



2016

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

NO BOOZE NEWS

The Worst Meeting Ever—There was a reason he was stuck in this room full of odor and noise

Just a little over a year ago, I met a man who was living in a treatment center. He was allowed to go to outside meetings after 30 days, and was rather enjoying himself at a very social AA conference. He told me he was quite happy to be living in that facility because he'd been living in the streets for over two years. I could tell he wasn't really that familiar with AA, but he had that newcomer drive and excitement.

Over the next couple of months, I kept running into him at all the district and area meetings. He had gotten truly involved and was in the middle of AA. He told me there were many other people at his treatment center and most of them would never know what AA is really like.

He said nobody else from the treatment center went to the conference and, sadly, he doubted if one single person would ever find out what it was like to be surrounded by so many people who understood the morning terror and madness, and yet were laughing about it. Because he seemed to be so grateful for his sobriety, I wanted to talk to him even more. He told me that the center makes all the residents attend "AA meetings" each day in their large meeting room, but those meetings are run by the residents themselves. He went on to tell me that even though they mean well, they just don't have a clue. I wondered how many people would leave that treatment center thinking AA wouldn't work for them. I made a decision to attend a meeting there the very next week, and so I did.

My first meeting there was far from sensational. In fact, I would be lying if I said anything other than it was the worst meeting I've ever been to. First off, the place was filled with people who looked like they hadn't showered in weeks or months. Everyone and everything smelled. They were wearing clothes that were torn and tattered. The treatment center doubles as a soup kitchen and a cold-weather bed shelter. Many of the residents are just looking for something warm to eat and a dry place to sleep so they can go back out and do more battle the next day. If there were a war on alcoholism, this would indeed be the trenches of the front line.

Before the meeting started, I did what I customarily do at every meeting I go to: I walked around the room, paused at every person there, looked them square in the eye, shook their hand and introduced myself. The pain and suffering I saw in their eyes was almost too much to bear, but there were a few who reacted much as I did at my first AA meeting. The experience came back to me in a flash and I almost cried. I remembered how happy I'd felt that these strangers took the time to shake my hand even though I didn't feel like I deserved such attention or formality.

The meeting started out with an introduction as an open meeting. We went around the room and introduced ourselves and then proceeded to read all the handouts. This took almost half an hour because the people chosen to read were having such a difficult time with the words. By the time it came to start sharing, half the people had left, half the remaining people were carrying on conversations with themselves, and several had fallen asleep. Every single person in the meeting got up at one point to get coffee or to scrape ice out of a large metal chest while someone was trying to share. There were a lot of distractions.

I asked my Higher Power what he had gotten me into. It was only with his help that I was able to stay for the entire meeting. They closed with the Lord's Prayer. I was never so glad for the ending of a meeting. I had made up my mind to make a beeline out the door. I thought my work there was complete. Little did I know I hadn't even gotten started.

As I was making my way toward the door, I was stopped by a little, older guy. He had obviously experienced many hard times. "You look like someone who can help me," he said. He wanted to talk. I thought he was going to ask me for money or a ride or a place to sleep. I was more than slightly reserved. He continued: "I've heard all my life that people can actually get sober from AA. I didn't believe it till about a month ago. Can you help me find a sponsor?" Right then and there, I experienced an overwhelming sense of power that wiped out all those smells, noises and sights. I stopped to talk with him and with a few others before leaving that night. I made a commitment to start attending one meeting a week there.

I've been doing that for over a year now and I've been asked about a sponsor many times. Several of the men actually asked me to sponsor them, and the first of them just celebrated a year of sobriety. He's been through the first part of the Big Book with me. He's been making his amends and has re-established communication with his son.

Every Wednesday night, as I walk into that treatment center, I ask God to remove from me my ego, fear, doubt and stress; that I may have the ability to deliver the program of action as outlined in our basic text; and that I share nothing beyond my experience. In this one short year, I have seen 10 men sit down with their sponsors and study the Big Book and I am in total shock to say that all 10 of them have continued sobriety.

-- Anonymous

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Reprinted with permission of the Grapevine, February 2011



Alcoholics Anonymous Traditions admonish us that to preserve harmony and to enhance the survival value of our movement, we should seriously respect the anonymous aspect of the program.

In Main Street America it is more difficult to remain anonymous, but many small town groups have found by trial and error that anonymity should be encouraged at all times.

All too often in groups we find members violating this Tradition, many, no doubt, because of lack of knowledge as to just how important anonymity is to us and why it should be respected.

The common "explosion" one usually confronts when broaching the subject is, "Why should I be ashamed of Alcoholics Anonymous? I'm proud of it, I think all of us should let everybody know we belong, etc., etc." Such a person needs to be enlightened. Personal attitudes are important, of course, but are only a minor factor concerning why we should stay nameless.

Other vital reasons are:

Anonymity is a potent reminder that we are just one among many, an infinitesimal agent of a great power. It has a very substantial spiritual significance, reminding us to respect the common welfare of the movement ahead of our own.

Anonymity stymies self-glorification and insures the other fellow the right to preserve his own identity. Who you are in AA is not important.

Anonymity protects the movement. If a group "wheel-horse" suddenly reverts to a mash diet, as sometimes happens, wraps his car around a telephone pole, makes the newsprint or the "bucket" or both, AA is left unscathed.

Anonymity fortifies us against political invasion and alignment with religious or other movements. Former movements have been destroyed by the invasion of political speakers and alignment with various sectarian organizations. By remaining strictly nameless, we bypass these and all controversial issues such as the wet and dry question and other promotional projects.

Anonymity insures us against members forming small groups, associating personal names with the well-known name, Alcoholics Anonymous, and obtaining credit, loans or gifts for clubs, furnishings, etc., which dangerous procedure has proved disastrous in some places.

Anonymity discourages members from becoming professionals, charging fees for counseling alcoholics and other services, and prevents personal publicity in all printed material, photographs, radio, television, etc.

Let us all remember that Alcoholics Anonymous is a spiritual entity only. It has nothing to sell and doesn't want to buy anything. It gives away everything and has more for so doing. Alcoholics Anonymous belongs to all alcoholics who have a sincere desire to use its principles. Certainly all of us should feel duty bound to preserve its principles and practice, not only for ourselves, but for the millions of sick alcoholics yet to come. Few of us realized the warmth and the solace of brotherly love until we found this movement. Let us protect our anonymity and fortify ourselves against possible disaster.

-- Doc

Portland, Oregon

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Traditions Checklist



Tradition Twelve: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

1. Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to *me* if AA as a whole disappeared?
2. When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?
3. In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?
4. Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to *my* standards, not its own?
5. Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is *my* part?
6. Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition—or belie it?
7. Do I do all I can do to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a Grapevine subscription?
8. Do I complain about certain AAs' behavior—especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made *me* so smart?
9. Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?
10. Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?
11. Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?
12. What is the real importance of *me* among more than a million AAs?

EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It!!

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



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Attitude of Gratitude

If you are grateful for your sobriety and would like to give back to the program that has so freely given to you, please use the Gratitude With Service form below to volunteer for any of EVI's Standing Committees, such as PI/CPC (Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community), Special Events, Literature, Unity, or Phone Volunteers. Participating in any of these committees can be a great way to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic, both in and out of the rooms.

As an ongoing reminder, we are still in need of more volunteers for the 12th Step call list. Although we are great at making sure the phones are answered day or night, finding someone willing and available to do a 12th Step call can sometimes be very challenging, and often times it's hit or miss depending on the time of day. If you have at least one year of continued sobriety and are willing to make yourself available to the alcoholic reaching out to AA for help from time to time, please be sure to complete the form provided below and return to the EVI Central Office via fax, mail, e-mail or in person as soon as possible. Who knows — the life you save could be your own....

EAST VALLEY INTERGROUP – Gratitude With Service form *revised 2/09*

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

(480) 827-1905

e-mail: info@aamesaaz.org

www.aamesaaz.org

Date _____ *First Name _____ Last _____

Address _____ *Phone _____

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

*Sobriety Date _____ Home Group _____

e-mail address _____ Alt Phone _____

* = required for listing in 12th Step List

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

Volunteer Service Options

Check only those you are willing to commit time to

12th Step List Volunteer

- ☐ Weeknights
- ☐ Weekends
- ☐ Weekdays

Phones Night & Weekend

- ☐ Weekends
- ☐ Weeknights

- ☐ Office Phone Volunteer
- ☐ Other Office Help

Committees of Interest

Check only those you are willing to serve on

- ☐ Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community
- ☐ Special Events
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Newsletter (*No Booze News*)
- ☐ Unity Committee
- ☐ Deliver A Meeting



ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

STATELINE RETREAT

DECEMBER 8 ~ 11
TUSCANY HOTEL AND CASINO
255 E FLAMINGO RD. LAS VEGAS NV

RIVER ROUNDUP

JANUARY 19 ~ 22
RIVERSIDE RESORT AND CASINO
LAUGHLIN NV.



YUMA ROUNDUP

FEBRUARY 17 ~ 19
LOCATION TBD
YUMA, AZ

Salt River Intergroup Presents

2016 Christmas Alcahthon

December 24 to 25, noon to noon
1915 W Thunderbird Rd. Phoenix AZ
(American Royal Palace Banquet Hall)

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**SRI New Years Eve**

Saturday, December 31st  
6947 E McDowell Dr. Paradise Valley  
(Valley Presbyterian Church)

*Check [aaphoenix.org](http://aaphoenix.org) for more information*



**MESA ROUNDUP**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2016**  
15 W 1st Ave. MESA AZ 85210

6:30 PM EAT, MEET, GREET –FOOD FOR SALE  
8:00PM SPEAKER - JOHN B.  
9:00PM DANCE WITH DJ RONSTRO  
MIDNIGHT NEW YEAR'S TOAST



**Monthly Campfire Meeting**

Last Saturday of the Month @7:30pm  
2757 E Guadalupe Rd.  
Riparian Preserve and Water Park  
(take Cattail Crawl Trail to Honey Bee Point)



**Agua Fria Intergroup Presents**

2016 New Year's Eve Celebration  
Saturday, December 31st  
Doors open at 6:00pm  
10111 N El Mirage Rd. El Mirage AZ  
(Bella Piazza Event Center)

*Check [afiinfo@aawestphoenix.org](mailto:afiinfo@aawestphoenix.org) for more information*





| Name              | Date       | Days  |
|-------------------|------------|-------|
| Patricia C. ....  | 12/31/1975 | 14976 |
| Steve C. ....     | 12/23/1981 | 12784 |
| Ken H. ....       | 12/13/1982 | 12419 |
| Mike S. ....      | 12/17/1984 | 11688 |
| Gary P. ....      | 12/18/1984 | 11688 |
| Shelly P. ....    | 12/21/1986 | 10958 |
| Sue M. ....       | 12/31/1987 | 10593 |
| Thomas M. ....    | 12/27/1988 | 10227 |
| Augie L. ....     | 12/13/1989 | 9862  |
| Tom P. ....       | 12/18/1989 | 9862  |
| Joe D. ....       | 12/28/1989 | 9862  |
| Joe C. ....       | 12/1/1990  | 9497  |
| Carrie H. ....    | 12/2/1990  | 9497  |
| Lois L. ....      | 12/3/1991  | 9132  |
| Scott K. ....     | 12/10/1995 | 7671  |
| Michael E. ....   | 12/20/1995 | 7671  |
| Karen N. ....     | 12/12/1996 | 7305  |
| Phylis S. ....    | 12/6/1997  | 6940  |
| Denny P. ....     | 12/23/1997 | 6940  |
| Bridgitte L. .... | 12/25/1997 | 6940  |
| Jacob H. ....     | 12/9/2001  | 5479  |
| Maria D. ....     | 12/13/2001 | 5479  |
| Justin G. ....    | 12/4/2002  | 5114  |
| Paul P. ....      | 12/19/2002 | 5114  |
| Terry B. ....     | 12/20/2002 | 5114  |
| Jared H. ....     | 12/13/2004 | 4383  |
| Robert J. ....    | 12/20/2004 | 4383  |
| Maria N. ....     | 12/27/2006 | 3653  |
| Sharon A. ....    | 12/4/2008  | 2922  |
| Lars S. ....      | 12/26/2008 | 2922  |
| Sheila H. ....    | 12/7/2009  | 2557  |
| Jim T. ....       | 12/27/2009 | 2557  |
| Corie R. ....     | 12/29/2009 | 2557  |
| Cisco A. ....     | 12/30/2010 | 2192  |
| Andrea M. ....    | 12/4/2011  | 1827  |
| Jeff R. ....      | 12/5/2011  | 1827  |
| Debbie R. ....    | 12/11/2011 | 1827  |
| Jan N. ....       | 12/26/2011 | 1827  |
| George R. ....    | 12/7/2012  | 1461  |
| Lucia R. ....     | 12/12/2012 | 1461  |
| Susan B. ....     | 12/19/2012 | 1461  |
| Christi K. ....   | 12/31/2012 | 1461  |
| Fred M. ....      | 12/12/2013 | 1096  |
| Rachel B. ....    | 12/27/2013 | 1096  |
| Chris S. ....     | 12/18/2014 | 731   |

## Read Further in A.A. Book for 12th Step Aid

Anyone who is having trouble applying the second half of the 12th Step, the part that suggests, "...and to practice these principles in all our affairs," might get some help by reading a little further on that page of the A.A. book. It's Page 72 in my edition and the part I refer to reads:

"Do not be discouraged. No one among us has been able to maintain anything like perfect adherence to these principles. We are not saints. The point is, that we are willing to grow along spiritual lines. The principles we have set down are guides to progress. We claim spiritual progress rather than spiritual perfection."

To me, at first, applying the principle of complete honesty alone seemed too big an order. How could one get along in business, the way business is constituted, if he were completely honest? How could one bargain? He would be taken advantage of if he were completely honest. First of all, how can one really be completely honest? How can one practice all of the A.A. principles of honesty, humility, tolerance, anonymity, etc., in a world rife with greed, competition, trickery, deceit and all the rest?

I didn't think it could be done. But I decided to take the book's suggestion and try anyway. Much to my amazement, I found it can be done. Strangely enough, too, I haven't been exploited half as much as back in the days when I used to try to out-connive the other fellow. I'm doing much better than ever before. To be sure, being honest requires a little more ingenuity, perseverance, patience and even hard work. But the satisfaction is much greater, too.

-- D.O.R.

Detroit, Michigan    Reprinted with permission of the Grapevine



One night, a **newcomer took his daughter** to dinner at a downtown restaurant. As they walked in the door, the first thing they saw was an enormous sign advertising what used to be his favorite beer. The man's eyes immediately widened and he began remembering just how good the old brew tasted. Then his daughter interrupted.

"Oh, look, Daddy," she said, pointed to the sign. "They have Your-Life's -in-the-Toilet on tap."

## Things We Can Not Change

*Terra V., Long time member of our Fellowship  
passed from this world October, 2016.*

*Her life touched many and she will be missed.*

**PI / CPC**

(Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community)

Meets 1st Monday's at 7:00pm

235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert

(Gilbert Presbyterian Church)

Come help carry the message at the public level and to professional groups who have contact with alcoholics.

For more information contact:

New Chair Coming Soon

**EVI Phone Workshop**

Third Friday's at 6:15 pm

Before the monthly business meeting at

1125 N Dobson Rd

Antioch Community Church

Or

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

For more information

Call

480 834-9033

**EVI Sponsorship Workshop**

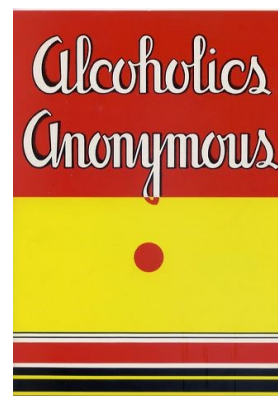
10am the 1st Saturday of every other month

235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert AZ

(Gilbert Presbyterian Church)

Contact: TBD

HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

**January 7 ~ TBD**

Join the Newly Re-Organized

**EVI Unity Committee**

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday

Antioch Community Church

1125 N. Dobson Rd Chandler

Contact Larry S.

**EVI Special Events Committee**

Meeting held before the Monthly Speaker Meeting

1st Friday of the month

Antioch Community Church

1125 N Dobson Rd Chandler

contact: Andrea M.

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

Antioch Community Church

1125 North Dobson Road, Chandler

**December 4th - Bloopers**

January 6th—TDB

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 now\*\*\***

# Central Office Manager's Report

November 18th, 2016

Welcome home to all our Winter Members, it is good to have you back. Many of you have called or stopped by to say hello and volunteer for service work during the winter months. Thanks to all of you for your commitment to service and sobriety.

We received 479 requests for information and assistance last month. Of those 121 calls were for meeting info, 128 were office visitors and 12 resulted in a 12 step call. Our website stays busy too. It had 32,697 visits in the last 30 days. Our Google listing also receives steady traffic. Our Google totals for September were 2,987 views, 38 map directions and 24 calls.

Literature orders have been received from both AAWS and Grapevine. We now have a complete selection of all AA produced literature for your holiday needs.

Part 1: I attended the ICOAA Seminar on November 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> in Kansas City. KC Intergroup has a great relationship with their local districts. All meals were provided by a different district in the hospitality room for all of the seminar attendees. The Phoenix area was well represented with office managers from all 4 Intergroup's. I have rotated out of the Pacific Region Delegate to the Policy Committee position. I was chosen from the hat to serve on an ad hoc committee to improve and develop lines of communication between Intergroup's, Central Offices and the General Service Board. In the following months I'll be reporting on the various workshops and presentations I attended, stay tuned.

We are in the process of making a Holiday Event Schedule again this year for the phone volunteers and anyone interested in sober festivities. If your group is planning an Alcathon or any other special schedule changes for the holidays, please let us know so we can share that information with the Fellowship.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight,  
Love and Service

Kim W. Central Office Manager

## EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

|                                      |          |       |       |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| .....                                | Oct      | ..... | 2016  |
| Meeting Information Calls .....      | 121      | ..... | 1,470 |
| General Information .....            | 89       | ..... | 873   |
| Referred to Salt River Intergroup .. | 13       | ..... | 85    |
| Referred to Al-Anon.....             | 17       | ..... | 113   |
| Referred to Community Info.....      | 0        | ..... | 12    |
| 12th Step Calls.....                 | 12       | ..... | 105   |
| Business Calls.....                  | 99       | ..... | 969   |
| Office Visitors.....                 | 128      | ..... | 1319  |
| Meeting lists printed.....           | 800      | ..... | 8200  |
| Info request via E-mail.....         | 53       | ..... | 427   |
| Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/None.....    | 31/ 6/ 4 |       |       |
| Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YTD. ....    | 1820hrs  |       |       |

### Web Stats

Website Visits last 30 days 32,697 YTD 310,605  
Google Searches last 30 days 2,987

## Meeting List Updates...

### New Meetings:

Upon Awakening 15303 S Gilbert Rd. Gilbert MO—SA 6:45a BB,C  
Conscious Contact 1159 N Greenfield Rd. Gilbert TU 6:30pm Meditation,C  
Saturday Night Sobriety 1050 W Superstition Blvd. AJ SA 8:00p O

### Changes:

A.J. Big Book Study **Has Moved To:** 1050 W Superstition Blvd. SU 7:30p O,BB  
Tempe Sunrisers **Has Moved To:** 4415 S Rural Rd. Tempe Daily 6:45a O  
(The Pigeon Coop)

Aha, It's Monday **Moved To:** 25612 S EJ Robinson Blvd Sunlakes MO 4:00p O

### Deletions:

Road To Recovery 5640 E Main St. Mesa Canceled TH & WE 6:45

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

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

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

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

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

*District 08-820*  
PO Box 20404  
Mesa, AZ 85277

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

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

### Example of Group Contributions to A.A.

#### Service Entities

Distribution of funds from groups that support four service entities

10% to District 10% to Area

30% to GSO 50% to Intergroup



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# GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

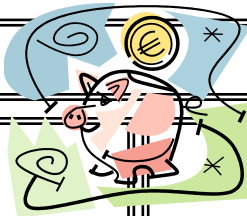


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| GROUP                                 | Oct      | YTD        |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|
| 11th Step Candlelight .....           |          | \$138.00   |
| 12 X 12 @ 12 .....                    |          | \$0.00     |
| 2121 Beginner Workshop .....          |          | \$100.00   |
| 24 Hours A Day .....                  |          | \$20.00    |
| A Vision For You Group .....          |          | \$196.50   |
| ABC Group .....                       |          | \$0.00     |
| AHA! It's Monday .....                |          | \$150.00   |
| Ahwatukee Daybreak Serenity .....     |          | \$0.00     |
| Ahwatukee Group .....                 |          | \$113.24   |
| Ahwatukee Nooners.....                |          | \$1,600.00 |
| Ahwatukee Saturday Men's .....        |          | \$672.75   |
| Ahwatukee Women's Group .....         |          | \$296.80   |
| Arbor Daily Noon Group.....           |          | \$950.00   |
| ASCYPAA .....                         |          | \$0.00     |
| As You Wake Up .....                  |          | \$75.60    |
| Attitude Adjustment CG .....          | \$30.00  | \$116.00   |
| Attitude of Gratitude .....           |          | \$0.00     |
| Basic II .....                        |          | \$300.00   |
| Before Breakfast Group .....          |          | \$0.00     |
| Bloopers .....                        | \$30.00  | \$500.00   |
| Bootstrap Men's .....                 | \$400.00 | \$800.00   |
| Breakfast Club .....                  |          | \$0.00     |
| Busted Ego .....                      |          | \$500.00   |
| By The Book .....                     | \$63.36  | \$398.00   |
| Chandler Men's Stag Group .....       |          | \$0.00     |
| Chandler Noon Group .....             | \$93.00  | \$943.64   |
| Chandler Women's Big Book Group ..... | \$305.43 | \$847.19   |
| Cold Coffee Group .....               |          | \$100.00   |
| Common Solution.....                  |          | \$160.00   |
| Copper Basin Group .....              | \$117.09 | \$117.09   |
| Courage To Change.....                |          | \$100.00   |
| Daily Reflections Group .....         |          | \$0.00     |
| Day At A Timers .....                 |          | \$78.00    |
| East Valley Men's Stag .....          | \$200.00 | \$650.00   |
| Easy Does It Group .....              | \$88.87  | \$938.70   |
| Experience, Strength and Hope .....   |          | \$00.00    |
| Eye Opener Group .....                | \$60.00  | \$160.00   |
| Family Recovery Group .....           |          | \$0.00     |
| Feelings & Solutions.....             |          | \$230.00   |
| Firehouse Meeting .....               | \$30.00  | \$140.00   |
| Friday Night Big Book Study .....     |          | \$250.00   |
| Friends Of Bill W. ....               |          | \$120.00   |
| Get It Together.....                  | \$400.75 | \$4,355.11 |
| Gilbert Gals .....                    |          | \$210.00   |
| Gilbert Group .....                   |          | \$0.00     |
| Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group .....       |          | \$186.33   |
| Good Ol' Back to Basics .....         |          | \$250.00   |
| Grateful Dames .....                  |          | \$0.00     |
| Gratitude Group .....                 | \$137.00 | \$199.98   |
| Cut Level .....                       |          | \$58.25    |
| Happy Hour @ Sunbird.....             | \$196.42 | \$514.57   |
| Heard It Thru The Grapevine .....     |          | \$24.00    |
| Into Action .....                     |          | \$38.73    |
| Inwardly Reorganized.....             |          | \$30.00    |
| Keep It Simple.....                   |          | \$110.00   |
| Keepin It Real Ladies .....           | \$225.00 | \$376.00   |
| Life In The Big Book .....            | \$259.60 | \$1,037.19 |
| Maricopa 12 X 12 .....                | \$20.00  | \$80.00    |
| Maricopa Group .....                  |          | \$75.00    |
| Mesa Group .....                      |          | \$0.00     |
| Mid-Morning Group.....                | \$75.00  | \$155.00   |
| Morning After Group .....             |          | \$19.00    |
| Name In The Hat.....                  |          | \$700.00   |
| New Beginnings.....                   |          | \$500.00   |
| New Hope Group .....                  | \$15.00  | \$105.00   |
| New Spirit Group .....                | \$300.00 | \$975.00   |
| No Name AA Group .....                |          | \$50.00    |
| Not A Glum Lot.....                   |          | \$65.00    |
| Page A Day Group .....                | \$771.18 | \$2,854.42 |

| GROUP                                 | Oct               | YTD                |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Pioneer Group .....                   | \$24.00           | \$218.20           |
| Playground Solutions Group .....      |                   | \$0.00             |
| Price Is Right .....                  |                   | \$557.50           |
| Primary Purpose BB Study.....         |                   | \$0.00             |
| Primary Purpose Group .....           |                   | \$192.90           |
| Prime Time.....                       | \$10.00           | \$60.00            |
| Progress Rather Than Perfection ..... |                   | \$60.00            |
| Puttin' Sober East .....              |                   | \$60.00            |
| Putting God First .....               |                   | \$660.00           |
| Queen Creek BB Study Group.....       |                   | \$125.00           |
| Re-Awakening Group .....              |                   | \$0.00             |
| Remember When .....                   | \$100.00          | \$150.00           |
| Renewed Spirit.....                   | \$300.00          | \$900.00           |
| Right Place Women's .....             |                   | \$0.00             |
| Rising Spirit.....                    | \$538.21          | \$1,280.53         |
| Road To Recovery .....                |                   | \$3,736.79         |
| San Tan Group .....                   |                   | \$0.00             |
| Second Chance Group .....             |                   | \$732.55           |
| Seniors In Sobriety-Tempe.....        |                   | \$55.00            |
| Serenity At Six.....                  |                   | \$0.00             |
| Sisterhood Of Solutions .....         |                   | \$220.00           |
| Sobriety is Gold .....                |                   | \$50.00            |
| Sobriety Rocks .....                  |                   | \$50.00            |
| Society Group .....                   |                   | \$1,675.00         |
| Solutions Group .....                 |                   | \$0.00             |
| Some Are Sicker Than Others .....     |                   | \$0.00             |
| Southeast Valley Stag .....           |                   | \$0.00             |
| Spirited Women .....                  |                   | \$75.00            |
| Step By Step Group .....              |                   | \$0.00             |
| Stepping Stones .....                 |                   | \$525.00           |
| Sunday Morning Reflections.....       |                   | \$0.00             |
| Sunday Morning Women.....             |                   | \$0.00             |
| Sunday Night BB Step Study .....      |                   | \$203.63           |
| Sunland Serenity Seekers.....         |                   | \$205.00           |
| Sunset Group .....                    | \$85.00           | \$185.00           |
| Tempe Group .....                     |                   | \$0.00             |
| Tempe High Noon .....                 |                   | \$0.00             |
| Tempe Nooners .....                   | \$25.00           | \$250.00           |
| Tempe Sunrisers .....                 |                   | \$0.00             |
| The Kick .....                        |                   | \$0.00             |
| The Library .....                     | \$50.00           | \$180.00           |
| The Real Thing .....                  |                   | \$9.88             |
| The Way Out Group .....               |                   | \$400.00           |
| This Simple Program.....              |                   | \$0.00             |
| Thursday Night Step Group.....        |                   | \$0.00             |
| Tuesday Night Steppin Out .....       |                   | \$110.00           |
| Tuesday's Trudgers .....              |                   | \$5.00             |
| Tumbleweeds Group .....               |                   | \$520.54           |
| Twelvers (disbanded) .....            |                   | \$0.00             |
| We Ain't Dead Yet.....                |                   | \$97.50            |
| We Agnostics .....                    |                   | \$60.00            |
| We Can Group .....                    |                   | \$0.00             |
| Wednesday Night Step .....            |                   | \$340.00           |
| Wednesday Night Winners .....         |                   | \$0.00             |
| West Chandler Men's.....              |                   | \$65.00            |
| Who's Driving Your Bus?.....          |                   | \$50.00            |
| Wolf Pack Group .....                 |                   | \$150.00           |
| Women in Gratitude.....               | \$50.00           | \$400.00           |
| Women in Solution .....               |                   | \$0.00             |
| Women in Touch .....                  |                   | \$250.00           |
| *Anonymous Groups.....                |                   | \$236.92           |
| <b><u>OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTEES</u></b> |                   |                    |
| Apache Lake Campout .....             |                   | \$0.00             |
| SWACYPAA .....                        |                   | \$0.00             |
| AZ AA Womens Conference.....          |                   | \$500.00           |
| Dist 08-820 .....                     |                   | \$0.00             |
| Mesa Round Up .....                   |                   | \$0.00             |
| <b>Group Totals .....</b>             | <b>\$4,999.91</b> | <b>\$40,701.03</b> |
| <b>EVI Committees .....</b>           | <b>\$123.50</b>   | <b>\$1,041.15</b>  |
| <b>Individual Contributions .....</b> | <b>\$138.00</b>   | <b>\$2,455.90</b>  |
| <b>GRAND TOTALS .....</b>             | <b>\$5,261.41</b> | <b>\$44,198.08</b> |





### BALANCE SHEET October 31, 2016

#### Assets

##### Current Assets

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Checking                  | 2,085.84  |
| Prudent Reserve (Savings) | 20,548.82 |
| Accounts Receivable       | 453.90    |
| Inventory Asset           | 20,862.53 |
| Undeposited Funds         | 443.75    |

##### Fixed Assets

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

**Total Assets** **\$44,444.84**

#### Liabilities & Equity

##### Liabilities

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Accounts Payable | 0.00   |
| Visa Credit Card | 656.77 |
| Payroll taxes    | 78.44  |

**Total Liabilities** **735.21**

##### Equity

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Opening Balance Equity | 43,778.94 |
| Retained Earnings      | -537.28   |
| Net Income             | 467.97    |

**Total Equity** **\$43,709.63**

**Total Liability & Equity** **\$44,444.84**

### PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT October 2016

|                                                                    |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 33 Group contributions totaling                                    | \$4,999.91 |
| 2 Individual contributions totaling                                | \$138.00   |
| Intergroup Business Meeting &<br>Service Committee's 7th Tradition | \$123.50   |

**Total Contributions** **\$5,266.41**

**Total Income** **\$9,642.23**

**Less total Cost Of Sales** **\$3,240.90**

**Gross Profit** **\$6,401.33**

**Less total Expenses of** **\$9,170.45**

**Net Oct. Gain** **\$230.88**

**YTD 2016 Gain** **\$467.97**

The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$20,548.82  
The Prudent Reserve has been  
established for 2016 in the amount of \$26,804.32

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

Yours in service,  
Ed B. EVI Treasurer

**Step Twelve~** Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

**Tradition Twelve~** Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

**Concept Twelve~** The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

## East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2016

Meeting Opened by Gordon at 7:00pm with Moment of Silence followed by Serenity Prayer

12 Traditions – Paul T.

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

**Intergroup Representatives:** (New Reps are in **BOLD**) (This comes from the sign in sheet).

| Rep     | Group                |
|---------|----------------------|
| Larry   | Basic II             |
| Charlie | Bootstrap            |
| Larry   | East Valley Men's    |
| Denis   | Friend's of Bill     |
|         |                      |
| Dennis  | Firehouse Group      |
| Mary    | Gilbert Group        |
| Regina  | Grateful Girlfriends |
| James   | Gratitude Group      |
| Deana   | Life in the BB       |
| Beth    | Maricopa Group       |
| Kirk    | GIT                  |

| Rep             | Group                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Regina</b>   | <b>Grateful Girlfriends</b>    |
| Alex            | No Name                        |
| Peg             | Not a Glum Lot                 |
| Lonnie          | Page A Day                     |
| Lee             | Prime Time                     |
| <b>Anne</b>     | <b>Price is Right</b>          |
| Jeremy          | Road to Recovery               |
| <b>Beth Ann</b> | <b>Sisterhood of Solutions</b> |
| <b>Lauren</b>   | <b>SNBSS</b>                   |
| Peg             | Spirited Women                 |
| Kim             | Step By Step                   |
| Dave            | Sunset                         |

| Rep     | Group                  |
|---------|------------------------|
| John    | Tempe Sunrisers        |
| Jeff    | Tuesday Trudgers       |
| Jim     | WADY                   |
| Beth    | We Agnostics           |
| Gary    | Welcome Home           |
| Jeff    | Who's Driving Your Bus |
| Regina  | Women in Gratitude     |
| Shirley | Women in Touch         |
| Bob     | Sobriety Is Gold       |
| Tom     | SE Valley Stag         |
| Jack    | Tumbleweeds            |
| Mickey  | Reawakenings           |

**Committee and other Trusted Servants:** (N/P = Not Present) (Please add N/P next to the name if you notice someone is not here)

| Name     | Service Position |
|----------|------------------|
| Gordon R | Chair            |
| Tom N    | Vice Chair       |
| Ed B     | Treasurer        |
| Regan G  | Secretary – N/P  |
| Zach L   | Advisor – Unity  |
| Barbara  | Advisor Phones   |
| Mark B   | Advisor PICPC    |

| Name   | Service Position           |
|--------|----------------------------|
| Brad   | Advisor – Special Events   |
| Kim    | Office Manager             |
| Larry  | Unity Chair                |
| Mike   | PI/CPC Chair               |
| Andrea | Special Events Chair       |
| Bev    | No Booze News Editor – N/P |
| Tamara | Phone Chair – N/P          |

| Name     | Service Position          |
|----------|---------------------------|
| Roxanne  | H&I Liaison               |
| Marge M  | Spanish Liaison           |
| Aaron B  | DCM 08-818 – N/P          |
| Paul T   | DCM 08-819                |
| Jeff S   | Alt DCM 08-820            |
| Tracey M | DCMC 08 – N/P             |
| Mary     | Sponsorship Workshop –N/P |

**Secretary's Report:** Regan Not Present (Tom N presented) - Previous SC and IGR Minutes in Packet - Motion to Accept by Denis W, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken C, Motion Carries.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ed B. – Written Report in Packet – Motion to Accept by Ken C, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denis W, Motion Carried

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition: \$69.06

**Chairperson's Report:** Gordon R - Chaired Steering Committee and Intergroup meetings.

**Vice Chair's Report:** Tom N. – Written Report in Packet.

**Office Managers Report:** Kim W. – Written Report in Packet. Part 1 of report from annual Central Office Manager's Conference. EVI is putting together list of holiday sober events (please send your group's events to Kim).

### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**PICPC: Mike** – Written Report in Packet.

**Special Events: Andrea** – Day of Service on Oct 22 was a great day... Thanks EVI! EVI Thanksgiving Alcahthon is coming up 12:00 noon Wed, 11/23 thru 12:00 noon Fri, 11/25 @ Antioch Community Church. Had a cancellation and need a group to host the Jan 6<sup>th</sup> EVI Speaker Meeting! Special Events Coordinator position is up at the end of the year. Please let a Steering Committee member know if you or someone you know may be interested.

**Newsletter Editor – Bev W.** – No Booze News (NBN) is available on the aamesaaz.org website! Thanks to everyone who has submitted articles!!! We are always looking for local articles, stories, jokes, and group history's, etc. from members for the No Booze New. Please call or email Bev! Get a subscription for just \$12 per year and have it delivered to your door!

### **LIASION REPORTS**

**Alanon Liaison:** Lee – Last week's Recovery Extravaganza was a huge success – completely full house. Lee is rotation out of Alanon Liaison position next month and will try to find a replacement.

**H&I Liaison:** Roxanne – Report available at [www.vvwhi.org](http://www.vvwhi.org). Area Corrections Conference needs new host. H&I is working on updating bylaws (current draft on H&I website). Brought copies of H&I Contact list tonight. MCSO needs men to take meetings into jails.

**Spanish Liaison** – Marge – Will be attending next Spanish IG Meeting.

**Sub District 08-818:** Aaron – Committee Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues at Tempe Bloopers at 7pm. – Not Present.

**Sub District 08-819:** Paul – Committee Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thur at St Peter's Lutheran Church in Mesa (new location effective 11/10!) – Paul gave a brief update on the recent November Assembly.

**Sub District 08-820:** Jeff – Committee Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Mon at Epiphany Lutheran in AJ. – PI/CPC Workshop tomorrow at 11:00am @ Epiphany Lutheran Church in AJ.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Will we be purchasing radio PSA's during the holidays? No, not enough funds.

Elections coming up in December for 4 positions: Chairperson, Treasurer, Advisor to Special Events and Advisor to Unity Committee. If interested in standing or nominating someone, submit a nomination form to EVI.

Several appointed positions need to be filled for the next rotation as well: Phone Coordinator, Sponsorship Workshop Coordinator, Special Events Coordinator and PI/CPC Chair. Please let a Steering Committee member know if you or someone you know may be interested.

2017 Budget to be voted on at November Meeting – Question from the floor (Gary L) – Why are Group Contribution & Sales budget line items higher than 2015 & 2016? Gary will reach out to Ed who is not present.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **ELECTIONS!**

**Chairperson:** Ed B. (current Treasurer) elected by acclamation (no other nominations).

**Treasurer:** Lois L. elected by acclamation (no other nominations).

**Advisor to Unity Committee:** Jeremy elected by acclamation (no other nominations).

**Advisor to Special Event Committee:** Meredith elected by acclamation (no other nominations).

**Appointed Positions** - Still need the following positions filled for next rotation:

Phone Coordinator

Sponsorship Workshop Coordinator

Specials Events Committee Chair/Coordinator

PI/CPC Committee Chair

**2017 EVI Budget** – Voted on and passed unanimously.

Consider moving EVI Business Meeting to another night (feedback from recent group survey). Item discussed briefly and will be taken back to groups for further consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Joint PI/CPC event on 11/19 at 11:00am @ Epiphany Lutheran Church in Apache Jct.; Mesa Roundup New Year's Eve Dance (flyers forthcoming); EVI Thanksgiving Alcahthon 12:00 noon Wed, 11/23 thru 12:00 noon Fri, 11/25 @ Antioch Community Church in Chandler. HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!!

**Group Problems & Solutions:** None.

Motion to close made by somebody and 2nd seconded by everybody. Motion Carried.

**Close Meeting: 8:20-ish** with Statement of Responsibility and Lord's Prayer.

\*Thank you Tom for taking the minutes in Regan's absence.

grat·i·tude: 

the quality of being thankful;  
readiness to show appreciation  
for and to return kindness.

What's a nice girl like me doing in a place like this? That's what I kept asking myself as I sat in detox in Carmel, New York, wearing a plastic wrist-band, full of fear, surrounded by people who had suffered much worse consequences than me. How did I end up here? How am I going to live without drinking?

One year before, my father had hanged himself in the stairwell of the home I shared with him and my mother. I felt responsible--I had suspected he might do this during the past two years of severe depression, but he seemed to be getting better, and I didn't think he'd dare to. The image of his body was burned into my brain as I imagined the details of his death. I was in shock, but I knew now more than ever that I wanted to live life to the fullest. The problem was, I had no idea how to do that. All I wanted to do was drink, and taking action on any dreams or goals was way too hard.

Through a series of events, I found a therapist. She would surely know what to do. Early in my sessions, she suggested that I not drink because I was obviously depressed and alcohol is a depressant. At that time I was a seething, silent mess of misery. I didn't say much, but I made it very clear that stop-ping drinking was not an option. She dropped it, and then carefully, occasionally, brought up AA. How dare she suggest I was an alcoholic! If you were me, you would drink too. Alcohol was the only thing that gave me any comfort. Besides, there was no way I had a drinking problem--I had a job, a car, good friends, a family that loved me. Everything looked good (on the outside), just like it was supposed to.

My drinking had only started when I went away to college nine years earlier. After growing up a "good girl" to avoid the temper of my dad, I finally felt free to do and be whatever I wanted. I was introduced to alcohol and it quickly became my social lubricant.

I no longer felt less than everyone else; I felt prettier, smarter and funnier. I relaxed for what felt like the first time ever. I did well in school and had a lot of fun, always rationalizing the blackouts and regretful behavior, because I hung out with people who drank like me.

Over the six years at this job, there were keg parties at the office and happy hours all week. I would regularly drive home drunk at the end of the night. But I never had any consequences; miraculously, I never got pulled over or hit anything.

After a while, I started drinking at home because it was safer and cheaper. Deep down I knew my drunk driving would eventually get me in trouble. Meanwhile, Dad had been struck with his depression, and, after determining nothing I did would help him, I would hide in my room and drink myself to sleep. When he committed suicide, life as I knew it was over. Alcohol was my only relief as I moved my numb body to and from work and the liquor store.

For some reason during this year, I kept showing up at therapy. My therapist eventually convinced me to check out AA. She introduced me to a woman who showed me around for a couple of weeks. People were really nice, and surprisingly clean. But I compared my story with theirs, decided I wasn't alcoholic, and stopped going to meetings. After a white-knuckle dry spell (to prove I wasn't alcoholic), I drank again, baffled and angry that I couldn't control it.

Moving back into my parents' house was difficult. But I now had a degree, a good job, a car and a boyfriend--I had arrived.

The therapist eventually suggested I go to rehab, since I hated my job, my life, and myself, and had nothing to lose. I told her we'd talk about it later. After one last attempt at controlled drinking, I became convinced that I needed help. She had prepared a plan to get me into rehab in hopes that I would one day have my moment of clarity. She took care of the details; all I did was show up. I believe now that she saved my life.

Every day I cried, grieving my best friend alcohol and terrified of living without it. After a few days in detox, I got a different-colored wrist-band and was moved to the rehab section, sharing the space with 25 other women. I sat in group hearing stories from the other patients about being shot at, going to jail, losing their jobs, families, homes, everything. I hadn't done any of that. (Now I know those are "yets.")

But I started hearing these people talk about the feelings and thoughts that I had been experiencing: wanting to stop drinking but not being able to once I started, a constant sense of impending doom, a deep loneliness that could never be satisfied, a desperation to change but never succeeding. For the first time in my life I felt understood, like I belonged.

Several people said they had been in rehab before, some four or more times. I made a decision that I was not going to rehab more than once. The women were loud and dramatic, constantly arguing over something. I decided I was going to do this rehab thing right. My geek instinct kicked into gear: I sat in the front row, taking notes during lectures, attentively listening for the information that was going to keep me from coming back to this place.

I saw God in the Steps and decided I was screwed. I hated God and he wasn't too fond of me. After all, look where I was! It was suggested I make a "help wanted" ad for my Higher Power, listing all of the characteristics I was seeking in a God. I had grown up with a punishing God, and this was the beginning of my willingness to believe that God cares about me.

One of the counselors was very serene and loving. She had talked about how there were only two emotions, fear and love. Everything else comes from one of these. If I'm angry, I'm in fear; if I'm generous or kind, I'm coming from love. It made so much sense. At her suggestion, I started the habit of reading a daily meditation book every morning when I woke up. Without my knowing it, my conscious contact had begun.

During my last week at rehab, there was an alumni day, during which former patients came back and shared their experience, strength and hope of life after rehab. I found a mustard seed of hope that maybe I would be able to live sober, that I didn't have to drink, that there might be another way to live.

Somewhere in the blur of these weeks was "Family Day," when my mother came and I believe we got honest with each other for the first time ever. I had no idea before then how much I had hurt her.

When the time came for me to leave it was suggested I go to out-patient treatment. I didn't think it was necessary; I had just spent three weeks in rehab and I had plenty of information that would keep me sober. But I went anyway. What did I have to lose?

It was suggested I go to a meeting the day I got home, raise my hand to say I was new, get a sponsor, and get a home group. I did all of it. I remember that day so clearly. I was so grateful to drive my car, to watch the sunset, and to be free--not told where to go or what to do. Avoiding going back to rehab was one of the reasons I didn't drink in the beginning. Another one was that I had told too many people that I had stopped drinking. I didn't want to look bad by drinking again!

I went back to work, and they let me go. Before I'd gone to rehab, I hadn't been doing much other than showing up. Working there was also a huge trigger, so I had been ready to quit. I was thrilled. Now all I had to do was go to meetings every day. And outpatient treatment definitely benefited my early sobriety. It gave me structure, somewhere to be, counselors who started teaching me words to describe my feelings besides "fine" and "good" or "bad."

For me, it was a gift to go to rehab, to be removed from everyday life and focus on being sober, beginning to learn about the disease of alcoholism. I am so grateful for the foundation of my recovery; I feel as though I was carried through early sobriety.

I got hooked up with some amazing women who loved the Big Book. Staying sober requires me to take so many actions I don't feel like taking, but when I do the right thing I get the desired result. Just for today, I don't want to find out what a lower bottom looks like for me. One of my favorite forms of service is to bring a meeting to an institution and get a dose of gratitude. I get to leave there to go home in my car, to my bed, and wake up the next morning without regret and always with some hope.

-- A.M. Scottsdale, AZ



Please send us your stories,  
MAIL, EMAIL OR CALL IT IN!!



I'd like to hear your story and put it in the No Booze News! Mail your story to the Intergroup office, or email it to me! Or call me and tell it to me and I'll write it down! Please include your name and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for content and/or clarity.

Bev W. THANKS!