

The Grape-SCCIN

May 2014

Santa Cruz County Intergroup Newsletter ** info@aasantacruz.org ** grapesccin@gmail.com

**Birthdays Speaker Meeting
Sunday, May 25, 2014
at 7 pm**

***Hosted by:*
Twisted Sisters
Speaker: Jenny H.**

**Emeline, Building D
1080 Emeline Ave, Santa Cruz**

4th Sunday of each month at 7 pm

**Thanks to *Early Risers*
for hosting last month
with *Glenn H* as speaker**

SPRING FLING:

A great community day and the
79th Founders Day Celebration!
Saturday, June 7, 2014

BIRTHDAYS

George R.	48 yrs	May 2, 1966
Henry C.	31 yrs	May 16, 1983
Bart B.	29 yrs	May 12, 1985
Mark R.	20 yrs	May 3, 1994
April R.	18 yrs	May 9, 1996
Steve L.	17 yrs	May 30, 1997
Ian L.	12 yrs.	May 16, 2002
Tara W.	10 yrs.	May 21, 2004

***Spring Fling is June 7 from 11 am-5pm at
Harvey West Park***

- ***Lunch 12-1:30 pm \$8 adults, \$4 kids***
- ***Guest speaker 2 pm - Kenna from
L.A. with 28 years***
- ***Opportunity drawing 3 pm, followed
by baked goods auction***
- ***Live music by "We're Done"***

**Can you be of service or donate an item for
our prize drawings?**

**We need volunteers - there are 3 meetings
before Spring Fling, please come to any or
all of them to sign up for service, or drop
off a donation.**

**Thursday, May 1
Thursday, May 15
Thursday, May 29**

**All meetings at 7 p.m. at Central Office,
5732 Soquel Dr., Soquel
Call 831-475-5782 for more info**



Chair's Corner (above art by Ken C.)

“We are like the passengers of a great liner the moment after rescue from shipwreck when camaraderie, joyousness and democracy pervade the vessel from steerage to Captain's table.” – from Chapter 2 of the Big Book

AA taught me the meaning of the proverb, “It takes a village.”

The fellowship of AA was my first experience of a true village. For me to get sober took a whole lot of people in different roles. It took a meeting secretary and chair; it took fellow alcoholics sharing their experience, strength, and hope; it took a patient sponsor who could shine the light; it took sober friends who could encourage me and pull my covers; it took sober sisters who could show me how to not be afraid of women; it took long-timers who shared their calming wisdom, and newcomers who inspired me to help others.

The first time I went to Spring Fling was the first time I saw that whole village come together. Honestly, I was in awe. It was the living embodiment of the Chicago song, “Saturday in the Park.” It was an amazing mix of people, from all kinds of backgrounds, with all kinds of stories, and one common thread. Some people were setting up tables, some were serving food, some were selling tickets. Some people

were dancing, some were talking, some were watching.

I remember when it was time for the meeting, and the entire village crowd went silent to pray together in the park setting. I remember as the speaker shared, how everyone laughed together at the funny parts, and moved in silent stillness together at the harrowing parts. I remember realizing that *I was one of us*, laughing and being moved; setting up chairs and picking up trash; hugging a newcomer and sitting next to a long-timer. And how I felt so happy. So grateful. So *normal*. For the first time, in the middle of this carefree village of sober drunks from all walks of life, I had a feeling that seemed like... *normal*.

This year, Spring Fling will be Saturday, June 7, at Harvey West Park. There's a lot that goes into pulling it off – planning it, setting it up, running it, and taking it down. It takes a village. It really does! If you would like to be a part of the village of volunteers, please call Central Office at (831) 475-5782, or come to the Activities Committee meeting on **Thursday, May 1, at Central Office at 7pm.**

Yours in service,
Clarissa

Announcement & Survey:

The GrapeSCCIN is going to undergo a makeover. Please email the NEW email address, grapesccin@gmail.com, with your thoughts:

- 1. What are your favorite parts of the GrapeSCCIN, that have either appeared recently or long ago?**
- 2. What do you feel is unnecessary?**
- 3. What would you add, if possible? Any other comments or suggestions?**