

NO BOOZE NEWS

2024

East Valley
Intergroup, Inc.
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TABLE OF CONTENTS	
A Common Desire	1
Desire. Continued	2
From Our Big Book	3
Gratitude Service Form	4
Announcements	4
Anniversaries	5
Old-Timer Wisdom	5
Got Service?	6
Managers Report	7
Group Contributions	8
Treasurer's Report	9
EVI Minutes	10, 11
One Big Tent	12



Scan QR w/ phone



EMOTIONAL SOBRIETY | A COMMON DESIRE

I used to share at meetings that I worked in a heavy drinking job. I was a journalist. I stopped saying it when I heard a man say, "I work in a heavy drinking trade—I'm an undertaker." I realized then that alcoholics tend to work in heavy drinking jobs. I didn't have half a pint of beer or a gin and tonic to relax after a hard day and then catch the train home to wife and family. Once in the pub I was there till closing time.

My first AA sponsor was a self-employed building plasterer who left school at 15. My second sponsor was a milkman. My current sponsor is a retired surgeon. One of my dearest AA friends is a Catholic priest; I'm a Quaker and an agnostic. I have a precious memory of saying the Serenity Prayer with him while crossing the Sea of Galilee on a boat full of pilgrims to the Holy Land, though my understanding of the word God was nothing like his. "We are people who normally would not mix."

Oh, I'd have mixed with you all right in some sordid bar where I hoped to find understanding companionship and approval. Momentarily I did, but it was the camaraderie of the condemned. In AA we learn that we must hang together—or hang separately; that we live under a suspended death sentence, with only a daily reprieve from a fatal condition. That's the incentive and discipline that bind us together.

In Al-Anon I've heard, "You might not like us all, but you will come to love us each in a very special way." There's a story about an AA member washed up alone on a tiny desert island. Years later he is spotted from a passing liner and a lifeboat is sent to rescue him. One of the sailors greets him and says, "Why

...continued on 2

have you built those two huts on either end of your island?" The AA member, pointing, says, "That one is my home group—the other one is the meeting I don't go to." Our cofounder Bill W. once wrote, "AA will always have its traditionalists, fundamentalists and its relativists...." And in a July 1946

Grapevine article, he wrote, "So long as there is the slightest interest in sobriety, the most unmoral, the most anti-social, the most critical alcoholic may gather about him a few kindred spirits and announce to us that a new Alcoholics Anonymous group has been formed. Anti-God, anti-medicine, anti-our recovery program, even anti-each other—these rampant individuals are still an AA group if they think so."

The long form of our Third Tradition states, "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought AA membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation." The directory of AA groups in Great Britain and continental Europe lists so many types of groups, but states that they are "listed on the understanding that they are non-restrictive." No group can turn away anyone with a drinking problem—or insist on any conditions for attending, such as telling a newcomer they must find God, get a sponsor or practice the Steps. AA's many resources are freely available for anyone to use—but there are no instructions, no "you musts." There's room for us all in AA; the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Of course, I have my share of heartaches and disappointments. I'm not excused life's "slings and arrows" just because I'm sober. Happy, joyous and free 24/7/365? What an infantile delusion! As an active alcoholic I knew loneliness such as few do. In AA I found release from care, boredom and worry. Life did mean something at last. I've enjoyed the most satisfactory years of my existence and made lifelong friends in a Fellowship. We have escaped disaster together.

Pa	ge	3

He Sold Himself Short | pg. 258 | Alcoholics Anonymous

"The day before I was due to go back to Chicago—it was Dr. Bob's afternoon off—he had me to the office and we spent three or four hours formally going through the Six-Step program as it was at that time. The six steps were:

- 1. Complete deflation. 2. Dependence and guidance from a Higher Power. 3. Moral inventory. 4. Confession.
 - 5. Restitution. 6. Continued work with other alcoholics.

Dr. Bob led me through all of these steps. At the moral inventory, he brought up several of my bad personality traits or character defects, such as selfishness, conceit, jealousy, carelessness, intolerance, ill temper, sarcasm, and resentments. We went over these at great length, and then he finally asked me if I wanted these defects of character removed. When I said yes, we both knelt at his desk and prayed, each of us asking to have these defects taken away."

Please use the Gratitude With Service form below to volunteer for any of EVI's Standing Committees, such as Special Events, Literature, Unity, or Phone Volunteers.

We always need volunteers for our 12th Step call list. 12th Step work can be very challenging yet spiritually rewarding. If you have one year of continual sobriety and are willing and available to the alcoholic who reaches out, be sure to complete the form below and return to EVI Central Office via fax, mail, e-mail or drop off in-person.

EAST VALLEY INTERGROUP - Gratitude With Service form revised 9/020			
Return to: 1855 E Southern Ave. #103 Mesa, AZ 85204			
-			·
			g www.aamesaaz.org
Date *F	rst Name		_ Last
Address			*Phone
*City	*\$Т	*Zip	*Gender
*Sobriety Date	Home Group		
e-mail address	e-mail address		
	* = required for listing	ng in 12 th Ste	ep List
[] 🚜	Booze News Subscription / Renewal	(\$18 .00 ann	nual subscription fee enclosed)
Volunteer :	Volunteer Service Options Committees of Interest		Committees of Interest
Check only those you o	are willing to commit time to	Check only those you are willing to serve on	
12 th Step List Volunteer	Phones Night & Weekend	[] Publ	lic Information / Cooperation with the
[] Weeknights	[] Weekends	Prof	essional Community
[] Weekends	[] Weeknights	[] Spec	ial Events
[] Weekdays		[] Lite	rature
		[] New	sletter (<i>No Booze News</i>)
[] Office Phone Volunteer [] Unity Committee		y Committee	
[] Other Office Help			

Group, District, and Area AA Announcements

Page4

ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

KAIBAB LAKE ROUNDUP

JUNE 27 ~ JUNE 30 KAIBAB LAKE WILLIAMS AZ

PRESCOTT SHOESTRING ROUNDUP

JULY 26 ~ JULY 28

II E SHELDON ST. PRESCOTT AZ
YAVAPAI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SRI SUMMER ROUNDUP

AUGUST 9 ~ 11, 2024 Doubletree resort by Hilton Scottsdale AZ



PAYSON ROUNDUP

AUGUST 23 ~ 25, 2024 LOCATION TBD

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



Area 03 Post Conference Assembly

Hosted by District 10-102

June 1st 2024

777 Geronimo Springs Blvd. San Carlos AZ

Delegate's Report

EVI BOWL-A-THON

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3RD. 2024
11:00AM TILL ???
\$25 INCLUDES: ALL DAY ACCESS
BOWLING, LASER TAG, ARCADE
FOOD BUFFET AND SODA BAR

JAKE'S UNLIMITED

1830 E BASELINE RD. MESA
(NW CORNER OF GILBERT AND BASELINE)
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT AAMESAAZ.ORG
FROM YOUR GROUP REP OR AT THE OFFICE

Founder's Day 2024

Saturday, June 8
10am to 4pm
1525 N Power Rd. Mesa
(Love of Christ Lutheran Church)
Register for free at azfoundersday.org

ASCYPAA XXXI

Arizona State Conference of Young People in A.A.

Friday, August 16 ~ 18, 2024

2515 E Butler Ave. Flagstaff AZ

Ascypaa.org

2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION VANCOUVER, BC JULY 3-6, 2025

90 Years – Language of the Heart Save the date!

Sober Anniversaries Page 5

Name Date

Ivaille	Date	
Alcoholics Anonymous	6/10/1935	32508
Ralph H	6/24/1974	18263
Rodger G		
Diana C		
Kim W		
Paula K		
Kim N		
Steve D	6/10/1990	12419
Tom M	6/2/1991	12054
Andrew L		
Ken C		
Lori K	6/11/1999	9132
Angela P	6/21/2000	8766
Stacey S	6/7/2001	8401
Tom T		
Nicole K	6/6/2003	7671
Tracy Z	6/18/2004	7305
Ruth M	6/18/2005	6940
Segrid S	6/28/2005	6940
Jenee K		
Terri O		
Melissa N		
Melissa W		
Sharon B		
Ross S		
Larry J		
Paul Z		
Linda N		
Brenda P		
Jake J		
Laura R		
Susan M		
Jim T	6/20/2020	1461
Logan S	6/3/2021	1096
Julie P		
Daryl B		
Tara F	6/23/2022	731

HELP WANTED

Your Intergroup needs you!

Current open positions:

Steering Committee Secretary

PI/CPC Chairperson

PI/CPC Committee Members

Phone Committee Co-Chair

Evening Phone Volunteers

12 Step Volunteers

Events Committee Members

Office Front Desk Volunteers

*Regular and Fill In spots

Unity Committee Members

H&I Liaison

Spanish Liaison

Please contact the office for information on how to sign up for these service opportunities.

480 834-9033



Our Sixth Step, Tradition and Concept

Step 6. - "Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."

Trad 6. "An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose."

Concept 6. "The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board."

PI / CPC

(Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community)

1st Mondays at 7pm.

1855 E Southern Ave #103

(EVI Office) and on Zoom

Zoom ID: 984 4383 7353

Passcode: 061035

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

480 827-1905 or email picpc@aamesaaz.org

aamesaaz.org

EVI Phone Workshop

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

On ZOOM

aamesaaz.org

Or

Workshops can be done at your Group!

For more information Call Tom S.



10am the 1st Saturday of every other month

Check aamesaaz.org for location information

Contact: Ken H.

HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

June 1st ~ The Tribe

Join the

EVI Unity Committee

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday

Check aamesaaz.org for location information aamesaaz.org

Contact 480 827-1905

Bring It!

aamesaaz.org/contact/

EVI Special Events Committee

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

contact: 480 827-1905

Office Volunteers & EVI Hot Line Phones

4 hour shifts in the EVI office

Call Roxanne for specific times and days.

*** Fill and Regular Shifts

Available ^^^

EVI Monthly Speaker Meeting

lst Friday of Every Month

2222 S Price Rd. Tempe

(Church of the Epiphany)

Doors open at 7:00pm

Now Live only, no more ZOOM

June 7 ~ Common Thread

July 5 ~ Good Orderly Direction

These are subject to change - so keep watching.

Central Office Manager's Report May 17, 2024

In April we received 378 requests for information and assistance. Of those 116 calls were for meeting info, 94 were office visitors and 7 resulted in a 12-step call. Our website stayed busy too. It had 55,171 visits in the last 30 days. Our Google totals for April were 1,980 views. Of those 299 went to our website, 73 requested directions and 38 gave us a call.

AAWS has raised their prices on pamphlets and racks. We are currently well stocked on these items but will need to look at

We place an order with Grapevine. They have been increasing prices as new printings are done. The average price of a GV book is now \$14.50. Our Workers Comp insurance will increase a bit to \$741 for 2024, no word yet on liability renewal in July. Our annual report has been filed with the AZ Corporation Commission.

One of the desk volunteers received a Thank You letter from a member who they helped while visiting our area.

The newsletter email subscription list currently has 928 readers. That is a great start but we would like to give every member in the East Valley a newsletter. Did I mention it is FREE? Stay informed of local events, service opportunities and news in our Fellowship all in one place. You can even submit personal stories, jokes and cartoons for publication. Just drop us an email, info@aamesaaz.org, and say "sign me up for the newsletter".

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

Kim W

Central Office Manager, East Valley Intergroup

EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITYApril2024 Meeting Information Calls............ 116.................... 403 Requests for chips/medallions.....17................73 Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/None...... 23/ 4/7 Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS YTD.120hrs.......360hrs

Web Stats

Website Visits last 30 days 55,171 YTD 198,152

Google Searches last 30 days 5,689 YTD 3,709

Meeting List Updates...

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

New Meetings:

Lost & Found Men	's 1020 N Horne, Mesa	TU 6:30p	M,O
Friday Knights Liv	e 145 E 1st Ave. Mesa	FR 8:00p	M,C
GMC	750 Paxton Ave. Miami	TH 6:30p	N,O
Society Newcome	rs 9333 E Main St. Mesa	Daily 3p	N,O

Changes:

Ahwatukee Nooners moved to 2601 E Thunderbird Pl. (Esperanza Church)

Deletions:

There Is A Solution CLOSED FOR SUMMER 100 N Magma Rd. Superior TU SOSO CLOSED FOR SUMMER 5880 S Hospital Dr. Rm Globe SU 2pm O

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

Alcoholics Anonymous - Contributions

PO Box 2407

James A Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407

General Service Office - correspondence

PO Box 459, Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163

Area 03 Treasurer *NEW 1-13-24* PO Box 13714 Scottsdale, AZ 85267 *Make Check To: AZ Area Committee* District 08-818 PO Box 12044 Tempe, AZ 85284

District 08-819 PO Box 594 Mesa, AZ 85211

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

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

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

Valleywide H & I

PO Box 80126 Phoenix, AZ 85060

GSO 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

50% to Intergroup 30% to GSO



GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS



GROUP	<u>April</u>	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		
2121 Beginner Workshop		\$300.00
A Vision For You		
ABC Group		
Ahwatukee Group		\$0.00
Ahwatukee Nooners		\$882.85
Ahwatukee Saturday Men's		
Ahwatukee Women's Group		
Arbor Daily Noon Group		
Attitude Adjustment CG		
Atitude of Gratitude		
BBookworms		•
Bloopers		
Bootstrap Men's		
Bottom of the Bottle		
Breakfast Club		\$50.00
Busted Ego		\$300.00
By The Book	\$50.25	\$197.25
Chandler Men's Stag		
Chandler Noon Group		
Chandler Women's Big Book Group		
Chant 2 Common Thread		
Courage To Change		
Dr's Nightmare		
East Phoenix Men's		
East Valley Men's Stag		
East Valley Veterans		\$0.00
Easy Does It Group	\$620.87	\$1,124.08
Eye Opener Group		\$0.00
Feelings and Solutions		
Fill in the Blank	-	· ·
Firehouse Meeting		
Florence Group Fresh Air Group		
Friday Night BB		
Get In The Car		
Get It Together		
Gilbert BB Step		\$0.00
Gilbert Gals		
Gilbert Group		
Gold Canyon 12 X 12		
Good Ol' Back to Basics		
Grateful Girlfriends		
Gratitude Group		
Great Start		
Gut Level		
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		\$0.00
Hidden Valley Seekers		\$40.00
Hope For Today		\$0.00
Kitchen Table Group		
Ladies Lunch Bunch		
Last Resort		
Life In The Big Book Livin Life Women		
Maricopa 12 X 12		
Maricopa Group		
Miracle House		
Name In The Hat		
New Beginnings		\$0.00
New Spirit Group		\$339.50
No Big Deals		
No Name AA Group		
Opportunity Knocks		
Over The Influence Page A Day		
Page A Day Path Less Traveled		

GROUP	April	YTD
Patio Group	<u>nprii</u>	
Pioneer Group	\$64.00	\$222.80
Price Is Right		
Primary Purpose Group		
Progress Rather Than Perfektion		
Province Group		
Putting God First		
Queen Creek Nooners		\$0.00
Re-Awakening Group		\$0.00
Renewed Spirit		\$100.00
Rising Spirit		\$692.11
Road To Recovery	\$100.00	\$400.00
Rock Solid		\$50.00
San Tan Group		\$0.00
San Tan Men's		\$37.50
Second Chance Group		\$120.61
Serenity Now		
Serenity Sisters		
Serious Over Sobriety		
Shade Tree		
Slay the Dragon		
Sobriety is Gold		
Sobriety Rocks		
Society Group		
Some Are Sicker Than Others		
Southeast Valley Stag		
Starlight Ranch		
Step By Step Group		
Steppers		
Stepping Stones		
Sunday Night BB Step Study		
Sunday Afternoon Step		
Sunday Serenity Seekers		
Sunrisers		-
Sun Lakes Women Serenity Seeker Sunset Group		
Superstition Sunrise		
Tempe Group		
Tempe Nooners		
Tempe Sunrisers		
The Library		
The Promises		
The Real Thing		
The Tribe		
The Way Out Group		
Thursday Night Step Group		
Tuesday Trudgers		
Tumbleweeds Group		
Upon Awakening		\$0.00
We Ain't Dead Yet		\$108.53
We Agnostics		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Winners		
Welcome Home		
West Chandler Men's		\$0.00
Wolf Pack Group		\$0.00
Women in Gratitude	· ·	
Women in Solution		\$0.00
*Anonymous Groups		\$447.79
OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTEE		
Apache Lake Campout		
AZ AA Women's Conf		
Mesa Roundup		
Dist 08-819		
Dist 08-820		
Meal and a Message		
Group Totals\$		
EVI Committees	\$0.00	\$21.00
Individual Contributions\$	1,620.00	2,406.70
GRAND TOTALS \$	9,822.08 \$2	27,885.54
*Group contribution with no group name liste		

Financial Statements Page 9

BALANCE SHEET April 30, 2024

Assets	
Current Asset	
Checking	9,782.50
Prudent Reserve (Savings)	39,883.42
Accounts Receivable	897.00
Inventory Asset	24,464.46
Undeposited Funds	150.00
Fixed Assets	
Cash On Hand	50.00
Office Equip/Furnishings	22,538.00
Depreciation	(-22,538.00)
Total Assets Liabilities & Equity	\$80,255.73
•	
Liabilities	2.22
Accounts Payable	0.00
Visa Credit Card	0.00
Payroll taxes	1,127.26
Total Liabilities	\$1,127.26
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	43,778.94
Retained Earnings	31,119.45
Net Income	4,230.08
Net income	+,230.00
Total Equity	\$79,128.47
Total Liability & Equity	\$80,255.73

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT April, 2024

45 Group contributions totaling 7 Individual contributions totaling	\$8,202.08 \$1,620.00	
Intergroup Business Meeting & Service Committee's 7th Tradition	\$0.00	
Total Contributions	\$9,822.08	
Total Income	\$14,433.20	
Less total Cost Of Sales	\$3,504.46	
Gross Profit	\$10,928.64	
Less total Expenses of	\$6,893.48	
Not April Coin	\$4,035.16	
Net April Gain	\$4,033.16	
<u>YTD 2024 Gain</u>	\$4,230.08	
The current Prudent Reserve balance is \$39,883.42		
The Prudent Reserve has been established for 2024		

in the range of \$35,703.95 - \$42,844.74

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

Grateful to be of service, CJ M. EVI Treasurer

From the FOREWORD TO SECOND EDITION

He had also been greatly helped by the late Dr. William D. Silkworth, a New York specialist in alcoholism who is now accounted no less than a medical saint by A.A. members, and whose story of the early days of our Society appears in the next pages. From this doctor, the broker had learned the grave nature of alcoholism. Though he could not accept all the tenets of the Oxford Groups, he was convinced of the need for moral inventory, confession of personality defects, restitution to those harmed, helpfulness to others, and the necessity of belief in and dependence upon God.

EVI MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes Friday, May 17, 2024

Roxanne opened the meeting at 7 pm in person and on zoom with the Serenity Prayer

Jennifer read the Twelve Traditions

Secretary Report - Lois filled in for Linda - Written reports in packet. One correction noted. Motion to accept amended report made by Ken - 2nd by Dave. Passed

Treasurer Report - Lois gave report for CJ- written report in the packet. One correction made. Motion to accept amended report made by Jeanette, 2nd by Gary. Passed

Chairperson's report: Roxanne- no verbal report.

Vice-chair report: Ginger R.B. - will report under motion to change location for business meeting.

Office Managers Report: Kim W. on vacataion - Roxanne presented some info from the written report.

Standing Committee Reports:

PI/CPC: John V. - acting Chair. Written report is in the packet. New York reached out to Area 03 on a Neo-Natal Nurses event on June 7-11 - EVI and Agua Fria will have a table there. More events and info in written report.

Special Events: LeAnn presented report -Common Thread will host June 7th speaker meeting. Need a group to sign up to host December monthly speaker meeting. Bowlathon is tentatively set for August 3rd at Jakes Unlimited.

Phone Committee: Erica presented report - June is almost full - no-one attended the training meeting tonight. Co-Chair position is open if someone is interested. 40 after hours shifts per month - 18 slots are open.

Unity Report: Jennifer S. -we have started going out to groups with our presentation. We have visted As You Wake up, Busted Ego, Queen Creek meeting house, Casa Grande groups. 2 members going to Maricopa group tomorrow.

Sponsorship Workshop: Jeanette - Courage to Change did a great job in April. We have a few slots still open in 2025.

No Booze News: Mike not present.

Literature Committee: Monica S. - Sold quite a few books at the last speaker meeting. The 75th anniversary Big Book will be on sale for \$5.00 - will get 2 or 3 case to sell at the Founders Day event.

Liaison Reports

Al-Anon - Lee R.- the next Family Recovery Night will be May 25th at this location. Al-Anon State Convention will be June 28-30th in Prescott. June 28-30th in Prescott.

H&I: Debbie reported (Chair of VWHI) VWHI all positions are filled -yay - but we can still use volunteers. Especially need volunteers for a women's prison in the East Valley. We accept Zelle payments now.

Spanish - position open Spanish - position open

Sub Districts:

08-818 - Jason not present

08-819 - Robert S. - Founders Day is June 8th 10am to 4pm at Love of Christ Church. 1525 N. Power Rd. Mesa. Please register even though it is free - need to get a head count for food (free lunch). azfoundersday.org

08-820 - Carol M. no report

Old Business

Inventory questions - CJ handling this - Steering Committee did go over some questions - should be ready to proceed by the Fall. Will send out questions for input from the groups in June or July.

Move Business Meeting location - Ginger is handling this - Ginger researched data on where all the EVI meetings are to find a central location - should have that next month.

Question from a rep: does this have any effect on the other A.A. meetings at this location? We don't know that yet. We will look at that during discussion and before final decision is made.

Question on how we are going to make a map of EVI - Google? Ginger is accessing maps online - has addresses and zip codes of EVI meetings. Rep recommended CIS.

Question from rep - are we using groups that attend the business meeting or ALL groups including dark groups - we are including all groups in the East Valley - including Casa Grande and Maricopa.

Voting on Office Manager evaluation and raise - Roxanne read the motion.

Rep got some info from GSO on this and read it to the body regarding employee privacy - the Group Services Rep at GSO discussed that employees do have privacy rights regarding their review and salary - we are charged to protect personal info - legal compliance involved - AZ Employment Protect Act - AZ fair wages act. Info should be limited to their Managers.

Discussion: Steering Committee has the authority to review the O.M. job performance and determine a raise or not.

Question: does the Steering Committee do the evaluation of our O.M.? Yes, the Officers do the evaluation and make a recommendation to the whole Steering Committee on a salary increase - just the dollar amount, not the specifics of the job performance.

Rep in favor of personal privacy but need to follow the By-Laws until they are changed.

Rep said the policy says we bring the recomended increase to the body - not the evaluation.

Past Secretary report noted we need to stop micro-managing.

Rep said we should vote on the motion as-is then rewrite it if it fails.

Motion to vote: 28 yes 7 no.

Minority opinion: the point of postponing last month was to come back with the laws that are bring broken—Policies and Proceedures says the raise comes to the body (reps) NOT the details for the job performance. The motion is flawed. This is not urgent - we can postpone to gather more information. 2nd Vote on whether or not to vote on this motion tonight: 15 yes 19 no. Failed.

We will postpone this motion until the June meeting.

New Business

Announcements

Ken made a motion to close, 2nd Zach. Closed with the Responsibility Declaration.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Lois L. acting EVI Secretary



This we owe to AA's future: to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.

ONE BIG TENT

I got to the rooms of AA in April of 1980, and as is the case with so many of us, I had no belief in God. More than that, I was positively hostile to any suggestion that there was a God and that he had any particular interest in me or my problems. None of my God beliefs made any difference in my belief in the AA program though. I don't know where that belief came from, but I knew I was where I belonged. This AA thing would work for me.

For many years I struggled with "the God thing." I don't think it threatened my sobriety, but I felt out of step and did not want to keep feeling that way. A couple of years ago I was reading the story "Flooded With Feeling" in the Big Book. The last few paragraphs reflected my own feelings and left me with a huge sense of relief. The thunderbolt—"Who are you to say there is no God?" in the chapter "We Agnostics" had a different effect on me than on the writer. It did not convince me that there is a God, but it relieved me of the necessity to doubt that there was one.

Also, two stories in the February 2013 Grapevine especially rang true for me: "One Dark Night" and "That Big Green Thing" were written to let me know that I am definitely not alone.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Big Book definition of "a Power greater than ourselves" is, for me, God. That's OK with me now. I believe there are many powers greater than me, and I'm fine with calling any or all of them God today.

There is nothing in the word God that frightens or offends me, at least not anymore. I know that when I use the word, it may have a different meaning than when my fellows say it. I have no problem with that. I am so grateful that AA is a big tent with room for everyone.

FRANK B. | MESA ARIZONA | JAN 2016