them to know me. I began to feel the love and acceptance that I had been looking for (in all the wrong places) for so many years. Most importantly, commitments got me to the meetings every week so that I wouldn't miss the rest of the solution that A.A. and the fellowship so lovingly offered.

Today, six years later, I still have meeting commitments. I have also held commitments at central office and Intergroup, spoken on panels, volunteered at picnics and sober dances and been active in the Orange County A.A. Convention. I was even blessed to have had a very small commitment at the International A.A. Convention in Toronto at 4 years sober. What a life!....and to think I may have missed the miracle had I not fulfilled those simplest of commitments I made in early sobriety: Read the book, call my sponsor, go to meetings.

I'd like to tell you that the only reason I take commitments is to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. That's part of the reason, of course; but A.A. is a selfish program and I am just a selfish alcoholic at heart. The simple truth is, I take commitments for *me!* I take commitments because hanging out with all of you and working toward a common goal makes me feel a 'part of' - just like drinking did when I was 14 years old! It makes me feel good about me, about you and about Alcoholics Anonymous. And when something feels good, I crave more.

I've heard it said that there is a bolt for every nut in Alcoholics Anonymous. Commitments are the bolt that keeps a nut like me firmly fastened to the rooms and Fellowship of A.A.

We want to hear about your service commitment. E mail to aatimes@aanoc.com or mail to NOCCO, 1111 E. Commonwealth Ave., Suite D, Fullerton CA 92831

A.A.'s Seventh Tradition

continued from front page

have become a commercial organization dependent upon unreliable public popularity to meet rising financial obligations.

Mass production and commercialization of sobriety would have undermined the concept of one alcoholic helping another in working the steps, iron sharpening iron. In contrast to the computerized anonymity of today's world, a sponsor recognizes and supports the significance of a newcomer regardless of personal circumstances. The goal of AA is recovery, not mere exposure to the program and creature comfort of the participant. Group morale would be undermined by accommodating those who are not ready to place recovery as their first priority. We attract and keep the few who are truly driven, those willing to sacrifice their own wants and desires to selflessly serve others out of love and hope for one another, maintaining their own sobriety in the process.

The same autonomy is necessary for the individual. For example, I am currently self-employed. I came from a background of a monthly salary, a company car, expense account, and full health benefits. Every financial need was provided for. Alcoholic pride in feeling I could do a better job than others running a business, and a desire to rid myself of a micro-managing supervisor led to an abrupt parting of ways, without my researching plans for a business or saving for future operating costs. I did not have the knowledge to be self-sustaining on a personal level, let alone in running a business. My dilemma regarding financial concerns, I have discovered, is not uncommon among our members.

Faced with financial wreckage, we can avoid servitude to institutions such as creditors and lenders in the same way we learned to be free of the necessity of turning to alcohol to escape life's difficulties generally. There would be no personal growth or need to rely on a Higher Power if someone took over my program to be fiscally responsible by rescuing me from this predicament. The solution for my financial recovery is to take action and endeavor to be responsible. Every modest but satisfying success I have enjoyed in the past nine months of sobriety are found in the "**process**" of temporary resistance to change, the agony of temporary defeat, but the willingness to advance as directed, believing and seeing things work out one task at a time.

The harder I struggle for something, the more I value what I obtain, and it would appear that is true of AA as well. But for the growing pains of denying the easy way to attract and care for large numbers drawn to the group with recovery success, there would have been no reason to believe that alcoholics could prosper. We have demonstrated that alcoholics can develop worth and value; we are not always selfish, destructive and self-will run riot. There is great wisdom in adhering to spiritual principles on a group and individual basis in ALL of our affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We'd love to hear from you!

Please send your comments or suggestions to:

North Orange County Central Office

1111 Commonwealth, Suite D, Fullerton, CA 92831

Or e-mail to aatimes@aanoc.com

(We reserve the right to edit letters)



TRADITION 7 WORD SEARCH

S M V V Z P V O R C A C J J G
 N P N Z L I U O X R C E V M T
 O E D I S T U O L B L X T R N
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 A G P U E C A R H Q E J B Z O

Word List

COLLECTION
 CONTRIBUTIONS
 DECLINING
 DONATIONS
 GROUP
 OUTSIDE
 SELF-SUPPORTING
 TREASURY
 VOLUNTARY

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