

2021

East Valley
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www.aamesaaz.org

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

NO BOOZE NEWS

A Letter from Keith

Step Nine: We made direct amends to such people wherever possible except when to do so would injure them or others.

To avoid taking this step places my Recovery in jeopardy. As my behaviors changed, I no longer left behind a path of chaos and destruction! My false fears, false pride, and procrastination stood in the way of my experiencing a dynamic recovery. There have been instances where the damage I caused would be most difficult for others to forgive. Nonetheless, I made amends for that to the best of my ability. Opportunity may only present itself once. Timing is essential. There have been times when making amends was beyond my means. It's been said freedom isn't free!

Making my amends is necessary for me to live free from guilt, shame, and remorse. They held me hostage far too long. Such facts must never be barriers to contacting those I've harmed. Talking with my sponsor acts as an insurance policy. Taking to heart all suggestions, I'm able to reconcile truth from fantasy. Thus began my journey towards seeking inner peace and tranquility. Honesty, willingness, and faith are requirements for my amends to hold value and significance in my life. Apart from learning to live life on life's

Quote of the Month

"On his desk, Dr. Bob had a plaque defining humility: 'Perpetual quietness of heart.

It is to have no trouble. It is never to be fretted or vexed, irritable or sore; to wonder at nothing that is done to me, to feel nothing done against me.

It is to be at rest when nobody praises me, and when I am blamed or despised, it is to have a blessed home in myself where I can go in and shut the door and kneel to my Father in secret and be at peace, as in a deep sea of calmness, when all around and about is seeming trouble."

BY: DR. BOB AND THE GOOD OLDTIMERS

terms is knowing today when I need help from others. The most dangerous thing I can do is start thinking I can make all decisions alone! Humility must be foremost when approaching others harmed. My words must be chosen with compassion and sincerity. That's one aspect of the amends process. Living daily my amends allows change to take root in my personality and behaviors. This I do whether others change or not! Whether others forgive me or not!

My growth must move ahead at any cost. There will be times when indirect amends may be necessary. The cleaning of my side of the street resulted with ease of mind, body, and soul.

Today, I can accept my past behaviors. I accept others where they are without conditions or expectations! There may be those who choose not to forgive me. Forgiveness arrives on their schedule not ours. This has proven emotionally challenging. Healing takes time. My deepest amend is that I have changed for the better. If I doubt my growth the threat of returning to active drinking and drugging lingers awaiting the opportunity for return to insanity. This is why I remind myself all I have is a twenty-four-hour reprieve contingent upon my practice of spiritual principles in all my affairs! I'm not the person I was upon arrival to Alcoholics Anonymous twelve years ago! My

social, spiritual, and emotional life is a visible expression of amends in action! Everyday completed sober is a day living amends to myself, others, and my Higher Power. Reconciliation is a valuable spiritual tool. Turning to someone I've harmed was scary! There was tension until completed.

Page 2

My past injustices still hurt and can remain in the deep recesses of a person's heart and mind. It is never my intention to rehash past sufferings or translate them into suffering for the future of others. Taking Step Nine, I experienced many strong emotions that I could not process appropriately alone. I knew stuffing them down inside wasn't the answer. Thank God for sponsorship! I've learned to express my feelings, go through, and grow through the circumstance in time. This at times ending in tears. A.A. has given me the promises talked about. Reconciliation is restoring balance in my life. One thing I'm certain of, is that recovery will never be completed. There are no caps and gowns for graduation. Recovery comes in layers. Today, I still have unresolved issues and areas of brokenness. Failure to pursue wholeness as a person can hinder spiritual maturity. It takes practice to become good at what we choose. I must give time - time.

Today, my life centers around others. Giving when and where I can, gives me a sense of belonging. It's the upper hand which is greater than the lower hand! What a relief to longer be a burden! My new life does not excuse me from past obligations. Before moving ahead towards that which is better, I must face unfinished business from my past. I cannot assume forgiveness from others, although I can hope for it. My working Step Nine is focusing on others and working my best to make amends. This a major part of Recovery. Pain cannot deter me. It's at times like these I surrender to my Higher Power, call my sponsor, and make meetings! Just keeping things simple allows time for the arrival of the miracle. For every positive choice I make today it's matched with unexpected opportunity.

Keith N. - Inmate AZDOC - Florence

(Thank you again to John H. for his continued service.)

I am Just Learning How to do Life.

Right Back at You Grand-Pa

By Rick R.

When my grandson was in preschool, and after many hours with him, talking about everything from stars and space to bugs and animals, and trying to give him the best perspective I could about how to respond to life issues at a level that he could understand. He came home from school one day and told me that one of the boys in his class was being bad and had gotten into trouble. I tried to explain to him that the boy was not bad, he was just misbehaving and that he was too young to be bad. (5yrs. Old) I explained to him that maybe that boy did not have someone who could teach him how to behave properly. He continued the conversation and asked ("grandpa, if someone said I was a bad boy") I stopped him in midsentence and asked, "Who said that you were a bad boy"? He replied," no one, but if they did" I stopped him again and said, if anyone says that you're a bad boy, you can just say, "I'm not a bad boy, I'm just a kid learning how to do life."

At a meeting shortly thereafter, the topic was on resentment, and, for lack of a better analogy, I told the story of my grandson and how I look at everyone in the same way. Most people act out, to compensate for deeper rooted emotional problems. None of us are perfect. We all have shortcomings and for me to condemn someone else, who may be plagued by these things and has not resolved them yet, would be like piling on, and I always feel worse when I resort back to those old behaviors. I should never let my emotions, or my ego draw me into conflict with other troubled people. I must always try to take the high road in these situations. But what about when other people cross my boundaries in a negative way, do I have to be a doormat? No, I do not have to participate in it with them, if there is a way to remove myself from the situation, but I should not be judgmental either. I must refrain from pointing out that other person's faults. To me, they are like my grandson's little classmate. They are all like, (KIDS LEARNING HOW TO DO LIFE), and for me to engage in criticism in that situation would be like two old men in a care facility hitting each other with their canes because one was not walking fast enough for the other. It

(continued on page 5)

Words From the Big Book

Now we need more action, without which we find that "Faith without works is dead." Let's look at Steps Eight and Nine. We have a list of all persons we have harmed and to whom we are willing to make amends. We made it when we took inventory. We subjected ourselves to a drastic self-appraisal. Now we go out to our fellows and repair the damage done in the past. We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will and run the show ourselves. If we haven't the will to do this, we ask until it comes. Remember it was agreed at the beginning we would go to any lengths for victory over alcohol.

Probably there are still some misgivings. As we look over the list of business acquaintances and friends we have hurt, we may feel diffident about going to some of them on a spiritual basis. Let us be reassured. To some people we need not, and probably should not emphasize the spiritual feature on our first approach.

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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 <i>revised 9/020</i> Return to: 1855 E Southern Ave. #103 Mesa, AZ 85204 (480) 827-1905 <i>e-maik</i> info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org				
Date *F	irst Name		_ Last	
Address			_ *Phone	
*City	*\$T	*Zip	*Gender	
*Sobriety Date	Home Group			
e-mail address			Alt Phone	
* = required for listing in 12 th Step List				
Volunteer	Service Options		Committees of Interest	
Check only those you are willing to commit time to		Check only those you are willing to serve on		
12 th Step List Volunteer [] Weeknights	Phones Night & Weekend		lic Information / Cooperation with the	
[] Weekends	[] Weeknights		cial Events	
[] Weekdays	L1		rature	
			vsletter (<i>No Booze News</i>)	
[] Office Phone Volunteer		[] Unit	[] Unity Committee	
[] Other Office Help		[] Deli	ver A Meeting	



<u>LIVE AND IN PERSON</u> ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

SERENITY SISTERS RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 10 ~ 12, 2021

ROUND VALLEY, AZ

REGISTER AT:

SERENITYSISTERSRV@GMAIL.COM

ROCKY POINT ROUNDUP

OCTOBER 15 ~ 17

VERDE VALLEY ROUNDUP

OCTOBER 29 - 31, 2021 2025 RESERVATION LOOP RD. JACKPOT RANCH, CAMP VERDE AZ

APACHE LAKE CAMPOUT

NOVEMBER 12 ~ 14 APACHE LAKE MARINA AND RESORT APACHE LAKE, AZ

WooHoo. Live events are back. Check the events page on our website periodically. We will post information as it becomes available.

The Mesa Alano Club
45 Anniversary
Saturday, September 18, 2021
All Day
145 E 1st Ave. Mesa
Regular meeting schedule with
Food, games and fun.

2021 Virtual State Convention

Host Committee: 08-820 September 10-12th

Area03.org for more information

EVI Special Events Committee

Save These Dates for Upcoming Events

At Church of the Epiphany

2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

October 28, 2021 Unity Day

November 24 ~ 26, 2021 Thanksgiving Alcathon

December 31, 2021 New Years Eve Party

Please consider joining the
EVI Special Events Committee
to help put on these events and more.

Seniors in Sobriety International

October 24 ~ 27, 2021

998 W Mission Bay Dr. San Diego, CA Bahia Hotel

Register at seniorsinsobriety.com

<u>Step Nine</u>~ Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

<u>Tradition Nine</u>~ A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

<u>Concept Nine</u>~ Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

August Sobriety Anniversaries

Name	Date	Days
Anne V		
Ramona P	9/30/1982	14245
Mickey A	9/14/1984	13514
Barbara M	9/27/1984	13514
Beth H		
Tisha N		
Denis S		
Ron S		
Guff W		
Gary L	9/5/1990	11323
Roy B		
Tom A		
Lauren B		
Terri B		
Mike W		
Dallas F		
Debbie C		
Amanda B	9/13/2005	5844
Barbara C	9/23/2005	5844
Don D		
Brett A	9/4/2007	5114
Carol L		
Chad F		
James L	9/9/2010	4018
Michael M	9/20/2010	4018
Margaret B		
Nick V	9/28/2010	4018
Virgil F	9/30/2010	4018
Steve P	9/11/2011	3653
Ted P		
Mike H	9/8/2012	3287
Adrian B		
Mark E		
Linda O	9/18/2014	2557
Terry F	9/26/2014	2557
Dana P	9/2/2015	2192
Linda L	9/7/2015	2192
Mike R	9/28/2015	2192
Judy W	9/30/2015	2192
Madilaine B	9/14/2016	1826
Denise V		
Christel A		
Ryan M		
Lorenzo L		
Noah G		



Things We Can Not Change

Roy D. a long time member of our fellowship has passed from this world. His life and sobriety touched many and he will be missed.

(Continued from Page 2)

sounds funny, but we do it every day. I am no better, or worse than the next man. I may be further along the path

than him, but no better. I pray for understanding and compassion in these situations. I must never Judge a man on his surface behavior, I must have the strength to look deeper.

We are all just like those KIDS LEARNING HOW TO DO LIFE.

A few months after that discussion with my grandson we were running a little late taking him to his Taekwondo class and he was in his child seat behind us and I was bickering with my wife about getting there on time when he interrupted us saying "Guys, I can hear you." I responded by saying, "you should have been ready yourself" when he responded, "Grandpa, I am not a bad boy, I am just a kid learning how to do life." We both broke out in laughter.

God, I love that Kid.

"If unable to abstain from drinking, a man may get drunk three times a month; if he does At Wits End

it more than three times he is culpable; if he gets drunk twice a month is it better; if once a month, this is still moe laudable; and if one does not drink at all what can be better?

But where can I find such a man? If such a man were found he would be worthy of the highest esteem."

- Genghis Khan

Fred, a long-time AA member, let his son borrow his truck for the night.

At the next night's meeting, Sally, the group gossip & self-appointed monitor of the group's morals, accused Fred of drinking, after seeing his pickup parked in front of the town's only bar the night before. She had called other women in the group, and they went to see it too.

Fred, a man of few words, stared at her a moment, then turned & walked away.

Later that evening, Fred quietly parked his truck in front of Sally's house...walked home...and left it there all night.



Get Published!

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

GOT SERVICE?? INTERGROUP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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

Zoom ID: 984 4383 7353

Passcode: 061035

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 email picpc@aamesaaz.org

EVI Phone Workshop

Third Friday's at 6:15 pm
Before the monthly business meeting at



aamesaaz.org

Or

Workshops can be done at your Group!



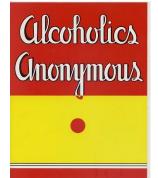
For more information Call Lisa V. 480 827-1905

EVI Sponsorship Workshop

10am the 1st Saturday of every other month

Check aamesaaz.org for location information Contact: Jerry C. 480 834-9033 HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

Sept. 4 ~ Ahwatukee Men's



EVI Special Events Committee

Meeting held before the Monthly Speaker Meeting
1st Friday of the month
2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

contact: 480 827-1905

Join the

EVI Unity Committee

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday

Check aamesaaz.org for location information aamesaaz.org

Contact 480 827-1905

Office Volunteers & EVI Hot Line Phones

4 hour shifts in the EVI office

Call Roxanne for specific

times and days.



EVI Monthly Speaker Meeting

Ist Friday of Every Month

2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

(Church of the Epiphany)

Doors open at 7:00pm

Now Live only, no more ZOOM

September 4 ~ Sunsut Group

October 2 ~ The Society

These are subject to change - so keep watching.

Central Office Manager's Report August 20, 2021

In July we received 512 requests for information and assistance last month. Of those 134 calls were for meeting info, 146 were office visitors and 15 resulted in a 12-step call. Our website stayed busy too. It had 26,826 visits in the last 30 days. Our Google listing received had 7,541 views in July with 69 giving us a call, 457 visiting our website and 50 requesting directions to the office. I am currently updating the website every Wednesday and the printed directory every month. Changes have picked up again. We had 32 changes in live meetings and many more to Zoom meetings. Please drop me an email at the office if you need an update to a meeting in the directory.

Our semi-annual physical inventory was completed on July 7. There were 23 corrections made totaling -\$26.65 with a total inventory of 27,569.89. The revised Policy and Procedures guideline for a targeted inventory level is, "inventory to equal 6 times average sales of previous year +/- 10%". With 2020 sales at an unusual low due to COVID, I averaged 2020 and 2019 sales for an inventory target range of \$23,627 to \$28,589.

We have placed a literature order a bit larger than usual to accommodate the current sale. Grapevine has a new book coming out in September titled "Prayer and Meditation". We will have those in stock at sale pricing as soon as they become available.

We have renewed our liability insurance for the 2021/2022 period. All updated and corrected certificates should have been sent out by now to the leaseholders of participating groups. There was quite a bit of relocation going on as some spaces reopened and some delayed but I think we have those requesting it covered at the correct locations. If your lessors did not receive a renewed certificate and is requesting one, give me a call at the office

Service opportunities are always available on all EVI committees and the 12th step list. Gratitude with Service forms are now available on our website. Please encourage your Group members to volunteer for a service position. The life they save may be their own.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight, Love and Service Kim Watkins

Central Office Manager, East Valley Intergroup

EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

	July	2021
Meeting Information Calls		
General Information	107	752
Referred to Salt River Intergro	oup 6	35
Referred to Al-Anon	11	84
Referred to Community Info	1	6
12th Step Calls	15	92
Business Calls	91	556
Office Visitors	146	952
Meeting lists printed	500	3100
Info request via E-mail	42	283
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/No	ne	18/ 12/ 10
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YTI	D	880 hrs

Web Stats

Website Visits last 30 days 26,826. YTD 184,099

Google Searches last 30 days 7,541

Meeting List Updates...

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

New Meetings:

Ladies Lunch Bun	ch 7335 E Broadway Rd. Mesa	MO Noon	w,c
Daily Reflections	45295 W Honeycutt Ave, Maricopa	SA 8:30am	0
The Promises	18160 N Maya Angelou Dr. Maricopa	WE Noon	0
Kitchen Table	18160 N Maya Angelou Dr. Maricopa	SA 10:00am	O,B
Over the Influence	e 2222 S Price Rd Tenne	MO 6:30pm	0

Changes: ~Still too many to mention.~

Deletions:

Friends of Bill 25601 S Sun Lakes Blvd Sun Lakes TH 7:00p TC, Junkyard Dogs 1565 E Warner Rd. Tempe MO 7:00p M.C

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 PO Box 3691 Gilbert AZ 85299

Make Check To: AZ Area Committee

District 08-819 PO Box 594 Mesa, AZ 85211

District 08-820 ** NEW ** PO Box 1901

Queen Creek, AZ 85142-9998

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

Alcoholicos Anonimos - Oficina 2720 E Thomas Rd. B#180 Phoenix AZ 85016

Vallevwide 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

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



GROUP	July	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		
2121 Beginner Workshop		\$0.00
24 Hours A Day		
417 Group		•
A Vision For You Group		
ABC Group		
Ahwatukee Group Ahwatukee Nooners		
Ahwatukee Nooners Ahwatukee Saturday Men's		
Ahwatukee Women's Group		
Arbor Daily Noon Group		
As Bill Sees It QC		
As You Wake Up		\$0.00
Attitude Adjustment Ahw		
Attitude Adjustment CG		
Attitude of Gratitude		
Basic II		
Bloopers		
Bootstrap Men's		
Both Books		
Breakfast Club		\$0.00
Busted Ego		
By The Book		
Chandler Men's Stag Group .		
Chandler Noon Group		
Chandler Women's Big Book Common Solution	=	
Common Thread		
Courage To Change		
East Phoenix Men's		
East Valley Men's Stag		\$350.00
East Valley Veterans		\$0.00
Easy Does It Group		
Eye Opener Group		
Family Recovery Group		
Fill in the Blank Firehouse Meeting		
Florence Group		
Friday Night BB, Step Study		
Friends Of Bill W		
Get It Together		
Gilbert Group		
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group .		
Good Ol' Back to Basics Grateful Dames		•
Grateful Girlfriends		•
Gratitude Group		
Great Start		
Gut Level		
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		\$150.00
How It Works		\$147.00
Into Action		
Keepin It Real Ladies		·
Last Resort		
Life In The Big Book Maricopa 12 X 12		
Maricopa Group		
Mid-Morning Group		
Monday Night Madness		
Morning After		\$0.00
Name In The Hat		
New Beginnings		
New Spirit Group		
No Big Deals		
No Name AA Group Opportunity Knocks		
Page A Day		
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GROUP	July	YTD
	\$1,065.70	
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•	\$249.88	
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	\$797.73	
-	\$233.33	
-	\$43.40	
Shade Tree		\$280.00
Sobriety is Gold		\$0.00
Sobriety Rocks		\$40.00
Society Group		\$0.00
Some Are Sicker Than Others	\$50.00	\$150.00
Southeast Valley Stag	\$500.00	\$500.00
Spirited Women		\$135.55
Step By Step Group		\$100.23
	\$280.00	
	eeker \$100.00	
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-	\$50.00	
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= =	\$100.00	
	\$60.00	
Tumbleweeds Group		\$700.55
Upon Awakening		\$1,700.00
We Ain't Dead Yet		\$120.00
We Agnostics		\$181.31
We Can Group		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Step		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Winners		\$0.00
Welcome Home		\$0.00
West Chandler Men's		\$0.00
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OTHER GROUPS/COMI		20.00
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Group Totals	\$8,386.08	\$40,523.75
EVI Committees	\$68.00	\$164.00
Individual Contributi	ons\$509.45	\$7,235.09
	\$8,963.53	
*Group contribution with no group		+,

Financial Statements Page 9

BALANCE SHEET July 31, 2021

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT July 2021

Assets	
Current Assets Checking Prudent Reserve (Savings) Accounts Receivable Inventory Asset Undeposited Funds Fixed Assets Cash On Hand Office Equip/Furnishings Depreciation	7,949.49 34,841.29 1,087.80 28,911.54 47.40 50.00 22,538.00 (-22,538.00)
Total Assets Liabilities & Equity	\$77,902.02
Liabilities Accounts Payable Visa Credit Card Payroll taxes	0.00 0.00 110.00
Total Liabilities	\$110.00
Equity Opening Balance Equity Retained Earnings Net Income	43,778.94 27,480.81 6,532.27
Total Equity Total Liability & Equity	\$77,792.02 \$77,902.02

32 Group contributions totaling 9 Individual contributions totaling Intergroup Business Meeting &	\$8,386.08 \$509.45
Service Committee's 7th Tradition	\$68.00
Total Contributions	\$8,963.53
Total Income	\$14,306.93
Less total Cost Of Sales	\$4,137.70
Gross Profit	\$10,169.23
Less total Expenses of	\$8,846.30
<u>Net July Gain</u>	\$1,322.93
<u>YTD 2021 Gain</u>	\$6,532.27

The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$34,841.29 The Prudent Reserve has been established for 2021 in the amount of \$28,862.38

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 Nine: AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

- 1. Do I still try to boss things in AA?
- 2. Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?
- 3. Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?
- 4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
- 5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
- 6. Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?
- 7. Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes?
- 8. What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2021

Meeting Opened at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Attendees: *V = Virtual Attendance

Welcome to the New Reps: Cannon - San Tan Men's Group, Tony K. - Big Book Worms, Kerry L.- Queen Creek Meeting House,

Regina S. - Road to Recovery

AJ G – Rising Spirit V

Ashley – Price is Right

Kerry L. – Queen Creek

Rose – Sunbird Happy Hour

Brandon – Society V

Ken C. – Sunset Group

Samantha S – We Agnostics V

Cannon – San Tan Men's Group

Marilyn K – Tempe Nooners V

Sharon B. – Steppers

Charlie R – East Valley Men's Stag

Monica S. – Sun Lakes Serenity

Susan G. – WIG

Cole L. – Easy Does It **V** Seekers Susan – Tempe Group

Cris H. – Bloopers V Nedd F A – V? Timothy G. – Alt DCM 08-819 Glen S. – Primary Purpose V Nina - ?????? Thom S – Arbor Noon Group

Jason C. – Common Thread V Phil H. – Ahwatukee Saturday Mens Tom C. – PAD

Jose A – Upon Awakening V Ramon W. – Mesa Alano breakfast Tom – Gratitude Group

Joseph M – Sunday Night BB Step club **V** Tony K. – Big Bookworms

Study Rebecca P – Ahwatukee Group **V** Tracey C. – By the Book **V**Josh S – We Agnostics V Regina S. – Road to Recovery V Vicki – New Spirit Group

Judy - Alt Sun Lakes Serenity Seekers Richard H – Step By Step

Committee and other Trusted Servants: *Edited for space, available on request.*

Tom welcomes everyone. Phil reads the 12 Traditions. Introduction of new reps, both in person and virtual.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept and seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Ron S.- reviewed report from the packet. Motion to accept report as presented by Ken C.

- Sunset Group. Seconded by Phil - AMG. Report is accepted as presented.

7th Tradition: \$34.00 in person. You can make a 7th tradition contribution on the EVI website.

www.aamesaaz.org

Chairperson's Report: Tom N. - no written report. Bowlathon was a lot of fun, thanks for your participation.

We have a vacancy on the Steering Committee. We need an advisor to the Special Events Committee.

Sobriety requirement of 2 years. Duties include attendance at the EVI business meeting and Special Events

Committee meeting plus the monthly Steering Committee meeting.

Vice Chairperson Report: Barb M.

□ Attended sub district meetings.□ Attended the Delegates report at the District 8 meeting.□ Attended various meetings on Zoom.

Office Manager Report: Kim W.

☐ Reviewed report from packet.☐ 512 requests for info, 146 office visitors — Good traffic.

☐ Many changes in meetings from virtual to live and vice versa. Let me know so we can keep our

directory up to date. ☐ Folding party at 9am Aug. 27th

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Business Meeting Minutes Continued

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS PI/CPC: (Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community) Tom C. ☐ Tom reviewed the minutes from the PICPC meeting (in the packet). 🗆 Committee Meetings are is first Monday of the month. Its on Zoom and at the EVI office. 🗆 If anyone is interested in doing service work on the PICPC Committee, please contact Tom C. at (310) 393-5651 or mynametom@yahoo.com or PICPC@aamesa.org Special Events: Jay for Mindy S. ☐ Special Events Committee needs volunteers 🗆 Jay did an amazing and thorough job of reporting the many upcoming events at exactly the time that the secretary's computer crashed. So ... Bowlathon was great with 77 bowlers, Unity Day will be on Oct 23rd, and Dance of the Decades was postponed. (from my memory). Phone committee: Vicki ☐ Did the phone training in person tonight. It was well attended! Unity Committee: Dave K. (virtual) ☐ **Need volunteers** for the committee. You do not need to be an EVI rep. Phone number is in the packet and on the flyer. ☐ Visited several groups including New Spirit group. ☐ We meet at 6pm right before the EVI Business meeting. Sponsorship Workshop: Jerry C. (virtual) ☐ September 4th at 10am at the EVI office and hybrid on Zoom is covered by Ahwatukee Men's group.☐ November meeting is covered also. ☐ Please use the link in the email to reach the online signup sheet. Or To Sign-up Click Here! No Booze News (NBN) Newsletter Editor: Rick - Not present. ☐ Rick still moving on, Anyone interested in position? Literature: Mike K. (not in attendance) LIASION REPORTS Al-anon Liaison: Vicki B. – Aug 28th on Zoom Speaker event H&I Liaison: Dave T. – I attended the H&I meeting on Aug. 11th. Go to their website if you'd like to donate. Currently they have money above their prudent reserve. County is not open yet to take meetings into. Open positions are Hospitals West and Alhambra Prison coordinator. Spanish Liaison: Marge M. (virtual) I have been announcing the upcoming Spanish Women's workshop in December. I attended an AA conference in Colorado. Well attended from all over, Utah, New Mexico, California, etc. I went to a women's workshop in Tucson. Crossroads thanked us for the Spanish literature donation. Zonypaa Liaison: Megan P. - Not present. Sub District 08-818: Tim G. for Tearsa C. - Monthly hybrid meeting Sub District 08-819: Lois L. - not present Sub District 08-820: Debbie C. - not present **OLD BUSINESS:** ☐ Point of Sale system purchased. ☐ Literature currently being sold at cost. NEW BUSINESS: □ None ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Maria Stanley

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.

☐ Tim G. is the Grapevine and LaVina Area coordinator. Reach out to him if you need anything.

Motion to close meeting. Passed.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Twelve on 12 Page 12

Lunch with the ex

Though he was full of fear when she asked to meet him, he intuitively knew what to do

FEBRUARY 2017 Grapevine

When I was just 13, I woke up in the hospital after almost dying from chugging gin from my father's liquor cabinet on a hot summer day. My parents were on either side of the hospital bed when I came to. They told me that both of my grandfathers had died young due to abuse of alcohol. (My parents can drink safely, so in my case the disease skipped a generation).

I never could drink gin again after that, but it would be 20 years before I made my first AA meeting.

When I had a year sober, around Thanksgiving, I asked my father about my grandfather. He said his father would hide bottles around the house and that he had put my grandmother "through hell." Both of my grandparents were born in Ireland, and my grandmother, who was not an alcoholic and was a very strong woman, lived to be 98.

The beginning of the end of my story (which I try not to leave out) is that I hit my wife. It was one time, but once was enough to get me arrested in the middle of the night—a great fear of mine at the time—which is exactly what happened, with the local police escorting me away.

My wife and I had two young sons. She took out a restraining order on me. Soon, I descended into an emotional and alcohol-fueled bottom. It would be another six months of heavy drinking before I made that first meeting.

When I began to "come to" in the rooms of AA, feelings began bubbling up, led by anger. I had a home group where people laughed, gave me hugs and told me to keep coming back (and make the coffee). In my shares, I would rant. I was in complete denial that I had hit my wife. I blamed her for all my problems. I could relate to the "sore" and "burned up" passages in the Big Book, but not much beyond that. I remember diving to the ground and hitting my knees before I picked up my boys so I wouldn't go off the deep end. Early sobriety was so difficult.

Over a number of years of early sobriety, I felt my life had become what some call a "living amend." I wasn't causing more damage, though the bad feelings over my former marriage retained a strong undercurrent.

One night at a men's Step meeting a guy said, "Living amends are bull—." I was aghast and became enraged. I had been living my amends. Wasn't that enough? I called my sponsor after the meeting, indignant.

Like that scene in the Big Book, he just laughed. "You might want to take a look at that," he said, referring to my overwrought reaction. He does that a lot, putting the ball back in my court.

As luck would have it, I soon went through a painful breakup of a four-year relationship. Again, I was angry. I was in my ninth year of sobriety. I had been mostly getting along with my ex-wife, though I was still somewhat uncomfortable around her (sex, finances, you name it). Then one day, I said offhandedly to her, "I hope I don't drink about this," referring to the breakup.

Soon after, she invited me to lunch. I was terrified. What could she want from me? Isn't everything about me? After talking to a few friends, I figured that she only wanted to talk about our boys or she wanted to tell me she was going to get remarried, which in fact she did, not long after.

I said an extra-large prayer before that lunch. I asked for guidance and the ability to intuitively know how to handle the situation. But as soon as we sat down, it turned out it was about me. "I'm worried about you," she said. "Are you going to drink?"

I told her that I didn't think I would. I told her I was just in a rough spot over the breakup. We talked a little bit about breakups—she had had one a few years before that I hadn't even known about—and I felt a tiny door opening between us.

"I'm sorry I put you through hell," I said, channeling what my father had told me years before. I had pathetically tried to apologize to her at the end of my drinking, but this time I was sincere and she knew I meant it. She got choked up for a minute, and wisely, I knew enough to stop talking.

The "intuitively know" passage is my favorite in the Big Book and it came true in my life at that lunch with my ex-wife. We finished that lunch talking as friends and I lost all fear of her after that.

Part of the reason I had stopped drinking all those years earlier had been because I didn't know what I would do if I lost her to another guy. And now here she was, all these years later, soon to be remarried. I didn't go to her wedding (prudence) but I have housesat for her and her new husband's dog on several occasions, and today, I would take a bullet for her. This was, and is, a miracle.

BY: MICHAEL M. | ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA