

2017

East Valley Intergroup, Inc. 1320 E. Broadway, Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85204 480-834-9033 Fax: 480-964-4639 info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org

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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

A local member shares his experience with AA Unity...

Unity: Together as one; harmony, agreement.

In AA, somehow the group comes first and the individual second. Recovery depends on AA unity according to the first tradition. That sounds like selflessness and love to me. We are together as one, in harmony and agreement with each other at group level and when large numbers of us gather - like at a roundup, convention, or campout. The recent Apache Lake campout was my first one. I arrived Thursday and sensed the beginning of something wonderful happening in and among the several dozen early arriving volunteers. We were all on vacation together on the shores of a destination lake in the low mountain desert. By the time Saturday had arrived several hundred recovering alcoholics were camping and staying in the two rustic motels there. We took over the whole recreation area and restaurant!

The unity ran free and wild as every single camper pitched in to help at least a little bit. There was no chairman or leader either. The rain ceased with a low rainbow over the opposite shore on Friday morning and the weather was cool and dry the remainder.

I have experienced all of the unity I can stand as it gushes over into my heart in rich cheesy love giving me a joyful feeling I share with the fellowship. My home group is just the start of it every morning. On many occasions we are caught up into the 4th dimension as the topic and sharing are on spiritual matters. My roommate is one too. He's one of us, one of us, one of us. We are true believers in God and the program of AA. This implies firstly that we possess gratitude as a foundation of our thought and prayer life. That's what we try to impart: gratitude we are free and happy and not addicted anymore. Together we thank God for our freedom and for the guidance He gives us when we seek Him in earnest.

I remember the song lyric, "The New York Times said God is dead and the war's begun." Well, that says it all. If somehow God ever died, there certainly would be war everywhere and all manner of chaos. An army must have unity because any military troop movement must form into one to achieve the objective with which the Commander in Chief wills them to do. In the same way AA as a fellowship functions as an Army with God as the Commander in Chief. We have forsaken our old ways of selfishness where we lived as the lead player in the theater of our life in exchange for a walk-on part in God's vast theater of His world.

The fifth tradition long form states that each AA group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose-that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers. We have all been to meetings where seemingly out of nowhere we feel the spiritual presence, other times meetings can be outstanding in other ways. A meeting is much more than the hall it takes place in. It is a spiritual entity because we have all gathered there in unity. That mandates that we are indeed carrying the message of freedom to the still suffering alcoholic whether we are trying to or not!

A spiritual awakening is our common uniform we wear that may be invisible to most folks. The love I feel from God is at once right inside me but He is so far away hidden from sight up high in the sky. AA is the last pure thing in America because through our unity we feel the presence right there among us. AA is an altruistic movement meaning we are on the move, united as a whole to help each other, individual needs a very close second. The banana that leaves the bunch gets peeled.

Rick C., Mesa, AZ



Need a Service Position? Try the Mesa Roundup...

Mesa Round Up Wants YOU!!!

Are you looking for something to keep you busy?

The Mesa Roundup is looking for people to be a part of our committee. There are many different service positions available and they need to be filled. We meet the second Wednesday of each month. If you are interested in any one of the positions let us know!

What is the Mesa Round Up?

The Mesa Roundup is a non-profit organization that began in 1997. Its purpose is to put on events, provide fellowship and offer opportunities for service work for all people in recovery. Our main goal is to attract fellow AA members and make it easy to have fun in recovery!

What can You do?

Our service positions rotate every year to give everyone an opportunity to participate. Our next rotation will be Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 7pm in the backroom of the Mesa Alano Club, 145 E. 1st Ave. Mesa AZ 85210. Many members of our AA community have participated on the Mesa Roundup. It's a great way to get out and be of service, meet fellow members in sobriety and have Fun! Please join us in the New Year and the New 2017 Committee.

Service Positions include:

Chair	Registration	Host/Hostess
Co-Chair	Food Coordinator	T-Shirt Coordinator
Secretary	Soda Coordinator	Coffee Coordinator
Treasurer	Entertainment	Raffle Coordinator

Outreach Closing Coordinator Childcare



A warm thank you to all of the 2016 Committee Members and especially all of the Volunteers over this past year that helped make all the events happen. We can not do this alone!

Traditions Checklist

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

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?

2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into argument?

3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?

4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?

5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?

6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?

- 7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
- 8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
- 9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?

10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?



EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It!!

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

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.

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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 <i>revised 2/09</i>						
Return to: 1320 E. Broadway Rd., Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85204						
(480) 827-1905 e-maik info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org						
Date *Fi	irst Name	Last				
Address *Phone						
*City	*\$T	*Zip *Gender				
*Sobriety Date	Home Group					
e-mail address		Alt Phone				
	* = required for listing	ing in 12 th Step List				
[] <i>N</i> 4	o Booze News Subscription / Renewal	(\$12.00 annual subscription fee enclosed)				
Volunteer	Service Options	Committees of Interest				
	Service Options are willing to commit time to	<u>Committees of Interest</u> Check only those you are willing to serve on				
Check only those you						
Check only those you	are willing to commit time to	Check only those you are willing to serve on				
Check only those you of the construction of th	are willing to commit time to Phones Night & Weekend	Check only those you are willing to serve on [] Public Information / Cooperation with t				
Check only those you of Check on the Check of Ch	are willing to commit time to Phones Night & Weekend [] Weekends	Check only those you are willing to serve on [] Public Information / Cooperation with t Professional Community				
Check only those you of 12 th Step List Volunteer [] Weeknights [] Weekends	are willing to commit time to Phones Night & Weekend [] Weekends	Check only those you are willing to serve on [] Public Information / Cooperation with t Professional Community [] Special Events				
Check only those you of 12 th Step List Volunteer [] Weeknights [] Weekends	are willing to commit time to Phones Night & Weekend [] Weekends [] Weeknights	Check only those you are willing to serve on [] Public Information / Cooperation with t Professional Community [] Special Events [] Literature				

Group, District, and Area AA Announcements



ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

RIVER ROUNDUP

JANUARY 19 ~22 Riverside resort and casino Laughlin NV.

YUMA ROUNDUP

FEBRUARY 17 ~ 19 Location TBD Yuma, AZ



WEST VALLEY ROUNDUP MARCH 10 ~ 12 LAKE PLEASANT REGIONAL PARK PEORIA, AZ EVI 38th Anniversary Dinner and Speaker Saturday, March 25th, 2017 Save the Date

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New Years Day 2017

6109 E Apache Trail, Apache Junction Lost Dutchman State Park, Cholla Day Use Area (\$7 per car) All day hiking, biking, chillin etc... 4:00pm Potluck 5:30pm Campfire Meeting



New Years Day 2017

6109 E Apache Trail, Apache Junction AZ Lost Dutchman State Park, Cholla Day Use Center (\$7 per car park fee) All Day: Hiking, Biking and other Outdoor Activities 4:00pm Potluck 5:30pm Campfire Meeting

MESA ROUNDUP VALENTINE'S DANCE

Save the Date!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017



Monthly Campfire Meeting

Last Saturday of the Month @7:30pm 2757 E Guadalupe Rd.

Gilbert AZ

Riparian Preserve and Water Park (take Cattail Crawl Trail to Honey Bee



AREA 0 3 PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

MARCH 31—APRIL 2, 2017 1175 HISTORIC ROUTE 66, FLAGSTAFF AZ (Double tree by Hilton)

AREA 0 3 POST CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017 12684 GILA BEND HWY (FRANCISCO GRANDE)



Sobriety Anniversaries 綅

Name	Date	Days
Tom D	1/7/1972	. 16437
Joe A		
Cliff S		
Wayne O		
Alexandra B	1/19/1982	. 12784
Sandra M	1/30/1984	. 12049
Rachel L	1/7/1985	. 11688
Doug P	1/9/1985	. 11688
Anne Elizabeth H	1/1/1988	10593
Douglas F	1/4/1989	. 10227
Jane R	1/11/1989	. 10227
Jerry F	1/27/1989	10227
Gerry B		
Rhonda S.		
Douglas P		9132
Ron H		8766
Dottie D.		
Barbara L.		
Becky C		
Mike O		
Craig W.	1/20/1006	7671
Roy N.		
Becky K		
Melissa L		
Tracie J.		
Ame F		
Rodger L.		
Lori M		
Brenda B.		
Jason G		
Tom W		
Norman H		
Sam V		
Will P		
Lee Z		
Christie D.		
Brent B		
Jene V		
Kevin B		
Johanna G		
Andrea N		
Paul T		
Jim M	1/27/2010	2557
David T	1/2/2011	2192
Kristen M	1/6/2011	2192
Bob H	1/12/2011	2192
Elizabeth T		
Bethann T	1/4/2013	1461
Steve S.		
Tamara L		
Marylyn W		
Stephanie		
Leah		1096
Leonard B.		

An Al-Anon and an AA member went on a camping trip together. Each had been active members of their programs for twenty-three year and were enjoying themselves tremendously. Then night came, and they went to sleep in their tent. About three in the morning, the Al-Anon woke the alcoholic and asked, "What do you see?" "Why, I see a sky full of brilliant stars and gorgeous moonlight," the alcoholic replied. "How great is our Higher Power for creating such a beautiful night. What do you see?" The Al-Anon answered, "I see that somebody has stolen our tent."



Q: What is the story behind the Circle and Triangle logo?

A: The Circle and Triangle symbol has long been connected to the A.A. Fellowship. It was adopted as an official A.A. symbol at the International Convention in St. Louis in 1955, and from that point on was widely used in the Fellowship. For the Fellowship, the three legs of the triangle represented the Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service, and the circle symbolized the world of A.A. In Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, Bill W.'s 1955 speech, in which he describes the adoption of the symbol, is printed:

> "Above us floats a banner on which is inscribed the new symbol for A.A., a circle enclosing a triangle. The circle stands for the whole world of A.A., and the triangle stands for A.A.'s Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service. Within our wonderful new world, we have found freedom from our fatal obsession. That we have chose this particular symbol is perhaps no accident. The priests and seers of antiquity regarded the circle enclosing the triangle as a means of warding off the spirits of evil, and A.A.'s circle and triangle of Recovery, Unity, and Service has certainly meant all of that to us and much more." (p. 139)

Nevertheless, in the early 1990s, A.A.W.S. decided to phase out the use of the Circle and Triangle symbol on its literature, letterhead and other material. It was decided to phase out the "official" or "legal" use of the Circle and Triangle symbol, and in 1994 the General Service Conference resolved that the logo be discontinued on all Conference-approved literature. However, the symbol is still associated with Alcoholics Anonymous (and other kinds of 12-Step recovery fellowships) and has a special meaning for AA members all over the world.

-Alcoholics Anonymous G.S.O. History and Archives

Things We Can Not Change

Mary J., Long time member of our Fellowship passed from this world December, 2016.

Matt S., Our friend in fellowship, departed these worldly conlines December 9th, 2017.

Their dedication to service touched many lives, they will be missed.

GOT SERVICE?? INTERGROUP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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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 Sam N.

EVI Sponsorship Workshop

10am the 1st Saturday of every other month 235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert AZ (Gilbert Presbyterian Church) Contact: Gail H. HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

January 7 ~ Gilbert Gals

Join the Newly Re-Organized

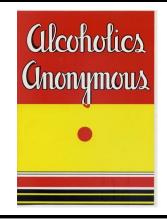
EVI Unity Committee

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday Antioch Community Church 1125 N. Dobson Rd Chandler Contact Larry S.

> Office Volunteers & EVI Hot Line Phones 4 hour shifts in the EVI office Call Roxanne for specific

> > times and days.

*** Regular shifts available now***



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: Deana E.

EVI Monthly Speaker Meeting

Ist Friday of Every Month

Meeting Now At 7:30pm

Antioch Community Church 1125 North Dobson Road. Chandler

January 6th—Wolfpack

February 4th— The Way Out

These are subject to change - so keep watching.

Central Office Manager's Report December 16, 2016

Happy Holidays and a big Thank You to all who have volunteered their time and support at Central Office this past year. You are too many to list in this limited space and I would surely not remember everyone but you know who you are. Thanks to you the hand of A.A. has been available every minute of every day of the year to those seeking help in the East Valley.

We received 468 requests for information and assistance last month. Of those 128 calls were for meeting info, 126 were office visitors and 7 resulted in a 12 step call. Our website stays busy too. It had 36,986 visits in the last 30 days. Our Google listing also receives steady traffic. Our Google totals for November were 2,587 views and 31 map directions.

The Holiday Events Schedule is now available. It has been sent to the phone volunteers so the info will be available to callers looking for some extra fellowship. Don't forget the office will be closed Jan2st for New Year's Day and Jan 16th for Martin Luther King Day.

Part 2: From the ICOAA Seminar on November 3rd to 6th in Kansas City. From the AAWS Presentations: Our Big Book is currently available in 70 languages. Looking to enhance accessibility of literature with more large print and audio options. There is a new DVD available called "A New Freedom" focusing on corrections work. AAWS has over 1,350 different inventory items available and receives over 2,500 orders a month. The current product catalog and webstore are being revamped to make them more user friendly. Our printers are now using reinforced bindings on our books. The "Blue People" have been copyrighted, please don't use without written permission of AAWS.

From GSO presentations: There were 57K registered attendees at our International Convention in Atlanta. Our aa.org website receives 35k visits a day. The Loners and Internationalists meeting is now available through email. GSO does not vet meetings, a general service number does not imply approval or disapproval of any meetings approach to the program. These numbers are mainly for communication purposes.

Please take some Gratitude With Service forms back to your Home Group and encourage members to sign up for these vital service positions. The holidays are here and it is our busiest time of the year for 12 step calls. Who knows what good may happen if we just answer the call.

May you have a safe, sober, serenity filled Holiday Season.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight,

Love and Service

Kim W. Central Office Manager

EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

	Nov.	2016
Meeting Information Calls .	128	
General Information	89 .	
Referred to Salt River Interg	group13.	
Referred to Al-Anon	17 .	
Referred to Community Info	o0.	
12th Step Calls		
Business Calls		
Office Visitors	128	
Meeting lists printed	800 .	
Info request via E-mail	53 .	
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/	None	
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS Y	/TD	1980hrs
	Stats	
Website Visits last 30 days	36,986 YT	D 347,591
Coogle Searches last 20 des	0 E07	

Google Searches last 30 days 2,587

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

Meeting List Updates...

New Meetings:

Upon Awakening 15303 S Gilbert Rd. Gilbert	MO—SA 6:45am BB,C
Conscious Contact 1159 N Greenfield Rd. Gilbert	TU 6:30pm Meditation C
Out Of The Dark 19609 S McQueen Rd. Chandler	TH 7:00pm Discussion C
Changes:	
A.J. Big Book Study Moved To: 1050 W Superstition	Blvd. SU 7:30p O,BB
Aha, It's Monday Moved To: 25612 S EJ Robinson B	lvd Sun lakes MO 4:00pO
Right Place Women's has disbanded as a group and	I moved the meeting to
Road to Recovery at 5640 E Main St. Mesa	WE 10:00am W,O
Deletions:	

Road To Recovery 5640 E Main St. Mesa

Canceled TH & WE 6:45

Example of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities

Distribution of funds from groups that

support four service entities

10% to District 10% to Area

30% to GSO

50% to Intergroup



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

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



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GROUP	<u>Nov.</u>	YTD
11th Step Candlelight	\$62.00	\$200.00
12 X 12 @ 12		
2121 Beginner Workshop		\$100.00
24 Hours A Day		
A Vision For You Group		
ABC Group		
AHA! It's Monday		
Ahwatukee Daybreak Serenity		
Ahwatukee Group Ahwatukee Nooners		
Ahwatukee Saturday Men's		
Ahwatukee Women's Group		-
Arbor Daily Noon Group		
ASCYPAA		
As You Wake Up		\$75.60
Attitude Adjustment CG		\$116.00
Attitude of Gratitude	\$75.00	\$75.00
Basic II		\$300.00
Before Breakfast Group		
Bloopers		
Bootstrap Men's		
Breakfast Club		
Busted Ego		
By The Book Chandler Men's Stag Group		
Chandler Noon Group		
Chandler Women's Big Book Group		
Cold Coffee Group		
Common Solution		
Copper Basin Group		
Courage To Change		
Daily Reflections Group		\$0.00
Day At A Timers		\$78.00
East Valley Men's Stag		
Easy Does It Group		
Experience, Strength and Hope		
Eye Opener Group		
Family Recovery Group		
Feelings & Solutions		
Firehouse Meeting Friday Night Big Book Study		
Friends Of Bill W		
Get It Together	-	-
Gilbert Gals		
Gilbert Group		
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group		
Good Ol' Back to Basics		
Grateful Dames		\$0.00
Gratitude Group		\$199.98
Gut Level		\$58.25
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		
Heard It Thru The Grapevine		
Into Action		
Inwardly Reorganized		
Keep It Simple		
Keepin It Real Ladies		
Life In The Big Book		
Maricopa 12 X 12		
Maricopa Group Mesa Group		
Mid-Morning Group		
Morning After Group		
Name In The Hat		
New Beginnings		
New Hope Group	\$10.00	\$115.00
New Spirit Group		\$975.00
No Name AA Group		
Not A Glum Lot		
Page A Day Group		\$2,854.42

GROUP	Nov.		YTD
<u>GROUF</u> Pioneer Group	007	60	<u>11D</u> ©245.90
Price Is Right			
Primary Purpose BB Study			
Primary Purpose Bb Study Primary Purpose Group			
Prime Time			
Progress Rather Than Perfection			
Progress Rather Than Perfection Puttin' Sober East			
Putting God First			
Queen Creek BB Study Group			
Re-Awakening Group			
Remember When			-
Renewed Spirit			
Right Place Women's			
Rising Spirit			
Road To Recovery			
San Tan Group			
Second Chance Group			
Seniors In Sobriety-Tempe			
Serenity At Six			
Shade Tree			
Sisterhood Of Solutions			
Sobriety is Gold			
Sobriety Rocks			
Society Group			
Solutions Group			
Some Are Sicker Than Others			
Southeast Valley Stag			\$0.00
Spirited Women			
Step By Step Group			
Stepping Stones			
Sunday Morning Reflections			\$0.00
Sunday Morning Women			
Sunday Night BB Step Study			\$203.63
Sunland Serenity Seekers			
Sunset Group			
Tempe Group			\$0.00
Tempe High Noon			
Tempe Nooners	\$25.	.00	\$275.00
Tempe Sunrisers			
The Kick			\$0.00
The Library			\$180.00
The Real Thing			
The Way Out Group			
This Simple Program	\$40	.00	\$40.00
Thursday Night Step Group			\$0.00
Tuesday Night Steppin Out			\$110.00
Tuesday's Trudgers	\$30	.00	\$35.00
Tumbleweeds Group			\$520.54
Twelvers (disbanded)			\$0.00
We Ain't Dead Yet	\$75.	.00	\$172.50
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			
Women in Gratitude			
Women in Solution			
Women in Touch			
*Anonymous Groups			
OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTEE			
Apache Lake Campout			\$0.00
SWACYPAA			
AZ AA Womens Conference			
Dist 08-820			
Mesa Round Up			
Group Totals \$2			
-			
EVI Committees			
Individual Contributions			-
GRAND TOTALS \$2	2,564	.60 \$	46,762.68

inancial Statements			Page 9
BALANCE SHEET November 30, 2016		PROFIT & LOSS S November	
Prudent Reserve (Savings) 18, Accounts Receivable Inventory Asset 20 Undeposited Funds Fixed Assets Cash On Hand Office Equip/Furnishings 22, Depreciation (-22,	681.19 350.41 58.90 916.85 310.05 50.00 538.00 538.00) 567.49	 26 Group contributions totaling 1 Individual contributions totalin Intergroup Business Meeting & Service Committee's 7th Tradition Total Contributions Total Income Less total Cost Of Sales Gross Profit Less total Expenses of 	g \$2,219.54 \$300.00 \$95.06 \$2,614.60 \$7,266.78 \$3,148.68 \$4,118.10 \$5,875.53
	0.00 508.41 156.88	<u>Net Nov. Loss</u> <u>YTD 2016 Loss</u>	-\$1,757.43 -\$1,289.4
Equity Opening Balance Equity 43, Retained Earnings - Net Income -1, Total Equity \$41,9	665.29 778.94 537.28 339.46 902.20 567.49	The current Prudent Reserve bal The Prudent Reserve has been established for 2016 in the amour Please call me with any questions regarding the financial statement Yours in service, Ed B. EVI Treasurer	at of \$26,804.32

FROM a member of the Beverly Hills, Calif., Group comes this tip; 'If you're not as close to God

as you'd like to be--remember you are the one that moved.' "

Dubuque AlanewsDubuque, Iowa

<u>Step_One</u>~ We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.

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

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

EVI MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

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East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

December 16, 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	Rep	Group	Rep	Group
Buddy M	Aha, It's Monday	Regina A	Grateful Girlfriends	Delores T	Real Thing
Tobias E	Ahwatukee Sat Mens	James R	Gratitude Group	Kyle	Remember When
Larry R	Basic II	Kay R	Happy Hour @ Sunbird	Andrea	Serenity Sisters
Charlie	Bootstrap Mens	Deana	Life in The Big Book	Leslea B	Serenity Sisters
Bev M	Breakfast Club	Steven S	Mens Shade Tree	Beth Ann	Sisterhood of Solutions
Barbara C	Chandler Womens BB	Beth M	Maricopa Group	Lauren K	SNBBSS
Larry C	East Valley Mens Stag	Mark R	No Name Group	Tom M	Southeast Valley Stag
Pam	Easy Does It	Peg	Not a Glum Lot	Peg	Spirited Women
Phil	Easy Does It	Maureen D	Primary Purpose	Dave K	Sunset Group
Denis W	Friends of Bill	Lee	Prime Time	Beth H	We Agnostics
Kirk Z	Get It Together	Cassie	Prime Time Alternate	Gary L	Welcome Home Group

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

Name	Service Position	Name	Service Position	Name	Service Position
Gordon R	Chair	Brad – N/P	Advisor – Special Events	Roxanne	H&I Liaison
Tom N	Vice Chair	Kim	Office Manager	Marge M	Spanish Liaison
Ed B	Treasurer	Larry	Unity Chair	Aaron B - N/P	DCM 08-818
Regan G	Secretary	Mike	PI/CPC Chair	Paul T	DCM 08-819
Zach L	Advisor – Unity	Andrea	Special Events Chair	Jeff S - N/P	Alt DCM 08-820
Barbara	Advisor Phones	Bev	No Booze News Editor	Tracey M	DCMC 08 -
Mark B	Advisor PICPC		Phone Chair		Sponsorship Workshop

Secretary's Report: Regan - Previous Steering Committee and Intergroup Meeting Minutes in Packet - Motion to Accept by Kirk, 2nd by <u>Bev</u> Motion Carries.

Treasurer's Report: Ed B. – Written Report in Packet – Ed explained how Prudent Reserve is calculated Motion to Accept by Denis, 2nd by Buddy Motion Carried

7th Tradition: \$63.00

Chairperson's Report: Gordon R - Chaired Steering Committee and Intergroup meetings. Also helped with the Thanksgiving Alcothon this year, which was well attended. Thanked the fellowship for the opportunity to serve this rotation.

Vice Chair's Report: Tom N. – Written Report in Packet. Thanked all the outgoing committee and officers for their service and welcomed the incoming officers and committee members!

Office Managers Report: Kim W. – Written Report in Packet. Service Day is Wed the 28th as opposed to Tuesday the 29th as stated in written report. Office is closed Monday 12/26 for Christmas and Monday Jan 2 for New Year's Day. Part 2 of report from annual Central Office Manager's Conference.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PICPC: Mike – Written Report in Packet.

Special Events: Andrea – The schedule for 2017 has tentative dates for all events and is ready to pass on to Incoming Special Events Chair. Thanked everyone for an amazing rotation!

Phone Committee: Kim gave report: Workshop was well attended. December Calendar is full. We do have a new Phone Committee Chair (Sam N) and he is up to speed and has all the materials.

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Unity Committee: Larry S. – Short Unity Committee meeting tonight with 4 members. Not a lot of activity last month. Thanked Zach for his service as Advisor to the Committee this rotation. Looking forward to working with new Advisor.

Sponsorship Workshop: Gail (not present) – Next workshop is Sat, Jan 7th at 10:00am @ Gilbert Presbyterian.

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! Join us at the Intergroup Office every month for "Service Day" to help us fold Newsletters, eat donuts, drink coffee and have fun! See Office Managers report for date and time.

LIASION REPORTS

Alanon Liaison: Lee – 2017 Alanon convention at Sheraton Crescent July 14-16 2017. Will be rotating out of this position but will try to recruit a new Liaison. Will continue to attend meetings until we have a new Liaison.

H&I Liaison: Roxanne – Report is available at <u>www.vwhi.org</u>. Brought copies of H&I Contact list, Treasurers Report as well as current Bylaws and proposed Bylaw changes which will be voted on at the next meeting. Reported that H&I Serves under the District in the Service Structure. 2017 Annual Corrections Conference will be on May 5th & 6th at Gloria Dei Church in Paradise Valley. Elections were held at the last meeting for coordinators. MCSD has requested AA meetings to be brought in!! If you are interested, please log on to the website for information. The process is much easier now. Monetary Contributions are great, but volunteers to carry the message are sorely needed! The Spanish Integroup is very very active in the Spanish meetings for H&I.

Spanish Liaison – Marge – Receiving a lot of English speaking 12 step call requests, because the alcoholic googles AA and for some reason, their website comes up, but they are referring them over to EVI. Elections were held last meeting. They have a position for 12 step coordinator.

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

Sub District 08-819: Paul – Committee Meets 2nd Thu St Peter's Lutheran Church in Mesa. This month they reviewed the 12th Concept dealing with the Warrants. Trivia Question – What are the 4 absolutes of the Oxford Group? Unity Committee is cleaning up the database.

Sub District 08-820: Jeff – not present Carol gave report - Committee Meets 1st Mon at Epiphany Lutheran in AJ. –Quarterly Pot Luck and Speaker meeting in January hosted by Gold Canyon and The Way Out Group.

OLD BUSINESS:

Special Events Coordinator position for 2017 - Deana volunteered to take this position. Thank You Deana!!! Consider moving EVI Business Meeting to another night. IGR took item back to groups for discussion. – No substantial interest. Will leave meeting as is.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mesa Round up New Year's Eve Party Sat Dec 31st. 15 West 1st Avenue Mesa - Flyers available. Volunteers are welcome! Just show up at 4:30ish. Rib Dinner for \$5!! Valentine Day Dance Sat Feb 11th. Committee Elections will be held in February also.

Sunset hosting New Years Day Hike at 10am at Lost Dutchman State Park- Cholla Day Use Area then Campfire meeting after.

Pam – EDI Holiday Alcothon 8 am to 9pm Friday – Monday New Years Alcothon Dec 30 to Jan 1^{st} . Meetings on even hours pot luck at 1:15

Pancake Breakfast and Speaker meeting at Mt Carmel Church for \$10 tomorrow Sat 12/17.

Phone volunteers needed to fill in for emergencies at the EVI Office during the day.

Lots of Sober Events over the holidays!! Check the EVI Website for more information!!

Group Problems & Solutions: None.

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

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



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

Step One on Repeat

On her one-year anniversary, a member recalls the fear and excitement of early sobriety

I woke up this morning and my first thought of the day was ... I am one year sober today.

A year ago today—right at this very moment—I was slamming down some wine while getting ready to head to the hospital. My faithful sisters, Tiffany and Vicki were by my side. I was excited, confused, and most of all scared to death. I didn't have complete faith that I would be able to overcome this addiction. I didn't understand how being in a hospital for a short period of time was going to undo what I had done to myself over the past five years. When I said goodbye to Tiff and Vicki and those doors closed and locked behind me I thought to myself, Goodbye to you too. Goodbye to my old life. I was locked in and determined that when I was released I would be a whole new me. Determined, but not completely sure I could make it. I was afraid that it would be too hard and I would end up going right back to my drinking. Right back to shutting out my family. Right back to putting 10 percent (if even that) of myself into my job because my addiction controlled the other 90 percent.

When I was released and returned home I was so overcome by how alone I was. I immediately called my father, who in his much appreciated humor, asked me if I had escaped since I was home so soon. So there I was—home. What the hell was I going to do now? So I started doing what I do best—some serious cleaning. I spent a few days cleaning my entire house and finding empty bottles of brandy and whiskey, empty boxes of wine in my garage and then-full bottles of vodka I had hidden in my refrigerator. I set them on my kitchen counter and just looked at them thinking to myself, it would be so easy. No one would know. But I would know. And I would hate myself for it. So I opened them and poured them out. The smell made me so sick.

I don't remember how long it took me to tell my co-workers and my boss, but when I did all my previous actions seemed to make sense to them. They knew something was wrong, but being a master manipulator—like all of us alcoholic are—they had no idea what it was. So I came clean with them fearing that they would not understand. That they would not accept me with all of my character defects and not forgive me for all the deception. But they did something I wasn't expecting. They rallied around me. They supported me. They didn't judge me. And they appreciated what I had done for myself. For that, I am so grateful.

So I now get to the most important change in my life—my daughter. I wanted so bad to have the relationship with her that I did with my mother. My addiction controlled every aspect of my life so my time with her was not spent as it should have been. I remember our first trip together in my sobriety. I took her to an amusement park and on the way home she told me that was the best weekend ever. She told me she was proud of me. As I think about that moment in the car with her I can't help but cry, and I know that no matter what I have to do, no matter how bad the cravings become, to have that one moment with her- it was all worth it. The more time I spend with her building that mother/daughter and best buddy relationship, the more I want sobriety. The more determined I become. I am strong because of her. And I continue to fight because of her. I want her to be proud to say I am her mother, as I did mine.

Some people ask me where my strength and will comes from. How do I handle it? How have I stayed sober? How have I (so far) beaten the odds, the statistics. I could go into a long explanation recalling every morning I woke up shaking from head to toe, throwing up, and then having to force down some wine just so I would be able to function and how I never want to feel out of control like that again. I could attribute my strength to God doing for me what I could not do for myself. I could say it's my biggest character defect working as my best ally—my bullheaded stubbornness. But the simple truth is that it is that one statement from her. "Mom, this has been the best weekend ever. I am so proud of you." That is what keeps me going.

I still struggle with losing my mother and my broken, sometimes non-existent, relationship with God. I struggle with all the decisions I had to make and sitting by her side seeing her in pain even in her comatose state and just waiting for the end. The sixth anniversary of her passing is coming up in nine days. I spent four of them drunk, one of them only nine days sober. But this one, this one will be all too real. With sobriety comes a new beginning, a new and fresh love for life, but it also comes with real feelings that aren't muted or manipulated by the bottle. As they say in AA: "Oh my God, this stuff is real now."

So I woke up this morning to one year of sobriety. I made some coffee and got the Sunday newspaper. I opened my email to type this and to my surprise I received dozens of emails from AA members all over the U.S. congratulating my sobriety. Apparently a member had placed my sobriety birthday on an AA website. It proved to me how strong of a family and support group I have to have received these emails from total strangers. But, they really aren't strangers. They are all just like me.

I can't promise that I will be sober another year, another month, another day. I can only do what I have been taught. Take it one day at a time, sometimes one minute at a time. Live life on life's terms. I accept that even in my sobriety I am an alcoholic. I accept that I will need continuous support from my AA family for the rest of my life. I repeat Step One every day—I surrender and admit that my life has been unmanageable. And it is the hardest thing I have ever loved to do.

-- Barbara

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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!