

NO BOOZE NEWS

One Morning on the Beach

2016

East Valley Intergroup, Inc. 1320 E. Broadway, Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85204 480-834-9033 Fax: 480-964-4639 info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org

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If you are looking for something to criticize in this newsletter you will probably find it. We aim to please everyone! After spilling all her fears, she took her sponsor's suggestion and let a little sunlight in...

I've had the honor of hearing a number of Fifth Steps over the years. No two Fifth Steps are ever alike. So, if the idea of spending three to four hours with your sponsee is not high on your list of things to do on a Saturday afternoon, it can be tempered with the notion that you're probably going to hear something you never expected, or be part of someone's spiritual awakening. Given that, I actually look forward to this part of a woman's journey in sobriety.

Not long ago a married mother of two called me to set up a time to do her Fifth Step. This particular gal has been sober for more than five years. Early on she did an "emergency Fifth Step" so she could go on a planned vacation with her mom without getting drunk. But now, four years later, she was on the other end of the phone full of fretfulness and anxiety. She had tried everything to bring herself back in line with the principles of AA, so she called me to propose that perhaps a Fifth Step was in order. I was ecstatic but stayed "cool" and agreed to meet her later that week.

When the appointed day arrived we drove to the beach. Without formalities, she began by asking, "Well, do I just read it to you?" I said, "Why don't we pray first?" And so we did. She soon began to lay out her sad and sordid story, as each of us has done in turn. I was listening intently and encouraging her along the way. She stopped a few times to inform me that this next part was "really bad." I assured her that as bad as it was, there was no need for introductions to the "really bad stuff."

Through the course of her Fifth Step she told me of the shroud of fears she felt she wore each day. She had fear that the remodeling of their home they had started four months ago would never end. She had constant fear of financial insecurity. She had fear about her health and the health of her children. These fears, I assured her, were normal and could be abated if she trusted in God. I sensed her smirk.

When she was done and several hours had passed, we prayed again. I began to outline what she might want to do next. The Big Book tells us we should seek a place to be quiet for an hour so we can "carefully review" what we've done. I suggested she find a few moments to pray, thanking God and letting him in on her quest for peace. She admitted to me that she didn't feel like she had a real connection to God. "You know, like that line to God, I don't have that," she said. I was quiet, waiting for her to elaborate. "I try, really I do, but I don't feel anything. It's like he's not there."

I gently answered her with another suggestion: "Why don't you go ahead and pray anyway? It can't hurt, and sometimes, after these individual spiritual Steps we take, God shows himself. Or even better, you might just be more open to hearing him now that you have shed so much of what was blocking you from the 'sunlight of the spirit'." She nodded. Just to get her started, we prayed again. I asked God to help her hear him.

Coincidently, my sponsee was going to be taking me to the airport to catch a flight the next morning. I was headed to PRAASA in Boise, Idaho. So I had the advantage of seeing her a short 14 hours later. When I arrived at her house I saw that her husband was on the roof, hammering away. The first thing I asked her was, "Well, did you pray?" And she answered, "I haven't stopped. It's like I'm compelled. It's been so weird. And—get this—I got a letter in the mail today, well, actually yesterday, but I didn't pick it up until today. It was from the breeder of our dog we had to put down. She sent us the \$900 we paid for the lab. A \$900 check. Seriously, I never expected that." I just listened as she continued, "And Jack is working on the house today. He says he should be able to finish enclosing the breezeway soon. And on top of all this—the weather is warming up so we won't freeze like we've been freezing. I like this prayer thing."

I smiled. So she had found her connection ... at least for the moment. The best part of taking the Steps is improving our conscious contact with our Higher Power.

-Roxane R., Valley Center, Calif.

Reprinted with Permission of the AA Grapevine April 2015



Page 2 Back in the Day....

Back in the 80's, before cell phones and the internet were at our fingertips, the larger groups in the East Valley had pay phones. When the holidays came one of those groups would have an Alcathon and the EVI hotline was transferred to their pay phone. At my home group, Easy Does It, this was a big event. Most of the group would be there waiting their turn to take a call.

One holiday we were to have the phones. We called the office and told them to send the hotline over. And we waited. No calls. We had a meeting. No calls. So we called the office back. Yes they sent them, just be patient. More time goes by and still no calls. Again we call the phone coordinator and ask them to check the line. Within minutes the phone was ringing off the hook. Seems there had been some problem with the transfer.

The next week a bunch of us AAers were at our favorite after meeting hang out, the Village Inn. While chatting with our regular waitress she mentioned that for a couple of hours the previous Friday their pay phone was getting a lot of calls from people looking for you AA guys. She told them we were usually there on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

The Easy Does It phone and the Village Inn phone were only one number different and the hotline had been sent to Village Inn for a couple hours.

Kim W. Mesa AZ

The FIRST Annual Arizona AA Women's Conference

July 8-10, 2016, 200 Arizona women will meet at the Prescott Hotel and Conference Center to share their experience, strength and hope. We are really excited to make this dream a reality!

Some may wonder "Why an Arizona AA Women's Conference?" Others may ask "What took us so long?!"

It has been my personal dream to start this event since I moved to Arizona from Michigan in 2007. The seed was planted while driving home to Michigan from the 2004 International Women's Conference in Buffalo, New York, one cold and snowy day in February. Having just shared my recovery experience with women from around the country, it occurred to me that many could not attend the annual International Conferences because of the distance and expense involved. *Why not start a statewide Conference so that women could have a similar experience?* Meeting new women, hearing new stories, and engaging in meaningful recovery activities would be more available if the Women's Conference was localized.

After many meetings and plans, a small committee of women persisted and pulled together the first Michigan Women's Conference in July, 2005. Over 200 women attended; in fact, we had to refuse registrations because the hotel was at full capacity. The Michigan Women's Conference was in its eleventh year in 2015. When I got on a plane to move to Arizona in 2007, the wheels began to churn!

This year, it seemed like the time had come, and a new group of persistent women came together to organize this weekend-long event. Open speaker meetings, the Saturday night banquet, marathon meetings – we will have them all! We hope you will be a part of this groundbreaking event for AA women in Arizona, and help us spread the word to women in every part of Arizona.

Please visit <u>www.azaawc.org</u> to print a registration form and mail it with your check for \$50. I hope to see you there!

Charlotte C. 2016 Conference Chair



Traditions Checklist

Tradition Five: Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

1. Do I ever cop out by saying, "I'm not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn't apply to me"?

2. Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the limitations of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?

3. Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?

4. Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?

5. Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?

6. Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?





EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It!!

Subscriptions are only \$12 a year...we'd love your support!!!

Attitude of Gratitude

If you are grateful for your sobriety and would like to give back to the program that has so freely given to you, please use the Gratitude With Service form below to volunteer for any of EVI's Standing Committees, such as PI/CPC (Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community), Special Events, Literature, Unity, or Phone Volunteers. Participating in any of these committees can be a great way to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic, both in and out of the rooms.

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As an ongoing reminder, we are still in need of more volunteers for the 12th Step call list. Although we are great at making sure the phones are answered day or night, finding someone willing and available to do a 12th Step call can sometimes be very challenging, and often times it's hit or miss depending on the time of day. If you have at least one year of continued sobriety and are willing to make yourself available to the alcoholic reaching out to AA for help from time to time, please be sure to complete the form provided below and return to the EVI Central Office via fax, mail, e-mail or in person as soon as possible. Who knows — the life you save could be your own....

EAST VALLEY INTERGROUP – Gratitude With Service form <i>revised 2/09</i> Return to: 1320 E. Broadway Rd., Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85204 (480) 827-1905 <i>e-maik</i> info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org			
Date *Fir	st Name	Last	
Address		*Phone	
*City	*\$T	*Zip *Gender	
*Sobriety Date	Home Group		
e-mail address Alt Phone			
[] <i>No</i>	* = required for listin <i>Booze News</i> Subscription / Renewal	ting in 12 th Step List (\$12.00 annual subscription fee enclosed)	
Volunteer \$	Volunteer Service Options Committees of Interest		
Check only those you are willing to commit time to		Check only those you are willing to serve on	
12 th Step List Volunteer [] Weeknights	Phones Night & Weekend [] Weekends	[] Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community	
[] Weekends	[] Weeknights	[] Special Events	
[] Weekdays		[] Literature	
	[] Newsletter (<i>No Booze News</i>)		
[] Office Phone Volunteer[] Unity Committee[] Other Office Help[] Deliver A Meeting			

Group, District, and Area AA Announcements



ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

TRI STATE ROUNDUP

MAY 19 ~ 22 2016 1650 S CASINO DR. LAUGHLIN AZ RIVERSIDE RESORT AND CASINO

FLAGSTAFF ROUNDUP

JUNE 3 ~ 5 **NEW LOCATION** THE MORMON LAKE LODGE FLAGSTAFFROUNDUP.COM



1ST ANNUAL AZ WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

JULY 8 ~ 10 2016 PRESCOTT RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER 1500 HWY 69 PRESCOTT AZ

PRESCOTT SHOESTRING ROUNDUP

JULY 15 ~ 17 Emmanuel pines camp 3000 spence springs rd. prescott

SRI 73rd Anniversary

Saturday, May 14th 35 W Dunlap Ave. Phoenix (Sunnyslope High School) 4:00pm to 9:00pm Speaker @ 6:30pm

Mesa Roundup Spring Fling

Saturday, May 21st

6:30pm—Eat, Meet and Greet

8:00pm—Speaker

9:00pm—Dance

1050S. Hobson, Mesa

(LDS Church)

Valley of the Sun Founders Day 2016

9:45am to 5:00pm Saturday, June 11th 2121 S Rural Rd, Tempe

Area 03—Post Conference Assembly

Saturday, June 4th 2016 8am to 5pm 10220 N Metro Parkway East, Phoenix

H & I Awareness Day

11am to 6pm Saturday, May 14th 5500 S Mill Ave, Tempe Kiwanis Park—Fiesta Ramada

Arizona Area 03 Corrections Conference

Friday, May 20 at 6:00pm Saturday 21, 8:30am to 3:30pm 400 W Aspen, Flagstaff AZ (Flagstaff Federated Community Church) No security clearance needed. Early registration is encouraged.

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Sobriety Anniversaries 🖧

Name	Date	Days
Blackie K		13515
Gary C	5/1/1980	13149
Mike C	5/1/1981	12784
Bud K	5/23/1982	12418
Jon C	5/6/1984	11688
Becky C	5/9/1984	11688
Sandi R	5/11/1984	11688
Ken H		10958
Stephan O	5/13/1987	10593
Beth H		10226
Joel M	5/15/1989	9862
Bryan T	5/3/1990	9501
Robert B		9497
Christopher B.	5/10/1990	9497
Hallie G		9132
Mike S	5/1/1991	9132
Louis S	5/28/1991	9132
Christine T	5/5/1992	8766
Regan G		8766
Roy M	5/1/1994	8036
Jack G	5/23/1996	7305
Heidi H		6210
Mickey W		4749
Shane Z		4749
Debbie G		4749
Kathy T		4018
Charles S		3653
Glenn S		3288
Skip B	5/15/2007	3288
Larry S		3288
Pat C	5/27/2007	3288
Ginny F		2922
Frank P		2922
Steve B		2557
Gail N		2557
Mandi M		2192
Lyndadiane L		2192
Zachary Z		2192
Eric F.		1827
Tom W		1827
Ben P		1827
John H.		1096
Danielle R		1096
Matt S.		1096
Denise P		731
Maureen D		731



Things We Can Not Change

Fred F., Long time member of the Easy Does It group, passed from this world April Eighth 2016.

His life touched many and he will be missed.

East Valley Member Larry R. has submitted this Denver Area Newsletter article for reprint...

The Last Drop Denver Area Newsletter 1991

"THOSE OTHER ISSUES"

As time goes by, I have become increasingly aware of a disturbing influence at meetings. Especially at meetings that are open. At one meeting I attended people continually strayed from the topic of alcoholism. They discussed their other recovery issues that need to be addressed somewhere besides Alcoholics Anonymous. I wonder how we are perceived by newcomers.

'Our primary purpose is to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers". When a person comes directly off the street seeking help we have an obligation to carry the AA message in a straight forward manner that is palatable to a person unfamiliar with our program of recovery from alcoholism.

When we discuss problems such as drugs, codependence, overeating and other addictions we are breaking the first tradition. AA unity is of the utmost importance. I believe that because of outside issues out fellowship is threatening to become fragmented. Perhaps even splinter groups could occur. This kind of division could be deadly. "AA must continue to live or most of us will surely die".

I realize that dual addicted alcoholics need to attend to their other problems to become healthy whole human beings but they must find an alternative to Alcoholics Anonymous. Many programs are available that use the 12 steps. They are numerous, effective and specialized to take care of individual specific needs. They can become a valuable supplement and enhance the sobriety of alcoholics struggling with their other additions. Also the results in keeping the issues separate is to keep our focus on alcoholism.

Wendy E.



A ship is marooned on an island in the Pacific. One man finds himself alone to fend for himself. He's a recovering alcoholic so he decides to set up an AA meeting.

Every evening at sundown, he makes a fire and hangs handmade scrolls of steps and traditions from branches on a nearby tree. He repeats How It Works from memory and then he does his chair. After, he shares back with himself about how much he enjoyed listening to the chair and thanks the secretary for taking the meeting.

Twenty years go by and every day this man stays sober with this same ritual.

Then one day, the island gets put on the path of a cruise ship. The cruise ship arrives at the island and people get off. The captain of the ship looks down the beach and sees the man and his scrolls so he walks over.

"What are you doing?" the Captain asks.

The old man says, "I'm an alcoholic and every day for the last twenty years, I've held a meeting here. I share my experience, strength and hope, that I may stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

The captain looks at him aghast! "D'you realize there's a man at the other end of the beach doing exactly the same thing, every day for the past 20 years?!"

The old man looks down the beach and then up at the captain...

"That's the Friday meeting. You don't wanna go there."

GOT SERVICE?? INTERGROUP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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PI / CPC

(Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community)

Meets 1st Monday's at 7:00pm

235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert

(Gilbert Presbyterian Church)

Come help carry the message at the public level and to

professional groups who have contact with alcoholics.

For more information contact:

EVI Office: (480) 827-1905

<u>EVI Sponsorship Workshop</u>

10am the 1st Saturday of every other month 235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert AZ (Gilbert Presbyterian Church) Contact: Mary R. HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

May 7th— Into Action Group

Join the Newly Re-Organized

EVI Unity Committee

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday

Faith Community Church

1125 N. Dobson Rd Chandler Contact Larry S.

Office Volunteers & EVI Hot Line Phones 4 hour shifts in the EVI office Call Roxanne for specific times and days. *** Regular shifts available now***

EVI Phone Workshop



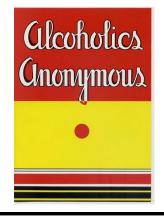
Third Friday's at 6:15 pm Before the monthly business meeting at 1125 N Dobson Rd Faith Community Church

Or

Workshops can also be done at your Group !



For more information Call Tamara L.



EVI Special Events Committee

Meeting held before the Monthly Speaker Meeting 1st Friday of the month Faith Community Church 1125 N Dobson Rd Chandler contact: Andrea M.

EVI Monthly Speaker Meeting

1st Friday of Every Month

Meeting Now At 7:30pm

Faith Community Church 1125 North Dobson Road, Chandler

May 6th — Sisterhood of Solutions

June 3rd—Easy Does It

These are subject to change - so keep watching.

Central Office Manager's Report April 15th, 2016

March was another active month at the office. We received 573 requests for information and assistance last month. Of those 164 calls were for meeting info and 163 were office visitors. Our website stays busy too. It had 20.471 visits in the last 30 days.

Service day / newsletter folding at the office only had 1 attendee last month. Service Day is held in the last week of the month on the day that the newsletters are put together for mailing. Attendance for newsletter folding has really dropped off so we will start doing a email invitation/reminder to those interested. And we'll supply the coffee and donuts. Please share your IGR newsletter copy with your group and encourage them to subscribe for home delivery.

On April 1st we sent surveys to 148 Intergroup representatives and group contacts. Email was our first method of contact with 114 sent. No email was available for 34 contacts and regular postal service (snail mail) was used for them. So far we have received 7 replies. Please go over the survey with your group and return the result to your Central Office or next months Intergroup meeting. We hope to have results compiled for the June IGR meeting.

All front desk shifts at the office are filled, YEAH! But don't feel left out, we still need temps and fill in's when the regulars need a day off. Please take some Gratitude with Service forms back to your Home Group and encourage members to sign up for this or any service positions. The life you save may be your own.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight, Love and Service

Kim W. Central Office Manager East Valley Intergroup

EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

	March	2016	
Meeting Information Calls	164	481	
General Information	102		
Referred to Salt River Interg	roup 10	30	
Referred to Al-Anon	10	33	
Referred to Community Info		6	
12th Step Calls	11	34	
Business Calls	111		
Office Visitors	163	438	
Meeting lists printed	1000	2600	
Info request via E-mail	48	131	
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/I	None	33/ 6/ 1	
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS Y			
Web Stats			
Website Visits last 30 days	21,689 YTD 7	2,666	

New Meetings: West Chandler Saturday Men's 1125 N Dobson Rd. SA 8:00a M,C Welcome Home 1900 S Arrowhead Dr. Chandler SU 7:00p C **Step Sisters** 11002 S. 48th St. Ahwatukee SA 10:30a W,T,O 24 HR A Day 355 S Main St. (First Baptist Church) Florence WE 9:00am C Changes: Florence Group 355 S Main St Florence MO W,O now meets at 5:30p SA 12 Noon is now C and **Deletions:** AI Young People BB 462 N Palo Verde Dr. Apache Junction TU 7:30p BB.O

Meeting List Updates...

We Are Responsible 438 S 74th Place Mesa

East Valley Intergroup	District 08-819
1320 E. Broadway Rd. # 105	PO Box 594
Mesa, AZ 85204	Mesa, AZ 85211
General Service Office	District 08-820
PO Box 459, Grand Central Station	PO Box 20404
New York, NY 10163	Mesa, AZ 85277
****	District 08 (Ma
<i>★ **NEW** ★</i>	PO Box 45066
\lambda Area 03 Treasurer 🗘 🔆	Phoenix, AZ 85
* PO Box 21612 *	
🗘 Mesa, AZ 85277 🕺 🗘	Valleywide H &
**	PO Box 80126
****	Phoenix, AZ 85

District 08-818 PO Box 12044 Tempe, AZ 85284 aricopa County) 5064

ΖI 5060

Example of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities

Distribution of funds from groups that

- support four service entities
- 10% to District 10% to Area

30% to GSO

50% to Intergroup

TH 7:00p C



Reprinted with permission from A.A. World Services, from the pamphlet Self Support.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



GROUP	<u>March</u>	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		
12 X 12 @ 12		
2121 Beginner Workshop		
A Vision For You Group		\$0.00
ABC Group		
AHA! It's Monday		
Ahwatukee Daybreak Serenity Ahwatukee Group		
Ahwatukee Nooners		
Ahwatukee Saturday Men's		
Ahwatukee Women's Group		
AJ Big Book Study		\$75.00
AJ Campfire Group		\$0.00
Arbor Daily Noon Group		
ASCYPAA		
As You Wake Up		
Attitude Adjustment CG Attitude of Gratitude		
Basic II		
Before Breakfast Group		
Bloopers		
Bootstrap Men's		
Breakfast Club		\$0.00
Busted Ego		
By The Book		
Chandler Men's Stag Group		
Chandler Noon Group		
Chandler Women's Big Book Group		
Common Solution Copper Basin Group		
Courage To Change		
Daily Reflections Group		
Day At A Timers		
East Valley Men's Stag		
Easy Does It Group	\$138.87	\$316.61
Experience, Strength and Hope		
Eye Opener Group		
Family Recovery Group		
Feelings & Solutions Firehouse Meeting		
Florence Group		
Friday Night Big Book Study		
Friends Of Bill W.		
Get It Together	481.48	\$904.53
Gilbert Gals		
Gilbert Group		\$0.00
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group		
Good Ol' Back to Basics		
Grateful Dames Gratitude Group		
Gut Level		
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		
Heard It Thru The Grapevine		
Into Action		
Inwardly Reorganized		\$0.00
Keepin It Real Ladies		\$60.00
Life In The Big Book		
Maricopa 12 X 12		
Maricopa Group		
Mesa Group		
Mid-Morning Group Morning After Group		
Name In The Hat		
New Beginnings		
New Hope Group		
New Spirit Group		
No Name AA Group		
Not A Glum Lot		
Page A Day Group		\$500.00

Pioneer Group \$0.00 Playground Solutions Group \$82.50 Primary Purpose BB Study \$80.00 Primary Purpose BS Study \$80.00 Primary Purpose BS Study \$60.00 Primary Purpose BB Study Croup \$660.00 Primary Purpose BB Study Croup \$10.00 Puttin' Sober BB Study Croup \$125.00 Re-Awakening Group \$20.00 Renewed Spirit \$200.00 Reind Spirit \$220.00 Reind Spirit \$220.00 Reind Spirit \$220.00 Second Chance Group \$200.00 Second Chance Group \$200.00 Second Chance Group \$200.00 Second Chance Group \$200.00 Society Group \$0.00 Solutions Group \$0.00 <	GROUP	March	<u>YTD</u>
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inancial Statements				Page 9
BALANCE SHE March 31, 201			PROFIT & LOSS STA March 2010	
Total Assets Liabilities & Equity Liabilities	2,847.71 20,336.81 751.91 545.55 22,686.64 86.40 50.00 22,538.00 (-22,538.00) \$47,305.02	2 Indivi Intergri Service Total C Total I Less to Gross Less to <u>Net Fe</u>	otal Expenses of <u>b. Loss</u>	\$2,628.13 \$530.00 \$107.50 \$3,265.63 \$12,172.47 \$4,140.80 \$8,031.67 \$10,252.62 (\$2,220.95)
Accounts Payable Visa Credit Card Payroll taxes	0.00 2,878.72 78.44	<u>YTD 2</u>	<u>016 Income</u>	\$1,106.20
Total Liabilities	\$2,957.16	📗 The Pru	rrent Prudent Reserve baland Ident Reserve has been hed for 2016 in the amount o	,
Equity Opening Balance Equity Retained Earnings Net Income	43,778.94 -537.28 1,106.20	Please o regardi Yours i	call me with any questions or ng the financial statements. n service,	
Total Equity Total Liability & Equity	\$44,347.86 \$47,305.02	Ed B. E	VI Treasurer	

"A.A. will work for people who believe in God A.A. will work for people who don't believe in God A.A. will not work for people who believe they are God."



<u>Step_Five</u>~ Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

<u>Tradition Five</u>~ Each group has but one primary purpose to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

<u>Concept Five</u>~ Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

EVI MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Page 10

East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2016

Meeting Opened by Tom about 7pm-ish with Moment of Silence followed by Serenity Prayer

Note: We did not have a key to access the building so we had a very abbreviated meeting outside in the dark and the wind just to cover the Finances and the Old and New Business Items

12 Traditions - Not Read

INTRODUCTIONS *** Your Attendance and participation is appreciated and visitors are always welcome!***

New Reps: No Introductions Reps: No Introductions Gommittee: No Introductions Secretary's Report: Regan G. (Written Report in Packet) No Motion Treasurer's Report: Ed – Not Present – Written Report in Packet – it was noted that our group contributions are down by about \$4000. We hope that the Group Survey may shed some light on the reason behind this. 7th Tradition: No 7th Tradition taken Chairperson's Report: Gordon R- Not present - Written Report in Packet Vice Chair's Report: Tom N. – Written Report in Packet. Office Managers Report: Kim W. Written Report in Packet STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS PICPC – Mike – Written Report in Packet (not present)

Special Events: Andrea – Not Present- No Report

Phone Committee: Tamara L. - Did not allow time for reports

Unity Committee: Larry - Did not allow time for reports.

Sponsorship Workshop: Mary - Did not allow time for reports.

Newsletter Editor – Bev W. – Did not allow time for reports. Looking for local articles, stories, jokes, group history's, etc. from members for the No Booze New. Please email Bev

LIASION REPORTS

Alanon Liaison: No Report

H&I Liaison: Steve D – Written Report in Packet.

Spanish Liaison - Marge - Did not allow time for report

Sub District 08-818: Aaron. – Did not allow time for report. Meets 2nd Tues at Bloopers at 7pm.

Sub District 08-819: Paul – Did not allow time for report. Meet 2nd Thurs at Gilbert Presbyterian church at 7pm.

Sub District 08-820: Jeff - Did not allow time for report. 1st Monday of each month.

Old Business

Intergroup Survey – Please have your group complete the survey and return to the office no later than End of May. Results will be compiled and reported at the June meeting.

New Business:

Seconded Motion from Steering committee: That EVI hosts the 3rd Quarter Meeting with all the Intergroups sometime in June – Discussion: Currently expect meeting to be with Intergroup Officers and Advisors due to space limitations, but if we find a location that will accommodate more, then the IG reps may be invited as well. Vote Taken – Motion Passed.

Seconded Motion from Steering Committee: That EVI/Web Wizard Larry, start posting sanitized versions of the Newsletter onto our website. Start with current issues and add the past issues as a project. Discussion: Vote Taken – motion passed.

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Announcements: No Announcements.

Group Problems & Solutions: (Call your sponsor...)

Motion to close made by Someone and seconded by everyone.

Close Meeting: Statement of Responsibility and Lord's Prayer

Thank you for allowing me to be of Service Regan G Secretary

The Outside Issues Issue

A committee puts its primary purpose first

I remember, several years back, when the area service structure where I live created an Ad Hoc Committee on Primary Purpose. A bunch of us were getting nervous because there were people in our meetings talking on and on about their inner child and codependency.

General Service Representatives were asking for help with this problem. It was happening more and more. People were getting up to the podium and talking about their therapy appointments and never mentioning how they managed to not drink through all it. One woman in my home group brought in a doll that she had purchased for her inner child and showed us its new clothes. She never said anything about not drinking one day at a time, how she got sober, the Steps, a sponsor, or anything else that a room full of alcoholics might identify with.

The first few meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Primary Purpose were spent sharing these examples back and forth. We were scared. We thought that AA was going to change or disappear. We carried on about the Washingtonians, and what Bill W. had said, and the Traditions. We brainstormed about what actions we could take or policies we could create in our meetings to fix this dangerous problem.

Back in my meeting, when somebody identified themselves as an alcoholic and a codependent, I would glare at them. I would send a vibe to them: You're doing it wrong. I'm lucky I didn't get drunk with all of the fear and resentment I was carrying.

The ad hoc committee would come up with one idea after another about what to do to save the meetings we represented. Finally, thank God, we realized that we were doing exactly what we feared "those people" were doing. We were alienating the newcomer. We were so fearful that we had become irrational. After meeting for at least a year, maybe more, we figured out a couple of things. We realized we had no right to tell anybody what they could and could not share in a meeting. We decided that the only thing we needed to do was to set a loving example and make ourselves available for sponsorship, so that we could teach the vital importance of our singleness of purpose to newcomers. Then, they could make an informed decision about what they wanted to focus on when they shared. We all agreed that the last thing we wanted to do was make somebody feel unwelcome in a meeting of Alcoholic Anonymous. The Ad Hoc Committee on Primarry Purpose disbanded and individually we got busy on the Public Information and the Cooperation with the Professional Community committees, where we could be genuinely useful!

I was taught that any time we tell our story, we have an opportunity to light that magic spark of identification and perhaps plant a seed of hope. If I get up at a meeting and use my opportunity to talk only about being a vegan, or what it was like shooting cocaine with the Marines in the barracks, or coming out as a lesbian, or what it means to be a Sagittarius, that can be a lot of fun for me and perhaps very entertaining. I might make one or two people in the room feel very validated. But the only way I can be absolutely sure that I am carrying the message of hope to the alcoholic who still suffers is to talk about how I live in this world without drinking. I don't need to keep these "special" things about me a secret, I have no secrets here. But if I am going to reach another alcoholic the way that you all reached me when I got here, I have to make certain I concentrate on the one thing I know we have in common, my alcoholism and my recovery from it.

What about when somebody comes to AA by mistake? Can that even happen? Where does God go when these people show up? I don't believe anybody arrives at a meeting by mistake. They may not be there to get sober, but I believe it's still my job to lovingly extend the hand of AA. Remember what it says in our responsibility pledge: "When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help . . ." So, I say a quick prayer for an open heart and an attitude of love, not fear, and then I listen.

Maybe I can help them to a meeting that will better serve them. Maybe I can take them coffee and tell them about our Fellowship and how we are trying to keep AA here for the next generation of alcoholics. I handle each opportunity the way my Higher Power tells me to. As long as I possess an attitude of love and gratitude instead of fear and judgment, I will not miss my opportunity to be helpful.

Would you like to share your group's history with us?

Page 12

We would love to publish your group's history in the No Booze News! Below are some questions that may help to get you started! Use any or all as they relate to your group and send back to the Intergroup office or email to me. We would love to hear from you! Please see our contact information at the bottom of this page.

Bev W. Mesa, AZ

Service Material from the General Service Office

RESEARCHING A.A. GROUP HISTORY

The General Service Office Archives Department is frequently asked how A.A. Groups can write their group history. Listed below are some typical questions that the Archives Department uses when writing a group history. It is suggested that groups try to answer these questions and, as needed, contact both the General Service Office Archives and their local Archives for information. If groups are conducting an oral history, the G.S.O. Archives has prepared an Oral History Kit that can be used as a guide – experience has shown that many groups have found it to be helpful. The Oral History Kit is available on the Archives portal of G.S.O.'s A.A. website at www.aa.org.

- Who were the founding members of the group?
- Where and when was the first meeting held? In date order, list where later meetings have been held. Include city, state, building, residence, church, clubhouse, etc.
- Did the group list with the General Service Office at the time the members first met?
- What is the group's name? Have there been any changes to the group's name over the years?
- What initiated the meeting: was it the offshoot of a parent group; was there a split due to disagreements; did a few A.A.s simply decide to start a hometown group, etc.
- • How did the founding members let the community know that a new A.A. meeting was forming?
- How many members attended the group's first meeting?
 Describe member composition, for example, men only, women, young people, etc.
- How did the group experience growth over the years?
- Are group inventories conducted regularly and have they been helpful?
- • Who were the early group officers? List, for example, GSR, Group Contact, Chair, Group Secretary, etc.
- Has the group used a steering committee?
- Have any group members participated in District, Area or other service to the Fellowship?
- How often were meetings held and has that changed over the years?
- • What meeting formats have been used closed, open, discussion, etc.
- • Describe the group's growing pains or controversies.
- How does the group celebrate group member's anniversaries of sobriety?
- How has the group celebrated the anniversary of its' founding?
- Describe how the group has cooperated with professional agencies (by signing court cards, supporting a meeting in an institutional setting, taking regular phone duty at the Intergroup or Central Office, etc.).
- Has the group participated in special local or regional A.A. functions, such as conventions, conferences, round-ups, forums or workshops?

G.S.O.'s Archives Department can be contacted via their portal on the website www.aa.org or by calling (212) 870-3400.



Please send us your stories,



MAIL, EMAIL OR CALL IT IN!!

I'd like to hear your story and put it in the No Booze News! Mail your story to the Intergroup office, or email it to me! Or call me and tell it to me and I'll write it down! Please include your name and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for content and/or clarity.

Bev W. THANKS!