

# RECOVERY TIMES

Vol. 35, No. 4, April 2011

## The Alcoholics Anonymous San Fernando Valley Central Office Newsletter

### **Radford Hall on the Move**

Founded in 1941, the North Hollywood Group/Radford Hall, one of the oldest clubhouses in Los Angeles, is moving to its new location at 13627 ½ Victory Boulevard (east of Woodman) behind a restaurant called “Tequilas.” The move was prompted by an offer to save money while renting a larger space where the group could now start holding dances, comedy shows, dinners and other sober events. The new location comes with 50 parking spaces, a large kitchen and two covered patios. A farewell party took place at the old address on Ventura Boulevard on April 29<sup>th</sup>, while a “Grand Opening” was planned for May 7<sup>th</sup> at the new location.



**Reflections by Bob D. on the founding of Radford Hall:** –In March 1941, when Bob was nine, his father read an article in the Saturday Evening Post written by Jack Alexander that helped launch Alcoholics Anonymous nationwide. His dad left N. Hollywood to find the AA group in Los Angeles. He was gone for six weeks but when he returned he started going to meeting in L.A. every Friday night, hitching to the meeting as the family did not own a car. In the early summer of 1941, about 5 or 6 were going into Los Angeles every week and they decided to start their own meeting in North Hollywood. They met at one another’s homes while Bob, who was nine and his 12 year old brother, Jack, watched the AAs drink coffee and smoke cigarettes.

In August 1941, Frank wrote a letter to GSO in NY asking how to start a new group. Son Bob says his father was but one of several AAs who had a hand in the founding of the Group. In September, he received a response with pamphlets that they would need to start a meeting. They met for a while at 6911 Hines Avenue, North Hollywood and at a City Park building at North Hollywood Park. In 1943 or 1944, a permanent clubhouse was constructed for the AAs in North Hollywood, built by a wealthy man who gave the group around \$10,000 to buy a lot and build a building in gratitude for his wife getting sober. This concrete building still stands on Chandler Boulevard.

In 1947, the group moved to 4343 Radford Avenue in Studio City, which is where the group got its nickname “Radford Hall.” Frank and his friend, Kent T., ran the Tuesday night Beginners Group AA meeting, which was the first meeting of the North Hollywood group. Bob D. now has 52 years of sobriety. His sobriety date is Jan. 19, 1959. His brother, Jack D., died with 40 years of sobriety in 2007.

**Peter G. on Radford through the years:** Peter G. says his earliest recollection of the North Hollywood Group at 4343 Radford Ave. was in November 1985, when Central Office recommended he attend the Monday night Men’s Stag Meeting at Radford with his court card following a drunk driving arrest. “I remember standing in the doorway and seeing what looked like a thousand men laughing, talking, and having a grand old time. Out of that group of men, one man came forward, put out his hand and said, ‘My name is Artie B., welcome.’” I also met Don Max who I regularly drank with but he mysteriously disappeared two years earlier and there he was sober. They were my Eskimos. Twenty-five years later, Peter, Artie and Don are still members of the North Hollywood Group/Radford Hall.

Continued, Page 5

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

### **Sobriety 24/7 in 2011**

26<sup>th</sup> Annual Orange County AA Convention, April 22-24, 2011. Hilton Hotel, Costa Mesa, CA;

[www.ocaac.org](http://www.ocaac.org)



### **Keep it Simple, San Diego Round Up**

April 21-24, 2011  
Town and Country Resort Hotel,  
San Diego, CA

[www.sandiegospringroundup.com](http://www.sandiegospringroundup.com)

### **Tri-State 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Round-Up**

May 19 – May 22, 2011  
Riverside Resort Hotel & Casino  
Laughlin, NV

[www.tristate-roundup.com](http://www.tristate-roundup.com)

### **Woman to Woman 32<sup>nd</sup> AA Retreat**

June 3 – 5, 2011  
Mount St. Mary's College  
Brentwood, CA

[www.womantowomanla.org](http://www.womantowomanla.org)

### **A.A. Desert Pow Wow**

June 9-12, 2011  
Renaissance Esmeralda Resort  
Indian Wells, CA

### **27<sup>th</sup> Annual South Bay Roundup**

July 1 – 4, 2011  
Torrance Marriott Hotel  
3635 Fashion Way, Torrance

[www.southbayroundup.org](http://www.southbayroundup.org)

### **AA Foothill Roundup**

July 29 – 31, 2011  
Flintridge Prep, 4543 Crown Ave., La Canada

[www.foothillroundup.org](http://www.foothillroundup.org)

### **AA Additional Pacific PRAASA Regional Forum, August 19 – 21, 2011**

Warner Center Marriott, Woodland Hills, CA



## **THE PASSING OF AA'S –**

### **THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE:**

BILLY N. – 12 YEARS (CHAPTER 12 MEETING)

If you are aware of the passing of a member of our Fellowship, please call us at (818) 988-3001 or email an obituary to: [sfvaanews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sfvaanews@sbcglobal.net).

### **SERVICE COMMITTEES SCHEDULE:**

**SFV H & I: Mon, April 18, 2011:** 7 p.m. Orientation/  
8 p.m. Business Meeting 5657 Lindley Ave., Tarzana

**Gen Service, District 11: Mon, May 2, 2011**  
6 p.m. New GSR orientation/ 6:30 p.m. Bus. Mtg  
315 W. Vine Street, Glendale, CA

**Gen Service, District 16: Mon, May 2, 2011**  
6:15 p.m. meeting  
15950 Chatsworth, Granada Hills

**Gen. Service, District 17: Mon, May 2, 2011**  
6 p.m. New GSRs. /6:30 p.m. Bus. Meeting  
5000 Colfax, N. Hollywood

**Gen. Service, District 2: Tues. May 3, 2011**  
6:30 p.m. Business Meeting  
4011 Dunsmore Ave., La Crescenta

**Gen Service, District 1: Wed., May 4, 2011**  
6:30 p.m. Business Meeting  
7552 Remmet, Canoga Park

**SFV Central Office Board Mtg: Wed., May 4, 2011**  
6:30 p.m., Valley Central Office

**Gen. Service District 7: Sat., May 14, 2011**  
9 a.m. Business Meeting  
Agua Dulce Women's Club  
33210 Agua Dulce Canyon Road

**SFV Intergroup: Mon., May 9, 2011**  
6:30 Orientation, 7 p.m. Business Meeting  
St. Innocent Ch., 5657 Lindley Ave., Tarzana



**SERVICE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
IN THE SAN**



**FERNANDO VALLEY:**

Central Office needs telephone volunteers for all shifts (esp. midnight – 9 a.m.). If you have a year or more of continuous sobriety, you can sign up at the office or online: [www.sfvaa.org/involve.html](http://www.sfvaa.org/involve.html)

**Public Information Committee:** Provides information to the general public about what A.A. does & doesn't do. Need volunteers, especially young people and Spanish-speaking AAs, for health fairs and to speak at schools & businesses.

**Hospitals and Institutions Committee:** Carries the message of A.A. into hospitals, prisons and treatment facilities to those who are unable to get out to meetings. Call Central Office if interested.

**San Fernando Valley Young People in AA:** Committee Meeting is held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at Unit A., 10641 Burbank Blvd., NoHo.

**San Fernando Valley Intergroup**

**Intergroup Reps Needed:** If your meeting/group does not currently have an Intergroup Rep, please consider appointing someone to represent your meeting. Intergroup reps provide an important service to the group by sharing information on upcoming AA events in the SF Valley. The SFV Central Office coordinates a monthly meeting for all Intergroup reps on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at St. Innocent Church, 5657 Lindley Ave., Tarzana. New Intergroup reps should arrive at 6:30 p.m. for orientation. Main meeting is 7 p.m. **For info on serving as an Intergroup rep, call Central Office: 818 988-3001.**

**CENTRAL OFFICE NEWS:**

**LIVE 24/7 PHONE SERVICE:** Whether you are reaching out for help from another AA member or surfing the Web, you can find the Valley Central Office any hour of the day or night. Visit us at: [www.sfvaa.org](http://www.sfvaa.org) for meeting info, upcoming events, service meeting info, and links to other cool AA

websites or call to speak with a sober AA member: (818) 988-3001.

**HAS YOUR MEETING CHANGED?** If your meeting info changes (location, time, meeting name or type of meeting), let Central Office know. Please provide meeting updates in writing by mail or delivered in person during office hours.

**HAVING A BIRTHDAY?** By sending a donation to Central Office, your birthday will be posted in Recovery Times. Send \$1.00 per year of your sobriety (or just send as much as you wish to donate).

**APRIL 2011 A.A.**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

- Rick A. – 15 Years
- Bonnie H. – 20 Years
- Patricia K. – 23 Years
- Tony M. – 24 Years
- Hal S. – 9 Years



**We Welcome Your Input for the May issue on the following questions:** "What do you do when you suspect your sponsee has been drinking? Do you confront them? What if they don't come clean? What do you do if your sponsee doesn't respond to your emails or phone calls? What do you tell a sponsee who says they are drinking and not ready to come back to the program? What do you do if your sponsee doesn't take direction?"

**Please email your comments (emails only) to Editor Pat K. at: [xnowisthetime@aol.com](mailto:xnowisthetime@aol.com) and write "Recovery Times" in the subject**



---

**Co-Founder Quotes:**



---

“Faced with alcoholic destruction, we became open-minded on spiritual matters. In this respect alcohol was a great persuader. It finally beat us into a state of reasonableness.”  
Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 48

“We had to stop playing God. It didn’t work. We decided that hereafter, in this drama of life, God was going to be our Director. He would be the Principal; we, His agents.

Most good ideas are simple, and this concept was the keystone of the new triumphal arch through which we passed to freedom.”  
p. 62

---

**“When the s--- hits the fan, step away from the fan!”**

---

**Says one A.A. to another:  
“My disease is so strong, it is busy doing push-ups waiting for me to slip.**

**Says another A.A.: “Mine is so strong, it’s patiently waiting doing yoga!”**

**Says the third, “Mine is driving alongside me in the carpool lane waiting for me to slip!”**

---

**“If you are practicing ‘old behavior,’ it’s not ‘old!’**

---

**Central Office: IGR Mtg Notes of March. 14, 2011**

**Chairman Tom T.** opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. **Recording Secretary Dawn H.** accepted a motion to approve the minutes from February’s Intergroup meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Treasurer Brian H.** reported Central Office is in the Black\$3,921.78 year to date thanks to generous personal donations. (See Recovery Times insert).

**Executive Secretary Bob F.** Bob reminded IGRs that ANY changes (closed meetings, relocations, etc.) should be phoned in to Central Office so the volunteers can have up-to-date information. **He suggested that IGRs ask their groups if they would like to sponsor a weekend shift.**

This helps keep the phones manned 24-hours a day during those tough-to—fill time slots on weekends. **Call Central Office to volunteer: (818) 988-3001.** Everything is going well with Recovery Times, and the [www.sfvaa.org](http://www.sfvaa.org) website.

**General Service District 11:** John M. *reported that our* Area 93 Delegate is asking for input on the upcoming conference agenda to be held in New York later this year. A questionnaire is being distributed by GSRs at meetings, and you may also email your input to: [Delegate@AAarea93.org](mailto:Delegate@AAarea93.org). **Area 93** will be hosting an **Oldtimers Event on June 11<sup>th</sup> in Camarillo.** Volunteers are needed for this event.

**AA Archivist George** talked about the Archives Project which he has been putting together for AA groups all over the SF Valley for many years.

**H & I: Tom T.** reported that a new men’s prison panel in Malibu is forming. They are seeking volunteers and panel members..

**Intergroup Birthdays:** Christine – 2 years, John – 5 years, Elizabeth – 5 Years, Jaycee – 7 years, Nolan – 19 years

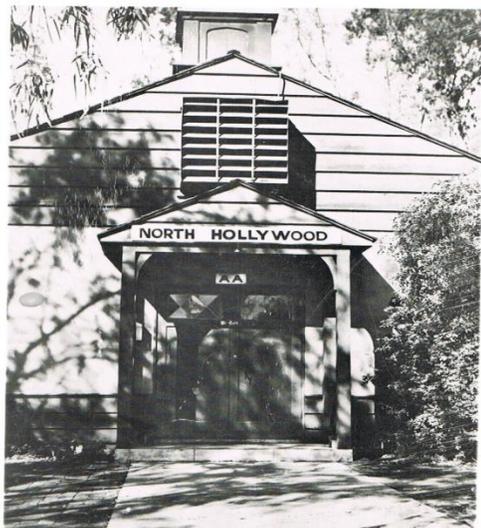
**Newsletter Subscriptions:** If you would like a copy of Recovery Times mailed to you, please complete this form with your new address, and then return it with a \$7.00 check (donation to cover cost & delivery) to: **SFV Central Office, 7417-E. Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91405**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**New** or  **Renewal**  **Additional Contribution**  
**Moving? Please give us your former address too:**



## Radford Hall on the Move, Continued from Page 1

In 1994, the clubhouse moved to Victory Ave. in North Hollywood, then in 1998, it moved again to 13323 Ventura Boulevard in Sherman Oaks. Now, “Radford” as it is known, is moving back to North Hollywood to its new address behind “Tequila’s Restaurant” at 13627 ½ Victory Boulevard, just east of Woodman. Looking back at his first meeting, Peter says, “I couldn’t stop drinking and had great desperation. What I found were sober men sharing what was going on in their lives. It was an astounding experience to find over 100 men who were not drinking, having never associated with non-drinkers during my previous years. Their experiences were those that anyone would have drunk over: accidents, illnesses, relations, death and divorce. Being raised Irish Catholic, I was shocked but I knew they were telling the truth. They were living life on life’s terms without

alcohol, having found a way out of hell.

What makes Radford Hall unique, says Peter, is that it is the oldest AA group in the San Fernando Valley and one that has and will continue to have the unity of the fellowship and the service. Peter, himself has served on the board of directors, as a trustee of the North Hollywood Group and presently, he is one of three managers who keep Radford Hall open, functional and ready to help and support anyone looking for sobriety.

**Ira S. on the Reason for the Move:** I was approached by several people who were concerned we were going to lose our meeting location and have to go back to meeting in people’s homes after helping hundreds of thousands of people get sober. I’ve been around since August 1982 and Radford was one of the first meetings I came to. We were in over our heads and were having a hard time coming up with the rent and insurance due to the nature of what we do – we catch people when they are bottoming out. I just thought we needed to find another location.

It was pretty difficult to find a place conducive to our needs; I think a lot of God was involved here. I spoke with many realtors who were reluctant to rent to us. After about six months, I was able to work out a fee that was feasible to our Group and cut our rent in half. It was nothing short of a miracle and couldn’t have happened without the dedicated hard work of many people being of service.

**On the History of the North Hollywood Group:** By March 1947, after meeting in various member’s kitchens and living rooms, the Group’s growth required they find a permanent home. The building they found, which became fondly known, worldwide, as “Radford Hall,” (pictured above) at 4343 Radford Avenue was purchased from a church and had been previously used as a school house. The Group remained there in Studio City under 1994, when it moved again to a location on Victory Boulevard, North Hollywood. Despite the move, the Group kept the name “Radford Hall.” In May 1998, Radford moved to its previous location at 13323 Ventura Boulevard, Sherman Oaks. And after 23 years, on May 1, 2011, “Radford” moved to its new location at 13627 ½ Victory Boulevard, North Hollywood. This August, the North Hollywood Group/Radford Hall will celebrate its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and has come full circle from its origination in North Hollywood, back home again.

**On the New Location:** For the first time since 1947, the Victory Blvd. hall will have parking for its fellowship. Says Peter G., “Not having parking is what we are renowned for. Today, we have 50 parking spaces and a meeting space that is four times larger than where we’ve been. This will give us the opportunity to reach out a hand and say, “Hi, My name is \_\_\_\_\_, welcome.” **The North Hollywood Group/Radford Hall has 45 AA meetings every week. It is the oldest AA clubhouse in the San Fernando Valley.**

## **A.A. Area 93 Archives Repository Celebrates 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

By Susan H.

On Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Central California Archives Repository celebrated five years at its Oxnard location, 3031 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Oxnard, CA 93030, which serves as the permanent home for the A.A. Area 93 Archives. The Repository (located in a storage facility behind a Weber's Bakery outlet) has a wide variety of Area 93, A.A., and non-A.A. materials on display, including historical artifacts, memorabilia, documents, photographs, audio and video recordings, and a nearly complete collection of Grapevine Magazines dating back to 1944.

According to the Archives Committee Workbook (modeled from the General Service Archives Mission Statement), the purpose of the A.A. Archives is to preserve, house, and make available the history of Area 93 and A.A. as a whole. The Repository is open not only to A.A. Members, but also non-members interested in researching A.A. History are welcome to peruse the vast assortment of materials.

Recently appointed Area 93 Archivist Laurie H., who previously served as the A.A. Area 93 Archives Committee Chair, described some of the challenges involved with Archives operations such as handling of donations, keeping the facility clean and organized, and preservation of items for perpetuity. A major task now facing the Archivists is transferring over 6,000 original audio cassettes and reel-to-reel recordings of A.A. speakers from magnetic tapes (which disintegrate over time) to digital CD's. At this time, donation of a transfer machine to facilitate this project is a priority item for the Archives. Laurie H. said that "keeping the Archives going and educating people about the history of A.A. is an important part of 12 Step work."

The Area 93 Archives Repository is open every Saturday from 10am to 1 pm, and is also available for A.A. group tours by special arrangement. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed.

For more information, contact Archivist Laurie H: (805) 641-1601 or Archives Chair Carla F. at (805) 856-8035.

### **FORMER ARCHIVES CHAIRMAN MOVING ON**

After serving as Archivist for Central CA. Area 93 for many years, George R. will be moving to Seattle in July to live near his wife's family. He will continue to serve on the Steering Committee for the National AA Archives Workshop, which includes participation from 93 archivists across the U.S. George plans to stay involved in AA, helping the archivist in Area 72 in Washington state.

Looking back, he says the highpoint for him as an archivist was in collecting Group histories for the San Fernando Valley. "Being involved with Intergroup, General Service and the Archives has enhanced my sobriety," says George, who counts 15 years of sobriety. After moving, he hopes to stay in touch with his AA friends in So. CA and thanks AA for allowing him to be of service in the capacity of archivist."

### **The Price of Admission (from an AA in prison on his drinking)**

The tears, the fears, the broken years; the pain, the stain, the rotting flesh. Just one more, then another.

My son, my wife, my life, my soul. Down, down the vacuous hole. The price of admission, that's the toll.

My son, my wife, my life, my soul. Vacuous, empty, down the hole.

You stole my son, my wife, my life, my soul. Over and over, I pay the toll. Just one more and I'm out the door. The Devil is here and He wants you near. He waits, he waits, you're never clear!! Anonymous in L.A.

**A.A. WORD SEARCH #4 by Susan H.**

Find the A.A.-related words in the puzzle. Words can be read forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally.

G N I T R O P P U S F L E S E B	<b>SPONSOR</b>
G R D O C T O R B O B H U F M V	<b>ANONYMOUS</b>
B V R C E Q G J K W B X P R O A	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>
P Q J O H C V M G F C M E K R C	<b>SELF SUPPORTING</b>
R X Y D S G I F G H K S N M E S	<b>PROGRAM</b>
I Z A Z X N J Z G G P O K W H Q	<b>BILL W</b>
N X R W T T O Y D O E V E G O S	<b>DOCTOR BOB</b>
C A L Q G X T P N N R I O W D B	<b>COFFEE</b>
I B N C V I D S S T O X Q L Z Q	<b>HUMILITY</b>
P Y D O L K I E P G A E P L Y J	<b>PRINCIPLES</b>
L F K I N B W R X Q E N D I V F	
E Z M D L Y O Y H F F Z K B L U	
S U T E W G M J F I X D R D M H	
H O V P R R I O K B G S R B I Z	
U K Q A B D C F U D O T J Z P U	
Z W M P M I Q W C S N N Y X L J	

**"Shall we close the business meeting with the Serenity Prayer?"** — David T., New Hope, PA

Life is ten percent what you make it, and ninety percent how you take it.

As Step Ten suggests, when we are wrong, make us willing to change. But when we are right, please make us easy to live with!

Take good care of your future, because that's where you're going to spend the rest of your life.

In all phases of AA, nothing is more confusing than a member who gives good advice, but sets a bad example.

Finally, our minds are like parachutes--they function only when open!



**San Fernando Valley Central Office**

**7417-E. Van Nuys Boulevard**

**Van Nuys, CA 91405**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non Profit Org.

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit No. 82

Van Nuys, CA 91405

Your Name and Address Here to have the  
Recovery Times sent to your mailing address.  
\$7.00 for 1 Year. Subscription form on Page 4.