

# the Desert Lifeline

January 2015

A publication of the Central Intergroup Office  
of the Desert serving the Coachella Valley.

## Central Intergroup Office of the Desert

35-325 Date Palm Drive  
Suite 134  
Cathedral City, CA 92234

Open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Mon.- Fri.  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sat. & Sun.

**760.324.4880**

Fax 760.324.4851

Web site: [www.AAintheDesert.org](http://www.AAintheDesert.org)



[manager@aainthedesert.org](mailto:manager@aainthedesert.org)

### Intergroup Meeting

1st Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

### Board of Directors Meeting

3rd Thursday of the month,  
6:30 p.m.

### General Service, District 9

Third Sunday of the month, 4: 00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall  
45940 Portola Ave.

Palm Desert

Mailing Address: P O Box 3684

Palm Desert, CA 92261-3684

### Hospitals & Institutions

Third Wednesday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall  
45940 Portola Ave.

Palm Desert

Mailing Address: PO Box 1843

Palm Desert, CA 92261

### Mid-Southern California Area (MSCA)

PO Box, 51446, Irvine CA 92619-1446

Web site: [www.msca09aa.org](http://www.msca09aa.org)

The **General Service Office**, PO Box 459,

Grand Central Station NY 10163

Web site: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

## Step

We admitted we were powerless  
over alcohol - that our lives had  
become unmanageable.

# O

## Tradition

Our common welfare should  
come first; personal recovery  
depends upon A.A. unity.

# N

## Concept

Final responsibility and ultimate  
authority for A.A. World Services  
should always reside in the  
collective conscience of our  
whole Fellowship.

# E

# Principle One

**Surrender** - to give up, abandon, or  
relinquish

**November Office Statistics**

Meeting Info	85
12 Step Calls	5
Visitors	64
Literature Sales	140
Al-Anon	3
Other 12 Step	5
Miscellaneous	48
Business	32

***Thanks to all who are of service.  
You make a difference!***

**Central Intergroup Office of the Desert  
Board of Directors**

**Chairman: Traci N.  
Vice Chairman: Carole C.  
Treasurer: Mike M.  
Secretary: Rosemary H.**

**Directors**

**Rob L.  
Joe A.  
Ainslie M.  
Russell J.  
Geoff M.**

**Desert Lifeline Editors: Joan C. & David M.  
Office Manager: David M.**

**TeleService Report**

I am very grateful for the many volunteers that keep our phone available after hours for those who are in need of information or who want to just talk to another alcoholic. The new TeleService system is working well and keeps me in the loop each morning when messages are left, and the volunteers and I can respond as necessary. Thanks to Paul A. and Garrett D. for their support with this vital part of our Fellowship.

**Letters to the Editor or Articles for the Desert Lifeline** must be received by the 15th of the month for consideration of publication in the following month's issue.

Please submit your material for *The Desert Lifeline* to:  
Central Intergroup Office of the Desert  
35-325 Date Palm Drive, Suite 134,  
Cathedral City, CA 92234.  
E-mail: [manager@AAinthedesert.org](mailto:manager@AAinthedesert.org)

**November 2013**

Patrick H.	2
Tim H.	5
Brian B.	5
Kelly M.	7



Dennis L.	7
Mary L.	14
Dani M.	19
Tommy A.	22



**We thank all of the birthday celebrants for their contributions to the Central Office Birthday Club.**

## **Step One**

*We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable.*

POWERLESS – UNMANAGEABLE, HA! That was my thought before I stepped into the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous. I had every material ‘thing’ a guy could want: Good job, good family (but one that was very upset with a drunk father and husband), cars, boats and other toys. I had everything but the spiritual life that I found in Alcoholics Anonymous. It was very difficult to put the first drink down or to not stop to “have one with the boys”, which led to missing dinner, meetings and family affairs. I was POWERLESS over that first drink. After passing out on my office floor and being picked up by an employee, I was lucky to have the urge to drink removed quickly. It’s been 23 ½ years now without a drink. God did for me what I couldn’t do myself.

To me, UNMANGEABILITY comes in several different ways: Spiritual, Financial, Physical, Moral and Sexual. Manageability seems to be a difficult task when we first read Step One. Of course, everything looked difficult those first days in AA. We have a lot of work to do in Steps 2 through 12 to bring manageability into these five facets of our life. Nothing is easy in life, and we must work these Steps with another person and practice them in all our affairs and POWER and MANAGEABILTY will return.

But we must start with Step One: God can and will remove the POWERLESS and UNMANAGEABILITY in our lives if we let Him. Let Go and Let God In.

John E.  
Alkies Only, Palm Desert

## **Secretary Workshop**

**Saturday February 7th 2015 2:00 to 3:30 PM**

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert  
35-325 Date Palm Drive  
Suite 134  
Cathedral City

***Come learn the ins and outs of being a secretary for a group.  
This is geared for both new and experienced secretaries.***

Please leave your contact information at Central Office to let us know you’re interested  
760.324.4880 David M. Office Manager



Pass it On

I ran into an old friend yesterday,  
He told me his life was in disarray.

He shook so bad, I had to cry.  
I told him I didn't mean to pry.

I told him I had found a book,  
And I begged him to take a look.

All at once, I saw a glimmer.  
Then his eyes began to simmer.

The anger, frustration and pain you see  
In a person's eyes with nothing left to gain.

I gave him the book of AA.  
And after that I began to pray...  
I can only hope he sees the light,  
And Recover from his fright..



Doug D.



The Alcoholic

I am an Alcoholic;  
Through other's lives I used to frolic.  
I sowed the seeds of woe,  
It mattered not where I'd go.

Then by God, shined a light,  
He blessed me and restored my sight!  
Today, I try to bring only pleasure.  
Today, I live in God's life of leisure...



Doug D.



**A Post Holiday Metaphor**

A woman was asked by a co-worker, "What is it like to be are recovering alcoholic?"

The co-worker replied, "It is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in and washes all the dirt off of you. Then He cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate greed, etc. and then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light in side of you to shine for all the world to see."

This was passed on to you from another pumpkin. Now it is your turn to pass it to another pumpkin. I liked it enough to send it to all the pumpkins in my patch.

Anonymous

**( may you be blessed with peaceful nights,  
and gentle days in this New Year)**



*"I'm a problem drinker. Every time I have a problem, I drink."*

**November Volunteers at Central Office**

Alan S.  
Ann K.  
Bob M.  
Brad L.  
Dallas E.  
Dennis H.  
Dyana S.  
Eileen C.  
Emil M.

Jimmy Who?  
Kathy P.  
Ken L.  
Lobo M.

**Thank You !!**

**Thank You !!**

Mary Ann C.  
Mary-Ann Mc L.  
Michael W.  
Patrick L.  
Paul A.  
Peggy M.

Roger F.  
Rivers V.  
Ron D.  
Susan B.  
Tracy M.

**Thank You !!**

After the fact, it's all over.  
I'm still intact, like a four-leaf clover.

Survived the storm and the chill of losing,  
my sanity and self, it's so confusing.

Memories of the past, don't think too much,  
they don't last, and they're out of touch.

What's over is over , I refuse to regret,  
it's something I'm sober, and I don't forget.

Never want to go back to the way it was,  
loss of control and loss of love.

Today is good and I'm starting over again,  
with new sets of values, lover and friends.

I'm relieved and content the chaos is gone,  
so I can move forward, let go and move on.

Nora R.  
Fearless and Thorough, Rancho Mirage

**\$4.75**

Book of the month

**\$4.75**

**'Experience Strength & Hope**

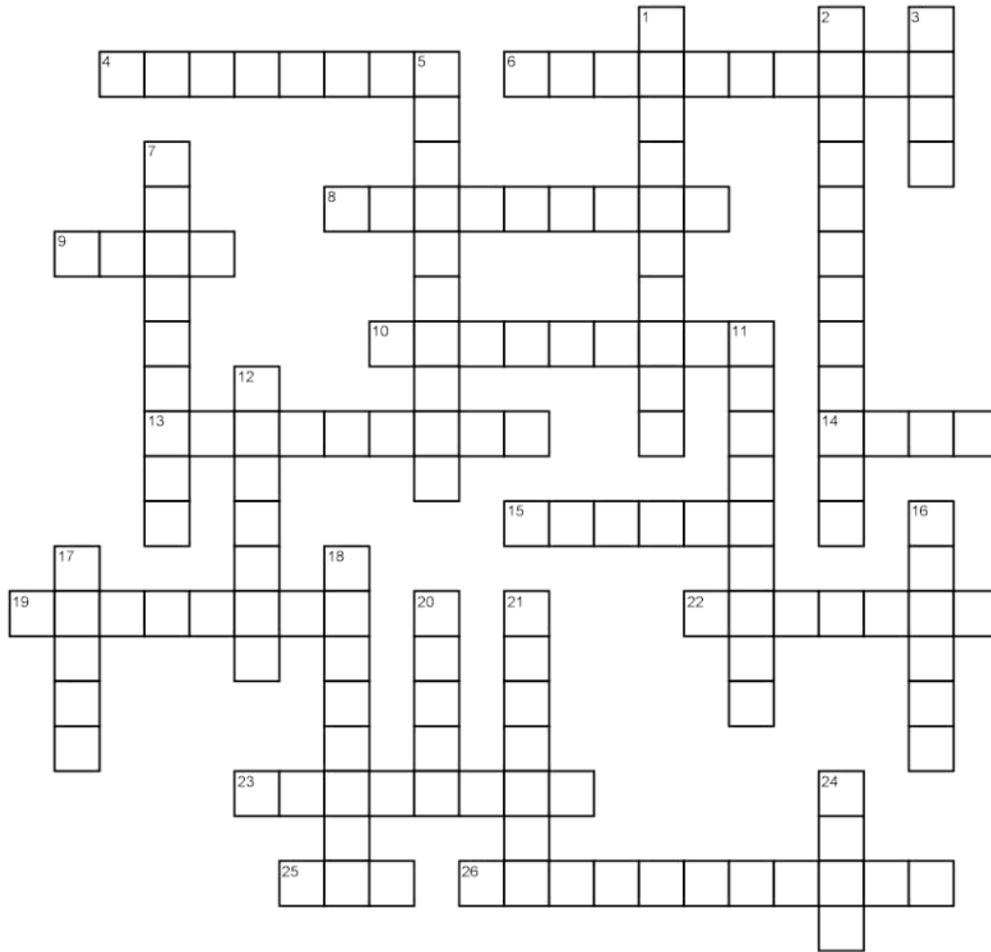
Stories from the First Three Editions of Alcoholics Anonymous

**\$4.75**

Normally \$5.50 - this month \$4.75

**\$4.75**

# January Puzzle



## ACROSS

- 4 A \_\_\_\_\_ View of Alcoholics Anonymous
- 6 spiritual
- 8 meeting in print
- 9 happy, joyous and \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Step one
- 13 press, radio and films
- 14 As He Sees It
- 15 June conference (2 words)
- 19 Circle and \_\_\_\_\_
- 22 it is a phenomenon
- 23 Twelve
- 25 New York offices
- 26 Valley city with the most AA meetings (2 words)

## DOWN

- 1 What we can't afford
- 2 our life when we got to AA
- 3 Bill's secretary
- 5 International Convention 2010 location (2 words)
- 7 1st AA Convention city
- 11 Dr. William D.
- 12 Freedom From
- 16 soundness of mind
- 17 Intoxicated
- 18 Ninety
- 20 Alcohol
- 21 Little Angel of A.A.
- 24 Swiss psychiatrist

Puzzle answers will appear in next month's Desert Lifeline.  
You can also find them on our web site — [www.aainthedesert.org](http://www.aainthedesert.org)

### **Tradition One**

*Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.*

The first Tradition of Alcoholics Anonymous says "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity." This important tradition puts the health and survival of the group ahead of any one member's needs.

The point, of course, is that a recovering alcoholic needs the support and companionship the group offers. If the group is not there, then the alcoholic will not be able to get the much-needed assistance.

This tradition ties in closely with the important concept of service work. Members of Alcoholics Anonymous are encouraged to be deliberate about their efforts to be helpful to others. They believe that alcoholics do not get sober on their own. They can only do so with the help of others with similar problems. Even better...a room full of others with similar problems.

Let's be clear here...Alcoholism is deadly. People die from alcohol-related problems every day. Depending on which statistics you read, alcohol is responsible for somewhere between 40,000 and 70,000 deaths *per year* in the United States.

Another route for excessive drinkers is prison. Something like 80% of inmates in the U.S. prison system were under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs when they committed the crime that got them arrested. Of those, about 80% have ongoing addiction-type problems.

Long-term exposure to large amounts of alcohol can also affect brain function. This gets into a "chicken and egg" debate, but psychological problems such as depression are common in alcoholics. The debate is whether depressed people tend to turn to alcohol or whether long term exposure to alcohol, a depressant, eventually causes depression. Either way, the treatment of depression is unlikely while a person is still actively drinking.

The bad news can be disheartening for those unlucky drinkers who are addicted to alcohol.

But, says Alcoholics Anonymous, there is hope. Even the worst drinker can stop drinking and enjoy long-term sobriety. Tradition one makes sure that option is available. This tradition suggests that every AA member put the needs and stability of the group ahead of any one individual, thus ensuring the survival and availability to future alcoholics.

The severity of the alcoholic problem is the reason a tradition such as this one helps. Many people would look at a group of drunks and be surprised to not see a strict list of rules designed to keep the peace. Members of Alcoholics Anonymous suggest that they have come to understand their situation as "life or death".

Playing with such high stakes, a de-centralized organization makes perfect sense. Who else would understand the needs of a recovering alcoholic better than another recovering alcoholic?

Cathy S. .... Winner's Group

### **Mental Obsession**

(The Great *Unreality* Deep Within)

Someone wrote that an alcoholic cannot drink on the truth, only on a lie. The Big Book tells us that alcoholics have found a Great Reality deep down within (p. 55). Reality infers truth! Historically, such Reality protected Dr. Bob from his ever-lurking 'hooker of scotch' for two and a half years. But, when I was new in AA, and still making an assessment of the Twelve Steps, I discovered many inconvenient truths that my ego wasn't willing to admit, let alone allow change. Actually, I was living in a great un-reality deep within, which would not allow me to recognize the truth in the matter of drink. I was irretrievably imprisoned in a lie. As Dr. Silkworth explained, "I could not differentiate the true from the false in the matter of drink." (xxviii)

So, there I was, faced with the dilemma of being rid of my long-lived, truth-resisting, ego-self, or getting drunk. Yes, I was willing, but how to be rid of my false ego-self that for so many years served as my only defense against a threatening world?

Although I had been attending meetings regularly, the obsession to drink had not diminished one iota. One of my favorite authors stated that most people spend the first part of their lives developing a protective ego-self, but some lucky ones spend the last of their time on earth getting rid of it.

I was forty-three years old and sober about six months when a new sponsor explained that self could not rid self of self with self, so I obviously needed a power greater than myself. He then taught me how to give up on my false self by living the AA program of action. A few months later, I experienced the release I had so earnestly prayed for! The obsession had been lifted! Then began a lifetime process of remaining absent of that great unreality deep within. My second part of life has blissfully begun.

Thank you God,

Bob S.



## December Puzzle Solution

srtiboey	sobriety
soropns	sponsor
IIWiB	BillW
eensitmg	meetings
ipuarittsyli	spirituality
eryvnoint	inventory
ecnrwmoe	newcomer
lioosalcmh	alcoholism
anield	denial
nepevagri	grapevine
moatyyinn	anonymity
lserwpeos	powerless
nmaauanbleeg	unmanageable

### *The Promises of Alcoholism*

1. If we are casual with this phase of our development, we will be drunk before we are halfway through.
2. We are going to know a new imprisonment and a new misery.
3. We will relive the past and won't be able to shut the door on it.
4. We will comprehend the word CONFLICT and we will know PAIN.
5. No matter how far down the scale we have gone, we'll sink even lower.
6. That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will deepen.
7. We will gain interest in selfish things and lose interest in our fellows.
8. Self esteem will slip away.
9. Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will SUCK.
10. Fear of people, and of economic insecurity will multiply.
11. We will intuitively know how to run from situations, which never used to bother us.
12. We will suddenly realize that God would never have done to us what we are doing to ourselves.

Are these extravagant promises? We think not! They are being fulfilled amongst us every day -- sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly. They will ALWAYS materialize if we continue to drink.

**NEW MEETINGS & MEETING CHANGES**

**New Meeting**

**Cabazon**, Twin Eagles Wed. Night AA Meeting, Morongo Indian Reservation, 12755 Ruiz Rd. 6:30 PM Wed.

**Cabazon**, Rez Attitude Adjustment Meeting, Morongo Indian Reservation, 12755 Ruiz Rd. 8:00 AM Sat.

**Indio**, Bilingual Book Study, Martha's Village & Kitchen, 83791 Date Ave. 7:00 PM Monday

**Palm Springs**, We Agnostics, AA Attitude Adjustment, 559 S. Palm Canyon Dr. Suite B105, 5:30 PM Sunday

**Cancelled meeting**

**Cathedral City**, Sober Outa the Book, Presbyterian Church, 38088 Chuperosa Lane, 12:00 PM Thurs.

**LA Quinta**, Steps to Serenity, La Quinta Library Tues Noon (evidently dark for some time—just notified)

**Location change**

**Desert Hot Springs**, All meetings at the KIS Fellowship have moved to 66735 Pierson Blvd. Bldg. B

**Palm Desert**, Ladies Night Out, moved from the Gateway meeting hall to Sacred Heart Church 43775 Deep Canyon 6:30 PM Wed.

**Palm Desert**, Serenity Seekers, moved from the Gateway meeting hall to the Desert Orthopedic Center 3rd Floor 39000 Bob Hope Drive, 7:00 PM Friday

**Rancho Mirage**, Attitude Adjustment, moved from the Cafeteria to the 3rd. Floor of the Desert Orthopedic Center 7:00 PM Mon.

**Time change**

**Cathedral City**, Serenity Group Date Palm Country Club Clubhouse, 36200 Date Palm Dr. 9:00 AM now meets every Sunday

**Addition to Meeting Type for Hearing Impaired Members**

**Palm Springs**, Weekender's Welcome Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition Group, 4711B East Palm Canyon Dr. 10:00 AM Sat. now has the designation of ASL (American Sign Language) that provides for the hearing impaired. This service has been a long time in the making, many thanks to the 5th Tradition Steering Committee for breaking ground in this important area of service!

**Speaker / Q & A Discussion Meeting  
Perez Plaza**

Tuesday Night, 7 p.m.

- 01/06 - Gina
- 01/13 - Brian
- 01/20 - Bob N.
- 01/27 - Megan

**Palm Desert Group -  
Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert**

Saturday Night, 8:30 p.m.

- |                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 01/03 - Bill Mc P. | Palm Desert   |
| 01/10 - Tony C.    | Rancho Mirage |
| 01/17 - Rick S.    | Ashland Ore.  |
| 01/24 - Mike N.    | Newport Beach |
| 01/31 - Connie B.  | Crestline     |



**Speaker  
Meetings**

**Sobriety Capital of the World**

**Indio**

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 01/02 - Jay T.        | Coachella Valley |
| 01/09 - Courtney D.   | Santa Clarita    |
| 01/16 - Matt F.       | Orange County    |
| 01/23 - Pacific Group |                  |
| 01/30 - Gary          | Redlands         |

Please check the web site ([www.AAintheDesert.org](http://www.AAintheDesert.org)) for any changes since the printing of the newsletter.

## **Concept One**

*Final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. World Services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.*

It feels odd to be writing about Concept One. I feel like someone starting their steps early on in sobriety, sharing or leading a meeting about the first step, as if I think I understand what I am talking about, but in reality I have no clue what I am talking about. At least it is the first concept, so I am sharing at the beginning. One thing I can say with assurance - due to reading this concept and my experience in AA- is that it is not all about me. In the writing of Concept One, Bill writes about the attitude of AAs in the mid-40s until 1950 as having a guaranteed safe future. Today, AA is more firmly entrenched in the culture of our country and the world than anyone probably could have imagined in 1945. AA is safe, but this does not mean it does not have to be guarded.

As an alcoholic, all I have is a daily postponement or reprieve from the first drink - nothing more and nothing less - and all the tools that make that possible. One of the key tools toward maintaining my sobriety is a certain simple attitude of humility. An attitude that my sobriety is not guaranteed, just like the strength of AA is not guaranteed. Despite how strong our fellowship is today, if we rest on our laurels, AA will and could fall apart. Also, like our own individual sobrieties, if we relied on one person to be an ultimate authority, like a dictatorship, or even designated a few individuals as the authority of AA, like an oligarchy, then we very well could and would perish. In my experience, if I rely on one person as the end-all voice, then I am making that person my Higher Power. From what I have seen and learned, no human power on its own can keep me sober. I must have a power greater than myself. We must have a power greater than ourselves individually, but the collective, or if you like, group conscience is a power that we can rely upon. The way that meetings and groups have autonomy and put people qualified for certain service positions within those groups is the same way our service structure is organized. This concept is directly linked to Tradition Two, which states “for our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as he may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.” The way that I have heard God manifests itself in the voice of a meeting or a group is only through a group conscience. We may have trusted leaders, but no one person is more responsible or important than the group. As this is true for our meetings it is symbiotically true for AA World Service.

What happens when too much responsibility is put on to one person, or a select few people, is that the next generation of leaders will not know what to do when difficult situations arise, and as we know trials and tribulations are guaranteed to happen. As a member of AA, sometimes I see many afraid of change, whether that is with individual meetings going in a direction that people are not used to or personal changes in alcoholic's lives or so on and so forth. Change of the guard is not only alright, it is vital for the strength of AA's World Service and 12 Step work that new people are given the opportunity to carry the message. AA is unlike almost every other institution, where we can all have extremely varying opinions and be completely different people, however we all have the same singleness of purpose, and as Bill writes, “We see in our fellowship a spiritualized society characterized by enough enlightenment, enough responsibility and enough love of man and of God to insure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions.” The way that we exercise Concept One in our own individual meetings is by the person we elect as a GSR for our meeting. We give them the voice of our meeting, which then is a part of the voice of our district, which then leads all the way to the top to GSO in New York as a part of the voice of the whole of AA World Service. Hence the importance of a GSR to a group and the reason each meeting should have a GSR. By not having a GSR, we are choosing to not exercise our privilege to be a part of the group conscience of AA as a whole.

Zac S. - Cornfield Speaker Meeting



The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Ninth District AA Convention  
**COMMITTEE *PLANNING* MEETINGS**

Have some fun & Bring a friend  – get involved!

The <sup>th</sup> **Sunday** of the every month

At  pm ~ Fellowship Hall

Dates: January 25<sup>th</sup>  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>

March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
April 26<sup>th</sup>  
May 24<sup>th</sup>  
June 28<sup>th</sup>  
July 26<sup>th</sup>

For Information Call Katherine (951) 347-5563 or  
Ira R (760) 861-2693

Convention: August 7 - 9, 2015 at

Hyatt Indian Wells

## What “Conference Approved” Literature Means

<p>GSO Box 4-5-9 1978 (Volume 23, No 4)</p>	<p><u>Any literature that pertains to the principles of AA or is approved by a Group Conscience - is perfectly acceptable to be read by any AA member or in an AA meeting.</u></p>	
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You hear it in meetings, “...we have AA Approved Literature available for sale at cost...”

You hear it in group conscience meetings “...we should only allow readings from AA Approved Literature...”

You hear non-group members crosstalking in a meeting when someone reads from Richmond Walkers’ 24 Hours a Day, Emmet Fox’s Sermon On The Mount, or one of Ralph Pfau’s Golden Books – “You can’t read that in an AA meeting – it’s NOT AA Approved Literature...”

Factually, unlike Alanon, there is no such thing as AA Approved Literature. The early AA’s read from the Bible, the Upper Room, Oswald Chambers, Cecil Rose, Leslie Weatherhead, Sam Shoemaker, Emmet Fox, Richmond Walker, Ralph Pfau and many others – a simple visit to [Dickb.com](http://Dickb.com) will bear this out. As Dick B. aptly points out “Whatever some may think, A.A. has no index of forbidden books.”

In the 1950’s AA World Services took over WORKS publishing’s rights to publish the Big Book and began publishing other books as well. In the course of the next 40 years AAWS began to publish more books but eventually lost the copyright on the first two editions of the Big Book. Until 1993 books which were owned and printed by AAWS were identified by the use of a Circle/Triangle Symbol bearing the three legacies.

On May 21, 1993 , an AA World Service Ad Hoc committee released an unsigned document titled: "Follow-up Statement Regarding Use of the Circle/ Triangle Symbol." In it, AAWS stated that "Alcoholics Anonymous will phase out the 'official' use of the circle and triangle symbol in and on its literature, letterheads and other material." That document was issued without a conference action or a "group conscience".

The term “Conference Approved” literature now replaces the Circle/Triangle Logo to merely “*identify*” (AAGV Vol. 50-7 1993) the books solely owned and published by AAWS and not as a predetermined list. The most definitive illustration of this is that the public domain first edition of the Big Book is NOT “Conference Approved”. “Conference Approved” in no way constitutes a list of any written documents of which an AA body approves or disapproves. (Please see *the ad hoc committee Final Report of the 1993 General Service Conference*)

A formal statement concerning the Conference, the G.S.O, and what AA members read was issued by the General Services Office of AA in 1978.

### “WHAT CONFERENCED-APPROVED MEANS”

GSO Box 4-5-9 1978  
(Volume 23, No 4)

AA’s General Service Office said:

**“It does *not* mean the Conference disapproves of any other publications.** Many local A.A. central offices publish their own meeting lists. A.A. as a whole does *not* oppose these, any more than A.A. disapproves of the Bible or any other publications from any source that A.A.’s find useful.

**What any A.A. member reads is no business of G.S.O., or of the Conference, naturally.”**

Central Office of the Desert  
Group Contributions  
November 2014

	Nov 14	Jul - Nov 14
10th Step Study-THU Palm Desert	0.00	55.00
12 & 12 - La Quinta	0.00	101.00
12 & 12 Happy Hour-TUE Yucca Valley	0.00	140.00
164 Group - WED - Palm Springs	0.00	75.00
3charge customer	78.00	78.00
3rd, 7th & 11th Step - SUN - Palm Desert	577.22	881.35
5th Tradition Dinner Meeting - DHS	40.00	90.00
ABC Group-SUN Palm Desert	0.00	50.00
AS Bill Sees It 10AM -MON Palm Desert	0.00	58.00
Attitude Adj-ALL Meetings Palm Springs	180.00	689.00
Attitude Adjustment-M-S PDCC, Palm Desert	0.00	800.00
Attitude Adjustment 7AM M-S Palm Desert	127.00	429.00
Big Book Experience - TUE - Palm Desert	4.36	4.36
Big Book Study - Wed - Palm Springs	56.45	168.16
Big Book Workshop - THU Yucca Valley	0.00	10.31
Black Sheep Group - WED - Rancho Mirage	0.00	80.02
CDM Men's Stag-TUE Palm Desert	65.00	175.00
Central Intergroup	0.00	108.10
Creative Expressions-SUN Palm Desert	0.00	25.00
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	0.00	319.18
Desert Men's Big Book -TUE Palm Desert	0.00	75.00
Dolls of Valley -WED Palm Desert	280.00	280.00
Eve. Attitude Adj. - THU Rancho Mirage	0.00	187.00
Feelings & Solutions-WED Palm Desert	66.38	131.18
Fellowship Hall	0.00	108.00
Goals Group	0.00	40.00
Great Events-Daily Yucca Valley	0.00	45.00
Groovy Group-TUE Palm Desert	0.00	44.76
H&I Committee	0.00	152.60
Hi-Desert SpeakersGroup-SAT Yucca Valley	0.00	95.00
How Is Your Now - La Quinta	161.52	161.52
How It Works-ALL Meetings Palm Springs	200.00	300.00
IWC Committee 2015	10.00	50.00
Jaywalkers Men's Stag - PD	0.00	10.00
Just the Black Print Book Study-WED - RM	250.00	500.00
Ladies Nite Out-WED Palm Desert	81.00	271.00
Living Sober Group-ALL Joshua Tree	10.00	61.50
Meditaion Meeting-FRI Palm Desert	323.36	323.36
Men's Mauraders-MON Palm Desert	0.00	200.00
Men's Stag-TUE Palm Springs	0.00	65.00
Monday Noon Day At A Time - MON - PD	0.00	117.00
New Freedom - TUE - Palm Desert	0.00	150.00
No Rules - La Quinta	0.00	590.00
Oxy-Moron Group-THU Palm Springs	0.00	142.00
Palm Desert Group -SAT - Palm Desert	0.00	102.49
Perez Plaza Meeting Room	234.00	1,226.40
Primary Purpose -TUE Palm Desert	176.00	276.00
Q & A - FRI - Palm Desert	0.00	42.90
Rebel Group - SUN - Palm Desert	0.00	17.98
Road Runners -MON Bermuda Dunes	130.50	130.50
RoundTable Group -THU Palm Desert	0.00	75.00
Santa Rosa Big Book Thumpers-WED-Coachell	0.00	200.00
Santa Rosa Gp-MON Palm Desert	0.00	32.27
Seniors in Sobriety - TUE - Palm Springs	0.00	120.00
Serenity Seekers-FRI - Palm Desert	120.00	360.00
Singleness of Purpose Men's Stag - MON	124.00	282.00
Sober Out'a The Book-FRI Cathedral City	81.00	81.00
Sobriety Brothers	0.00	59.50
Sobriety Capitol of World-FRI Indio	0.00	63.26
Solid Solutions - TUE - Palm Desert	0.00	227.00
Speakeasy BB/S-FRI Palm Desert	0.00	200.00
Step Sisters-MON Palm Desert	95.00	514.00
Step/Tradition Study-FRI Palm Desert	54.83	164.83
Stepping Stones-TUE Palm Desert	0.00	55.60
Steps to Serenity - La Quinta	13.64	13.64
Sunday 8AM Serenity Group	20.46	106.10
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition Group - ALL- PS	557.86	1,788.91
Sunrise Celebrators-M-S Palm Desert	98.46	391.71
Twilight Step Study-TUE Palm Desert	0.00	70.00
Vets for Vets - TUE - Palm Desert	0.00	55.00
Winners Meeting-WED Palm Springs	150.00	350.00
Winners Meeting-WED Yucca Valley	0.00	30.00
Women's Meeting-MON Yucca Valley	0.00	15.00
Women's Q & A-FRI Palm Desert	0.00	30.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,366.04</b>	<b>15,517.99</b>

HEARD <sup>IN THE</sup> ROOMS

WHAT ARE MY QUALIFICATIONS TO BE IN AA? WELL... I'm IMMATURE AND SELF-CENTERED TO THE EXTREME.



YOU'RE IN!!

THE GROUP.

A bottom isn't a bad thing if you can climb up and out, even if you need others to help you. If it weren't for bottoms none of us would have reached new heights!

"If you don't have a sobriety date, I encourage to get one of those. It has been my experience that Alcoholics Anonymous makes so much more sense when I got a sobriety date!"

"AA may not smooth out the road ahead, but it sure gives me a better set of shock absorbers!"

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Mike Murphy

**DATE:** December 18, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Treasurer's Report, November 2014

CENTRAL OFFICE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT, November 2014

	Nov. Actual	Nov. Budget	Variance	Jul-Nov. Actual	Jul-Nov Budget	Variance
Income:						
Group Contributions	\$ 4,366	\$ 4,166	\$ 200	\$ 15,518	\$ 20,830	\$ (5,312)
Convention Contributions	\$ 1,100	\$ 400	\$ 700	\$ 9,740	\$ 7,400	\$ 2,340
Gratitude Dinner	\$ 80	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ -	\$ 80
Literature Sales	\$ 3,352	\$ 4,420	\$ (1,068)	\$ 21,200	\$ 22,100	\$ (900)
Medallions	\$ 1,409	\$ 1,920	\$ (511)	\$ 9,644	\$ 9,600	\$ 44
All Other Income	\$ 303	\$ 729	\$ (426)	\$ 1,690	\$ 3,645	\$ (1,955)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 10,610</b>	<b>\$ 11,635</b>	<b>\$ (1,025)</b>	<b>\$ 57,872</b>	<b>\$ 63,575</b>	<b>\$ (5,703)</b>
Expenses:						
literature expense	\$ 2,706	\$ 3,577	\$ (871)	\$ 17,596	\$ 17,887	\$ (291)
Medallion expense	\$ 591	\$ 1,043	\$ (452)	\$ 4,412	\$ 5,217	\$ (805)
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 4,439	\$ 3,526	\$ 913	\$ 19,544	\$ 18,430	\$ 1,114
Gratitude Dinner	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ (1,500)
Rent	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,350	\$ -	\$ 6,750	\$ 6,750	\$ -
Utilities	\$ 430	\$ 375	\$ 55	\$ 2,518	\$ 1,875	\$ 643
All Other Expenses	\$ 1,475	\$ 1,392	\$ 83	\$ 10,026	\$ 9,879	\$ 147
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 10,991</b>	<b>\$ 11,263</b>	<b>\$ (272)</b>	<b>\$ 60,846</b>	<b>\$ 61,538</b>	<b>\$ (692)</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (381)</b>	<b>\$ 372</b>	<b>\$ (753)</b>	<b>\$ (2,974)</b>	<b>\$ 2,037</b>	<b>\$ (5,011)</b>

Prudent reserve equals 8.7 months.

**Negative ( ) income variances reduce net income**  
**Negative ( ) expense variances increase net income**



## Faithful Fiver Contributors

We have had a total of 11 AA members  
Contribute to the Faithful Fivers this year  
January thru 15th December 2014

**Giving Your Central Office**

**\$1,345.00!!**

**THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!**

### JOIN THE FAITHFUL FIVERS!

“When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer.”

• Bill W.

- Reprinted from *The Language of the Heart* with permission from the AA Grapevine, Inc.

### **Yes! Please enroll me as a Faithful Fiver!**

I agree to pledge!

Here is my contribution of  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ months

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your checks payable to:**  
Central Office

And mail to:  
35-325 Date Palm Drive  
Suite 134  
Cathedral City, CA 92234

### **What are Faithful Fivers?**

Faithful Fivers are A.A. members who graciously pledge to contribute at least five dollars each month to support Central Office in its efforts to carry the A.A. message of hope and recovery to those alcoholics who still suffer in the Coachella Valley. As a Faithful Fiver, your personal contribution can and will make our vital services possible.

The Faithful Fiver idea came about when we remembered that we wasted much more than five dollars each month during our drinking days. Your contribution will help Central Office provide the services necessary to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Faithful Fiver members who pledge at least \$5.00 per month annually will receive, if they so choose, a subscription to our monthly newsletter, *The Desert Lifeline*.

Contributions are limited to \$3,000 per member per year\* and are tax deductible under Internal Revenue Code: § 501 (c)3

\*Page 9—Self-Support Pamphlet

**You can also contribute to the Faithful Fivers via credit card on the web site!**

# GRATITUDE DINNER

## 2015

### *SPEAKER MEETING*

SATURDAY

MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup> 2015



Save The Date

*Food is again being catered by  
Sherman's Deli!*

Home-Made Desserts from the Fellowship

Tickets available at meetings, or at

Your Central Office.

**Speaker: Don N.  
from Los Angeles**

**Tickets  
\$20.00**

5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

5:00 PM – Doors open

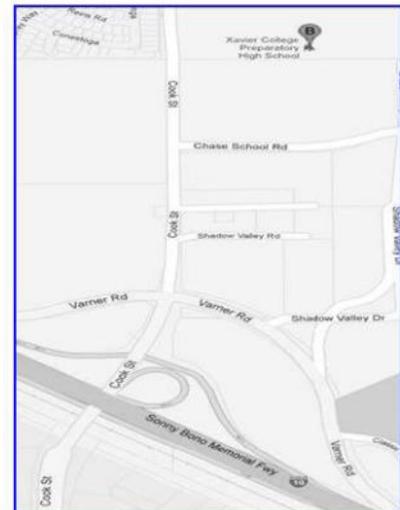
6:00 PM – Dinner served

7:00 PM – Speaker Meeting

Xavier Prep Gymnasium

34-200 Cook Street

Palm Desert



**Service Opportunities, we need your help!!**

Anyone interested in participating can call Central Office 760.324.4880

Or Email: [GratitudeDinner@aainthedesert.org](mailto:GratitudeDinner@aainthedesert.org)

Chair: Ginny P - 760.567.2242

**Remember: Xavier Prep is a non-smoking facility.  
There is NO SMOKING anywhere on the property.**