

2017

East Valley
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

7th Step 1946 Editorial Attitude of Gratitude 3 4 Announcements Anniversaries 5 Got Service? 6 Managers Report 7 Group Contribution s Treasurer's Report 10 & 11 **EVI Minutes** To Catch a Thief 12

If you are looking for something to criticize in this newsletter you will probably find it.

We aim to please everyone!

NO BOOZE NEWS

Humility Makes Sense

PEOPLE often think that the Eleventh Step is the only one which suggests prayer; but this isn't so. The Seventh Step is a prayer Step. Although prayer is not mentioned as such in the Step, the word prayer is just a way of describing any attempt by man to converse with a Higher Power. One of the oldest forms of prayer is that in which he who prays asks something of God.

The Seventh Step is the shortest of the Twelve. Tucked away in the middle of the program, it seems to be much less demanding of time and attention than the "clean-up" Steps--Four, Five, Eight and Nine--which surround it.

Of all the Steps, perhaps the Seventh would be the easiest to pass over quickly and forget about. If you do, as I did at first, and then find yourself having trouble staying sober or dissatisfied with the quality of your sobriety--plagued by hostility, fear, guilt, despondency, self-pity or the like, turn back to the Seventh Step and you may well find the channel for strength that you have been missing.

The shortness of the Step in no way implies that it lacks depth and bite. All of us alcoholics, whether we be theists, agnostics or atheists, share the common history of having either abused or failed to use this petitionary or asking type of prayer. So we are all starting from the same position--scratch.

The first word of the Step tells us how to do the asking. Humbly. Not only is humility something we have all lacked, most of us don't really know what it means or how to go about getting some of it.

First, a word about what humility is *not*, because the word is widely misunderstood and, as alcoholics, our lives may depend on changing some long-held misconceptions here. Humility does *not* mean being servile or scraping, nor does it mean becoming a doormat.

With many of us the word "humble" conjures up images of the character Uriah Heap from Charles Dickens' novel *David Copperfield*, or some other equally spineless and loathsome fellow. Here is a strange situation. Dickens never intended to represent humility through Uriah Heap. He was trying to represent *hypocrisy* which is the very opposite of humility. There is, in reality, no conflict between humility and taking a strong stand against injustice or wrong-provided we are as quick to oppose the injustices and wrongs within ourselves as those without

The Big Book says that "the alcoholic is an extreme example of self-will run riot, though he usually doesn't think so." The fact that most of us when we first come to the program don't think we fit this category is the classic indication that we do fit it. *Egotism is unable to see itself;* humility, its opposite, is the ability to see one's true position in the universe. It is the ability to see one's good points without getting puffed up, and it is the blessed ability to see one's shortcomings without becoming depressed, or bugged.

Humility for the alcoholic begins with admission and acceptance of the First Step. It develops in the decision made in the Third Step that God's will is to come first in our lives--even and especially when we don't much want it to. It bears fruit in action in the inventory and admission of wrongs in the Fourth and Fifth Steps. Why is the Fifth Step fought by those of us who come into AA with east-iron egos? Because it is humbling in the true sense of the word.

The first six Steps of the program, worked at carefully and honestly, bring us to a point where we can do what before, as alcoholics, we could not, no matter what our religious persuasions and training--humbly ask God to remove our shortcomings.

This is how we begin to be relieved of dishonesty, self-will, resentment and the rest. We ask God to remove them. We don't ask once, but again and again as often as we see shortcomings in ourselves and have the grace to remember the Seventh Step.

This Step has worked in two different stages in my life on the program: first in follow-up to the Fourth and Fifth Steps and in preparation for setting out to make restitution for past wrongs, and second, as part of a regular daily program of dealing with character defects as they come up. As I have been able to remember it, it has made life easier and happier by working against my natural tendency to drift back into old patterns of thinking and acting which got me into so much trouble before.

-- T. P. Jr., Hankins, New York

Reprinted with permission of the Grapevine, Dec 1966

On the 7th Step...

"Humbly asked him to remove our shortcomings."

Severe words, but what a challenge!

If we alcoholics can bring ourselves to accept it, we have reached the starting point for complete readjustment beyond the stage of mere sobriety.

Assuming we have put some honest effort into applying the first 6 Steps of the A.A. program to our individual needs, we have taken some big strides on the road back from despair. We have already accepted belief in a Higher Power, made a decision to let God, as we understand Him, take charge of our lives, made an inventory, admitted our faults and have become ready to have God remove our "defects of character." Certainly, it is logical we should next ask Him to remove the maladjustments and wrong thinking that caused our bad drinking habits and made us totally inadequate human beings.

The moral inventory, if "searching and fearless," has indicated to us the nature of most of our shortcomings and the admission of these "to God, to ourselves and to another human being" has brought them into proper perspective so that we have a very good idea of where we need God's help in getting off to a fresh start in life.

There is, however, additional significance to the 7th Step. It, surely, is the connecting link between the first 6 Steps and the last five.

Before we are able to make adequate amends to other human beings for harm we have done them as the result of our alcoholic obsession, we must first be in a position to convince them of our sincerity. Unless our own conscience is good, how can we be convincing to anyone else? And can we be at peace with ourselves unless we have tried, in all humility, to get in tune with the directing Power of the Universe? Without first taking the 7th Step, it would seem difficult to persuade ourselves of our ability to right, in any appreciable measure, the damage we have done to our family, our friends or our employers and if the job of making amends is undertaken only half-heartedly, we may run into our old enemy, frustration.

The 7th Step takes us still further into the program, for the 10th Step suggests we continue "to take personal inventory" and when we are wrong to "promptly" admit it. But to whom? First to God (refer again to the 5th Step), then to ourselves, and finally, now in proper frame of mind, to the injured person.

Again, the 11th Step asks us "through prayer and mediation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understand Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out." Knowledge of His will for us would seem hard to attain without admission to Him that we haven't done very well on our own and now have an honest desire to clean house with His help.

Finally, are we ready (the 12th Step) to help others, until, in all humility, (a tough word for any alcoholic but, properly construed, an entirely honorable one), we have asked that our own faults be removed?

-- A. T.

New York City

Reprinted with permission of the Grapevine, May 1946

Traditions Checklist

Tradition Seven: Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

- 1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?
- 2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
- 3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
- 4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
- 5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
- 6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?



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.

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....

Retu	rn to: 1320 E. Broadwa	y Rd., Suite 105 M	Mesa, AZ 85204		
(480) 827-1905 e-maik info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org					
Date *Fi	rst Name	Last			
Address		*Phone	·		
*City	*\$T	*Zip	*Gender		
*Sobriety Date	Home Grou	p			
e-mail address	mail address Alt Phone				
	* = required for	listing in 12 th Step List			
[] <i>No</i>	Booze News Subscription / Renev	val (\$12.00 annual subsc	ription fee enclosed)		
Volunteer :	ervice Options		Committees of Interest		
Check only those you a	re willing to commit time to	Check	only those you are willing to serve on		
12 th Step List Volunteer	Phones Night & Weeker	nd [] Public Infor	mation / Cooperation with the		
[] Weeknights	[] Weekends	Professional	Community		
[] Weekends	[] Weeknights	[] Special Ever	nts		
[] Weekdays		[] Literature			
		[] Newsletter	(No Booze News)		
[] Office Phone Volunteer		[] Unity Comn			
		[] Deliver A M			

Group, District, and Area AA Announcements



Page 4

ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

PRESCOTT SHOESTRING ROUNDUP



JULY 15 ~ 17 3000 SPENCE RD. EMMANUEL PINES CAMP PRESCOTT AZ

LEWIS CANYON CAMPOUT

JULY 28 ~ 30 LEWIS CANYON GROUP CAMPSITE SHOW LOW AZ



SRI SUMMER ROUNDUP

AUGUST 11 ~ 13
7700 E MCCORMICK PKWY
SCOTTSDALE AZ

APACHE LAKE CAMPOUT

NOVEMBER 3 ~ 5

APACHE LAKE RESORT

AND MARINA



2017 EVI BOWL-A-THON

Saturday August 5th, 2017

3pm to 5pm

AMF Mesa Lanes

2115 E Southern Ave. Mesa AZ

\$20 per person

Includes shoe rental and 2 hours of bowling.

Tickets on sale thru your Intergroup Representative

or at Central Office.

Eat and Greet Service Workshop

Sub District 08-819 & Page A Day Group Saturday, July 15, 2017 11:30am - 3:00pm 805 N Country Club Dr. Mesa



08-820 Quarterly Potluck and Speaker

Saturday, July 15, 2017 6:00pm - 9:00pm

1050 W Superstition Blvd. Apache Junction

ASCYPAA 2017

June 30th ~ July 2nd 880 E 2nd St. Tucson AZ Tucson Marriott at University Park

2nd Annual AA Statewide Women's Conference

Prescott Resort and Conference Center
July 7—July 9, 2017
\$50 after March 1

Area 03 August Assembly

August 18 ~ 20, 2017

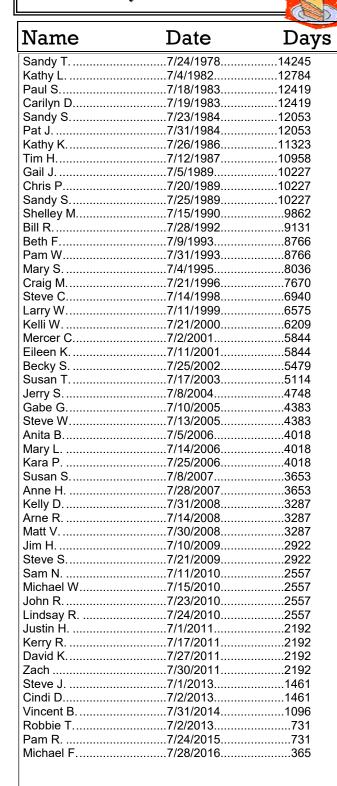
AZ Golf Resort and Convention Center 425 S Power Rd. Mesa AZ

Area 03 State Convention

September 29th - OCT. 1st, 2017

Prescott Resort & Conference Center 1500 E. State Route 69 Prescott, AZ 86301

Sobriety Anniversaries



Frequently Asked Questions About A.A. History...

Q. I've heard it said that Bill always wished he could change the beginning of 'How It Works' to read —Never have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path" (rather than —Rarely have we seen..."). Is this true?

A. No. A rumor has persisted for years that Bill wished he could have changed "rarely" to "never." But we know, through Bill's own words, that that is not the case. In a letter to Les V., dated May 25, 1961 Bill W. stated:

"...Concerning your comment about the use of the word 'rarely' in Chapter Five of the Big Book. My recollection is that we did give a considerable thought at the time of writing. I think the main reason for the use of 'rarely' was to avoid anything that would look like a claim for a 100 % result. Assuming of course that an alcoholic is willing enough and sane enough, there can be a perfect score on such character. But since willingness and sanity are such illusive and fluctuating values, we simply didn't like to be too positive. The medical profession could jump right down our throats...I do remember thinking about it a lot."

In addition, the following question and response were made at the 1970 General Service Conference, as part of the "Ask-It" Basket questions. Bill was, of course, still living at this time and was able to respond:

Q. Has Bill ever said, "If there was any change he would make in the Big Book, it would be to change the world 'rarely' to 'never' at the start of Chapter Five"?

A. "No, Bill said he had never considered this" (1970 General Service Conference Report, p. 31).

Reprinted from GSO:

http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/frequently-asked-questions-about-aa-history#trece



7th Step Prayer

"My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding. Amen."

-- Alcoholics Anonymous, p.76

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:

Paul P.

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 be done at your Group!



For more information Call Beth H

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

July 1 - Reawakening Group

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.

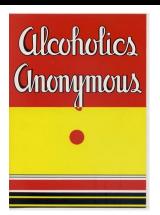
Office Volunteers & EVI Hot Line Phones

4 hour shifts in the EVI office

Call Roxanne for specific

times and days.

*** Fill In 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

1st Friday of Every Month

Meeting Now At 7:30pm

Antioch Community Church

1125 North Dobson Pond, Chandler

July 7th - Easy Does It

August 4th - Tuesday Trudgers

These are subject to change - so keep watching.

Central Office Manager's Report June 16, 2017

May activity at the office was up somewhat from the previous month. We received 547 requests for information and assistance last month. Of those 154 calls were for meeting info and 156 were office visitors. Our website stayed busy too. It had 47,274 visits in the last 30 days. And Google reports 3,445 views on our profile, 1151 mapped our location and 54 asked for directions.

2016 income taxes have been filed. Our total income was 118,931.00 and after deduction and expenses there was \$783.00 added to our net assets at the end of the year. In short, our tax reporting obligations have been fulfilled.

The liability and WC insurance will renew at the end of June. The annual premium has gone up slightly to \$1619.00. Our agent has sent updated certificates of insurance to additionally insured locations leaseholders. Many of the Groups in the East Valley participate in this coverage and we greatly appreciate those who contribute to help offset this cost.

Service opportunities are available on all EVI committees and the 12th step list. Please take some Gratitude with Service forms back to your group and encourage them to volunteer. The life you save may be your own.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight, Love and Service Kim W. Central Office Manager

EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

	May	2017
Meeting Information Calls	154	574
General Information	102	487
Referred to Salt River Intergro	oup 8	57
Referred to Al-Anon	9	68
Referred to Community Info	1	7
12th Step Calls	10	47
Business Calls	107	499
Office Visitors	156	716
Meeting lists printed	900	3700
Info request via E-mail	45	258
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/No	ne	30/ 6/ 5
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YT		

Web Stats

Website Visits last 30 days 47,274 YTD 223,596

Google Searches last 30 days 3,413

Meeting List Updates...

New Meetings:

Welcome Home C,S 1900 S Arrowhead Dr. Chandler WE 7:30 0 Monday Night Madness 45295 W Honeycutt Ave. Maricopa MO 6:00p We Agnostics 4415 S Rural Rd. Tempe (Pigeon Coop) SA 9:00a O Get It Together 393 W Warner Rd. Chandler Daily 3:00p N,O TNT - Twelve and Twelve 15303 S Gilbert Rd. Gilbert TH 7:00p

Changes:

Step By Step 145 E 1st Ave. Mesa Sa women's meeting is now 1 hour

Deletions:

Road To Recovery 5640 E Main St. Mesa FR & WE 6:45p Keepin It Real 5946 E University Dr. Mesa FR 10:00a W,O

Serenity @ 6 2156 E Liberty Lane, Ahwatukee WE 6:00p W,C

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 08-819 PO Box 594 Mesa, AZ 85211

District 08-820 PO Box 20404 Mesa, AZ 85277

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

Valleywide H & I PO Box 80126 Phoenix, AZ 85060

Example of Group Contributions to A.A. **Service Entities**

Distribution of funds from groups that support four service entities 10% to District 10% to Area 30% to GSO 50% to Intergroup



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

District 08-818 PO Box 12044 Tempe, AZ 85284

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



GROUP	May	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		
12 X 12 @ 12		\$0.00
2121 Beginner Workshop		
24 Hours A Day		
A Vision For You Group		\$111.00
ABC Group		\$0.00
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		\$0.00
Attitude Adjustment CG		\$30.00
Attitude of Gratitude		
Basic II		
Bloopers		
Bootstrap Men's		
Breakfast Club Busted Ego		
By The Book		
Chandler Men's Stag Group	· ·	•
Chandler Noon Group		
Chandler Women's Big Book (
Cold Coffee Group	-	
Common Solution		\$0.00
Copper Basin Group		\$189.82
Courage To Change		\$0.00
Daily Reflections Group		
Day At A Timers		
East Valley Men's Stag		
Easy Does It Group		
Experience, Strength and Hop Eye Opener Group		
Family Recovery Group		
Feelings & Solutions		
Firehouse Meeting		\$30.00
Friday Night Big Book Study		\$0.00
Friends Of Bill W	\$119.00	\$119.00
Get It Together	\$662.77	\$1,649.54
Gilbert Gals		
Gilbert Group		
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group		
Good Ol' Back to Basics Grateful Dames		
Gratitude Group		
Gut Level		
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		
Heard It Thru The Grapevine.		
Into Action		\$0.00
Inwardly Reorganized		\$0.00
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		
New Spirit Group		\$300.00
No Name AA Group		
Not A Glum Lot		
Page A Day Group		\$2,166.64

GROUP	May	YTD
Pioneer Group	<u></u>	\$100.00
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	\$10.00	
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	\$300.00	
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Shade Tree	\$50.00	\$50.00
Sobriety is Gold		\$100.00
Sobriety Rocks		\$168.00
Society Group		\$500.00
Solutions Group		\$0.00
Some Are Sicker Than Others	S	\$0.00
Southeast Valley Stag		\$0.00
	\$95.99	
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	\$25.00	
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	#100 00	
	\$130.00	
	\$75.00	
		• • • • •
	\$700.00	
We Agnostics	\$200.00	\$300.00
We Can Group		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Step		\$250.00
Wednesday Night Winners		\$0.00
West Chandler Men's	\$30.00	\$60.00
Who's Driving Your Bus?		\$0.00
~		
— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	\$175.00	
	\$311.00	•
	\$70.00	
OTHER GROUPS/COM		φ144.00
	<u>MITTEF2</u>	611001
		•
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		•
_	\$4,199.54	
	\$119.00	
Individual Contributi	ions\$462.45	\$1,587.90
GRAND TOTALS	\$4,780.99	\$26,863.77
(*Group contribution with no grou	•	•

Financial Statements Page 9

BALANCE SHEET May 31, 2017

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT May 2017

Current Assets

Checking 3,166.83
Prudent Reserve (Savings) 21,560.71
Accounts Receivable 559.60
Inventory Asset 23,567.22
Undeposited Funds 0.00

Fixed Assets

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

Total Assets \$48,904.36

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities

Accounts Payable 0.00
Visa Credit Card 0.00
Payroll taxes 173.84

Total Liabilities 173.84

Equity

Opening Balance Equity 43,778.94
Retained Earnings 146.27
Net Income 4,805.31

 Total Equity
 \$48,730.52

 Total Liability & Equity
 \$48,904.36

27 Group contributions totaling 3 Individual contributions totaling	\$4,199.54 \$462.45
Intergroup Business Meeting & Service Committee's 7th Tradition	\$119.00
Total Contributions	\$4,780.99
Total Income	\$8,724.91
Less total Cost Of Sales	\$2,987.20
Gross Profit	\$5,737.71
Less total Expenses of	\$5,702.96

Net May Gain \$34.75

<u>YTD 2017 Gain</u> \$4,814.31

The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$21,560.71 The Prudent Reserve has been established for 2017 in the amount of \$24,859.46

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

Grateful to be of service, Lois L. EVI Treasurer



<u>Step Seven</u>~ Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

<u>Tradition Seven</u>~ Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

<u>Concept Seven</u>~ The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2017

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

12 Traditions ready by - Paul

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

Intergroup Representatives: New Reps Jim L. Breakfast Club,

Larry R. Basic II, Larry C. East Valley Men's, Phil F. Easy Does It, Denis W. Friends of Bill W, Wendy W. Gilbert Group, James R. Gratitude Group, Brandon B. Life in the BB, Beth M. Maricopa Group, Gail H. Page A Day, Cecily C. Price is Right, Matthew J. Primary Purpose, Lee S. Prime Time, Robyn-Putting God First, Dani H. Real Thing, Dan S. Road to Recovery, Tim G. SNBBSS, Kim M. Step By Step, Dave K. Sunset Group, Collin K. The Way Out, Troy S. Tumbleweeds, Jim M. WADY, Gary L. Welcome Home, John K. Who's Driving Your Bus?

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

Service Position	Name	Service Position	Name	Service Position	Name
Chair	Ed B	Advisor - Unity	Jeremy V N/P	Phone Chair	Open
Vice Chair	Tom N	Office Manager	Kim	H&I Liaison	Roxanne
Treasurer	Lois L	Unity Chair	Larry	Spanish Liai- son	Marge
Secretary		PICPC Chair	Paul	Alanon Liaison	Rose- mary B.
Advisor Special	Steve	Special Events Chair	Deana	DCM 08-818	Aaron NP
Advisor - PICPC	Mark	Sponsorship WkShop	Gail	DCM 08-819	Paul T N/P
Advisor - Phones	Barbara	No Booze News	Bev N/P	DCM 08-820	Jeff N/P

Secretary's Report: Previous Steering Committee and Intergroup Meeting Minutes in Packet -

Treasurer's Report: Written Report in Packet – Net income for May was \$34.75 and \$4814.31 YTD. There are two large expenses coming up. Please see the Office Manager's Report for details.

7th Tradition: \$63.00

Chairperson's Report: Ed B -

Vice Chair's Report: Tom N. – GSO is doing much better, financially, than previous years. Highest contributions of any year to date.

Office Manager Report – Kim W — Written Report in packet.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PICPC: Paul – Discussed anonymity at the last committee meeting. At and on Social Media. Finished professional side of the workbook.

Special Events: Deana – Committee meets 1st Friday each month at 6:30 before the Speaker Meeting. The next EVI Speaker Meeting is July 7th, and is being hosted by EDI. The Bowlathon is August 5th, please see your EVI Rep for tickets. The Day of Service is Saturday, October 21st, 2017.

Phone Committee: Barbara - Beth is the new Phone Coordinator. We had a snafu last month!!!

PLEASE VERIFY THAT THE NEXT PERSON IS HOME AND AVAILABLE BEFORE YOU TRANSFER THE PHONES!!!!!!! THIS IS A MUST!!!!

Unity Committee: Larry S. - Committee meets on 3rd Friday of each month at Antioch Church at 6:30 right before the IGR Meeting.

Sponsorship Workshop: Gail -Held on the odd months at the Gilbert Presbyterian Church 235 East Guadalupe, Gilbert.

Newsletter Editor - Bev W.

LIASION REPORTS

Alanon Liaison: Rosemary - Announced upcoming Speaker Meeting with AA participation

Page 11

Business Meeting Minutes Continued

Spanish Liaison - Marge - Not Present

Sub District 08-818: -Aaron -

Sub District 08-819: Paul – July 15th is the Eat and Great Service Workshop. 11:30AM-3PM and is hosted by the Page A Day group at 805 North Country Club.

Sub District 08-820: Jeff - July 15th is Potluck and Dinner. 6PM is dinner and 7PM is the Speaker.

OLD BUSINESS: Steering Committee Officers did the Office Manager's Review. They have a seconded motion to give the OM three extra vacation days in lieu of a pay raise, since the funds aren't available. Discussion followed. Gary made the motion to table it and Phil seconded the motion. MCU. The Intergroup Reps would like clarity on the motion. Is this permanent, only this year, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

We need a new Secretary. This would be to fill in for the remainder of term.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Group Problems & Solutions:

Close Meeting: 8pm-ish with Statement of Responsibility

AA's Tradition of Self-support

Reprinted from the October 1967 Grapevine

AA's far-flung Twelfth Step activities, carrying the message to the next sufferer, are the very lifeblood of our AA adventure. Without this vital activity, we would soon become anemic; we would literally wither and die.

Now where do AA's services--worldwide, area, local--fit into our scheme of things? Why should we provide these functions with money? The answer is simple enough. Every single AA service is designed to make more and better Twelfth Step work possible, whether it be a group meeting place, a central or intergroup office to arrange hospitalization and sponsorship, or the World Service Headquarters [now the General Service Office] to maintain unity and effectiveness all over the globe.

Though not costly, these service agencies are absolutely essential to our continued expansion--to our survival as a Fellowship, Their costs are a collective obligation that rests squarely upon all of us. Our support of services actually amounts to a recognition on our part that AA must everywhere function in full strength--and that, under our Tradition of self-support, we are all going to foot the bill.

We have long known that Alcoholics Anonymous has no need for charitable contributions from any source. Our Fellowship is self-supporting. Neither do AA groups try to meet the rehabilitation expenses of thousands of newcomers. Long ago we learned that that was impractical.

Instead, AA offers to the new person a spiritual way of life that can eliminate the alcohol problem. With this accomplished, the new person, in the company of his fellow sufferers, can then begin the solution of his personal problems-including the financial one.

So AA groups themselves accept no charitable funds--and give none away. At first glance, this attitude may seem to be hard-nosed, even callous. An immense experience tells us otherwise. Money gifts--as a prerequisite of getting sober--are usually worthless when made a function of an AA group.

Of course, we see AA's primary charity in the Twelfth Step activities of tens of thousands of us as we daily carry the AA message to newcomers. We travel millions of miles; we absent ourselves from business and home. In the aggregate, we lay out very large sums. As individuals, we do not hesitate to give temporary financial aid to the newcomer, if and when he seems to want sobriety first. Here, then, is money charity aplenty, always given on a very personal, face-to-face basis. And perhaps even this cannot be called wholly charitable, since every Twelfth Step effort means more certain sobriety and added spiritual growth for the sponsor.

Both these principles we understand: that AA wants no charity; that we support our own services. We understand-but we sometimes forget.

To Catch a Thief Page 12

A group shows how they deal with missing money—lovingly

TRADITION SEVEN: Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Over the past 22 years that I've been a member of my home group, there have been several occurrences where money has disappeared—or was stolen, if you prefer. Three or four times the group treasurer, short of funds, had "borrowed" group money to buy cigarettes or coffee or something, with the intention of paying the money back at the end of the week. Over time, the amount owed and the accompanying guilt at not being able to pay the money back created a situation where the person felt so badly that they had to talk to someone, usually their sponsor or the group responsibility chair. It would then be brought to the attention of some of the group members. Since the treasurer couldn't pay back the money, it was suggested that the person use their weekly Seventh Tradition contribution to repay the funds. We let them tell us when the money had been repaid. None of them drank.

In another situation the treasurer took the funds to pay his rent, which emptied the group bank account and dissolved our prudent reserve. When this information became public at our monthly responsibility meeting, some members of the group suggested that the person be forced to publicly apologize at our Open Speaker Meeting. After much discussion, a more seasoned member suggested that since the members of the group had elected the treasurer, that we were responsible. We had elected the treasurer.

That completely changed the tone of the discussion. We, the members of the group, had to be responsible. The other point brought up by this future delegate was the question of what was more important, a member's sobriety or money which could be replaced. That former treasurer is no longer a member of the group, but he didn't drink and is still sober. The group members dug into their pockets and replaced the money.

In another situation, contributions were not sufficient to meet the group's financial obligations. No money was stolen. It was summertime and the money collected in the Seventh Tradition was insufficient to meet our expenses. The treasurer at the time felt that somehow it was his fault, so he started to pay the group bills from his own pocket. When the group found out, we were able to explain that it was our responsibility, not his. He was reimbursed, and we announced to the group that we needed those who could to contribute more. We replaced the funds and created a stronger prudent reserve.

My last example is more personal. My wife was the secretary/treasure of her district. My son from my first marriage was experiencing his own difficulties in life, and came to live with us out of a juvenile custody facility. He took the district treasury, which my wife had not had time to deposit. At the time, I was the sole breadwinner with two young children plus my son and wife to support, and I was not happy. However, it was our responsibility to replace the money, and we did.

When I first got to AA, I had a lot of loudly expressed opinions on many aspects of the program, most of which I didn't understand. These included the most common ones, such as wanting to be president of AA in recognition of my greatness, wanting to re-write the Big Book to suit my tastes and current language, thinking that I should be able to achieve 20 years of sobriety in two years, and the most popular of all—judging others. My sponsor calls it ego.

In spite of myself, and because of the kindness, patience, tolerance and encouragement of my fellow alcoholics, I have been allowed to make many mistakes in Alcoholics Anonymous. I've gently had my mind opened to other approaches prior to condemning others. There's a reason that we take our time to make decisions in AA. Those who've gone before have seen these things occur. It's how the Traditions evolved.

-P.N. Toronto, Ontario, Canada

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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!