

2022

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

Smile for Mickey

From childhood on, he never fit in the picture, until he got to AA

NOVEMBER 2013 GRAPEVINE

When I was a kid, my grandma took me to Disneyland for my birthday. She went crazy taking photos. One photo I still have shows everyone smiling and making nice with Mickey and Donald, but I'm on the outside, looking on, not smiling. I remember Grandma saying, "Get in the damned picture. Get closer. Say something to Mickey." That photo illustrates my life.

At 12 years old, I discovered booze. My buddy and I sat in the ivy vines that surrounded his house and we shared a six-pack. The world seemed brighter. I had stumbled onto something marvelous. I felt hopeful that day.

I spent a lot of time trying to chase down that feeling again. There was the time a friend and I hid behind the bar in his house and took a sip from each one of his father's bottles. Several hours later, he and I were urinating off the town's water tower 100 feet in the air. I didn't take into account that our exploit could be seen by just about everybody in town. I was surprised when I stumbled home and discovered my father waiting for me to tell me just how badly I had screwed up.

My hopes at a normal life—whatever that is—had already started to fade. I managed to graduate from high school right in the middle of the class, a comfortable spot, where not so much is demanded of you.

I was able to take the kid gloves off at 19, which was the drinking age in Arizona at the time. I began my "apprentice" phase of drinking. I got two DUIs in rapid succession and lost my license. On the verge of flunking out of college, I transferred to another school in Flagstaff at the request of a friend who saw my growing struggle with booze. He told me about his alcoholic dad and turned me onto "other things." I did well in school for a while and hope started to return. Eventually, I made my way back to my first love—booze. Soon I stopped going to classes and my hope took a tumble from the top of a high-rise building.

My buddy then told me about AA. So I went to a meeting above a train station. I remember thinking I wasn't anything like the old, smoking, gravelly-voiced guys who were there. I was only 23. So I

Quote of the Month

As his drinking got worse, all decision and responsibility had to be taken by me. It was lucky that we were companionable, for gradually as our social contacts were broken we were thrust back on each other for company. In order to get away from alcohol over the weekends, I used to engineer some sort of outing, as we both loved the outdoors. If our pocketbook was flat, we might take the subway to the Dyckman Street ferry and hike along the Palisades to some scenic spot where we would nibble our sandwiches and gaze at the view. Or we might ferry to Staten Island and walk there; perhaps broiling a steak over a campfire. We have hired a rowboat at Yonkers and, using a bath towel as a sail, floated up the Hudson, to a spit of land near Nyack, where we camped and tried to sleep. We once went so far to get away from alcohol that we both gave up our jobs and took a whole year off. This we spent motorcycling and camping over half the United States.

Lois Wilson

didn't go back. I stopped booze and went back to those "other things." I begged the state of Arizona to give me my license back, and I returned to college and managed to graduate and get a real job. Things were looking up. I stopped doing those "other things." To keep the uncomfortable feelings away, I made a new plan: I became a recluse; I hid away from the world. Whole years of my life passed. Then I met a woman, and we were married.

On our honeymoon in a tropical paradise, I decided this cool place would be even cooler if I had a beer. My wife, unaware of the insidiousness of the disease, thought it would be OK too. I was buzzed nearly the entire honeymoon, but vowed to stop when we returned home.

Soon I was making up reasons to have drinks. "Occasional" eventually became regular, which became nearly all the time. My boozing reached new heights. Four years into our marriage, my wife said, "Enough," and we separated. My hope was at a crushing low.

In 2002, I walked into an AA meeting at a Flagstaff clubhouse. I was shaking, sweating, confused, and wanting to claw my way out of my body. I was 36. I got a Big Book and a sponsor. He and I went through the Steps. I formed a relationship with a Higher Power, and my life improved. My wife decided divorce was too extreme and we reconciled. Hope was making a comeback, but my meetings went from daily to not very often.

In 2005, I had just put my dog, my buddy of 16 years, to sleep, when it occurred to me that a drink would take the edge off my pain. I convinced my wife that now I'd be able to control my drinking given all the information I had about alcoholism. After a few years of drinking, I ended up in a psychiatric hospital in Sacramento, Calif., after a three-state, seven-day bender. I sat on the edge of the bed suffering from nausea, shakes, and sweats. My blood pressure was dangerously high, I smelled of blood, and my view was a window reinforced with chicken wire. I finally understood the sentence in the Big Book about not being able to contemplate life with or without alcohol. I had reached that "jumping off point." I had absolutely no options left. Nothing came to me when I asked, "Now, what do I do?" Hope had completely left me.

The nice people at the hospital helped me through my withdrawal. My wife, bless her, took me home. After about a week without drinking, I became a compulsive cleaner and, as the house became cleaner, I knew with certainty that when I had finished cleaning, I would drink again. So I returned to AA. It was the only place where I had been successful for any length of time at arresting my compulsion to drink. But I felt that I had failed AA and that the Fellowship would judge me. I was sure I would be an outsider—just like I had felt as a little kid in that photo my grandma took in Disneyland. But something that was not me made me go to that meeting anyway. I have now identified that as my "moment of providence."

The first person I saw when I entered the little Quaker church that Saturday was a woman I had known from before. I thought my fears were about to be realized: she would turn me away and say, in her Minnesota accent, "You don't got what it takes, buddy." But she didn't. She gave me a hug and told me she was happy I had made it back alive. I got a sponsor right away. He quickly took me through the Steps. I followed them without reservation, like only the dying can. Another woman, who I had known from my previous attempt at sobriety, invited me to her home group. I met many fine people there and felt so comfortable that I made it my home group. I was selected to chair a meeting and began to make friends and learned what it means to be one. I received a one-year sobriety chip, and my hope grew. I then accepted a service position at the district level. I took on a sponsee and worked the Steps with him. I've made it sober through three seasons of holidays now. I'm 47 years old.

Finally, I'm learning what it means to live an adult life, and I'll continue learning as long as I remember not to pick up that first drink. The symbol I use to represent my active alcoholism is that of a hand grenade. I envision myself holding it with the pin pulled, but if I forget that I have this grenade in my hand I could drop it, and it could kill me and everyone around me.

Today I pray and meditate. I do the next right thing. I go to at least six meetings a week. I find meetings when I travel. I trust in my creator. I clean house. And as much as I can, I help other alcoholics. Every day I do this, my hope for a life well lived can be realized. And I owe it to AA.



BY: LARRY H. | FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA



Words From the Big Book

In the preceding chapters you have learned something of alcoholism. We hope we have made clear the distinction between the alcoholic and the non-alcoholic. If, when you honestly want to, you find you cannot quit entirely, or if when drinking, you have little control over the amount you take, you are probably alcoholic. If that be the case, you may be suffering from an illness which only a spiritual experience will conquer.

To one who feels he is an atheist or agnostic such an experience seems impossible, but to continue as he is means disaster, especially if he is an alcoholic of the hopeless variety. To be doomed to an alcoholic death or to live on a spiritual basis are not always easy alternatives to face.

But it isn't so difficult. About half our original fellowship were of exactly that type. At first some of us tried to avoid the issue, hoping against hope we were not true alcoholics. But after a while we had to face the fact that we must find a spiritual basis of life—or else. Perhaps it is going to be that way with you. But cheer up, something like half of us thought we were atheists or agnostics. Our experience shows that you need not be disconcerted.

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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 *revised 9/020*

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 (\$18.00 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



LIVE AND IN PERSON

ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

YUMA ROUNDUP

FEBRUARY 4 ~ 6, 2022

YUMA CIVIC CENTER

1440 W DESERT HILLS DR. YUMA AZ

EASY DOES IT CAMPOUT

MARCH 17 ~ 21, 2022

ROOSEVELT LAKE

GRAPEVINE GROUP SITES GOOSE AND COOT

**Check the events page on our website. We will
post information as it becomes available.**

~~~~~

**EVI**

**43rd Anniversary**

**Mad Hatter Party**

**Saturday 5:30 ~ 9:00**

**March 19, 2022**

**2716 N Dobson Rd. Chandler**

**Saint Katherine Church**

**Dinner and Speaker Meeting**

**See your Intergroup Rep. for tickets.**

**Area 03**

**2022 Pre Conference Assembly**

**Virtual**

April 1st-3rd

Sub-District 08-800

more info @ [area03.org](http://area03.org)

Mesa Round Up

Valentine's Party

12pm - 4pm, Saturday

February 12, 2022

Pioneer Park, Ramada #3

**PRAASA 2022**

March 4 - 6, 2022

Save the date

More info to come

[Area03.org](http://Area03.org)

***Step Two~ Came to believe that a Power  
greater than ourselves could restore us to  
sanity.***

***Tradition Two~ For our group purpose  
there is but one ultimate authority—a loving  
God as He may express Himself in our group  
conscience. Our leaders are but trusted serv-  
ants; they do not govern.***

***Concept Two~ The General Service Confer-  
ence of A.A. has become, for nearly every  
practical purpose, the active voice and the  
effective conscience of our whole Society in  
its world affairs.***

**Live and let live**

## August Sobriety Anniversaries

| Name | Date | Days |
|------|------|------|
|------|------|------|

|                   |                 |       |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Thomas T .....    | 2/15/1975 ..... | 17167 |
| Judy A. ....      | 2/15/1976 ..... | 16802 |
| Donna H. ....     | 2/4/1981 .....  | 14975 |
| Stephen P. ....   | 2/21/1982 ..... | 14610 |
| Jerry L. ....     | 2/24/1983 ..... | 14245 |
| Pat W. ....       | 2/2/1985 .....  | 13514 |
| Kathy K. ....     | 2/27/1985 ..... | 13514 |
| Monica G. ....    | 2/23/1990 ..... | 11688 |
| Rob W. ....       | 2/28/1993 ..... | 10592 |
| Brian G. ....     | 2/28/1993 ..... | 10592 |
| Buddy M. ....     | 2/19/1996 ..... | 9497  |
| Bev M. ....       | 2/26/1996 ..... | 9497  |
| Linda S. ....     | 2/28/1996 ..... | 9497  |
| Rosemarie R. .... | 2/27/1997 ..... | 9131  |
| Robert B. ....    | 2/14/2001 ..... | 7670  |
| Phil H. ....      | 2/4/2002 .....  | 7305  |
| Frank G. ....     | 2/7/2005 .....  | 6209  |
| Mindy B. ....     | 2/20/2005 ..... | 6209  |
| Judy K. ....      | 2/11/2006 ..... | 5844  |
| Jason T. ....     | 2/17/2007 ..... | 5479  |
| Michael K. ....   | 2/14/2008 ..... | 5114  |
| Tyler K. ....     | 2/24/2008 ..... | 5114  |
| Jason C. ....     | 2/17/2009 ..... | 4748  |
| Ralph C. ....     | 2/17/2009 ..... | 4748  |
| Alex B. ....      | 2/1/2010 .....  | 4383  |
| Kirsten J. ....   | 2/2/2010 .....  | 4383  |
| Mathew D. ....    | 2/5/2010 .....  | 4383  |
| Joel (JJ) G. .... | 2/17/2010 ..... | 4383  |
| Brad B. ....      | 2/21/2012 ..... | 3653  |
| Dewey D. ....     | 2/22/2012 ..... | 3653  |
| Scott H. ....     | 2/10/2014 ..... | 2922  |
| Jerry T. ....     | 2/12/2014 ..... | 2922  |
| John K. ....      | 2/9/2015 .....  | 2557  |
| Mike J. ....      | 2/12/2015 ..... | 2557  |
| Joe M. ....       | 2/18/2015 ..... | 2557  |
| Delia S. ....     | 2/12/2015 ..... | 2557  |
| Chad C. ....      | 2/15/2016 ..... | 2192  |
| Barbara E. ....   | 2/22/2016 ..... | 2192  |
| Alissa A. ....    | 2/17/2018 ..... | 1461  |
| Troy D. ....      | 2/21/2018 ..... | 1461  |
| Rebecca S. ....   | 2/28/2019 ..... | 1096  |
| Alesha D. ....    | 2/28/2019 ..... | 1096  |
| Doug H. ....      | 2/2/2020 .....  | 731   |
| Jackie S. ....    | 2/16/2021 ..... | 365   |

### Senility prayer

God grant me the senility  
to forget the people I never  
liked anyway, the good  
fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the  
difference.

—Dan H., Davie, Fla.

### Heard at a meeting

Two long-timers during the “meeting before the meeting” ...

1st: Did you know Flipper was the first dolphin in AA?

2nd: Yeah. He was our primary porpoise.

—Frank T., Phoenix, Ariz.

The hardest part about going to Hypochondriacs Anonymous  
is admitting that you don't have a problem.

—Vikki R., Yuba City, Calif.

### Give me a second

There were two things I was always interested in knowing, so  
I asked God about them. One was the value of money to God.  
He said to me, “My son, one penny of mine is the same as you  
having a million dollars.” The other was the meaning of time.  
He said, “One hundred years to you is like a second to me.”  
So I asked God if I could have one of his pennies. He looked  
at me for a while and said, “Of course son, just give me a sec-  
ond.”

—Tony M., Helmar, Calif

### Dream on

I was at my Tuesday mens' stag meeting celebrating my AA  
birthday with my wife recently. While we were waiting for  
the cake to be brought out, I turned to her and said, “Honey,  
did you ever in your wildest dreams think you'd be standing  
here helping me celebrate 48 years of sobriety?”  
She turned to me and said, “Bruce, let me tell you something.  
You're not in my wildest dreams!”

—Bruce D., Manhattan Beach, Calif.

*At Wits End*



### Things We Can Not Change

*Gary G., a long time member of our fellowship,  
has passed from this world. His life and sobriety  
touched many. He will be missed.*

### 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

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](mailto:picpc@aamesaaz.org)**EVI Phone Workshop**

Third Friday's at 6:15 pm

Before the monthly business meeting at

**On ZOOM****[aamesaaz.org](http://aamesaaz.org)**

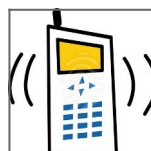
Or

**Workshops can be done at your Group !**

For more information

Call Lisa V.

480 827-1905

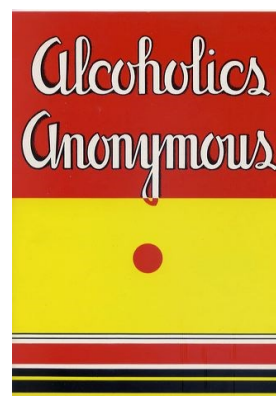
**EVI Sponsorship Workshop**

10am the 1st Saturday of every other month

Check [aamesaaz.org](http://aamesaaz.org) for location information

Contact: Jerry C.

HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

**March 5 ~ TBD**

Join the

**EVI Unity Committee**

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday

Check [aamesaaz.org](http://aamesaaz.org) for location information**[aamesaaz.org](http://aamesaaz.org)****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

contact: 480 827-1905

***EVI Monthly Speaker Meeting******1st Friday of Every Month******2222 S Price Rd. Tempe******(Church of the Epiphany)*****Doors open at 7:00pm****\*Now Live only, no more ZOOM\***

February 4 ~ Common Thread

March 4 ~ Primary Purpose

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

January 21, 2021

Happy New Year, welcome to 2022. In December we received 550 requests for information and assistance. Of those 120 calls were for meeting info, 161 were office visitors and, drum roll, 24 resulted in a 12-step call. Our website stayed busy too. It had 24,885 visits in the last 30 days. Our Google listing received 4,818 views in November with 41 giving us a call, 381 visiting our website and 56 requesting directions to the office.

The radio and Multimedia PSAs completed their Holiday run last week. It is hard to judge the success of a PSA campaign but we should note that our 12 step calls were up over 50% in December and that increase is continuing into January. It is reasonable to expect that after hours and valley wide new contacts experienced the same increase. I think it was a win.

AAWS is still experiencing supply issues with literature. Hard cover Big Books are currently on back order until the middle of February. There is currently plenty of literature in stock at the office.

We are still requesting meeting room photos. They are currently on displayed in the office and everyone loves them. Pics can be emailed to the office at [info@aamesaaz.org](mailto:info@aamesaaz.org) and we can print them here. Please, no people in the pictures.

Service opportunities are always available on all EVI committees and the 12<sup>th</sup> 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

|                                        |            |           |
|----------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
|                                        | Nov.       | 2021      |
| Meeting Information Calls.....         | 120        | 1,650     |
| General Information .....              | 133        | 1,290     |
| Referred to Salt River Intergroup .... | 1          | 51        |
| Referred to Al-Anon.....               | 9          | 133       |
| Referred to Community Info.....        | 0          | 7         |
| 12th Step Calls .....                  | 24         | 180       |
| Business Calls .....                   | 102        | 1,135     |
| Office Visitors .....                  | 161        | 1,651     |
| Meeting lists printed.....             | 800        | 5200      |
| Info request via E-mail .....          | 67         | 513       |
| Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/None.....      | 32 / 6 / 4 |           |
| Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YTD. ....      |            | 1,660 hrs |

### Web Stats

Website Visits last 30 days 29,801, YTD 404,790

Google Searches last 30 days 3,003

## Meeting List Updates...

Our website ([aamesaaz.org](http://aamesaaz.org)) is being updated weekly. Check it out for the latest on which groups are meeting and where.

### New Meetings:

FAF 1730 W Guadalupe Rd. Mesa WE Noon C

### Changes:

New Beginings has moved back to St Bridgets,  
2213 N Lindsay #4 Mesa SA10:00am O

San Tan Men's moved to 20164 S Sossaman Rd. TU 6:00pm M

### Deletions:

Ladies Lunch Bunch 7335 E Broadway Rd. Mesa MO Noon W,C

Spirited Women Zoom and Live FR 10:00am

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

**District 08-818**  
PO Box 12044  
Tempe, AZ 85284

**Valleywide H & I**  
PO Box 80126  
Phoenix, AZ 85060

**Alcoholics Anonymous - Contributions**  
PO Box 2407 \*NEW\*  
James A Farley Station  
New York, NY 10116-2407

**District 08-819**  
PO Box 594  
Mesa, AZ 85211

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

**District 08-820**  
PO Box 1901  
Queen Creek, AZ 85142-9998

**Area 03 Treasurer \*\*NEW\*\***  
PO Box 2065  
Green Valley AZ 85622  
\*Make Check To: AZ Area Committee\*

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

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

### 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



# GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



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| GROUP                                 | Dec.       | YTD        |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 11th Step Candlelight .....           |            | \$40.00    |
| 2121 Beginner Workshop .....          | \$1,912.80 | \$1,912.80 |
| 24 Hours A Day .....                  |            | \$40.00    |
| 417 Group .....                       |            | \$187.00   |
| A Vision For You Group .....          |            | \$1,211.34 |
| ABC Group .....                       |            | \$250.00   |
| Ahwatukee Group .....                 |            | \$750.00   |
| Ahwatukee Nooners .....               |            | \$820.00   |
| Ahwatukee Saturday Men's .....        | \$410.69   | \$3,109.00 |
| Ahwatukee Women's Group .....         | \$30.25    | \$380.85   |
| Arbor Daily Noon Group .....          | \$400.00   | \$2,600.00 |
| As Bill Sees It QC .....              |            | \$140.36   |
| As You Wake Up .....                  |            | \$0.00     |
| Attitude Adjustment Ahw. ....         |            | \$160.20   |
| Attitude Adjustment CG .....          | \$200.00   | \$330.00   |
| Basic II .....                        |            | \$100.00   |
| BBookworms .....                      |            | \$1,054.00 |
| Bloopers .....                        |            | \$1,720.00 |
| Bootstrap Men's .....                 |            | \$0.00     |
| Both Books .....                      |            | \$0.00     |
| Breakfast Club .....                  |            | \$2,750.00 |
| Busted Ego .....                      | \$200.00   | \$450.00   |
| By The Book .....                     |            | \$111.87   |
| Chandler Men's Stag Group .....       |            | \$650.00   |
| Chandler Noon Group .....             |            | \$1,366.50 |
| Chandler Women's Big Book Group ..... |            | \$653.50   |
| Common Solution .....                 |            | \$0.00     |
| Common Thread .....                   |            | \$2,341.58 |
| Courage To Change .....               |            | \$250.00   |
| East Phoenix Men's .....              |            | \$683.00   |
| East Valley Men's Stag .....          |            | \$847.00   |
| East Valley Veterans .....            |            | \$200.00   |
| Easy Does It Group .....              | \$88.87    | \$2,566.44 |
| Eye Opener Group .....                |            | \$500.00   |
| Family Recovery Group .....           |            | \$0.00     |
| Feelings and Solutions .....          | \$220.00   | \$312.00   |
| Fill in the Blank .....               |            | \$475.00   |
| Firehouse Meeting .....               |            | \$75.00    |
| Florence Group .....                  |            | \$215.00   |
| Friday Night BB, Step Study .....     |            | \$0.00     |
| Get It Together .....                 | \$956.76   | \$6,737.59 |
| Gilbert Group .....                   |            | \$0.00     |
| Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group .....       |            | \$0.00     |
| Good Ol' Back to Basics .....         |            | \$0.00     |
| Good Orderly Direction .....          |            | \$60.00    |
| Grateful Dames .....                  |            | \$138.53   |
| Grateful Girlfriends .....            |            | \$100.00   |
| Gratitude Group .....                 |            | \$730.00   |
| Great Start .....                     |            | \$600.00   |
| Gut Level .....                       |            | \$195.00   |
| Happy Hour @ Sunbird .....            | \$150.00   | \$450.00   |
| Hope For Today-Zoom .....             | \$76.25    | \$76.25    |
| How It Works .....                    |            | \$147.00   |
| Into Action .....                     |            | \$0.00     |
| Last Resort .....                     |            | \$158.78   |
| Life In The Big Book .....            |            | \$433.00   |
| Maricopa 12 X 12 .....                |            | \$240.00   |
| Maricopa Group .....                  | \$50.00    | \$275.00   |
| Mid-Morning Group .....               |            | \$300.00   |
| Miracle House .....                   |            | \$333.33   |
| Monday Night Madness .....            |            | \$250.00   |
| Morning After .....                   |            | \$150.00   |
| Name In The Hat .....                 |            | \$330.00   |
| New Beginnings .....                  | \$100.00   | \$300.00   |
| New Spirit Group .....                | \$401.00   | \$1,318.90 |
| No Big Deals .....                    | \$75.00    | \$470.00   |
| No Name AA Group .....                |            | \$500.00   |
| Opportunity Knocks .....              |            | \$100.00   |
| Page A Day .....                      |            | \$3,218.82 |

| GROUP                                 | Dec      | YTD        |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|
| Patio Group .....                     |          | \$1,625.70 |
| Pioneer Group .....                   | \$55.20  | \$433.20   |
| Price Is Right .....                  |          | \$199.00   |
| Primary Purpose Group .....           | \$200.00 | \$662.00   |
| Progress Rather Than Perfection ..... |          | \$100.00   |
| Putting God First .....               |          | \$0.00     |
| Queen Creek Nooners .....             |          | \$831.91   |
| Re-Awakening Group .....              |          | \$636.27   |
| Remember When .....                   |          | \$350.00   |
| Renewed Spirit .....                  | \$250.00 | \$550.00   |
| Rising Spirit .....                   |          | \$1,213.65 |
| Road To Recovery .....                | \$547.55 | \$3,621.40 |
| Rock Solid .....                      | \$50.00  | \$100.00   |
| San Tan Men's .....                   |          | \$310.00   |
| Second Chance Group .....             |          | \$674.33   |
| Serenity Now .....                    | \$28.60  | \$504.65   |
| Shade Tree .....                      |          | \$280.00   |
| Sisterhood Of Solutions .....         |          | \$0.00     |
| Sobriety is Gold .....                |          | \$0.00     |
| Sobriety Rocks .....                  |          | \$153.00   |
| Society Group .....                   |          | \$400.00   |
| Some Are Sicker Than Others .....     |          | \$375.00   |
| Southeast Valley Stag .....           |          | \$500.00   |
| Spirited Women .....                  |          | \$135.55   |
| Step By Step Group .....              |          | \$299.96   |
| Steppers .....                        | \$85.00  | \$235.00   |
| Stepping Stones .....                 |          | \$0.00     |
| Sunday Afternoon Step .....           |          | \$200.00   |
| Sunday Night BB Step Study .....      |          | \$0.00     |
| Sunday Serenity Seekers .....         |          | \$400.19   |
| Sun Lakes Women Serenity Seeker ..... |          | \$225.00   |
| Sunset Group .....                    |          | \$100.00   |
| Tempe Group .....                     |          | \$100.00   |
| Tempe Nooners .....                   | \$50.00  | \$605.00   |
| Tempe Sunrisers .....                 |          | \$40.00    |
| Tempe Young People .....              |          | \$0.00     |
| The Library .....                     |          | \$52.00    |
| The Real Thing .....                  |          | \$25.00    |
| The Way Out Group .....               |          | \$831.00   |
| Thursday Night Step Group .....       |          | \$0.00     |
| Tuesday Night Steppin Out .....       |          | \$300.00   |
| Tuesday's Trudgers .....              |          | \$25.00    |
| Tumbleweeds Group .....               | \$849.64 | \$1,550.19 |
| Upon Awakening .....                  |          | \$3,500.00 |
| We Ain't Dead Yet .....               |          | \$120.00   |
| We Agnostics .....                    | \$208.80 | \$387.11   |
| We Can Group .....                    |          | \$0.00     |
| Wednesday Night Step .....            |          | \$356.50   |
| Wednesday Night Winners .....         |          | \$0.00     |
| Welcome Home .....                    |          | \$325.00   |
| West Chandler Men's .....             |          | \$0.00     |
| Who's Driving Your Bus? .....         |          | \$0.00     |
| Wolf Pack Group .....                 |          | \$200.00   |
| Women in Gratitude .....              |          | \$200.00   |
| Women in Solution .....               |          | \$0.00     |
| Women in Touch .....                  |          | \$0.00     |
| Wonder Women-disbanded .....          |          | \$25.00    |
| *Anonymous Groups .....               |          | \$0.00     |

## OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTEES

|                                       |                   |                    |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Apache Lake Campout .....             | \$159.39          | \$159.39           |
| AZ AA Women's Conf .....              |                   | \$0.00             |
| District 08 .....                     |                   | \$0.00             |
| Dist 08-813 .....                     |                   | \$125.00           |
| Dist 08-820 .....                     | \$500.00          | \$500.00           |
| Meal and a Message .....              |                   | \$0.00             |
| <b>Group Totals .....</b>             | <b>\$7,192.41</b> | <b>\$71,406.64</b> |
| <b>EVI Committees .....</b>           | <b>\$71.00</b>    | <b>\$404.00</b>    |
| <b>Individual Contributions .....</b> | <b>\$475.00</b>   | <b>\$10,941.54</b> |
| <b>GRAND TOTALS .....</b>             | <b>\$7,738.41</b> | <b>\$82,752.18</b> |

\*Group contribution with no group name listed)





### BALANCE SHEET December 31, 2021

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                       |                    |
| Current Assets                      |                    |
| Checking                            | 5,207.36           |
| Prudent Reserve (Savings)           | 39,872.51          |
| Accounts Receivable                 | 720.65             |
| Inventory Asset                     | 26,369.59          |
| Undeposited Funds                   | 145.25             |
| Fixed Assets                        |                    |
| Cash On Hand                        | 50.00              |
| Office Equip/Furnishings            | 22,538.00          |
| Depreciation                        | (-22,538.00)       |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                 | <b>\$77,381.97</b> |
| <b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>     |                    |
| Liabilities                         |                    |
| Accounts Payable                    | 25.00              |
| Visa Credit Card                    | 382.80             |
| Payroll taxes                       | 0.00               |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>            | <b>\$407.80</b>    |
| Equity                              |                    |
| Opening Balance Equity              | 43,778.94          |
| Retained Earnings                   | 27,480.81          |
| Net Income                          | 5,714.42           |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                 | <b>\$76,974.17</b> |
| <b>Total Liability &amp; Equity</b> | <b>\$77,381.97</b> |

### PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT December 2021

|                                                                    |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 29 Group contributions totaling                                    | \$7,192.41         |
| 8 Individual contributions totaling                                | \$475.00           |
| Intergroup Business Meeting &<br>Service Committee's 7th Tradition | \$71.00            |
| <b>Total Contributions</b>                                         | <b>\$7,738.41</b>  |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                                | <b>\$18,980.92</b> |
| <b>Less total Cost Of Sales</b>                                    | <b>\$3,079.86</b>  |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>                                                | <b>\$15,902.06</b> |
| <b>Less total Expenses of</b>                                      | <b>\$18,569.63</b> |
| <b>Net December Loss</b>                                           | <b>-\$2,667.57</b> |
| <b>YTD 2021 Gain</b>                                               | <b>\$5,714.42</b>  |

The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$39,872.51  
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,  
Joe M. EVI Treasurer

### Traditions Checklist

**Tradition Two: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.**

1. Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?
2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

**East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes****January 21, 2022**

Meeting Opened at 7:00 PM in person and on Zoom. Opened with the Serenity Prayer

**Welcome to the New Reps:**

Ahwatukee Bookworm – Shauna, Ahwatukee Group – Kara, Bloopers –Chris & Kelly, Bootstrap Men's –Rob, Courage to Change – Kathy, E. Phoenix Men's Stag – Charlie, Easy Does It – Marge, Life in the Big Book – Marge, Men's Shade Tree – Morgan, Page A Day – Kevin & Jon, Price is Right – Teresa, Road to Recovery – Jerry & Mike, Society – Doreen, SE Valley Stag – Gary, Steppers – Tom, Stepping Stones – Monica, Sun Lakes Serenity Seekers – Deb, Sun Night BB Step Study – Dave, Sunset Group – Danielle, The Real Thing – Roxanne, The Way Out – Michael, Women in Gratitude - Erika

**Attendees, Committee and other Trusted Servants:** Edited for space. Contact office for details.

J welcomes everyone. Mike read the 12 Traditions. Introduction of reps, both in person and virtual.

**Secretary's Report:** Lois L. - Presented in packet. Motion to accept and seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joseph M- reviewed report from the packet. Motion to accept and seconded. Motion passed.

**7<sup>th</sup> Tradition:** \$51 in person. You can make a 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contribution on the EVI website. [www.aamesaaz.org](http://www.aamesaaz.org)

**Chairperson's Report:** J J. – Looking forward to working with us all as we start a new rotation.

**Vice Chairperson Report:** Barb M.

Attended the 08-820 and 08-819 Sub District meetings in December. 08-818 did not meet. Also attended the EVI Steering Committee meeting in January. Sad to miss NY Eve bash due to any emergency.

**Office Manager Report:** Kim W.

Reviewed written report in the packet. Some things of note:

12-step calls were up over 50% in December – PSA's may have reached and helped many people.

Hard cover Big Books are still out of stock at GSO until mid-February.

63% of our groups are contributing to the Intergroup!!! That is a bragging point among other Office Managers – we support our Intergroup well and have a great participation from our groups.

Literature sales are coming back up.

Folding day next Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PI/CPC:** (Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community) Andrea M.

Many on the committee from last rotation have just changed chairs, so they have a lot of good experience to draw from, but they always have room for new volunteers. There are many opportunities for service on this committee. More detail on written report.

**Special Events:** Mindy S.

New Year's bash was fantastic!! Served dinner to 250 people – had 300 people for the speaker meeting. Thanks again Lois for being our speaker. Tickets are available for the Gratitude Dinner thru Cannon 623-363-4676 or Monica 585-704-6284 or from the EVI office.

Tickets will be distributed as EVI Reps request them. The January monthly speaker meeting was great – many slots open for this year. Sign your group up.

**Phone committee:** Lisa V. not present

Secretary note: Lisa was present for the for the phone workshop on Zoom – there were about 8 folks there. Laura was present for the in-person phone workshop – no one came this month.

**Unity Committee:** Ben C

Our purpose is to go out to meetings who do not have an EVI rep and invite them to EVI. We request 6 months sobriety to join the committee. Need volunteers for the committee. We meet at 6pm right before the EVI Business meeting.

**Sponsorship Workshop:** Ken C.

We hold a Sponsorship Workshop on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of all odd months. Bring 3 – 6 people to share their experience with being a sponsor or being a sponsee. Sign your group up. Carol commented how much great information she got at the workshop she attended.

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:** position open.

**Literature:** Mike K.

Mike would like someone to take the Literature Committee Chair position so he can take the No Booze News Editor position.

At this time, J appointed Mike K. as Editor of the No Booze News. Congrats Mike.

**LIASION REPORTS**

**AI-anon Liaison:** Vicki B. – Meeting tomorrow at Church of the Epiphany will be the first in-person Family Recovery Night event in a very long time – there will be A.A. and AI-Anon speakers.

**H&I Liaison:** Dave T. – Many on the committee have completed the last rotation. We have 30 people badged to go into Florence Prison and more are being cleared. We need some women to get badged for Perryville Prison. The SRI Roundup will be August 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> at the Double-tree in Scottsdale.

**Spanish Liaison:** Marge M. – The Spanish Women's Event Committee continuing to meet to promote another large Hispanic Women's Event in California next year. Marge is stepping down as Spanish Liaison – been in this position for 5 years – promoting rotation. We only have 2 women's Spanish meetings in the Valley.

**Zonypaa Liaison:** none

**Sub District 08-818:** Tim G. – Our next large General Service event will be the Pre-Conference Assembly on April 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>. This will be a virtual event only. 08-818 will be hosting the Post-Conference Assembly on June 25h at the Crown Plaza Sky Harbor Hotel. This will be hybrid. Our Sub-District meeting is held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at Bloopers.

**Sub District 08-819:** Robert S. not present

**Sub District 08-820:** Carol M. Alt DCM – Getting pot luck/speaker meeting going soon – flyers will be out

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion came from the EVI Steering Committee as a seconded motion. J read the motion:

**Add the following to the Secretary duties:**

4.3.5.5 Updates and maintains the EVI Policies & Procedures manual, the Bylaws of the East Valley Intergroup, and the EVI Past Actions. Distributes these to Steering Committee members and Standing Committee Chairpersons electronically (and in print when requested) when new members take office or updates are made.

J asked for comments or questions. It was clarified that any updates will be items that have been voted on either currently or in the past. Some old actions have not been updated for a couple years. There is currently no provision for which officer is responsible to update these records. **Reps will take this to their groups and vote on it next month.**

J announced we need a new Literature Committee Chair and a new Spanish Liaison. Anyone interested please contact J. These positions are for two year terms.

New motion by Carla E. (special events committee member). Seconded by Cannon –

Requesting approx. \$300 to purchase two new 110 cup coffee pots to be used by Special Events and to be housed at Church of the Epiphany. The church has approved this. The committee understands that there are pots at the EVI office, but there can be challenges in picking them up before an event. **Reps will take this to their groups and vote on it next month.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Sharon brought up that we could use help setting up the sound system for the monthly business meeting – can someone commit to come early to set it up, for perhaps 6 months at a time? It takes about 10-15 minutes – equipment is stored here. Cannon volunteered.

Roxanne is the office volunteer Coordinator – could use some volunteers. The Friday slot from 1pm to 5pm has been open about 3 years. 1 year sobriety needed – great opportunity.

Marge is inviting women to join her at a Spanish Women's meeting at Crossroads. Someone asked how long is the commitment - the answer was until you drink or die.

Chris from Bloopers said there is a Chef's store on McClintock that sells chef quality coffee pots.

Rick from Step by Step at Mesa Alano is chair of the Mesa Roundup. The Roundup will be held at Pioneer Park on February 12<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4pm. They will have speakers, 50/50 raffle, games, and lots of fun!!!!

Motion to close meeting. 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, **Lois L. EVI Secretary**

## Lois Looks Back On Early Days With Bill

From the December 1944 Grapevine

As the wife of an early AA, some of our experiences and my reactions to my husband's changed life may be interesting to other wives. Bill was an alcoholic, I believe, from the first drink he ever took, just a few months before our marriage. From then on, for seventeen years, I did everything I could think of to keep him away from liquor.

I will tell a little of our life before AA to help explain some of my later emotions. Bill and I had no children, so I soon felt that my job in life was to help Bill straighten himself out. As time went on, he earnestly tried to stop drinking. He was always very remorseful and perplexed the morning after. We would then resolve to lick this liquor situation together, launching off on some new tack.

As his drinking got worse, all decision and responsibility had to be taken by me. It was lucky that we were companionable, for gradually as our social contacts were broken we were thrust back on each other for company. In order to get away from alcohol over the weekends, I used to engineer some sort of outing, as we both loved the outdoors. If our pocketbook was flat, we might take the subway to the Dyckman Street ferry and hike along the Palisades to some scenic spot where we would nibble our sandwiches and gaze at the view. Or we might ferry to Staten Island; perhaps broiling a steak over a campfire. We hired a rowboat at Yonkers and, using a bath towel as a sail, floated up the Hudson to a spit of land near Nyack, where we camped and tried to sleep. We once went so far to get away from alcohol that we both gave up our jobs and took a whole year off. This we spent motorcycling and camping over half the United States.

These trips, although good for Bill's health, did nothing towards his permanent sobriety. In fact, his alcoholism grew steadily more serious. He lost job after job until I became entirely hopeless about him.

And then suddenly and finally Bill straightened out through the help of an old friend. At once I was convinced of his complete change and was of course extremely happy. Bill began to go to religious meetings and to work feverishly with alcoholics. I would go to meetings too and would try to share his newfound enthusiasms. He always had some drunk in tow and would work all night or get up in the middle of the night to go to the suburbs if one called him. We had drunks all over the house; sometimes as many as five lived there at one time.

One drunk committed suicide in the house after having sold about 700 dollars worth of our clothes and luggage. Another slid down the coal chute from the street to the cellar when we refused him the front door. Two others took to fighting and one chased the other all around the house with a carving knife. The intended victim was saved by a third drunk, who delivered the knife-minded one a knockout blow. An alcoholic who was living in the basement was invited up for a pancake breakfast. After eating his share, he suddenly put on his hat and started out of the door remarking that he was going to Childs' for PLENTY of pancakes.

Bill had found himself a job about this time; and it used to take him away from home a great deal and I was left with one or more alcoholics to look after. Once one of these boys lay in the vestibule all night and screamed invectives at me because I would not let him in. He was so loud the passers-by all stopped, looked and listened. Another time it was four a.m. before I succeeded in towing a drunk home. He was anxious to be at his job the next morning and we had gone out around midnight to look for a doctor, having been unable to get one to come to the house at that hour. I helped his shaky steps up and down stoops, lit his cigarettes for him and finally, when we could not rouse a doctor, held a drink to his lips in a bar. When I asked him how he then felt he said, "Well a bird can't fly on one wing." After a few more drinks I managed to get him home, but he did not get to his job the next morning. I was once suddenly taken sick, and when my sister arrived to nurse me she found five men milling around in the living room, one of them muttering, "One woman can look after five drunks but five drunks cannot look after one woman."

Now to describe my reactions to it all. When Bill first sobered up I was terribly happy but soon, without my realizing it, I began to resent the fact that Bill and I never spent any time together any more. I stayed at home while he went off somewhere scouting up new drunks or working with old ones. My life's job of sobering up Bill with all its former responsibilities was suddenly taken away from me. I had not yet found anything to fill the void. And then there was the feeling of being on the outside of a very tight little clique of alcoholics into which no mere wife could possibly enter. I did not understand what was going on within myself until one Sunday Bill asked me to go with him to a meeting. To my own surprise as well as his I burst forth with, "Damn all your meetings," and threw my shoe at him as hard as I could.

This bad display of temper woke me up. I realized that I had been wallowing in self-pity; that Bill's change was simply miraculous; that his feverish activity with alcoholics was absolutely necessary to his sobriety; and that if I did not want to be left way behind I had better jump on the bandwagon, too!

Lois Wilson, 1944