

### SUMMARY OF MEETINGS IN WESTERN NEVADA COUNTY UPDATED 2023

This is a brief history of most AA groups in CNIA District 20. For a more detailed group history, see Archives at [www.dist20aa.org](http://www.dist20aa.org).  
(This does not include info on meetings using Zoom format during the recent pandemic)

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
Original Gold Quartz	1949	609021		Peace Lutheran Church

Named Gold Quartz Group on formation. Kirk Kirkpatrick and Tom Osborn (both sober in **1949**) may have been the founders. Regardless, the group presumably started in someone's home and was held at 8:00 p.m. Earl Vincent from Alta (not to be confused with Earl Edward M.) was Secretary from 1953-1959, at which time Clayton G. took over. Clayton was Secretary for 2 years. The Meeting was held at Peace Lutheran during the early 1980's, moved to Rod and Gun Club during Peace Lutheran's expansion. Joined GV Fellowship when it formed in 1987 as the Friday Night Birthday Meeting. Left the Fellowship sometime around 1993. Had to rename as Original Gold Quartz as Fellowship wanted to keep the name Gold Quartz Group. When it left the Fellowship, it came back to Peace Lutheran as an open, non-smoking meeting. The meeting is held every Friday night at 7:00 pm and is a 1-1/2 hour meeting. Birthday night is the last Friday of the month.

Gold Diggers	pre-1956	101655	Tom Osborn	United Methodist Church, 433 Broad St., NC
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Formed sometime prior to 1956 by Tom Osborn who moved up from SoCal. When Clayton G. got sober in 1956, it was still meeting in members' homes. In 1957, it started meeting at Ty Taylor's business office in NC. In the '70s and '80s it was located at Trinity Episcopal Church on Nevada Street. Then perhaps in the '90s moved to First Baptist Church on Main Street in Nevada City. Moved in 2017 to the United Methodist Church. **This meeting appears to be the oldest continuously operating meeting in Nevada County.** The meeting meets on Tuesday nights from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. This is a closed meeting except for birthday night, held on the last Tuesday of the month.

Original Sunday Nite	Oct 1974	101318	Bill S., Hank N. Frank H.	
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First Secretary of this meeting was Bill S. (1974-1976). Open, chair meeting, Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. Original location was the Mid-Valley Savings and Loan, GV. Was at Home Federal Savings at 11751 Nevada City Hwy. GV (currently El Dorado Savings) from at least 1980 to 1998 when bank changed its name to California Federal Savings. Later the meeting moved to Classroom A of the Hospital. The meeting dissolved in January 2020.

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
<b>Sunday “Brunch Bunch”</b>	<b>Oct 1976</b>		<b>Vivian &amp; Jolley G., Dan &amp; Fay D., Clayton &amp; Edna G. and other AA/Al-Anon couples.</b>	
<p>Started the meeting on the resentment that the “wives,” who had gone through their spouses' years of drinking were not allowed to celebrate sobriety birthdays at meetings. They started at first in couples’ homes, then to the Holbrooke Hotel as a breakfast Meeting, and in 1977 to the newly formed Northern Mines Alano Club at Olympia Park Road, GV. Finally, in 1993, it moved to the Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital. It was a very successful and popular “couples” meeting, where the couples (AA and Al-Anon) co-chaired the meeting. The Sunday 11:00 a.m. meeting was 1 1/2 hours. The meeting closed in September 2008.</p>				
<b>Men's Stag Meeting</b>	<b>1976</b>		<b>Bill S.</b>	
<p>Larry S. reported to District Archives in August 2023, that there was a Men's Stag meeting, probably on Thursday nights at the Old Watt Park Fire Department on McCourtney near the Nevada County Fairgrounds. Early members were: Bill S., Larry S., Glen ?, Rudy S. and Jerry D. Unknown how long the duration of this meeting. Larry S. sobriety date is March 8, 1975.</p>				
<b>Higgins Diggins</b>	<b>1977-1978</b>		<b>Bill &amp; Helen G., Jim J., Tom S.</b>	
<p>First meeting in Lake of the Pines. Originally met in private homes until able to meet at Red Wagon Restaurant. In and before 1980, at the Red Wagon Restaurant, the meeting was held every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. Open meeting. First secretary Tom S. Pat McCord was very active. Alaska Jack stopped by often. Marcia was a big addition to the group. Last known location was at Tall Pines Mobile Park. Disbanded in the early 2000's.</p>				

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
<b>Calif. Youth Authority - CYA Step Study Pre-1980</b>			<b>Unknown</b>	<b>1980 held at Washington Ridge Youth Camp</b>
<p>Bill N. may have started the CYA meetings. Raymond A. was very involved in 1980. Step Study was on Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. In 1982, Lois D. and Sarah S-M. Co-Secretaried the Step Study. Could be that this was an H&amp;I meeting. Sarah S-M. remembers that the Youth were all men, but the AA members coming in could be male and female. Bill P. remembers early members attending were Kunkle, Bruce J., and Raymond A. from Auburn. When Charles H. was newly sober, his sponsor, Bill N. took him to a CYA meeting. Two years later some guy came up to Charles H. at the old Alano Club on Olympia Park Rd. and told Charles that he had been at CYA camp and remembered Charles from that meeting.</p>				
<b>Calif. Youth Authority - CYA</b>	<b>Pre-1980</b>		<b>Unknown</b>	<b>1980 held at Washington Ridge Youth Camp</b>
<p>Friday 7:30 p.m. open meeting.</p>				
<b>Jail Meeting</b>	<b>Pre-1980</b>		<b>Unknown</b>	<b>1980 held at Nevada County Jail at Courthouse on Church St., NC</b>
<p>Meeting may have been started by Bill N. (who worked for a judiciary department in Nevada County). Open meeting, Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. It is remembered that guests had to get laminated jail cards, but it wasn't a thorough process like it is nowadays. Men only in jail, but AA members coming in could be male and female. Bill N. used to bring men from the jail to the Gold Diggers - Nevada City meeting when it was at the Trinity Episcopal Church. Bill and his wife JoAnne N. were the Secretaries of Gold Diggers in March 1980. Charles H. was one of those men. Charles remembers meeting Sarah S-M. at the Gold Diggers in 1980. Charles got sober that same year and has remained a very active AA member since. The jail meeting was held at the County Courthouse where Wayne Brown jail used to be located. It's possible that the meeting was held in the dining hall. Early members may have been Clayton G., Earle M., Dan D., Chuck F. (handlebar mustache), Bruce J., Bill P., Jolly G. and others.</p>				

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
<b>Brown Baggers</b>	<b>Pre-1980</b>		<b>Unknown</b>	<b>1980 held at 139 1/2 Mill Street, Grass Valley</b>

Started by unknown old-timers, but possibly by Bill S. Meeting was held at Nevada County Council on Alcoholism - NCCA offices (currently Granite Wellness) on Wednesdays at noon. It was remembered as the home-made soup and bread lunch meeting. Don H. said that when he first called AA, he got Monte Sue N. who told him to meet her at the Brown Baggers in 1987 and he did and hasn't had a drink since. Don H. moved to Sparks, NV in 2011 and is still sober. Some of the attendees in 1980 were Sarah S-M., Albert K., Dr. George K., Monte Sue N. and Dean (Monte's Sue's then husband, who was known as Baltimore Bullet), Dan D., Henry M., Clayton G., Earl M., Bruce J., Sandy and Dennis C., Jerry D., Sheila H-G., Teri H., Charlie H., Mark S., Judy J-W., Bill S., Bill P., Butch and Bodie, Karen E., Diane and Bob G., and others. Bill P. remembers bringing squirrel soup which everyone liked. No one knew it was squirrel except for Butch and Bodie. Unknown when meeting closed, but prior to Fall 1989.

<b>Rap Group</b>	<b>Pre-1980</b>		<b>Unknown</b>	<b>1980 held at 139 1/2 Mill Street, Grass Valley</b>
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Meeting was held at NCCA offices (currently Granite Wellness) in the Drop-In Area on Saturday nights at 8:00 p.m. It was an Open Group in a relaxed living room setting with couches and chairs. Some of the attendees in 1980 are listed above as same as Brown Baggers.

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
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<b>Various Groups</b>	<b>Pre 1980</b>			
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**Held at Old Northern Mines Alano Club on Olympia Park Road across from Jolly Rodgers Bowling Alley, before moving to Alta Street and before Gold Country Fellowship was founded. These AA groups were all separate groups with a Secretary and Treasurer. Each group paid their own rent to the Alano Club.**

Once the Gold Country Fellowship formed, these groups dissolved into the Fellowship.

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Brunch Bunch - From 1977 to 1993 at Alano Club (See more description about this meeting in this document. This group actually moved out of the Alano Club and closed in 2020.)

Sunday 8:00 p.m., Young Peoples; Monday Noon, No Name; Monday 8:00 p.m., Beginners; Tuesday 8:00 p.m., Open Discussion; Wednesday 8:00 p.m., Open Discussion; Thursday Noon, Women's Stag, Closed Meeting; Thursday 8:00 p.m., Discussion; Friday Noon, TGIF, Closed Meeting; Friday 8:00 p.m., Friday Nite Closed; Friday 11:00 p.m., Candlelight.

<b>One Day At A Time</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>Sarah S-M.</b>	<b>1980 held at 139 1/2 Mill Street, Grass Valley</b>
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Meeting was held at NCCA offices (currently Granite Wellness) in the Drop-In Area on Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. It was an Open Group in a relaxed living room setting with couches and chairs. Sarah S-M. started the meeting in her early sobriety as there was not a Saturday noon meeting anywhere in Western Nevada County. Bob B. (who had a late night Sci-fi radio show) was the Secretary for many years. Some early attendees were Albert K., Dan D., Clayton G., Mark S., Dr. George K., Roxanne and Jerry K., Henry M., Jerry D., Bill S., Sandy and Dennis C., Judy J-W., Bill P., Raymond A., Sheila H-G., Nick S., and others. Bill P. worked at a bakery and would bring pastries to the meeting. He was named, "Sweet William." Bill P., sober since 1977 is still an active member of the GVF. Unknown when meeting closed, but prior to Fall 1989.

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
<b>Monday Night Smokeless</b>	<b>1981</b>		<b>Sarah S-M.</b>	<b>1981 held at 139 1/2 Mill Street, Grass Valley</b>

Sarah S-M. had one year of sobriety and had quit smoking. She started the 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. meeting to have a smoke-free meeting in our area. Last Monday of the month, members celebrated sobriety birthdays. Early attendees: Sarah S - M., Judy J-W., Albert K., Mark S., Nancy and Gene F., Dr. George K., Rennie and Smitty S., Henry M. (and his wife Madeline), Donna T-R., Dan T., Mary and Jack H., Bill and Pat S., Sheila H-G., Doug G., Phyllis D-G., Kit W., Kim (Kit's twin), Carolyn C., Jeff T., Sandy and Dennis C., Maggie G., Dorcas P., Mary E-P., Dan D., Clayton G., Jerry D., Michael C., Bill P., and others. The meeting was a favorite by many over the years but closed around 1994.

<b>Chicago Park Step Study</b>	<b>1981</b>		<b>Bill and Joanne N., Donnie F., Deanna, Carl, Tim P., Sarah S - M., Charles H., Mark S.</b>	
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This meeting existed from about 1981 to probably 1992, but still is fondly remembered by those who attended. It was a step and traditions study which met Monday evenings at 8:00 p.m. at the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Chicago Park. Once a month, there was a pot-luck before the meeting.

<b>Tin Cup Diggins</b>	<b>Pre- 1983</b>			<b>Downieville Library</b>
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**Dale A** got sober in February 1983 at this meeting, so we know it was formed prior to that. It is an open meeting which meets Tuesday nights, 5:15-6:15. Format is varied. (Mark S. started a meeting in Downieville in 1980, but it's unknown if the Tin Cup Diggins is the same meeting.)

<b>Penn Valley Group</b>	<b>1983</b>	<b>136094</b>	<b>Jerry D., Hilda</b>	<b>Buttermaker's Cottage</b>
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Meeting started when Jerry D. answered an AA hot-line call from Hilda who wanted to get sober but didn't want to go to GV for a meeting. So she and Jerry D. decided to start a meeting in Hilda's beauty shop in Penn Valley. When Hilda moved to Utah shortly thereafter, they had a series of different meeting places until settling in 1991 in Buttermaker's Cottage at Western Gateway Park in Penn Valley. This meeting is Tuesday night at 7:00 - 8:00 pm. Birthday night is held on the last Tuesday of the month.

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
<b>District 20 GSR</b>	<b>1986</b>		<b>Bob Von Der L., first DCM</b>	

In 1986, a group of members decided we were now large enough to have our own District. They petitioned CNIA, who approved and District 20 came into being. The first location was at Peace Lutheran Church. Prior to formation of District 20, the Gold Quartz Group and Gold Diggers Group financed the Union newspaper ad and the telephone answering service hotline as there was no Intergroup in Nevada County – closest Central Office was in Sacramento.

<b>GV Fellowship</b>	<b>6-15-1987</b>	<b>145620</b>	<b>Earl M. Elio, Harry Craig, et al</b>	<b>154 Olympia Park Drive, GV</b>
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This group's original location was at Barrel House Bessie's. Later moved to 714 East Main Street, then to 154 Hughes Road and then its present location on Olympia Park Drive. For more information on the GVF, please look under Archives Group Histories at [www.dist20aa.org](http://www.dist20aa.org).

<b>Ridge Runners Express</b>	<b>Sept 1988</b>	<b>159909</b>	<b>Kelly &amp; Rosie</b>	<b>NSJ Community Center</b>
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This group has meetings every Monday, Wednesday and Friday night. The Wednesday night meeting is a Women's Book Study. The Monday and Friday night meetings are mixed topic discussion meetings, except that the 2nd Monday is a potluck birthday meeting, the 3rd Monday is a step study, and the 1st Friday is a Grapevine meeting . Monday and Friday meetings are from 7:30 - 8:30 pm; the Wednesday meeting is from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. The meetings are Open and Inclusive and operate on the principle of Acceptance of Each Other.

<b>TGIF Non-Smoking</b>	<b>June 1989</b>	<b>175274</b>	<b>Victoria B., &amp; Robert</b>	<b>Sierra Presbyterian Church, NC</b>
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Started by Victoria B. and Robert to have a noon meeting on Fridays that was close to work which would help to start a great weekend. Emphasis on old timers. Currently meets at 11:00 a.m. for one hour at Sierra Pres. Church in Hatcher Hall, 175 Ridge Road, Nevada City.

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
<b>Gratitude Group</b>	<b>August 1990</b>	<b>169013</b>	<b>Cass F.</b>	<b>Peace Lutheran Church</b>

This is a small step study meeting which meets Thursday nights at 7:00 pm . Originally located at Wesleyan Church, Grass Valley, it has met at Peace Lutheran for many years. Meeting closed in 2020.

<b>As Bill Sees it - KISS GROUP</b>	<b>Jan. 1991</b>	<b>171089</b>	<b>Annette McT.</b>	<b>154 Olympia Park Road</b>
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Annette McT. started this meeting as a mom with a new baby and a 5 year old. She needed a meeting that would accommodate her small children; her sponsor told her to start one. Started at her house and then moved to Sierra Presbyterian Church for many years. Now average 40 - 60+ members in attendance each Tuesday morning at 10:00 am, where it meets at the GV Fellowship at 154 Olympia Park Road, but is not a part of the Fellowship. This is a Women's meeting and children are still welcome. Birthdays are acknowledged and sobriety chips given the last Tuesday of the month. Business meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 9:20 am. KISS: Keep It Simple Sister

<b>Breathing Easy Group</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>528662</b>	<b>Sarah S-M.</b>
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Women's closed chair meeting met on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. at 139 1/2 Mill Street, GV and lasted for a couple of years. This was at a time when smoking was still allowed in Grass Valley buildings, so here was a non-smoking meeting alternative. Meeting was small usually no more than ten women.

<b>Gold Country Fshp</b>	<b>Sept 1993</b>	<b>178384</b>	<b>Della A., Don R., Bruce J., Connie N. et al</b>	<b>Northern Mines Alano Club, 10656 Alta Street, GV</b>
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Formed from the individual groups that met at the Northern Mines Alano Club as a way of keeping poorly attended meetings open by sharing expenses with well-attended meetings. Comprised of 21 weekly meetings, it sponsored barbecue potlucks and Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for the AA community. The Alano Club closed in 2021 which caused the Gold Country Fellowship to suspend its meetings.



<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
Hard Rock Camper's Group	August 2000	No #	Sarah and Mick M.	Was held at Scott's Flat Lake

Campout group had three campfire AA meetings each year: Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning. Families could pay for camping or come in for the day and pay day use. The campout met every year, the first weekend of August and went for six years, 2006 being the last year. Group never filed for a group number, as they only met once a year and felt it was best to save AA money as it costs money to file a group number.

Shoemakers Group	January 2002	650975	Carl H., Bernie O., and Ted McT	Horseman's Lodge, 10600 Bubbling Wells Road, GV
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*"Shoemaker, stick to thy last" . . . better to do one thing supremely well than many badly.* This meeting is a Closed meeting which started at the old CORR offices (presently called, Granite Wellness) on Henderson Street. It met at a large conference room at the Hospital for many years and moved to Horseman's in January 2014. It meets at 11:00 am on Sunday. Birthdays are celebrated on the last Sunday of each month. Business meetings are held on the 1st Sunday of the month and are conducted in accordance with the guidelines set out in the AA Service Manual, thus insuring that all members are given the opportunity to give their opinion and that minority opinions are respected.

Men's Big Book Study	June 2007	686947	Sam A., Bill W., Kirk and Mark C.	First Baptist Church, 300 Main, NC
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This is a Closed Men's Big Book study Meeting which met every Wednesday night at 7:00 pm at the Annex Building in Memorial Park, Grass Valley, until November 2020 when it moved to the Baptist Church and changed the night to Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to develop an in depth study of our program of recovery through the AA literature, starting with the Big Book.

New Beginnings Women's Meeting	2008	725213	Judy Blake, et al.	Buttermaker's Cottage, Penn Valley
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This meeting was started by several recovering alcoholic women in Lake Wildwood. For the first five years of existence, it met at various member's houses, first in Lake Wildwood and Penn Valley, and later to their sisters in Grass Valley and Nevada City. When the meeting got too large to continue to meet at members' homes, it moved to Buttermaker's Cottage at Western Gateway Park in Penn Valley. The meeting still operates with a volunteer secretary which changes weekly, as well as volunteers to bring snacks. The meeting is a topic discussion meeting with the topic being derived from the Hazelton publication, *"New Beginnings"*. The first Friday of the month is a Step meeting.

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
<b>Primary Purpose Group</b>	<b>March 2010</b>	<b>695859</b>	<b>Jack S. and Ted McT</b>	<b><i>Hatcher Hall, Sierra Presbyterian Church, 175 Ridge Road, NC</i></b>

PPG is a Big Book Study Group patterned upon other similar titled groups, with its purpose being to bring the focus of our meetings back to the Program of Alcoholics Anonymous. The meeting uses a study guide based upon talks by "Joe and Charlie" and goes through the first 164 pages of the Big Book (plus the Preface, Forwards, Dr. Bob's Nightmare, and the Traditions) page by page, sentence by sentence. Its membership is widely varied, and includes many young people. It meets on Thursday night at 7:00 - 8:15 pm.

<b>Into Action</b>	<b>April 2016</b>	<b>718333</b>	<b>Jordan A. and Connie S.</b>	<b>Grace Lutheran Church, 1979 Ridge Road, Grass Valley</b>
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This is a Women's Book Study Group which meets every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. They study the 12 and 12 on the last Sunday of each month and the Big Book on the other Sundays. In order to allow every woman in the room to share, they read one page and then go around the circle of women one by one and share. If there is time, they then read the next page.

<b>Allegheny Group</b>	<b>April 2018</b>		<b>Vickie H., Billy E., Dottie B. and Sandra L.</b>	<b>527 Miners Street (16 to 1 Mine Office)</b>
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This meeting was formed in April 2018 by a group of Allegheny locals who wanted their own meeting. It is a topic/participation meeting and meets on Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

<b>Grow or Die</b>	<b>November 2018</b>	<b>Pending</b>	<b>Jessica J.</b>	<b>792 Searls Avenue, Nevada City</b>
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This meeting is an Open Women's meeting started by Jessica J. when she was the District 20 Grapevine Chairperson to read and absorb the literature published by the Grapevine. It originally met at Jessica's house. Later, it moved to Tall Pines Clubhouse at 13960 Golden Star Road, Grass Valley, to accommodate all the women who wished to attend. In 2021 meeting moved to 792 Searls Ave., NC. The meeting meets at 7:00 each Wednesday evening. A fifteen minute guided meditation is part of the format.

<u>MEETING NAME</u>	<u>Date Formed</u>	<u>GSO #</u>	<u>Founders</u>	<u>Current Location</u>
Gold Country Irregulars	March 2020	Pending	Kit W., Vince F.	Zoom ID#792 210 048; pc: dontdrink

Created by previous members of the Gold Country Fellowship to bring meetings in a virtual format, the Gold Country Irregulars is the District's first (and only) strictly on-line meeting. Meetings are held every morning at 8:30 a.m. and at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays. **Update:** As of October 2023, meetings are only held every morning at 8:30 a.m.

(This document was created by Rita B., Archives Chair and Sarah S-M. Updated 8-28-21)

(This document was updated 10-4-23)