

The 2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous

AA will be 75 years old in 2010 and there will be a Diamond Jubilee celebration. The International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 1-4, 2010 in San Antonio, Texas with the theme *A Vision for You*. The event brings together over 50,000 sober alcoholics from around the world to share sobriety in meetings, workshops and fellowship. Information is available at www.aa.org. To volunteer to help with the overall convention, check with your local General Service Representatives.

Alcoholics Anonymous 2010 Update Report

Convention Registration: Forms will be available in August 2009 via mail and AA Web site. Copies will be mailed to GSRs, Intergroups, and Central Offices.

Cost: The registration fee will be set based on expenses. As responsible AA members, we pay our own way. The convention is paid for by those who attend.

Housing: Once you register, it will be time to sign up for housing. There will *not* be a lottery because San Antonio has such a large number of rooms in the downtown core area. The official Housing Bureau will assign rooms on a first come, first serve basis. Directions will be in the registration information. All room reservations are managed by the Housing Bureau which will be able to offer special convention rates.

Local Transportation: AA has blocked 10,000 rooms with 8,000 located in downtown San Antonio. All housing is within a 30-minute ride from the stadium and convention center. Most rooms are within walking distance. There will be a shuttle system in place for convention attendees.

Air Travel: Special fares will be available with the registration information in August 2009.

Border Crossing: International attendees may need a visa. Please visit the U.S. Department of State at: www.travel.state.gov/visa/visa_1750.html

Next time? The next International AA Convention will be in Atlanta, Georgia in 2015, and then in 2020 it will be in Detroit, Michigan in 2020.

Special Interest Events: Gay and Lesbian

At the invitation of Alcoholics Anonymous, the AA gay/lesbian groups of San Antonio and the International Advisory Council of Alcoholics Anonymous (IAC) will co-host a hospitality suite and dance. See details posted at www.iac-aa.org

HOSPITALITY SUITE: Visit, drink coffee and share the experience. AA makes space available for IAC at a downtown hotel. We are responsible for the activities and expenses. At the Toronto convention in 2005, there were about 6,000 visitors to the suite. There are dozens of other hospitality suites hosted by groups from around the world. Everyone visits everywhere.

DANCE: The convention sponsors several dances and everyone is welcome at each. The AA gay and lesbian community plans a dance at a very exciting location. It will be an evening of fun, laughter and new friendships. GSO has arranged the space for us and we are responsible for the activities and expenses.

WORKSHOPS: Since 1980, the International AA Convention schedules workshops of special interest to gays and lesbians. The GSO coordinates this as it does for all convention workshops. Workshops will be listed in the convention program.



You can HELP! IAC @ 2010

Recently, a **2010 Steering Committee** was formed to coordinate special events for gay/lesbian alcoholics. All AA members, groups and Roundups are welcome to join in the planning and the fun. In March 2009, packets were sent to every gay group listed with IAC. If you did not get a packet, please email iac2010@sbcglobal.net

Share: Make sure groups are aware of the 2010 Convention. Invite old-timers, newcomers, sponsees, sponsors and everyone to attend. Information is at the IAC Web site. Copy it and pass it out to others. Email it to friends. Encourage people to watch the AA Web site at www.aa.org for more information.

Service Work: Volunteer to help on a committee. AA individuals, groups and Roundups are needed. If everyone does something, then no individual will be doing so much that they do not get to enjoy the convention.

Self-Support: Donations are needed to cover expenses for the dance and hospitality suite. We are self-supporting through our own contributions. Can your group raise funds?

Sign-Up: Subscribe to the 2010 email mailing list for regular updates. Email us at iac2010@sbcglobal.net and we will add your name to our list. With the permission of friends, sign them up too.

See page 4 for
Ways to Contribute to the
Dance &
Hospitality Suite

Lend a Hand... IAC Volunteer Opportunities

Please join us by sending an email to iac2010@sbcglobal.net and tell us how you would like to help, or just ask a question. In turn, we will put you in contact with the right sub-committee.

Hospitality Suite Committee: These social gathering spots are open most of the weekend. Work shifts will vary. **You will:** Meet and greet. Register new members for IAC. Sell the new IAC meeting directories. Welcome guests. Share with folks that need a quiet moment amid the excitement. Plan decorations. Help set-up the suite. Take-down the suite. Help transport supplies to the suite. Invite your group to serve together as hosts for an hour. Serve coffee. Staff the literature table. Play guitar. Sing. Update meeting and roundup lists. Train volunteers. Beverages will be available at hotel cost.

Dance Committee. This group is the driving force behind one of the hottest tickets in town. **You will:** Make coffee. Plan the decoration theme. Pick the music. Host the coffee/snack bar. Meet and greet everyone. Put up decorations. Set-up tables. Host guests in the garden. Host guests in the Fellowship Hall. Take down site. Help transport supplies. Design a flyer. Beverages and snacks will be purchased in advance and will be available at cost.

Business/Finance Committee. If you are good with numbers this is the committee for you. **You will:** Handle purchasing. Negotiate contracts. Pay bills. Maintain accounts. Coordinate sales. Do the banking. Balance budgets.

Communication Committee: Help get the word out! **You will:** Serve as the representative from your group or Roundup. Write an article for the IAC newsletter. Type. Send emails. Mail packets. Design a button. Data entry. Educate groups about donations.

Fundraising Committee: This conference is going to have some costs attached. **Expenses include:** rental of dance site, band, DJ, security for the site, decorations, rental of tables, chairs, sound equipment, napkins, cups, banners, printing flyers, postage, volunteer ID tags, and more

Money in a Spiritual Program

The 2010 International AA Convention registration fee will cover the expenses for all conference activities. The gay and lesbian community will be self-supporting in plans for only the dance and hospitality suite. The financial goal is simple. We plan to budget at reasonable cost, pay bills and set aside a reserve for the 2015 convention. After the convention, there will be full financial disclosure. IAC follows the A.A. Guidelines for "Finance" and "Conferences, Conventions and Roundups". Copies are available from AA and at most Intergroup Offices.

AA members celebrate sobriety by giving time, energy and money in support of the Twelfth Tradition – carrying the message – the basic service that the AA fellowship offers. Contributions are made in the spirit of sacrifice and honor the AA code of "love and service". Contributions underscore the spiritual nature of the fellowship and our mutual love and trust. The amount of a contribution is not the concern as much that each group contributes something. In smaller groups, nickels and dimes are fine.

Ways to Contribute to the Dance & Hospitality Suite

Donations. Groups may choose to contribute. When the group conscience routinely distributes monies to other A.A. services, IAC can be included because it is an A.A. special interest group. This can be done as a percentage of distributions, a one time donation or a monthly donation. Any member can raise their hand and make the suggestion.

Pass a Basket: As with other special projects, some groups pass an extra basket at meetings and these funds are donated directly to IAC.

Roundups: Each year, some AA Roundups donate to IAC as it distributes funds after the event.

Host an Hour: Cover the cost for an hour of the dance or suite. Pick a theme, wear special button and bells, meet and greet.

Sponsor and Urn: Help cover expenses for coffee – the heart of every AA event.

Fundraise: Host a dinner, dance, car wash, game night, etc.

The International Advisory Council (IAC) serves the gay and lesbian members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our sole purpose for existing is to provide our experience, strength and hope to any arm of AA when called upon to do so, and to work in the spirit of Unity and Service with AA for the betterment of the (gay/lesbian) members of AA and for AA as a whole. IAC was chartered in 1981 and it is recognized by Alcoholics Anonymous as a special interest group. IAC is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation.

IAC- 2009 Executive Committee

Chairperson: Hebert G
Deputy Chairperson: Vacant
Secretary: Marty S
Treasurer: Kevin W
Advisor: Fred S
Advisor: Mark J
Advisor: Lynn W
Past Chair: Roberta "K" Kelly

IAC Donations

In keeping with AA traditions, IAC is self-supporting. It accepts donations from AA individuals, meetings, groups and roundups. Monies are not accepted from outside the fellowship (non-AA members, other 12 step programs, treatment facilities or non-AA groups/roundups/clubs). The maximum AA donation for an individual is \$2,500 per year. Donations to IAC can be general funding or specific to the 2010 convention events. Please note your preference if you wish.

IAC Donations List February & March 2009

Michael S	Detroit	MI
Andretti H	Atlanta	GA
Steven S	Loganville	GA
Frank H	Matthews	NC
Terrance H	Matthews	NC
Kimberly M (for group)	Kihe	HI
Sunday Night Group	Montclair	NJ
Raleigh Lambda	Raleigh	NC
Loraine A (for group)	Traverse City	MI
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition	Palm Springs	CA
Spiritual Awakenings	San Diego	CA
G & L AA Group		
Live & Let Live	Birmingham	AL
Each Day A New Beginning	Ft. Lauderdale	FL
N.E. By N. W.	Ft. Lauderdale	FL
Mandate Sober	Canada	
Central Jersey Gay Group	Milltown	NJ
Lambda Group	Dallas	TX
Lambda Group(s)	Houston	TX
Logan Triangle Group	Washington	DC
5:30 Montclair Group	Montclair	NJ
Arnold M (for group)	Pittsburg	CA
Living Sober Wednesday	Kahului	HI
David C (for group)		CT
Jason H (for group)	Los Angeles	CA
Live & Let Live	Austin	TX
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition	Palm Springs	CA
Destiny-Unity Group	Tacoma	WA
Spiritual Awakenings	San Diego	CA
Lambda Groups	Dallas	TX
Houston Roundup	Houston	TX
Quest Roundup	Myrtle Beach	SC
Ohio State Roundup		OH

IAC Treasurer's Report

Date: March 7, 2009
Balance: \$18,377.40

Editorial Policy.

The oversight of the IAC Newsletter and the IAC Web site is the responsibility of the IAC Executive Committee. AA members, groups and roundups may make copies of materials for local distribution. We invite articles, letters, questions, suggestions and comments.

Contact us:

IAC – AA
P.O. Box 783
Belleville, MI
48112-0783

www.iac-aa.org



International Advisory Council
for Homosexual Men and Women In Alcoholics Anonymous



International Advisory Council for Homosexual Men and Women In Alcoholics Anonymous

MAY 2009

At the ROUNDUP The Place to Be!

The Quest Carolina AA Roundup hosted the IAC Executive Committee in March 2009 in Myrtle Beach. Events included an annual IAC General Meeting, the semi-annual Executive Committee Meeting and a workshop focused on 2010 Convention activities. The support and fellowship was fabulous. Great messages from Quest speakers, workshops and meetings. Thank you to the men and women of Quest.

Committee members attended other Roundups in 2009 which included Austin (Jan), SEMRU (Feb), Together We Can (Detroit) and Long Island (Port Jefferson, NY). There are plans to be at the Dallas Roundup (May), Fort Worth Cow Town (July) and San Antonio (September). *There is a special effort in Texas this year as we plan for 2010!*

The Houston Roundup (Nov. 2009) hosts the next in-person Executive Committee meeting and General Membership Meeting with elections.

If you would like an IAC representative to attend a Roundup, please let us know. Our ability to attend is limited by finances but every effort will be made. Expense reimbursement for Roundup registration and two nights lodging is available to members for *only* two trips each year to attend Executive Committee meetings. No transportation or meals expenses are covered. All other travel is the responsibility of individual Executive Committee members.

Meetings & Roundup Directories

The IAC Web site [www.iac-aa.org] accepts changes any time. To maintain privacy, IAC lists only the information that you provide. If a group, meeting or Roundup wants to be listed, please go on-line and enter new information or changes. When an alcoholic needs a gay/lesbian AA meeting, we want the information to be available.

IAC Web site Sleeping

The IAC Web site is temporarily offline. Please be patient as it will be back as soon as we can wake it up. In the interim, please direct any questions, changes in information or volunteer interests to iac2010@sbcglobal.net We will respond within 72 hours.

IAC Volunteer Opportunities

Executive Committee:

IAC is seeking new members to the Executive Committee. Elections will be at the Houston Roundup (Nov. 09) and by mail. Positions are volunteer; there are no paid positions.

Newsletter Editor:

Writers and layout designer are needed.

Area Representatives:

Volunteers to work in local areas to link AA members with IAC and carry information to groups.

2010 AA Convention:

Volunteers for all IAC events are needed.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, or if you have any questions, contact us at:

iac2010@sbcglobal.net

Call for Entries:

Button DESIGN

IAC will introduce a new button for the 2010 International Convention. We invite artists and amateurs to submit designs. The final selection will be made by a review panel.

Guidelines include:

The official logo for IAC will remain as it is for the Web site, newsletter and letterhead. Designs must include the name or abbreviation of IAC. Send designs via email to iac2010@sbcglobal.net

The submission deadline has been extended to:
August 31, 2009.