

January

2020

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NO BOOZE NEWS

Rare and Elusive

Until he takes the First Step, a collector misses the real value of the Big Book

From the January 2010 Grapevine.

I had seen the book in many different places during my travels as an antiquarian book collector, in used bookstores, thrift stores, yard sales and swap meets. It seemed as though I came across it more times than other books I saw on a repeated basis. Maybe I just noticed it more because of this odd feeling that swept over me each time I saw it, and those mysterious words on its cover: Alcoholics Anonymous.

I remember thinking, I'll never have a use for that book. I always looked at it as something that was written for those "skid row hobos" I so often pictured in my mind, those hopeless men who lived beneath bridges and in back alleys, standing around a burning drum of fiery trash, passing a bottle, trying to keep warm and drunk.

That wasn't me. I wasn't an alcoholic. Sure, I drank on a daily basis-a bit too much most of the time-and I did have the occasional blackout, but I was no worse off than a lot of my friends. I was inured to my hangovers-they were just a part of every-day life. I was at most just a "problem" drinker, not one of "those" alcoholics, and I knew I could stop whenever I wanted. I just didn't want to stop right then.

The book piqued my interest for another reason. I collected first editions of books, and had found through my research that an early copy of the Big Book could possibly make me some real money. I knew, in my materialistic, egotistical, greed-driven world, that I would be the envy of the book-collecting world if I could just find one for a cheap price and sell it at a big profit to someone who would value such a thing.

I pulled the book from shelves, out of bags and boxes, off endless tables and dirty blankets lying on the ground for 20 years, searching for that one first edition. I had no interest in anything past that first page that showed what edition it was. I never turned past that page because I told myself I didn't need what was in it-or maybe it was just the fear that it would surely define me.

Quote of the Month

The fact that my sobriety has been maintained continuously for thirteen and a half years doesn't allow me to think that I am necessarily any further away from my next drink than any of you people. I'm still very human, and I still think a double Scotch would taste awfully good. If it wouldn't produce disastrous results, I might try it. I don't know. I have no reason to think that it would taste any different--but I have no legitimate reason to believe that the results would be any different either. They were always the same. I always wound up back of the dear old eight ball.

-- Dr. Bob



Get Published!

Send your articles, jokes, poems and artwork to Rick T. info@aamesaaz.org

I finally gave up the search for that elusive book when I was about 51 years old. By then, I had amassed quite a collection of rare books, dealing mostly with subjects like art, architecture, psychology, magic and death. I thought a lot about death. My drinking had increased over those years, and I would often wake up from a drunk surrounded by several of these valuable books lying haphazardly around me, or on my lap. But no matter how many books like these I collected, I was still empty inside. Something was always missing. The next book, like the next drink, was just another temporary fix, and then I wanted more.

I flew to Tucson, Ariz., later that year to visit a friend who had been sober for four years. It was Thanksgiving, and she asked me one night if I wanted to go along with her to attend an AA meeting the following day. Out of curiosity, I said I would. I wanted to finally find out what AA was all about and how it had helped her stay sober for so long. I was doing my best, but was having a hard time controlling my drinking around her. She suggested to me that it might be a good idea if I didn't drink before we went to the meeting. I told her that I would give it my best shot.

We arrived at the meeting place the next morning and she introduced me to her friends. I was always so uncomfortable in situations where I was around a bunch of strangers who I knew would never understand how utterly "different and unique" I was. As the meeting progressed, I listened to the stories coming out of these people's mouths, and I was deeply moved. I wasn't so different and unique after all.

I stared at a big framed board with the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous on it, particularly at Step One: "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol--that our lives had become unmanageable."

I came to a startling revelation. That was me. I was powerless over alcohol, and my life had become unmanageable.

One month later, I put the bottle down and drove to the nearest bookstore. I bought my first copy of that book I had so many times denied I needed.

Now, as I approach my first full year of sobriety and look around my house at all these "valuable" books sitting on their shelves, I know that there is only one book in my collection that has any real value to me. It is a fourth edition paper-back copy of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is a bit beat up, written in, highlighted, and has a few dog-eared pages. But, where I thought I would only find profit from it in a materialistic way, I instead have profited from it in a new spirituality and freedom, daily using the information and suggestions contained in it as a guide for how to live a more useful, productive, sober life.

I will always remember the times I thought I would never need it, and never turned past the copyright page.

-- JOE H. Tucson, Ariz.



Words From the Big Book

There is a solution. Almost none of us liked the self searching, the leveling of our pride, the confession of shortcomings which the process requires for its successful consummation. But we saw that it really worked in others, and we had come to believe in the hopelessness and futility of life as we had been living it. When, therefore, we were approached by those in whom the problem had been solved, there was nothing left for us but to pick up the simple kit of spiritual tools laid at our feet. We have found much of heaven and we have been rocketed into a fourth dimension of existence of which we had not even dreamed.

The great fact is just this, and nothing less: That we have had deep and effective spiritual experiences* which have revolutionized our whole attitude toward life, toward our fellows and toward God's universe. The central fact of our lives today is the absolute certainty that our Creator has entered into our hearts and lives in a way which is indeed miraculous. He has commenced to accomplish those things for us which we could never do by ourselves. — **PG 25**

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**.

We are still in need of more volunteers for the 12th Step call list. Finding someone willing and available to do a 12th Step call can sometimes be very challenging, If you have at least one year of continued sobriety and are willing to make yourself available to the alcoholic who still suffers, 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.

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

RIVER ROUNDUP

JANUARY 9 ~ 12, 2020

RIVERSIDE RESORT

LAUGHLIN NV



FELLOWSHIP OF THE SPIRIT

JANUARY 17 ~ 19 2020

POCO DIABLO RESORT

SEDONA AZ

SUNLIGHT OF THE SPIRIT

FEBRUARY 21 ~ 23, 2020

1440 W DESERT HILLS DR. YUMA AZ

(YUMA CIVIC CENTER)



Agua Fria New Years Eve

Saturday, December 31st 2017

Speaker Meeting and Masquerade Ball

8045 N 47th Ave, Glendale AZ

Sun City, AZ

PRASA

(Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly)

Save the Date

March 6 - 8, 2020

Tucson AZ

2019 EVI 1st Annual

New Years Eve Party

6:00pm December 31

2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

(Church of the Epiphany)

Speaker Meeting

Fellowship and Recovery

Dinner and Dance \$15

Live and let live

2020 Alcoholics Anonymous

International Convention

July 2nd - 5th

Detroit MI

Online registration is now open

Housing is still available

More information is available at

aa.org

Monthly Campfire Meeting

Last Saturday of the Month @7:30pm

2757 E Guadalupe Rd.

Gilbert AZ

Riparian Preserve and Water Park

(take Cattail Crawl Trail to

Honey Bee Point)



Name	Date	Days
Richard B.	1/4/1968	18993
Joe A.	1/21/1979	14975
Sandra M.	1/30/1984	13144
Susan C.	1/1/1985	12783
Rachel L.	1/7/1985	12783
Anne Elizabeth H.	1/1/1988	11688
Douglas F.	1/4/1989	11322
Jane R.	1/11/1989	11322
Jane B.	1/11/1989	11322
Jerry F.	1/27/1989	11322
Gerry B.	1/20/1990	10957
Rhonda S.	1/18/1992	10227
Ron H.	1/17/1993	9861
Dottie D.	1/20/1993	9861
Barbara L.	1/13/1994	9496
Becky C.	1/29/1995	9131
Craig W.	1/20/1996	8766
Roy N.	1/23/1996	8766
Becky K.	1/13/1997	8400
Melissa L.	1/20/1997	8400
Ame F.	1/16/1999	7670
Terry P.	1/29/1999	7670
Rodger L.	1/30/1999	7670
Collin K.	1/24/2000	7305
Lori M.	1/10/2001	6939
Brenda B.	1/14/2001	6939
Jason G.	1/22/2001	6939
Matt P.	1/26/2001	6939
Lisa H.	1/28/2001	6939
Norman H.	1/1/2005	5478
Sam V.	1/1/2005	5478
Will P.	1/5/2006	5113
Lee Z.	1/9/2006	5113
Brent B.	1/17/2007	4748
Chandler	1/1/2008	4383
Jene V.	1/1/2008	4383
Kevin B.	1/21/2008	4383
Andrea N.	1/29/2009	4017
Paul T.	1/24/2010	3652
Jim M.	1/27/2010	3652
David T.	1/2/2011	3287
Elizabeth T.	1/23/2012	2922
Bethann T.	1/4/2013	2556
Steve S.	1/10/2013	2556
Tamara L.	1/11/2013	2556
Jocelyn G.	1/16/2013	2556
Marylyn W.	1/18/2013	2556
Stephanie	1/17/2014	2191
Leonard B.	1/1/2015	1826
Shane C.	1/25/2016	1461

Step One~ We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.

Tradition One~ Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.

Concept One~ Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship

"When I was sixteen, I was trying to act forty-four, and when I was forty-four, I was trying to act sixteen. I am not sure how, but alcohol made both possible."

-- David B. Peoria, Arizona

At Wits End

A MAN DOWNS SIX MARTINIS in a row. The woman on the next bar stool marvels, "You must be really thirsty."

"Not at all," he says.

"Well then you must like to drink."

"On the contrary."

"Well, what do you call six martinis in an hour?"

"Necessity. Wife sent me for a jar of olives and the market was closed." He sighs. "Yes, I have all sorts of troubles. Every night my kids stay out until two or three in the morning."

"What are they doing out so late?"

"Looking for me." -- Vickie D. Kingman, Arizona



Get Published!

Send your articles, jokes, poems and artwork to Rick T. info@aamesaaz.org

Things We Can Not Change

Jim M. a long time member of our fellowship has passed from this world.

Peach A. a member of the Road to Recovery group has also passed.

Their lives and sobriety touched many and they will be missed.

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:

480 827-1905

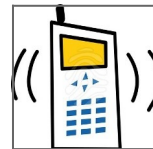
EVI Phone Workshop

Third Friday's at 6:15 pm

Before the monthly business meeting at

**2222 S Price Rd. Tempe
(Church of the Epiphany)**

Or

Workshops can be done at your Group !

For more information

Call Beth H

EVI Sponsorship Workshop

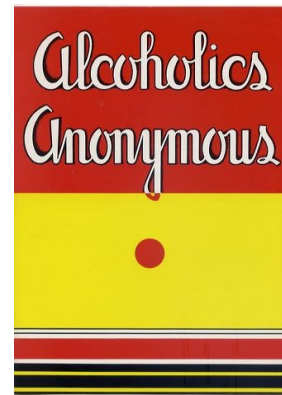
10am the 1st Saturday of every other month

235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert AZ

(Gilbert Presbyterian Church)

Contact: Gail H.

HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

January 4th ~ Life in the Big Book

Join the

EVI Unity Committee

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday

2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

(Church of the Epiphany)

Contact 480 827-1905

EVI Special Events Committee

Meeting held before the Monthly Speaker Meeting

1st Friday of the month

2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

(Church of the Epiphany)

contact: 480 827-1905

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

2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

(Church of the Epiphany)

Jan. 3rd ~ GIT

Feb. 7th ~ Women in Gratitude

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.

***** Fill In spots available *****

Central Office Manager's Report

December 20, 2019

In November we received 455 requests for information and assistance. Of those 124 calls were for meeting info, 133 were office visitors and 4 resulted in a good old fashioned 12 step call. Google reported 15,287 viewed our info page. Of those, 48 got directions to the office, 55 called and 342 went to our website. Our website stays busy too. It had 39,363 visits in the last 30 days.

We did the semiannual inventory a little early this month. The inventory value was \$19,656.93 on the day of inventory. There were 50 corrections made totaling a positive \$39.75. Some dead inventory was relieved and complimentary Grapevine material from the ICOAA seminar was added.

The 2018 Holiday Event Schedule has been completed to the best of our knowledge. Copies have been provided to phone volunteers, posted to our website and some hard copies are available on the back table. Just a reminder that one of the main functions of a local service office is to be a source of information for the local fellowship. We try our best to keep everyone informed but we only know what we are told. If you are planning an event or special meeting please let you Central Office know so, in the spirit of unity and fellowship, we can help spread the word.

Tis the season for 12 step calls. Service opportunities are available on all EVI committees and the 12th step list. Please take some Gratitude with Service forms back to your group and encourage the members to volunteer. The life you save may be your own.

As 2019 draws to a close I would like to thank everyone for another year of service and sobriety. Thanks to all who have worked to carry the message and welcome to those who have found a new life with us. I hope this goes on forever.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight,
Love and Service
Kim W. Central Office Manager
East Valley Intergroup

EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

	Nov.	2019
Meeting Information Calls	124	1467
General Information	91	855
Referred to Salt River Intergroup	2	48
Referred to Al-Anon	15	122
Referred to Community Info	1	6
12th Step Calls	4	103
Business Calls	85	961
Office Visitors	133	1601
Meeting lists printed	800	9,000
Info request via E-mail	52	555
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/None	28/ 2/ 2	
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YTD		1516hrs

Web Stats

Website Visits last 30 days 39,363 YTD 495,564
Google Searches last 30 days 15,287

Meeting List Updates...

New Meetings:

No Big Deals	6400 W Del Rio St. Chandler	FR 6:30a BB,O
Livin Life	1050 W Superstition Blvd. Apache Junction	WE 7:00p W,O
The Society	9333 E Main St. Mesa	FR & SA 10:00p O
The Tribe	3208 S. Fair Lane, Tempe	MO 6:30p W,O
Tumbleweeds	901W Erie St. Chandler	Starts Dec 8th SU 6:00p C

Changes:

Busted Ego	739 W Erie St. Chandler	MO & TH now meeting at 7:00p
The Way Out	Moving Dec. 12 to: 1534 N Recker Rd.	TH 7:00p C
Valley Alano Club	Moved to: 2310 N 56th St. Bldg A Phoenix	- All Meetings

Deletions:

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

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

Area 03 Treasurer
PO Box 18765
Tucson, AZ 85371
Make Check To: AZ Area Committee

District 08-818
PO Box 12044
Tempe, AZ 85284

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



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GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



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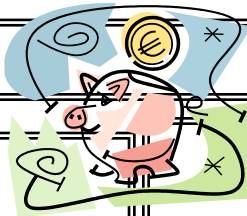
GROUP	Nov.	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		\$200.00
2121 Beginner Workshop		\$0.00
24 Hours A Day		\$0.00
417 Group.....		\$125.00
A Vision For You Group.....		\$553.58
ABC Group		\$400.00
Ahwatukee Group		\$67.08
Ahwatukee Nooners		\$1,084.00
Ahwatukee Saturday Men's.....	\$82.12	\$1,034.07
Ahwatukee Women's Group		\$163.67
Arbor Daily Noon Group.....	\$300.00	\$3,000.00
Attitude Adjustment Ahwatukee		\$0.00
Attitude Adjustment CG.....		\$80.00
Attitude of Gratitude.....		\$2022.00
Basic II.....		\$100.00
Bloopers		\$110.00
Bootstrap Men's		\$1,405.00
Both Books	\$55.50	\$137.50
Bottom of the Bottle	\$90.00	\$90.00
Breakfast Club		\$1,500.00
Busted Ego.....		\$570.00
By The Book.....		\$474.54
Chandler Men's Stag Group.....		\$256.00
Chandler Noon Group.....	\$91.00	\$1,122.72
Chandler Women's Big Book Group.....		\$908.01
Cold Coffee Group.....		\$195.00
Common Solution.....		\$0.00
Common Thread		\$313.98
Copper Basin Group.....		\$193.80
Courage To Change	\$300.00	\$450.00
Depth and Weight		\$30.00
East Valley Men's Stag.....		\$625.00
East Valley Veterans		\$20.00
Easy Does It Group.....	\$88.87	\$2,2295.41
Eye Opener Group.....		\$300.00
Family Recovery Group.....		\$50.00
Feelings & Solutions		\$243.15
Fill in the Blank		\$443.75
Firehouse Meeting		\$165.00
Florence Group.....		\$0.00
Friday Night BB, Step Study		\$628.00
Friends Of Bill W.	\$57.50	\$257.50
Get It Together.....	\$482.83	\$2,739.28
Gilbert Gals.....		\$280.00
Gilbert Group		\$0.00
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group		\$326.78
Good Ol' Back to Basics.....		\$400.00
Grateful Dames		\$0.00
Grateful Girlfriends		\$0.00
Gratitude Group.....		\$775.00
Great Start		\$850.00
Gut Level.....		\$287.48
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		\$509.08
Into Action		\$0.00
Keepin It Real Ladies	\$89.00	\$608.32
Last Resort		\$30.00
Life In The Big Book.....	\$37.45	\$647.50
Maricopa 12 X 12.....		\$120.00
Maricopa Group.....		\$365.00
Mid-Morning Group		\$200.00
Monday Night Madness		\$0.00
Morning After Group		\$380.00
Name In The Hat.....	\$626.10	\$1,883.81
New Beginnings		\$825.00
New Hope Group		\$0.00
New Spirit Group		\$575.00
No Name AA Group.....	\$25.00	\$150.00
Opportunity Knocks		\$100.00
Page A Day	\$240.23	\$1,645.15

GROUP	Nov.	YTD
Pioneer Group.....	\$53.72	\$306.32
Price Is Right.....		\$483.44
Primary Purpose Group		\$875.00
Prime Time.....		\$0.00
Progress Rather Than Perfektion		\$150.00
Putting God First		\$1,116.00
Queen Creek Nooners.....		\$1,967.71
Re-Awakening Group		\$40.00
Remember When		\$0.00
Renewed Spirit.....		\$450.00
Rising Spirit.....		\$504.45
Road To Recovery.....	\$530.92	\$5,586.80
Rock Solid	\$50.00	\$50.00
San Tan Men's		\$47.50
Second Chance Group.....		\$963.00
Seniors In Sobriety-Tempe disbanded.....		\$160.00
Serenity At Six		\$0.00
Shade Tree.....		\$0.00
Sisterhood Of Solutions.....		\$0.00
Sobriety is Gold		\$200.00
Sobriety Rocks		\$172.92
Society Group		\$1,000.00
Solutions Group.....		\$0.00
Some Are Sicker Than Others.....		\$500.00
Southeast Valley Stag.....		\$500.00
Spirited Women		\$620.19
Step By Step Group.....		\$471.37
Stepping Stones.....		\$900.00
Sunday Afternoon Step.....		\$300.00
Sunday Night BB Step Study		\$0.00
Sun Lakes Women Serenity Seeker.....	\$110.00	\$431.50
Sunland Serenity Seekers.....		\$105.00
Sunset Group	\$100.00	\$100.00
Tempe Group.....		\$0.00
Tempe Nooners.....	\$50.00	\$325.00
Tempe Sunrisers		\$0.00
Tempe Young People		\$0.00
The Library		\$265.00
The Real Thing		\$0.00
The Way Out Group.....		\$800.00
Thursday Night Step Group.....		\$0.00
Tuesday Night Steppin Out		\$120.00
Tuesday's Trudgers.....		\$0.00
Tumbleweeds Group.....		\$615.00
Upon Awakening	\$700.00	\$2,800.00
We Ain't Dead Yet		\$50.00
We Agnostics		\$224.00
We Can Group		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Step		\$400.00
Wednesday Night Winners		\$0.00
Welcome Home.....		\$300.00
West Chandler Men's		\$120.00
Who's Driving Your Bus?.....		\$0.00
Wolf Pack Group		\$50.00
Women in Gratitude	\$215.00	\$697.00
Women in Solution.....		\$1,606.88
Women in Touch	\$96.00	\$216.00
Wonder Women.....		\$210.00
*Anonymous Groups		\$1,238.04

OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTEES

Apache Lake Campout.....	\$274.88	\$401.24
54th International Women's Conf.....		\$3,080.00
Dist 08-818		\$300.00
Dist 08-819		\$500.00
ASCYPAA.....		\$140.63
Group Totals.....	\$4,396.67	\$65,733.25
EVI Committees	\$83.00	\$1,105.75
Individual Contributions.....	\$0.00	\$1,411.14
GRAND TOTALS	\$4,479.67	\$68,250.14

(*Group contribution with no group name listed)



BALANCE SHEET November 30, 2019

Assets

Current Assets

Checking	3,760.60
Prudent Reserve (Savings)	33,387.19
Accounts Receivable	1,492.20
Inventory Asset	21,511.19
Undeposited Funds	307.55

Fixed Assets

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

Total Assets **\$65,539.83**

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	0.00
Visa Credit Card	200.00
Payroll taxes	195.44

Total Liabilities **\$395.44**

Equity

Opening Balance Equity	43,778.94
Retained Earnings	6,731.99
Net Income	14,633.46

Total Equity **\$65,144.39**

Total Liability & Equity **\$65,539.83**

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT November 2019

25 Group contributions totaling	\$4,396.67
0 Individual contributions totaling	\$0.00
Intergroup Business Meeting & Service Committee's 7th Tradition	\$83.00

Total Contributions **\$4,479.67**

Total Income **\$9,372.23**

Less total Cost Of Sales **\$3,452.69**

Gross Profit **\$5,919.54**

Less total Expenses of **\$6,067.15**

Net Nov. Loss **(\$147.61)**

YTD 2019 Gain **\$14,633.45**

The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$33,387.19
The Prudent Reserve has been
established for 2019 in the amount of \$24,825.87

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

Grateful to be of service,
Ron S. EVI Treasurer

Traditions Checklist

Tradition One: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into argument?
3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?

East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2019

Meeting Opened at 7:07 PM by Tom with a moment of silence and serenity prayer.

12 Traditions ready by – Lois

INTRODUCTIONS: *Your attendance and participation are appreciated, and visitors are always welcome!*

Intergroup Representatives:

New Reps: Ken Sunset Group, Kyle Page-a-Day, tom Busted Ego, Jason East Phoenix Men's Stag, Heather Bottom of the Bottle, Jake (Alt) Bottom of the Bottle, Marietta Living Life Women's, Erika Women in Gratitude

Dave M. 417, Michael G. Ahwatukee Saturday Men's Group., Nancy O. Ahwatukee Women's Group, Thom S. Arbor Daily Noon., Elizabeth L. Bloopers, Gabi N. Both Books Step Study, Eddie M. Bootstrap Men's, Heather W. Bottom of the Bottle, Jake F. (Alt) Bottom of the Bottle, Jim L. Breakfast Club, Gary L. Chandler Noon, Tom O. Common Thread, Ryan D. Dr.'s Nightmare, Jason H. E. Phoenix Men's Stag, J.T. East Valley Men's Stag, Charlie R. East Valley Men's Stag (ALT), Bert L. Family Recovery Group, Dennis W. Friends of Bill W., Shirley M. Gilbert Gals, Buddy M. and Ron A. (ALT) Gratitude Group, Rose M. Happy Hour @Sun Bird, Brian V. Inwardly Reorganized, Vicki New Spirit Group, Ashley S. Price is Right, Brenda P. Queen Creek Nooners, Ashley O. Serenity Sisters, BethAnn T. Sisterhood of Solutions, Shari L. Sobriety is Gold, Mindy S. Society Meeting, Dallas F. Spirited Women, Dave T. Sunday Night BB Step Study, Judy A. Sun Lakes Serenity Sisters, Ken C. and Melissa L. (ALT) Sunset Group, Alisha W. Upon Awakening, Warren E. Alanon Liaison, Erika R. Women in Gratitude (ALT), Marna W. Way Out Group, Tim H. Busted Ego, Mary Ella C. Livin Life

Committee and other Trusted Servants: (N/P = Not Present)

Service Position	Name	Service Position	Name	Service Position	Name
Chair	Tom N	Office Manager	Kim	H&I Liaison	Mike G
V.Chair	Chuck	Chair- Special E.	J.J	Spanish Liaison	N/P
Treasurer	Ron S	Chair- PI/CPC	N/P	Alanon Liaison	Rosemary
Secretary	Andrea M.	Chair- Phones	Beth	DCM 08-818	N/P
Advisor- Special E.	Segrid	Chair- Unity	Bill B	DCM 08-819	Lois
Advisor- PI/CPC	N/P	Chair- Sponsorship	N/P	DCM 08-820	Jason
Advisor- Phones	Larry S.	No Booze News	N/P		
Advisor- Unity	Barb	Literature	N/P		

Secretary's Report: Andrea M, Report in Packet, New Reps-please sign in and update sheet on back table. If you are not receiving emails, then please check your email address to assure we have correct contact information. Chuck- typo in 7th Tradition for Nov. Business Meeting. Ken- Accept with revision, Gary – 2nd, all approved

Treasurer's Report: Ron S. - Report in Packet. Net Income for November \$ (147.00), loss but close to breaking even. Motion- Denis, 2nd-buddy, approved. **7th Tradition: \$77.00**

Chairperson's Report: Tom – No report, just want to thank all outgoing committee members!! Welcome new Reps, we are so happy to see how many new faces are here tonight!

Vice Chair's Report: Chuck – Report in Packet. District elections wrapped up, there are still positions available. Make sure to get your NYE ticket for the East Valley New Year's Eve event.

Tom- Thank you to Chuck for your dedicated service as Vice Chair!!

Office Manager: Kim – See page 7.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PI/CPC: Paul – Report is in packet, Open committee positions for Clergy, Outside Events, Media. Thank you to committee for outstanding job while I have been sick the past 4 months! Next meeting is Jan 6th!

Special Events: J – **New Year's Eve Dance and Dinner** – will be held here at Epiphany, 2222 S. Price Rd! Pulled Pork, Black Peas, salad, Larry S speaker, Dj Ronstro pumping out tunes after speaker. We have tickets available! Please grab them tonight! We will probably be able to sell tickets at the door, but we need some kind of head count. I will send a text out to reps that took tickets on Sunday (Dec 28) to ask for how many tickets you have sold! Please make sure to respond. I am going to pass around a signup sheet to grab volunteers for the NYE Event. We need the help!!

Thanksgiving Alcahthon was a great success! Thank you to all groups who participated. We had lots of newcomers and great opportunity for all of us.

Monthly Speaker meeting is Jan 3rd at Epiphany (this location). February Meeting is open and we need a group to host! Please talk to me after meeting if interested

Phone Committee: Vicki – We meet every month the third Friday at 6:15PM before this business meeting. We will come to your group to do phone training. We need people to sign up! There are about 11 slots open each month. If you do training, then it does not commit you to a monthly spot on the calendar. Again, that is all volunteer, but you need to have phone training. We appreciate your help!

Unity Committee: Kaine – Unity meetings is 3rd Friday every month at 6:15, before this meeting! We are going out and hitting meetings. It is so important that you sign in on the sheet in the back. This is how we find the groups to visit! We have had 11 groups show up here since we have been going to share our information. This has been a trying and rewarding experience. Thank you so much for letting me service.

Sponsorship Workshop: N/P – Gail's term is up! We do have a new coordinator- Jerry C. Thank you for stepping up Jerry! Next Workshop is Jan 4th at 10AM, Gilbert Presbyterian.

Newsletter Editor: N/P – We are always looking for local writers to submit stories. We do have new section in the Newsletter called Meeting of the Month. Please write up 150-200 words with as much information about your meeting. Send submissions to [in-fo@aamesaaz.org](mailto:fo@aamesaaz.org).

Literature: N/P

LIAISON REPORTS

Alanon Liaison: Rosemary – Thank you for letting me service. Warren will be the new liaison!

H&I Liaison: Mike – All is good

Spanish Liaison: Marge – n/p, report – not too much to report, would like to stay on as liaison.

Zonypaa Liaison: Ryan – Statewide Convention bid committee put together by Flagstaff group. This is very excited to see people stepping up for service!

Sub District 08-818: N/P –

Sub District 08-819: Jason – I am outgoing DCM for 819. If your group is doesn't have a GSR, then come talk to me. We meet at St Peter Luther. Lois new DCM

Sub District 08-820: N/P –

Tom- We truly value our partnerships with General Service, Zonypaa, H&I, Alanon! We thank you all the liaison for their service. We truly appreciate the partnership

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

Tom- One item that is not on the agenda. The office computer is on windows 7 and it about to lose support from Microsoft. The computer is about 10 years old, so it is time to get a new one. We did a vote at Steering Committee. We wanted to use the overage funds in the prudent reserve. Steering Committee approved cost up to \$1200. Wanted a vote or consensus on computer.

Ryan- instead of dipping into funds couldn't you just wait until 2020 budget for office funds?

Tom- Good Questions, yes- we wanted to get this done while there are holiday deals going on.

Gary- Does this cost include all software? Tom- Yes

Call to vote- Passed, 3 opposed Buddy- buy Apple!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Holiday List! Please grab one!

Also, grab some Holiday Tips book and items on the back table!

Ron- just wanted to welcome all the new reps. Please grab one of these for new reps. I know it was already announced.

The Way Out group moved to All Saints Catholic Church on Recker. We meet Thursday nights at 7PM.

Group Problems & Solutions: none

Close Meeting: Motion to close - ALL!!

Thank you,

Andrea



We've All Got a Story to Tell

From the January 1998 Grapevine.

Very early in my sobriety, my sponsor decided I was going to help him run an AA meeting in the local prison. He had volunteered to start a meeting there because no one else wanted to take it on. He told me, "We're chairing a meeting at the Alhambra prison beginning this Thursday night. Then in a few months, you will be giving the AA introduction briefings on Tuesdays."

My first thought was that I had nothing to offer at that facility. I hadn't gone to prison though I had been jailed for driving while intoxicated. I told him what I was thinking and he said, "Don't worry about it, you'll do fine."

As the time grew nearer for the meeting, I became more apprehensive, but I knew that my sponsor would not let me out of it. We went to the prison and met the inside sponsor, the local chaplain. I was happily surprised to find that the meeting was like any other I had attended except for the locked doors and guards outside.

There were only five of us at the meeting so everyone shared. I talked about getting arrested for a DWI on the way to do harm to my wife. I described calling her and hearing a man's voice. Although we were separated and she had started divorce proceedings, I completely lost it. I remembered charging out of my apartment with the intent to kill them both. My story ended with me coming out of a blackout in a jail cell. I had blood on my clothes and no recollection of what had happened. When I asked the guards why I was there, they just said, "Shut up." The computer system used for booking was down, and it took over thirteen hours for me to find out how I had gotten there, and just what I had done. They finally booked me, and I learned that I hadn't hurt anyone. I was so relieved that I started laughing. The booking officer asked me, "What's so funny?" I told him, "You wouldn't understand."

After the meeting, one of the prisoners came up to me and angrily asked me what the chaplain had told me about him. I said I didn't know what he was talking about. He stared at me for a long time and then said, "That was my story you told tonight. The only difference was that there was no cop to stop me and I killed them both." I felt as if he had hit me in the stomach.

At that moment I knew that I owed the cop who had arrested me a thank you. I also knew that there was nowhere in AA I couldn't go.

-- G.P.
Phoenix, Arizona

-- **ANONYMOUS** Phoenix, Arizona

The bottom line is that, assuming I could control my drinking even to a *limited* extent (which I know from past experience is impossible), what possible benefit would it be if I could not enjoy it? I think this is why the authors of the Big Book used both words in explaining the nature of our illness.

Personally, the only lasting enjoyment I have ever had in this life is through faith, hope, and belief in "a power greater than myself," who is not only restoring me to sanity in spite of myself, but is unconditionally loving and understanding me--a person who cannot now, or ever, enjoy his drinking.

Get Published!

Send your articles, jokes, poems and artwork to Rick T. info@aamesaaz.org