

OCTOBER

2020

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Mesa, AZ 85204
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Send your articles, jokes, poems and artwork
to Rick T. info@aamesaaz.org

NO BOOZE NEWS

Step Ten: Beginning of the Maintenance Steps

Understanding the Disease of Alcoholism Takes Time
By Rick R.

After being in the program for a while, it occurred to me that initially, there was no way I could have performed all the measures suggested in the steps on my first go-around. Coming from an alcoholic's approach to the issues we plan to address, we eventually come to understand that we can only give it our best effort to start the process. Understanding the disease of alcoholism takes time. We can however establish a framework without concluding

that we have completed the steps. As we continue to grow in the program more will be revealed about the steps taken and that is where step 10 becomes the opportunity to revisit past steps and fill in the empty spaces as we evolve. That does not mean that we cannot address those issues when we become aware of them. If we stay sober long enough to get to this level of understanding we will continue to repair our broken relations with others and clear up legal, marital and financial problems that can be a distraction when it comes to looking at the deeper rooted emotional, mental and spiritual issues. We cannot ignore the need for up-keep and maintenance in the program no more than we can ignore the Up-keep and maintenance when we purchase a new car. Brake shoes wear thin, oil gets dirty, coolant evaporates etc.... The same effect takes place in the process of recovery. If we become complacent at any level of this process, as it often happens, we may relapse or, miss out on the promises set forth in step nine.

Step Ten, "Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it". (BB Pg. 59) I believe that most of the members of A.A. that actually go through the steps, as suggested in the Big Book, have been doing this to some degree since they became aware of it in the 4th and 5th steps, and the reason why they reintroduced us to this topic in the tenth step was to make it clear that we will continue to do this for the rest of our lives. We are never finished when it comes to taking the steps. There is a line that we cross if we are committed to the goal of becoming the best we can be in life and that is where we stop asking "Why we must do all the things that the program suggests" to a point where we start asking the question "Why wouldn't we do these things that result in freedom of the mind. The biggest misconception that we have is the idea that, somehow, we are responsible for becoming an alcoholic and this is simply not the case.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Actually the Central Office belongs to all Groups everywhere; it is your good-will and financial support which makes it possible; it is one of your main contacts with the general public and it is one of your principal means of carrying the 12th step of the A.A. program to untold thousands of alcoholic sick people who don't yet know they can get well. - **Bill W. June 1944**

Alcoholism is a disease that we did not have the capacity to decide to become afflicted with when we were born. You might say that alcoholism is a byproduct of guilt, shame, and low self-esteem based on habits and deeds of the past. When we took our first drink it did something for us than it did not do for the normal person. It masks all our fears and insecurities temporarily but did not erase those embarrassing behaviors from our minds and our conscience. We behaved poorly as we evolved through our adolescence and young adulthood due to the fears and inhibitions associated with alcoholism. Who could fault the person who discovers they have a disease, takes it upon themselves to treat that disease, restores and accounts for all the faulty behaviors that stem from that disease, makes restitution and becomes a model citizen? This is the natural development that evolves as the result of taking the steps and continue the up-keep and maintenance process and I Thank God that the program of Alcoholics Anonymous has taken one hell of a load off my mind and I am at peace mentally when my head hits the pillow at night.

Many thanks to Rick R. for always submitting great articles!

Attraction Rather than Promotion

FROM THE NOVEMBER 2004 GRAPEVINE

This AA member wondered: Why shouldn't AA have its own postage stamp?

Several years ago, around 1977, I wrote the Grapevine, trying to drum up support for a United States and Canadian postal stamp celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous. I had, through other connections, secured support and had received letters of recommendation for the stamp from members of congress, senators, and professional alcoholism counseling organizations. Needless to say, I was very disappointed to get the Grapevine's response, referring to Tradition Eleven and declining to publish any article that would encourage AA members to write letters of support.

As history shows, no stamp featuring Alcoholics Anonymous was ever issued. As time passed, I began to better understand the intention behind our Traditions and see the wisdom in the Grapevine's decision.

The Traditions are for our group's unity, a suggested "way of life," just as the Steps are for recovery. They also have benefit in personal recovery. Being self-supporting, having an ultimate authority--a loving God--and staying out of public controversy have all benefited my recovery and serenity. It was the AA way of life that the members of my first home group lived that kept me coming back long enough to find sobriety and ultimately to celebrate life in recovery.

BY: RONALD S. | PRESCOTT VALLEY, ARIZONA



Get Published!

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

Words From the Big Book

This thought brings us to Step Ten, which suggests we continue to take personal inventory and continue to set right any new mistakes as we go along. We vigorously commenced this way of living as we cleaned up the past. We have entered the world of the Spirit. Our next function is to grow in understanding and effectiveness. This is not an overnight matter. It should continue for our lifetime. Continue to watch for selfishness, dishonesty, resentment, and fear. When these crop up, we ask God at once to remove them. We discuss them with someone immediately and make amends quickly if we have harmed anyone. Then we resolutely turn our thoughts to someone we can help. Love and tolerance of others is our code. **PG 84**

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: 1855 E Southern Ave. #103 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

VERDE VALLEY ROUNDUP

OCTOBER 30 - NOV.1
JACKPOT RANCH, CAMP VERDE AZ

TRAIL TO SERENITY, HAVASU STYLE

NOVEMBER 12 ~ 15, 2020
LAKE HAVASU STATE PARK
699 LONDON BRIDGE RD, LAKE HAVASU, AZ 86403
TRAILTOSerenity.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 18 ~ 21, 2021
CHARLOTTE NC
INTERNATIONALWOMENSCONFERENCE.ORG



Looks like most events are shut down or going to online formats. Check the events page on our website periodically. We will post information as it becomes available.



Charming Is the Word for Alcoholics

JULY 1944 Grapevine

Down at the very bottom of the social scale of A.A. society are the pariahs, the untouchables and the outcasts, all under-privileged and all known by one excoriating epithet--relatives.

I am a relative. I know my place. I am not complaining. But I hope no one will mind if I venture the plaintive confession that there are times, oh, many times when I wish I had been an alcoholic. By that I mean that I wish I were an A.A. The reason is that I consider the A.A. people the most charming in the world.

Such is my considered opinion. As a journalist it has been my fortune to meet many of the people who are considered charming. I number among my friends stars and lesser lights of stage and cinema; writers are my daily diet; I know the ladies and gentlemen of both political parties; I have been entertained in the White House; I have broken bread with kings and ministers and ambassadors; and I say, after that catalog, which could be extended, that I would prefer an evening with my A.A. friends to any person or group of persons I have indicated.

I asked myself why I consider so charming these alcoholic caterpillars who have found their butterfly wings in Alcoholics Anonymous. There are more reasons than one, but I can name a few.

BY: FULTON OURSLER



Area 03

2020 November Assembly

Virtual

area03.org for details

Casa Grande to Host





Name Date Days

Thomas S.....	10/17/1981	14245
Larry R.	10/3/1983	13515
Lenay L.	10/7/1984	13149
George D.	10/20/1984	13149
Louise G.....	10/25/1984	13149
Mike C.	10/12/1985	12812
Shap W.	10/18/1985	12784
Harry L.	10/28/1985	12784
Jim S.	10/10/1986	12419
BJ W.	10/27/1986	12419
Pat P.	10/18/1987	12054
Shirley B.....	10/8/1988	11688
George P.	10/2/1992	10227
Denis W.	10/26/1992	10227
Lucy W.	10/11/1995	9132
Juanita A.	10/28/1995	9132
Irene D.	10/21/1996	8766
Terry T.	10/6/1997	8401
Lisa B.	10/13/1997	8401
Dave H.	10/14/1998	8036
Dennis R.	10/23/1998	8036
Dan D.	10/18/1999	7671
Rebecka L.....	10/5/2000	7305
Dana T.	10/16/2000	7305
Danny S.	10/22/2001	6940
David R.	10/3/2003	6210
Mike P.	10/9/2003	6210
Kristina F.....	10/23/2004	5844
Shelby T.....	10/1/2005	5479
Diane B.	10/7/2005	5479
Robin W.	10/12/2005	5479
Archie T.....	10/10/2006	5114
Katie S.	10/8/2008	4383
Robert S.....	10/13/2008	4383
Nathan U.....	10/20/1008	4383
Sherry B.....	10/21/2008	4383
Vida J.	10/17/2009	4018
Peggy J.	10/23/2009	4018
Skip P.	10/10/2010	3653
Adrian M.....	10/21/2010	3653
Jerry C.	10/25/2010	3653
Jeff K.....	10/27/2010	3653
April T.....	10/28/2010	3653
Peggy K.....	10/21/2012	2922
Gussie O.....	10/27/2012	2922
Paul B.	10/1/2013	2557
Penny N.	10/3/2013	2557
Jack B.	10/10/2013	2557
Harry B.....	10/16/2014	2192
Richard E.....	10/8/2015	1827
Paige L.....	10/17/2015	1827
Adam K.	10/19/2015	1827
Angie G.....	10/29/2015	1827
Katrina A.	10/6/2016	1461
Andrew S.....	10/20/2016	1461
Brianna R.....	10/22/2016	1461
Maria W.....	10/29/2016	1461
Gail H.....	10/30/2018	731
Jean-Paul R.....	10/26/2019	366

Step Ten~ Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

Tradition Ten~ Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Concept Ten~ Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

A drunk was arrested for selling home-distilled whiskey. At the trial, his lawyer put him on the stand and asked the jurors to look carefully at his client.

At Wits End

"Now, ladies and gentleman of the jury," concluded the lawyer, "you've looked carefully at the defendant. Can you sit there in the jury and honestly believe that if my client had any whiskey he would sell it?"

He was acquitted.

—**Bob M., Green Valley, Ariz.**

At his first AA meeting, a newcomer reported that the detox he just got out of was the worst ever. That trip, he shared, included a case of the DTs in which he hallucinated the Seven Deadly Dwarfs: Grumpy, Greedy, Whiney, Lazy, Snotty, Piggy and Sleazy.

—**Stan M., Torrance, Calif.**



Get Published!

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



PI / CPC

(Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community)

Meets 1st Monday's at 7:00pm

1855 E Southern Ave #103

(EVI Office) and on Zoom

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 or visit our website

aamesaaz.org

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

480 827-1905

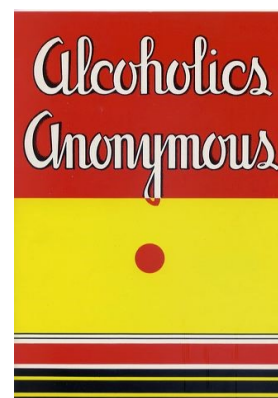
**EVI Sponsorship Workshop**

10am the 1st Saturday of every other month

Check aamesaaz.org for location information

Contact: Jerry C.

HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

September 5th ~ TBD

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

Check aamesaaz.org for location information

contact: 480 827-1905

EVI Monthly Speaker Meeting

1st Friday of Every Month

Meeting Now At 7:30pm

Check aamesaaz.org for location information

October 2nd ~ The Society

November 6th ~ Gilbert Gals

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.

***** Regular Shifts Available *****

Central Office Manager's Report

September 18, 2020

In August we received 459 requests for information and assistance. Of those 136 calls were for meeting info, 110 were office visitors and 9 resulted in a good old fashioned 12 step call. Our Google listing also receives steady traffic. Our Google totals for July are 4,414 searches resulting in 305 visits to our website and 29 calls. Our website stays busy too with 22,004 visits in the last 30 days. We are seeing a few events popping up in the future. Keep checking the Events page at aamesaaz.org.

We have received a large book/literature order and have plenty of stock available. It included several of the F-211 service piece, "Safety Card For A.A. Groups". This is a safety statement made available from GSO for Groups who would like to read it at their meetings.

The website glitch with event times has been corrected, no more events at 2am. We have removed the Online Meeting page as it was not user friendly. Online and Zoom meetings are now being listed along with the in-person meetings and can be sorted by meeting type "online". This also updates the Meeting Guide app with the online meetings. Please check your meetings listing and if it is not correct let me know.

Please discuss with your group the service opportunities that are available thru your East Valley Intergroup. Answer the A.A. hotline, go on an old fashioned 12 step call, take a meeting to a home bound member, share information about A.A. with the public and professional community, help put on an event, print and fold directories and newsletters or take a shift at the office. These are just a few of the services we provide and it takes hundreds of volunteers. Please take some Gratitude with Service forms back to your group and encourage them to volunteer. The life you save may be your own.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight, Love and Service

Kim Watkins

Central Office Manager

East Valley Intergroup

EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

	Aug	2020
Meeting Information Calls.....	136	1215
General Information	100	886
Referred to Salt River Intergroup	6	48
Referred to Al-Anon.....	13	82
Referred to Community Info.....	0	0
12th Step Calls	9	99
Business Calls	85	787
Office Visitors	110	870
Meeting lists printed.....	400	3100
Info request via E-mail	76	670
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/None.....	24/ 12/ 2	
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YTD.		776hrs

Web Stats

Website Visits last 30 days 22,004 YTD 262,440

Google Searches last 30 days 4,414

Meeting List Updates...

Our website (aamesaaz.org) is being updated weekly. Check it out for the latest on which groups are meeting.

New Meetings:

Good Orderly Direction	241 Queen Anne Dr. Queen Valley	MO 7:00p	O
	(Queen Valley Baptist Church)		
Happy Destiny	5764 E Hunt Hwy. San Tan Valley	TU 6:00p	O
	(American Legion Community Center)		
Serenity Now	655 S Crismon Rd. Mesa	SU, MO, WE 9:30a	O
	(Skyline Park N of RR)		

The Patio Group 4040 W Ray Rd. Chandler Every Day 7:00a O

Changes: Too many to mention.

Deletions:

East Valley Intergroup ** NEW **
1855 E Southern Ave. Suite # 103
Mesa, AZ 85204

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

Area 03 Treasurer ** NEW **
PO Box 3691
Gilbert AZ 85299
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



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

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



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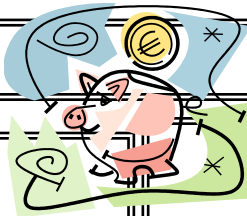
GROUP	Aug	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		\$145.00
2121 Beginner Workshop		\$0.00
417 Group	\$350.00	\$524.29
A Vision For You Group	\$150.00	\$150.00
ABC Group		\$0.00
Ahwatukee Group		\$400.00
Ahwatukee Nooners		\$500.00
Ahwatukee Saturday Men's	\$1.85	\$438.35
Ahwatukee Women's Group	\$140.00	\$393.06
Arbor Daily Noon Group		\$800.00
As Bill Sees It QC		\$310.33
As You Wake Up		\$25.00
Attitude Adjustment CG		\$60.00
Attitude of Gratitude		\$0.00
Basic II		\$200.00
BBookworms		\$20.00
Bloopers		\$0.00
Bootstrap Men's		\$0.00
Both Books		\$0.00
Breakfast Club		\$0.00
Busted Ego		\$250.00
By The Book		\$122.43
Chandler Men's Stag Group		\$240.00
Chandler Noon Group	\$248.00	\$1,506.40
Chandler Women's Big Book Group		\$262.50
Common Solution		\$500.00
Common Thread		\$787.04
Copper Basin Group		\$0.00
Courage To Change	\$150.00	\$150.00
Dog Tired	\$300.00	\$300.00
East Valley Men's Stag	\$252.00	\$886.00
East Valley Veterans		\$20.00
Easy Does It Group	\$88.87	\$710.96
Eye Opener Group		\$600.00
Fae Pack		\$375.25
Family Recovery Group		\$0.00
Fill in the Blank		\$325.39
Firehouse Meeting		\$350.00
Florence Group		\$70.00
Friday Night BB, Step Study		\$454.00
Friends Of Bill W.		\$115.00
Get It Together		\$998.79
Gilbert Gals		\$0.00
Gilbert Group		\$150.00
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group		\$102.96
Good Ol' Back to Basics		\$300.00
Grateful Girlfriends		\$200.00
Gratitude Group		\$575.00
Great Start	\$200.00	\$650.00
Gut Level		\$0.00
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		\$150.00
How It Works		\$40.00
Into Action	\$210.00	\$210.00
Keepin It Real Ladies		\$424.30
Life In The Big Book	\$50.00	\$303.00
Livin Life		\$0.00
Maricopa 12 X 12	\$40.00	\$80.00
Maricopa Group	\$50.00	\$150.00
Mid-Morning Group		\$200.00
Monday Night Madness		\$100.00
Morning After Group		\$0.00
Name In The Hat		\$488.20
New Beginnings		\$100.00
New Hope Group		\$0.00
New Spirit Group		\$750.00
No Name AA Group	\$50.00	\$150.00
Not A Glum Lot		\$0.00
Opportunity Knocks		\$200.00
Page A Day	\$24.00	\$2,031.27

GROUP	Aug.	YTD
Pioneer Group	\$46.00	\$416.60
Price Is Right	\$101.20	\$156.95
Primary Purpose Group		\$300.00
Prime Time		\$0.00
Progress Rather Than Perfektion		\$0.00
Putting God First		\$0.00
Queen Creek Nooners	\$57.50	\$1,006.31
Re-Awakening Group		\$20.00
Remember When		\$0.00
Renewed Spirit		\$250.00
Rising Spirit		\$523.01
Road To Recovery	\$896.12	\$4,997.34
Rock Solid		\$130.00
San Tan Men's		\$100.00
Second Chance Group	\$40.00	\$336.00
Serenity Now	\$209.50	\$549.50
Shade Tree		\$150.00
Sisterhood Of Solutions		\$151.68
Sobriety is Gold		\$400.00
Sobriety Rocks		\$0.00
Society Group	\$1000.00	\$51,00.00
Solutions Group		\$0.00
Some Are Sicker Than Others		\$175.00
Southeast Valley Stag		\$588.13
Spirited Women		\$87.75
Step By Step Group		\$117.16
Stepping Stones		\$583.50
Sunday Afternoon Step		\$200.00
Sunday Night BB Step Study		\$0.00
Sunday Serenity Seekers		\$343.50
Sun Lakes Women Serenity Seeker		\$225.00
Sunland Serenity Seekers		\$0.00
Sunset Group		\$50.00
Tempe Group		\$205.00
Tempe Nooners		\$325.00
Tempe Sunrisers		\$0.00
Tempe Young People		\$0.00
The Library		\$0.00
The Real Thing		\$0.00
The Way Out Group	\$175.00	\$796.00
Thursday Night Step Group		\$0.00
Tuesday Night Steppin Out		\$200.00
Tuesday's Trudgers		\$0.00
Tumbleweeds Group	\$120.00	\$771.36
Upon Awakening	\$700.00	\$2150.00
We Ain't Dead Yet		\$65.00
We Agnostics	\$77.94	\$406.59
We Can Group		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Step		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Winners		\$0.00
Welcome Home		\$450.00
West Chandler Men's		\$0.00
Who's Driving Your Bus?		\$0.00
Wolf Pack Group	\$50.00	\$100.00
Women in Gratitude		\$0.00
Women in Solution		\$30.00
Women in Touch		\$168.55
Wonder Women		\$200.00
*Anonymous Groups		\$339.00

OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTEES

Apache Lake Campout		\$0.00
AZ AA Women's Conf.		\$500.00
Dist 08-818		\$0.00
Dist 08-819		\$0.00
Meal and a Message	\$500.00	\$500.00
Group Totals	\$6,267.98	\$40,008.45
EVI Committees	\$21.00	\$331.39
Individual Contributions ...	\$1,724.20	\$8,013.00
GRAND TOTALS	\$8,013.18	\$48,352.84

(*Group contribution with no group name listed)



BALANCE SHEET Aug. 31, 2020

Assets

Current Assets

Checking	6,317.52
Prudent Reserve (Savings)	24,784.19
Accounts Receivable	1,019.45
Inventory Asset	26,746.96
Undeposited Funds	-21.40

Fixed Assets

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

Total Assets **\$63,931.62**

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	0.00
Visa Credit Card	30.79
Payroll taxes	199.72

Total Liabilities **\$230.51**

Equity

Opening Balance Equity	43,778.94
Retained Earnings	24,503.74
Net Income	-4,581.57

Total Equity **\$63,701.11**

Total Liability & Equity **\$62,931.62**

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT Aug. 2020

35 Group contributions totaling	\$6,267.98
24 Individual contributions totaling	\$1,724.20
Intergroup Business Meeting & Service Committee's 7th Tradition	\$21.00

Total Contributions **\$8,013.18**

Total Income **\$12,786.22**

Less total Cost Of Sales **\$3,647.43**

Gross Profit **\$9,138.79**

Less total Expenses of **\$6,285.67**

Net Aug Gain **\$2,853.11**

YTD 2020 Loss **(\$4,601.04)**

The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$24,784.19
The Prudent Reserve has been
established for 2020 in the amount of \$27,817.34

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

Grateful to be of service,
Ron S. EVI Treasurer
fullflight@cox.net

Traditions Checklist

Tradition Ten: Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?

2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"?

3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?

4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?

5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?

6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious ways?

7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?

East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2020

Meeting Opened at 7PM via Zoom

Opened with the Serenity Prayer

12 Traditions read by Ryan.

Attendees: Tom N. - EVI Chair, Maria D. - EVI Secretary, Eddie - Boot Straps, Denise D. - Chandler Noon Group, Sharon B. - Stepping Stones, Wesley H. - EVI Vice Chair, Shari L. - Sobriety is Gold, Lois L. - DCM 08-819, Travis M. - Serenity Now, Vicki B. - cochair phones, Nancy L. - Both Books Step Study, Tearsa C. - DCM 08-818, Corie R. - Chandler Women's BB, Bill - GIT, Ron S. - EVI Treasurer, Marc S. - Alt. Page a Day, Stephen S. - Men's Shade Tree, Larry S. - Phone Advisor Steering Committee, Marna W. - The Way Out, Jerry C. - Page a Day, Wendy H. - Serenity Now, Laura K. - Patio Group, Dave K. - Unity Chair, Grant L. - 417 group, Noah G. - Ahwatukee Men's Group, Beth H. - phone chair, Bill B. - DCM 08-820, Ryan D. - Tempe Young Peoples, Ed D. - East Valley Vets, Stacy G. - Sometimes Quickly Sometimes Slowly, Rose M. - Happy Hour Sunbird, John H. - SASTO, Lori K. - Courage to Change, Mary D. - Women in Gratitude, Mindy S. - The Society, Ken C. - Sunset, Barb M. - Advisor to Unity Committee, Jason H. - East PHX Men's STAG, Tom C. - PI/CPC Chair, Debbie C. - Society GSR /ALT-DCM 08-820

(This list was compiled from the names each rep typed into their Zoom screen.)

New Reps: Stacy G. - Sometimes Quickly Sometimes Slowly, Marc S. Alt. - Page A Day, Wendy P. - Alt Serenity Now, Stephen S. - Men's Shade Tree Group, Ryan D. - Tempe Young People's group.

Committee and other Trusted Servants:

Service Position	Name	Service Position	Name	Service Position	Name
Chair	Tom C	Office Manager	Kim W	H&I Liaison	Wendy H
V. Chair	Wesley H	Chair- Special E.	Jay J.	Spanish Liaison	Marge M
Treasurer	Ron S	Chair- PI/CPC	Tom C	Al-anon Liaison	Warren E
Secretary	Maria D	Chair- Phones	Beth H	DCM 08-818	Tearsa C
Advisor- Special E.	Gary L	Chair- Unity	Dave K	DCM 08-819	Lois L
Advisor- PI/CPC	VACANT	Chair- Sponsorship	Jerry C	DCM 08-820	Bill B
Advisor- Phones	Larry S	No Booze News	Rick S	ZONYPAA	Megan P
Advisor- Unity	Barb M	Literature	Eric		

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announces The Church of the
ny is opening, we may consider a
meeting for October.

tary's Report: Maria D. - Tom N.
to read the meeting minutes from
Maria noted that she had not up-
list of Committee members in the
above and would correct that.
to accept as amended by Ken C.,
ed by Mary., motion passed.

urer's Report: Ron S. Report
on screen.

new address is 1855 E. South-

Question about prudent reserve. Answer-We are under prudent reserve by about \$3,000.

Contributions are still coming in consistently.

We will be simplifying the graph going back 2½ years. Questions?

Motion to accept - Travis M., second Stacy G., Motion passed.

Tom mentions an unusual circumstance. Ron described the resulting action by the Steering Committee to refund money to correct a mistaken contribution. See notes from September Steering Committee Meeting.

7th Tradition: You can make a 7th tradition contribution on the EVI website. www.aamesaaz.org

Chairperson's Report: Tom N. reads info received from the Baltimore group about how groups may behave, that we do not act outside the law. Tom stated that Maricopa County requires masks for those over the age of six. Kim W. included in the office manger's report, "Suggested Statement on Safety" which is timely.

Office Manager: N/P - Kim W.

She is attending the Office Manager's Seminar - ICOAA . See report on page 7.

Vice Chair's Report: Wesley H.

No written report. Missed a lot of meetings this month.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PI/CPC: Tom C.

Minutes of our meeting are in the report. Tom recapped.

Monthly meetings (First Monday of the Month) held at the new EVI office plus Zoom meeting hybrid.

We have a small but very active group who is doing some worthwhile activities.

We are doing an inventory of what literature is available in valley libraries. They traditionally stock the Big Book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and Living Sober. Citizens can request they stock these items.

We are drafting a letter to lawyers that will include letting them know secular meetings are available.

Special Events: N/P – Jay J.

Phone committee: Beth H.

Beth and Vicki will be stepping down as phone chair and vice phone chair at the end of this year.

We held another successful Zoom phone training tonight.

We are updating phone volunteer list. Please respond by email to Beth H.

Unity Committee: Dave K.

Unity Committee met twice this month.

Primary goal is to reach out to “dark” meeting; one’s that we are not sure if they still exist and/or if they have EVI representation.

If you would like to do service work with the Unity committee, please contact me.

Sponsorship Workshop: Jerry C.

Zoom meeting will be held in November 7th.

No Booze News (NBN) Newsletter Editor: N/P – Rick

Provided written report. He is asking for articles to be submitted to EVI. We want to showcase local writers.

An amazing story would be one from a person who got sober during quarantine. Rick is willing to interview someone if they feel uncomfortable with writing.

Literature: N/P – Eric J.

LIASION REPORTS

Al-anon Liaison: N/P – Warren E.

H&I Liaison: Wendy H. - Just appointed. Congrats Wendy!

Spanish Liaison N/P – Marge M.

Attending women’s Spanish meetings.

Marge is not present because she is attending a 13 year sobriety celebration for a woman in the Hispanic community.

Zonypaa Liaison: N/P – Megan P.

Sub District 08-818: Tearsa C.

Meetings have been on Zoom.

Just attended the August Assembly

We have active ad hoc committees.

818, 819, 820 will be working together on hosting the post conference assembly in June 2021.

Sub District 08-819: Lois L.

We are part of the 2021 post conference assembly Host committee

Thursday Sept 24th at 7pm is the next committee meeting on Zoom

We held our meeting as hybrid. It has been successful.

Free Zoom accounts available from The Intergroup Association of AA of New York. Website: <https://www.nyintergroup.org/remote-meetings/>

Sub District 08-820: Bill B.

Switching over to hybrid meetings

Joining the ladies on 2020 post conference host committee for June

OLD BUSINESS:

We still have an open position of advisor to the PI/CPC committee. Tom N. has someone who is interested, hope to have that filled by next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tom N. reports Steering Committee decided to get a Zoom account for EVI use. The link may be changing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sometimes Quickly Sometimes Slowly meeting held Tuesday evenings at 6pm on Zoom needs you support. Please come by! Go to Zoom link on the EVI meeting list.

Nancy motions to close, seconded, passed.

I am responsible. When anyone anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there and for that I am responsible.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service, *Maria Davis*

The Angriest Newcomer

From the SEPTEMBER 2015 Grapevine

She was desperate to take the edge off, but afraid to go back to her vodka martinis

I joke in meetings that when I finally get around to writing my book, it'll be made into a TV movie and everyone watching it will cry. I've even picked out a theme song, "Highland Cathedral"—on the bagpipes. Here's the tagline: "She had it all, she lost it all and she got some of it back."

In 1999, I had a good career, a corner office in a high-rise building, a house in the suburbs, a great credit rating, a car, money in the bank, three cats, one dog and my self-respect. I had my favorite barstool at the strip club, and I drank a lot of vodka martinis made from a specific brand of imported vodka.

As a direct result of my love of vodka martinis, a judge ordered me to attend AA meetings for six months. But I didn't want to stay sober longer than the hour I had to sit in the meeting. I remember hearing them say that if I was an alcoholic and continued to drink, my life would get worse. I didn't believe them. When the six months were up, I was done with AA. I was 41.

Over the next few years, I drank more vodka and discovered I had some "outside issues." I lost everything but the car and moved in with some guy I'd met in a bar. Then I got my career back briefly, before I lost everything again, including the car. I wound up homeless. Well, not really homeless. I was reasonably attractive, intelligent and ruthless, so I always had shelter. Most of the time, I had food. My friends and family found me a few months later, emaciated and feral. A friend took me in for a while and later co-signed for a mortgage on a new home. I was becoming a human again.

I admitted I had a problem. My friend suggested out-patient group therapy. After listening to my story, my counselor there told me that I needed to go to AA, get a sponsor and work the Steps. I told her I was too busy because I was trying to make up the money I had wasted on my last binge. I stayed dry for 27 days. My relationship with my counselor ended a few months later, when I left a drunken message on her voicemail.

Then my friend suggested in-patient rehab, so I put my name on a waiting list. But while I was waiting, I got the opportunity to tie one on. I went to a bar intending to have two drinks, but I stayed out all night drinking and partying. I missed my friend's important brunch the next day. I was furious that I had messed up again and furious that I had missed that brunch. I called my friend and apologized. That was December 7, 2009.

I called some numbers she gave me and stormed into an AA meeting. I don't know if I was the angriest newcomer my home group has ever seen, but I'm probably in the top 10. I was still in denial about my alcoholism, but although I desperately needed a drink to take the edge off, I was afraid to drink. I hoped that AA could keep me sober long enough to get to rehab, which I hoped would cure me of my outside issues. After rehab, I figured I would go back to my 10-martini Fridays.

The people at the meeting gave me words of encouragement, but I bellowed, "You all don't understand how bad I've messed up my life! Y'all don't understand all I've done!" The chair told me, "It's OK, calm down. You're in the right place." But she kept her hand on her cellphone in case she needed to call the police. After the meeting, I saw one of our members trying to help a guy through the DTs. The member had bought the guy a can of cheap malt liquor, the same brand of malt liquor I used to drink when I was homeless and couldn't afford my fancy vodka. I told the guy about a blackout I had from drinking that brand of malt liquor, and it hit me: Oh man. I really am an alcoholic! I decided to get with the AA program and have stayed sober ever since.

Some of my former colleagues have taken early retirement, but I'm starting over. I'm renting a desk at my sponsor's building, but at least I have my career back. I try to be thankful for what I have, and not dwell on what I've lost. I sleep in the same place every night. I pay the rent and the utilities every month. I have food in the refrigerator, money in the bank and cat food in the pantry.

Yes, when I was a year and two days sober, I got a cat. At two years sober, I bought an old clunker of a car. I don't make as much money as I did in 1999, but my needs are a lot simpler now that I'm not buying rounds at the strip club.

And best of all, AA gave me my self-respect back.

—Anonymous