



2016

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

This is AA	2
Attitude of Gratitude	3
Announcements	4
Anniversaries	5
Got Service?	6
Managers Report	7
Group Contributions	8
Treasurer's Report	9
EVI Minutes	10 & 11
My Armor	12

If you are looking for
something to criticize
in this newsletter you
will probably find it.
We aim to please
everyone!

NO BOOZE NEWS

A Friend In Need

I approached the hospital on a warm afternoon with a brand new Big Book in hand. It still had the cover on it (You know, the blue and yellow paper that we throw away immediately so nobody knows we're alcoholics?) Anyway, I was going to see a guy that I kind of knew.

I am an alcoholic at heart, so I didn't exactly feel like I was going on my own free will. My sponsor was using his usual Jedi tricks to get me to go do something I didn't want to do.

"Go see this guy", he said. And so I went. Sponsors are pretty clever, right?

I am also naturally competitive and I wanted to get there before any of the other guys he texted would get there. I wanted to be first!

The boring truth is that it was simply God, executing his will through me, as always. But I am rarely smart enough or egoless enough to look at it that way, especially in the moment. I usually notice God after the fact.

I don't care for hospitals. I don't like the smell, I don't like the food and I don't like the silence. I do find it ironic that a setting so cold and dreary has brought me some of the best memories of my life. Both of my girls were born in hospitals. And though I didn't know it at the time, they were the happiest moments I would experience as a young father.

I, of course, took the experiences for granted. I hadn't yet found AA or even knew what an awakening could bring me as a father. I was still caught up in old ideas and fear. Children were pretty far down my list of things to care about. Alcohol was always first, followed by all of the miserable benefits of an ego filled life.

Regardless, there isn't a single sad photo of me in either baby album, even though on the inside I recall being worried sick over just about anything that crossed my mind. But as they say, "Worry is an ironic form of hope".

I got to the front desk and a sweet old woman asked me where I needed to go. I gave the guy's first name and a room number. She politely asked, "Do you have a last name?"

I'm an alcoholic. I don't exactly deal in last names, fellowship or not. Even my favorite liquor went by "Jack, Jim and Johnny". I wasn't going to tell her that, of course. Good thing a room number goes a long way in a hospital.

What do I say to this guy? I thought to myself, Maybe I'll make like a courier and just drop off the blue brick. I won't even make him sign for it, I'll just roll. I'll tell him to get better and I hope to see him in a meeting. That's service work right?

But like my sponsor said, "You're not going to break anyone. Just tell your story."

Fine. If he asks, I'll tell him my story. But the guy is in friggin ICU because of alcohol. The last thing he needs is to hear me talk about how great life is because I took it one day at a time.

I think too much.

But, there is magic in hearing a good story. That is what I find so solid about AA. Whenever I am in a meeting, it doesn't fail. I never hear a bad story. Even when someone, who is obviously still sick, is sitting in a meeting and spewing absurdities.

If I listen hard enough, the message of AA is in there somewhere, their words remind me of what it used to be like, and that is the powerful stuff I need to hear in order to get through the day with gratitude, God willing. The first thing I always look at when I meet someone with twenty-four hours are the eyes. How red are they? How big are the bags? How much have they cried? How scared do they look?

The eyes truly are the windows to the soul. And whenever I see someone desperately trying to get sober, whether for the first time or all over again, the dusty windows are open.

Everything, especially fear, is out in the open.. And the clock is ticking.

My favorite speaker of all time, the late great Sandy Beach said it perfectly, "When the ego gets cracked, there is only so much time to let some spiritual help in before it starts to shut."

He was so right. Physical health returns and the ego convinces the alcoholic that AA is not really that important. The "I got this" factor slyly returns.

This guy certainly had the eyes. We hugged. We sat down and we talked... And I barely remember a word we said. My takeaways are less about words and more about feelings, especially when it comes to working with another alcoholic. I cried as much as he did. I said, "Me too" as much as he did. And I talked about fear just as much as he did. I think what we shared in common the most was the fear of the fourth step.

The fourth step involves truth. Not just any truth but **THE TRUTH**.

Like the nineteen year old heroin addict told me in treatment, "Rick, your secrets will kill you."

It was my new friend's secrets that put him in the hospital. And my only suggestion to him, like my sponsor and so many other happy joyous and free members of AA suggested to me in countless meetings, "Just be honest."

I pray for my friend that when he gets to the fourth step again, hopefully soon, that he finds the courage to write down his secrets and to honestly share them in a fifth step with his sponsor.

I don't have the words to describe what happened to me when I did it the first time, all I know is that my life has not been the same since. It hasn't always been easy, but it has been amazing nonetheless. I don't know what his future holds, the miracle in my life is that this gentleman was definitely there for me. The power of AA is reciprocal.

I hope someday I can see my friend again and tell him that I had another spiritual experience as a result of our meeting... That for that day and hopefully more days to come, he helped to save my life.

I left that afternoon with a feeling that maybe hospitals weren't so bad. I just needed to show up ready to practice some principles and to have a good motive. Maybe I will swing by a little more often.

Rick T.
Queen Creek, Arizona.

Tradition Six is a reminder that outside facilities are separate

IN thinking about this Tradition I'm reminded of my friend George. In the fall of '94 I was on our local intergroup call list. Late one evening, I was asked to give George a call, as he might want help. George said that he had tried "AA" before but it had never worked--during several previous stays in treatment, he'd gone to meetings there. It was a great surprise to George when I said that most of those meetings were run by the facilities; they were not AA groups but a function of the treatment center or hospital. I said I would be glad to meet him and show him the program of recovery that worked for me--as outlined in our book *Alcoholics Anonymous*--and introduce him to an AA group.

Because of the amount of alcohol George had consumed, I suggested a medically supervised detox. After that, I agreed to meet him at my home group. Unexpectedly, I had to leave early so I arranged for George to be met by a fellow member, Jimmy D.--who became George's sponsor.

Eight years later, when Jimmy D. died, George talked about the wonderful away of life Jimmy had shared with him. George and I often reminisced about how he had given up hope of finding sobriety, and how he thought he had tried AA but had never been introduced to the program of recovery.

"While an AA group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied," AA's Sixth Tradition, long form, says. (AA's Third Tradition, long form, adds: "Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation.")

Mike M., Fort Wayne, Ind.

Reprinted with permission of the Grapevine June 2009

A girl working with her sponsor asked "Where can I read about my sex problems?"

Sponsor said, "That's covered on page 69."



Later at home the page number got jumbled as she tried to remember and she turned to page 96 for her sex problems.

"Do not be discouraged if your prospect does not respond at once. Search out another alcoholic and try again. You are sure to find someone desperate enough to accept with eagerness what you offer. We find it a waste of time to keep chasing a man who cannot or will not work with you."

Traditions Checklist

Tradition Six: An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

- 1. Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital?**
- 2. Is it good for a group to lease a small building?**
- 3. Are all the officers and members of our local club for AAs familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs" (which is available free from GSO)?**
- 4. Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?**
- 5. Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?**



EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It!!

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



Page 3

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.

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 *revised 2/09*

Return to: 1320 E. Broadway Rd., Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85204

(480) 827-1905

e-mail: info@aamesaaz.org

www.aamesaaz.org

Date _____ *First Name _____ Last _____

Address _____ *Phone _____

*City _____ *ST _____ *Zip _____ *Gender _____

*Sobriety Date _____ Home Group _____

e-mail address _____ Alt Phone _____

* = required for listing in 12th Step List

☐ *No Booze News* Subscription / Renewal (\$12.00 annual subscription fee enclosed)

Volunteer Service Options

Check only those you are willing to commit time to

12th Step List Volunteer

☐ Weeknights

☐ Weekends

☐ Weekdays

Phones Night & Weekend

☐ Weekends

☐ Weeknights

☐ Office Phone Volunteer

☐ Other Office Help

Committees of Interest

Check only those you are willing to serve on

☐ Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community

☐ Special Events

☐ Literature

☐ Newsletter (*No Booze News*)

☐ Unity Committee

☐ Deliver A Meeting



ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

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



KAIBAB LAKE ROUNDUP

JULY 15 ~ 17

GROUP SITE, KAIBAB LAKE
WILLIAMS AZ

LEWIS CANYON CAMPOUT

JULY 29 ~ 31

LEWIS CANYON CAMPGROUND
SHOW LOW AZ

APACHE LAKE CAMPOUT

NOVEMBER 4 ~ 6

APACHE LAKE MARINA AND RE-
SORT
APACHE LAKE AZ.



Escape the Heat at the 2016

EVI Bowl-A-Thon

Saturday, Aug 6th

3pm to 5pm

Mesa Lanes

2115 E Southern Ave

2 hrs of bowling, shoes

\$20 ea.

**Tickets available from your
Intergroup Rep. and Central Office**

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

ASCYPAA 2016

July 1st—3rd

9495 W Coyotes Blvd, Glendale, AZ 85305

Renaissance Hotel in Westgate

Area 03 Assembly

August 12—14 2016

901 Colombo Ave.

Cochise Community College

2016 Area 03 Convention

September 2—4 2016

2620 W Dunlap at I17

Sheraton Crescent Hotel



Name	Date	Days
Alcoholics Anonymous	6/10/1935.....	29586
Mary J.....	6/9/1970.....	16802
Ralph H.....	6/24/1974.....	15341
George K.....	6/17/1976.....	14610
Sandy H.....	6/1/1985.....	11323
Rodier D.....	6/8/1986.....	10958
Kim W.....	6/4/1987.....	10593
Joe H.....	6/6/1990.....	9497
Steve D.....	6/10/1990.....	9497
Andrew L.....	6/2/1995.....	7671
Ken C.....	6/2/1998.....	6575
Angela M.....	6/21/2000.....	5844
Stacey M.....	6/7/2001.....	5479
Debra O.....	6/5/2002.....	5114
Tom T.....	6/1/2003.....	4749
Nicole K.....	6/6/2003.....	4749
Bill B.....	6/1/2004.....	4383
Don W.....	6/10/2004.....	4383
Timothy Q.....	6/1/2004.....	4383
Michael M.....	6/1/2005.....	4018
Segrid S.....	6/28/2005.....	4018
Jenee K.....	6/29/2006.....	3653
Emily B.....	6/5/2007.....	3288
Duane P.....	6/21/2007.....	3288
Jim B.....	6/24/2007.....	3288
Ian T.....	6/2/2008.....	2922
Mike F.....	6/5/2008.....	2922
Terri O.....	6/8/2008.....	2922
Melissa N.....	6/19/2008.....	2922
Kevin L.....	6/22/2008.....	2922
Adrienne F.....	6/18/2009.....	2557
Ross S.....	6/30/2010.....	2192
Jeff P.....	6/4/2012.....	1461
Larry J.....	6/9/2012.....	1461
Courtney C.....	6/19/2012.....	1461

Happy Birthday Alcoholics Anonymous

LXXXI



Things We Can Not Change

Ray P., Long time member of our Fellowship
passed from this world April Twenty Eighth
2016.

His life touched many and he will be missed.

Q. What is the origin of introducing oneself with the statement "I am an alcoholic" at A.A. meetings?

A. Cu'y kj "vj g"qtik kpu"qh'qvj gt"ewuvqo u"p"C0C0"vj ku"ku"uqo gvj kpi " of a mystery. However, we came across a @n 2-5-9"ctvleg"qp"vj g" subject in the April-May 1987 issue:

"Who was the first to start a meeting or a qualification with the statement, 'I am an alcoholic'? How did the worldwide custom begin? As late co-founder Bill W. used to observe, "Nobody invented A.A., it just grew." And so probably did its classic introduction at meetings.

'Many members ask us these questions,' says G.S.O. archivist Frank M. 'Unfortunately, only a few of the early-timers are left, and not many of them are able to provide plausible theories. So we can only speculate.'

According to an early friend of A.A., the late Henrietta Seiberling, the expression dates back to meetings of A.A.'s forerunner, the Oxford Group Movement, which had its heyday in the early 1930s. Mrs. Seiberling, a nonalcoholic who had sought spiritual help in the Oxford Group meetings, introduced Bill to A.A.'s other founder, Dr. Bob, then struggling to get sober in the Oxford Group.

At small meetings, the members knew one another and didn't need to identify themselves. But in the large, public meetings, where there was 'witnessing' along the lines of an A.A. talk today, personal identification became necessary. Chances are that someone at some time said, 'I am an alcoholic,' but Mrs. Seiberling wasn't sure. Nor did she remember that the phrase was used at early A.A. meetings in Akron before publication of the Big Book. In fact, she said, the word 'alcoholic' was rarely uttered, at least in Akron. People referred to themselves as 'drunks' or 'rum hounds' or 'boozers' or other choice epithets reminiscent of the Temperance Movement that gained adherents during Prohibition.

An early New York A.A. first heard the expression as 'I am an alcoholic and my name is...' According to his recollection, that was after World War II, in 1945 or 1946. And it is a matter of record that, in 1947, a documentary film entitled, "I Am an Alcoholic," was produced by RKO Pathé.



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:

Mike C. (480) 834-9033

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. (480) 834-9033

EVI Sponsorship Workshop

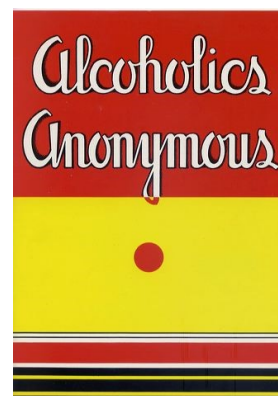
10am the 1st Saturday of every other month

235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert AZ

(Gilbert Presbyterian Church)

Contact: Mary R.

HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

July 2nd— TBA

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. (480) 834-9033

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. (480) 834-9033

EVI Monthly Speaker Meeting*1st Friday of Every Month***Meeting Now At 7:30pm**

Faith Community Church

1125 North Dobson Road, Chandler

June 3rd—Easy Does It

July 1st—East Side Men's

These are subject to change - so keep watching.

**Office Volunteers &
EVI Hot Line Phones**

4 hour shifts in the EVI office

Call Roxanne for specific
times and days.

(480) 834-9033

***** Regular shifts available now*****

Central Office Manager's Report

May 20th, 2016

April office activity was somewhat slower than March. Our winter members are leaving for their summer homes and tourism is slowing for the season. We received 467 requests for information and assistance last month. Of those 149 calls were for meeting info and 134 were office visitors. Our website stays busy too. It had 24,315 visits in the last 30 days.

We have filed our annual report with the AZ Corporation Commission for East Valley Intergroup Inc. So, just a reminder for you groups that are incorporated, now is the time to file.

Service day / newsletter folding at the office only had 1 attendee last month, even with the emailed reminder. Service Day is being held Wednesday 25th this month. Attendance for newsletter folding has really dropped off so we have started 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. To date we have received 34 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 still filled, YEAH! But remember, 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

..... April 2016
Meeting Information Calls 149 630
General Information 59 343
Referred to Salt River Intergroup 7 37
Referred to Al-Anon..... 10 43
Referred to Community Info..... 3 9
12th Step Calls 11 45
Business Calls 94 407
Office Visitors 134 572
Meeting lists printed..... 800 3400
Info request via E-mail 37 168
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/None..... 33/ 6/ 3
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YTD. 1120hrs
Web Stats
Website Visits last 30 days 21,607 YTD 94,273

Meeting List Updates...

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

Changes:

Primary Purpose 11002 S 48th St. Ahwatukee **No Childcare** TU 7:00p BB,C
Ahwatukee Group 2156 E Liberty Ln. Ahwatukee SU, MO & WE 8:00p
Now include a Newcomer breakout meeting

Deletions:

AJ Young People BB 462 N Palo Verde Dr. Apache Junction TU 7:30p BB,O
We Are Responsible 438 S 74th Place Mesa TH 7:00p C

East Valley Intergroup
1320 E. Broadway Rd. # 105
Mesa, AZ 85204

General Service Office
PO Box 459, Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
★ ****NEW**** ★
★ Area 03 Treasurer ★
★ PO Box 21612 ★
★ Mesa, AZ 85277 ★
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

District 08-819
PO Box 594
Mesa, AZ 85211

District 08-820
PO Box 20404
Mesa, AZ 85277

District 08 (Maricopa County)
PO Box 45066
Phoenix, AZ 85064

Valleywide H & I
PO Box 80126
Phoenix, AZ 85060

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



District 08-818
PO Box 12044
Tempe, AZ 85284

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from the pamphlet Self Support.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



Page 8

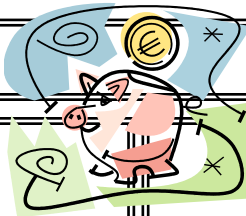
GROUP	April	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		\$0.00
12 X 12 @ 12		\$0.00
2121 Beginner Workshop	\$100.00	\$100.00
24 Hours A Day	\$20.00	\$20.00
A Vision For You Group	\$196.50	\$196.50
ABC Group		\$0.00
AHA! It's Monday		\$50.00
Ahwatukee Daybreak Serenity		\$0.00
Ahwatukee Group		\$0.00
Ahwatukee Nooners	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Ahwatukee Saturday Men's	\$193.46	\$433.38
Ahwatukee Women's Group		\$296.80
Arbor Daily Noon Group	\$250.00	\$350.00
ASCYPAA		\$0.00
As You Wake Up		\$75.60
Attitude Adjustment CG		\$60.00
Attitude of Gratitude		\$0.00
Basic II		\$300.00
Before Breakfast Group		\$0.00
Bloopers	\$30.00	\$120.00
Bootstrap Men's		\$400.00
Breakfast Club		\$0.00
Busted Ego		\$0.00
By The Book		\$106.30
Chandler Men's Stag Group		\$0.00
Chandler Noon Group	\$98.77	\$445.24
Chandler Women's Big Book Group		\$228.61
Cold Coffee Group	\$100.00	\$100.00
Common Solution		\$160.00
Copper Basin Group		\$0.00
Courage To Change	\$100.00	\$100.00
Daily Reflections Group		\$0.00
Day At A Timers		\$0.00
East Valley Men's Stag	\$110.00	\$210.00
Easy Does It Group	\$88.87	\$405.48
Experience, Strength and Hope		\$0.00
Eye Opener Group		\$0.00
Family Recovery Group		\$0.00
Feelings & Solutions		\$0.00
Firehouse Meeting		\$60.00
Friday Night Big Book Study		\$250.00
Friends Of Bill W.	\$120.00	\$120.00
Get It Together	\$309.50	\$1,214.03
Gilbert Gals	\$210.00	\$210.00
Gilbert Group		\$0.00
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group		\$0.00
Good Ol' Back to Basics		\$0.00
Grateful Dames		\$0.00
Gratitude Group		\$62.98
Cut Level		\$23.25
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		\$163.00
Heard It Thru The Grapevine		\$24.00
Into Action		\$38.73
Inwardly Reorganized		\$0.00
Keep It Simple	\$110.00	\$110.00
Keepin It Real Ladies		\$60.00
Life In The Big Book	\$577.74	\$577.74
Maricopa 12 X 12		\$20.00
Maricopa Group	\$20.00	\$40.00
Mesa Group		\$0.00
Mid-Morning Group		\$80.00
Morning After Group		\$0.00
Name In The Hat	\$200.00	\$700.00
New Beginnings	\$100.00	\$300.00
New Hope Group		\$30.00
New Spirit Group	\$225.00	\$450.00
No Name AA Group	\$50.00	\$50.00
Not A Glum Lot		\$0.00
Page A Day Group	\$683.87	\$1,183.87

GROUP	April	YTD
Pioneer Group		\$0.00
Playground Solutions Group		\$0.00
Price Is Right	\$82.50	\$165.00
Primary Purpose BB Study		\$0.00
Primary Purpose Group	\$58.80	\$124.40
Prime Time		\$10.00
Progress Rather Than Perfection		\$60.00
Puttin' Sober East		\$60.00
Putting God First		\$660.00
Queen Creek BB Study Group		\$125.00
Re-Awakening Group		\$0.00
Remember When		\$0.00
Renewed Spirit	\$200.00	\$400.00
Right Place Women's		\$0.00
Rising Spirit	\$316.42	\$598.42
Road To Recovery	\$917.00	\$2,287.00
San Tan Group		\$0.00
Second Chance Group	\$113.55	\$322.55
Seniors In Sobriety-Tempe		\$55.00
Serenity At Six		\$0.00
Sisterhood Of Solutions		\$0.00
Sobriety is Gold		\$0.00
Sobriety Rocks		\$0.00
Society Group	\$1,675.00	\$1,675.00
Solutions Group		\$0.00
Some Are Sicker Than Others		\$0.00
Southeast Valley Stag		\$0.00
Spirited Women		\$0.00
Step By Step Group		\$0.00
Stepping Stones		\$250.00
Sunday Morning Reflections		\$0.00
Sunday Morning Women		\$0.00
Sunday Night BB Step Study	\$141.90	\$203.63
Sunland Serenity Seekers	\$103.00	\$205.00
Sunset Group		\$0.00
Tempe Group		\$0.00
Tempe High Noon		\$0.00
Tempe Nooners	\$25.00	\$100.00
Tempe Sunrisers		\$0.00
The Kick		\$0.00
The Library		\$70.00
The Real Thing		\$9.88
The Way Out Group	\$100.00	\$200.00
This Simple Program		\$0.00
Thursday Night Step Group		\$0.00
Tuesday Night Steppin Out		\$70.00
Tuesday's Trudgers		\$5.00
Tumbleweeds Group		\$0.00
Twelvers (disbanded)		\$0.00
We Ain't Dead Yet		\$75.00
We Agnostics		\$60.00
We Can Group		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Step	\$170.00	\$170.00
Wednesday Night Winners		\$0.00
West Chandler Men's	\$25.00	\$25.00
Who's Driving Your Bus?		\$0.00
Wolf Pack Group		\$0.00
Women in Solution		\$0.00
Women in Touch		\$0.00
*Anonymous Groups		\$117.55

OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTEES

Apache Lake Campout		\$0.00
SWACYPAA		\$0.00
Dist 08-819		\$0.00
Dist 08-820		\$0.00
Mesa Round Up		\$0.00

Group Totals	\$8,771.88	\$19,058.94
EVI Committees	\$25.00	\$335.45
Individual Contributions	\$8.00	\$1,289.90
GRAND TOTALS	\$8,804.88	\$20,684.29



BALANCE SHEET March 31, 2016

Assets

Current Assets

Checking	5,438.88
Prudent Reserve (Savings)	20,338.48
Medical/Insurance Account	200.02
Accounts Receivable	220.05
Inventory Asset	22,298.76
Undeposited Funds	29.40

Fixed Assets

Cash On Hand	50.00
Office Equip/Furnishings	22,538.00
Depreciation	(-22,538.00)

Total Assets \$48,575.59

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	0.00
Visa Credit Card	0.00
Payroll taxes	156.88

Total Liabilities \$156.88

Equity

Opening Balance Equity	43,778.94
Retained Earnings	-537.28
Net Income	5,177.05

Total Equity \$48,418.71

Total Liability & Equity \$48,575.59

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT April 2016

41 Group contributions totaling	\$8,771.88
1 Individual contributions totaling	\$8.00
Intergroup Business Meeting & Service Committee's 7th Tradition	\$25.00
Total Contributions	\$8,804.88
Total Income	\$13,150.67
Less total Cost Of Sales	\$3,372.68
Gross Profit	\$9,777.99
Less total Expenses of	\$5,705.94
Net Feb. Gain	\$4,072.05
YTD 2016 Income	\$5,177.05

The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$20,338.48
The Prudent Reserve has been
established for 2016 in the amount of \$26,804.32

Please call me with any questions or comments
regarding the financial statements.

Yours in service,
Ed B. EVI Treasurer

Step Six~ Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Tradition Six~ An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Concept Six~ The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes**May 20, 2016****Meeting Opened by Gordon about 7pm-ish with Moment of Silence followed by Serenity Prayer****12 Traditions -****INTRODUCTIONS *** Your Attendance and participation is appreciated and visitors are always welcome!*******New Reps:** Rose M – Alt Aha It's Monday, Tobias E – Awhatukee Saturday Men's, Andrew C - Easy Does It, Amy T – Rising Spirit, Lindsay K – The Real Thing, Jeff B – Who's Driving Your Bus?, Roxane B – SNBBSS, Kevin S – The Way Out Group.**Reps:** Don B – Awhatukee Group, Charlie R – Bootstrap Men's, Bev M – Breakfast Club, Vida J – Chandler Women's Big Book, Larry C – East Valley Men's Stag, Denis W – Friends of Bill, Robert S – GIT, Dennis M – Gold Canyon Firehouse Group, Deana E – Life In The Big Book, Beth M – Maricopa Group, Alex Boggs – No Name Group, Anne W – Price Is Right, Lee S – Prime Time, Kyle W – Remember When Group, Andrea M – Serenity Sisters, Beth Ann T – Sisterhood of Solutions, Peg D – Spirited Women, Dave K – Sunset Group, Ken C – Sunset Group, Jeff B – Tuesday's Trudgers, Jack B – Tumbleweeds Group, Jim M – WADY, Beth H – We Agnostics, John S – Wolf Pack**Committee:** Gordon R – Chair, Ed B – Treasurer, Andrea M – Special Events Chair, Paul T – DCM 819, Jeff S – DCM 820**Secretary's Report:** Regan G. - (Not Present - Written Report in Packet) Motion to Accept by Robert, 2nd by Jack – Motion Carries.**Treasurer's Report:** Ed – Written Report in Packet – Denis Motion to Accept, Robert 2nd, Motion Carries7th Tradition: \$43.00**Chairperson's Report:** Gordon R- Apologized for missing last month's meeting. Explained a little about the purpose and function of EVI for benefit of New Reps.**Vice Chair's Report:** Tom N. – Not Present – No Report**Office Managers Report:** Kim W. Not Present – Written Report in Packet**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS****PICPC – Mike** – Written Report in Packet**Special Events: Andrea** – Working on the Bowlathon plans. Location will be Southern and Gilbert Roads in Mesa. Tickets will be \$20, there will be a raffle. Last year this event did not break even, so we want to encourage more participation this year. Also looking for participation on the special Events Committee! Come help us plan the EVI events! Committee Meets right before the IG Meeting at 6:30.**Phone Committee: Tamara L.** – Working on filling the June Calendar.**Unity Committee: Larry** – Not Present – No Report**Sponsorship Workshop: Mary** – Not Present – No Report**Newsletter Editor – Bev W.** – Always looking for local articles, stories, jokes, and group history's, etc. from members for the No Booze New. Please call or email Bev**LIASION REPORTS****Alanon Liaison:** No Report**H&I Liaison:** Roxanne – Written Report in Packet. H&I Awareness Day was a great success! 4th Avenue Jail and the Towers needs men to carry meetings.**Spanish Liaison** – Marge – Not Present No Report**Sub District 08-818:** Aaron. – Doing Well. Purchased new chairs and other items. Meets 2nd Tues at Bloopers at 7pm.**Sub District 08-819:** Paul – Working to put together a unity committee to reach out to un-represented groups and encourage participation. Meet 2nd Thurs at Gilbert Presbyterian church at 7pm.**Sub District 08-820:** Jeff – Will be a Pot Luck on July 9th at the Lutheran Church. There will be a workshop on July 6th. Meets 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: None**Announcements:**Casa Grande Rep is looking for Speakers! Told a Good Joke – Wants to have an event to help tie Casa Grande into EVI more.
Mesa Round-Up Spring Fling May 21st – Live Band – Outside the Line.**Group Problems & Solutions:** (Call your sponsor...)

Motion to close made by Robert and seconded by Jack and everyone. Motion Carried.

Close Meeting: Statement of Responsibility and Lord's Prayer**Thank you to Kyle** for stepping up to take the minutes and covering for me while I was out playing at the Laughlin Round up!

Regan G. Secretary

Don't forget the cookies

An AA who attends nearly every meeting in his area starts thinking about home groups

I WOULD like to share about an incredible journey I completed last year. Several years ago, I'd noticed some changes to my home group meeting and to other nearby meetings that I felt were significant. Fewer people were arriving early and staying after the meeting to help out, fewer people were showing concern for visitors and newcomers, and fewer people were attending AA service functions. I didn't know if I was becoming a "Bleeding Deacon," if I wasn't communicating the things I felt were important, or if AA was changing in a new way without my permission.

I decided to go to a few meetings that I hadn't been to in a while and that was very satisfying. So I went to a few more, and then to a few others that were new to me--out of my comfort zone. Then, at some point, I decided to attend every meeting in the St. Louis Area's "Where and When" meeting list. With the exception of most closed women's meetings, I achieved my goal. I attended 721 meetings across 16 districts; it took more than two years. (I was able to attend one or two closed women's meetings when they were hosting an open potluck dinner or other gathering, but decided to leave most of those meetings alone. In hindsight, I might have contacted those groups, introduced myself and asked to be a guest.)

My journey started in 2006 and ended in January 2009. My home group has been vital to me through my 22 years of sobriety, and I missed mine two to four times per month. I also sacrificed most of my paid time off from work to attend meetings. I went to meetings during most holidays, sacrificed being with family and friends, and missed other AA activities. Some meetings were more than 80 miles away, and I spent one or two hours just driving there. I spent untold dollars filling my gas tank and had to buy three new tires. At times I was getting my oil changed every month.

I attended morning, noon, afternoon, evening and midnight meetings. They were open, closed, male, mixed, smoking and non-smoking. They were held mostly at churches; I felt like I entered every type of church known to attend a meeting. Additionally, I attended meetings at hospitals, treatment centers, veteran's administration centers, grade schools, high schools, colleges, central service offices, clubs, facilities, halfway houses, government centers, public libraries, recreational centers, hotels, bowling alleys and parks.

Each district had large meetings and small ones, but attendance was mostly between 10 and 30 people. The coffee house had the best coffee, but it wasn't free. I usually brought my own coffee, however. I stumbled into a handful of potluck dinners, usually when I was hungry and broke. Meeting formats included reading from the Big Book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, As Bill Sees It, Grapevine and AA pamphlets. There were topic and discussion meetings that used AA materials, and "topic sticks" and "grab bag" formats, where each person had a different sobriety topic to discuss. There were Step meetings, Tradition meetings, inventory meetings, meditation meetings and some that incorporated AI-Anon into the meeting.

I attended meetings at which I was the only man there. I also attended meetings where I was the only white male, heterosexual male or English-speaking male; the only one who didn't ride a Harley Davidson to the meeting; the only one under 65, or over 21; the best off financially, or the least well-off.

There were four things, I think, that made a group stand out from the other 720 meetings. I used the acronym ACES to identify them. First, members Acknowledged the newcomers and visitors. I felt much more comfortable when someone came up before the meeting and welcomed me warmly. Second was Candy, Cookies or Cake. Providing some type of munchies costs so little compared to one night at a bar, nightclub or courtroom. The third thing was Excitement. The group members seemed excited about sobriety and "absolutely insist(ed) on enjoying life." Finally, they were participating in the Service Structure, were part of the AA community and Fellowship by having someone attend the monthly district, area or intergroup meeting, and by supporting the service structure financially or by volunteering.

I met AA members whom I called "ambassadors" of AA, using the same ACES acronym. The ambassadors were Accountable; they always attended their home group meeting, they had a sponsor, and they worked the Twelve Steps and Traditions. They showed Care and Concern for those around them before, during and after the meeting. They didn't go directly to their favorite AA buddies prior to the meeting, or include only them throughout the meeting. They avoided being snobbish or judgmental of others. Thirdly, they were Examples of the AA solution. And finally, they were Speaking "the language of the heart." They weren't lecturing or trying to educate others; they weren't trying to entertain or put on a show; and they weren't trying to prove that they had the worst alcoholic bottom ever. They didn't talk down to others, belittle them or point out their shortcomings. They just shared what was in their hearts, not their heads.

As I attended more and more meetings over the last couple of years, I felt and saw how much better these things made a person and a group. Going by what I've seen and experienced, an alcoholic, myself included, can be driven by ego and be highly selfish and self-centered. Now I'm trying harder than ever in my home group to talk only about my own strengths, hopes and experiences. They aren't an opinion; they are what I feel. I'm trying to talk only about myself and not you or "some people." I'm trying to be an ACES member, with an ACES home group.

Step Six suggested that he place all his defects on the table and let God sort them out.

WHILE I had no problem admitting I was an alcoholic, I didn't believe I was the kind of alcoholic who joined AA, the kind who had to stop drinking altogether, who could never take another drink. "One day at a time," they said. But I knew what that meant: "One day at a time . . . for the rest of your life." Oh, no, not me, buddy! I was pretty sure I was the kind who cut down. You know, a mild case.

My plan was to take a look at these famous Twelve Steps (whatever they were), analyze them and decide which of them I might apply to seriously cutting down. My drinking had admittedly gotten out of hand. Since I had no intention of stopping entirely, I surely wouldn't need all twelve.

A couple of the Steps seemed to be unnecessary. Six and Eight, for instance, were preparation for Steps that followed, and had been stuck in there to make an even dozen, no doubt. Step Six especially, I thought, was a useless space saver. "Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."

Who wouldn't want to have their defects removed? I'd like to be a nice guy. I'd like to have people think well of me. Maybe it would help me to keep a job, maintain a friendship . . . or have a second date with the same girl.

The problem was that I hadn't identified any defects. Little did I know that I had developed, cultivated and come to depend on an army of character defects. They weren't even pests to me. They were more like beloved pets that I fed and nurtured.

Arrogance, for example, was self-confidence. I'm not lustful--I'm romantic by nature. You might call me selfish--I call it frugal. You call it gluttony--I call it lunch. If I'm intolerant, critical or judgmental of others, I call it being ruthlessly honest and painfully frank. As for my own dishonesty, I denied it. "I pride myself on my personal integrity." In other words, I lied!

When, after months of attending AA meetings, I finally did stop drinking, got a sponsor and decided to apply the Steps to my life, I discovered that taking the Twelve Steps is an entirely different experience than reading them or hearing them read.

Step Six is an extremely significant part of the process. In fact, I've come to think of the Sixth Step as the "gateway Step."

After taking Step Five, I had a list of people to whom I owed amends. I would deal with them at Steps Eight and Nine. The list at hand now was the list of my character defects, my shortcomings. These were the manifestations of self that had placed me in a position to be hurt and to hurt others.

These were the elements of my personal armor I had gathered over my life. I put them on and wore them as if into battle. They may have been heavy and awkward, but I believed that they protected me.

Step Six suggests I place them all on the table and let God sort them out, ask God to decide which I need and don't need. There may be things I consider short-comings that my Higher Power has some use for, just as there may be things I consider virtues that need to be cleared away for my spiritual well-being.

My meditation was once interrupted by what I considered some worldly and less than spiritual thoughts. I was so irritated by this that I shared it with my wife and exclaimed, "I need to ask God to remove my lust." Her response was, "Don't you dare!"

Evidently she had some use for such distractions and considered them beneficial.

On the other hand, as an artist, I have long considered pride in my work a necessary tool of the trade. And though pride has its usefulness in craftsmanship, it is a total liability in spiritual matters. The Big Book refers to the "leveling of our pride."

That doesn't mean evening it out like we might "level" a sand lot, it means like they level an old building to build a new one in its place. It has to be destroyed.

The Seventh Step Prayer says, "I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows."

So Step Six may be the greatest act of courage in the whole twelve-step process: a total act of faith. I have to trust that God will see the big picture and make the right choices. Funny thing is, without all that armor, it's a lot easier to move. In fact, I feel like dancing through the rest of the Steps.

Doug R., Tujunga, CA

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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!