

the Desert Lifeline

January 2016

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



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

3rd Sunday of the month, 4PM
Fellowship Hall
45940 Portola Ave.

Palm Desert

Mailing Address: P O Box 3684
Palm Desert, CA 92261-3684

Hospitals & Institutions

2nd 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

The **General Service Office**, PO Box 459,
Grand Central Station NY 10163
Web site: www.aa.org

DCYPAA

Every Sunday 6:00 P.M.
Fellowship Hall
45940 Portola Ave.
Palm Desert
Email:
webmaster@dcypaa.com

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	65
12 Step Calls	5
Visitors	34
Literature Sales	100
Al-Anon	0
Other 12 Step	4
Miscellaneous	47
Business	32

TeleService Report

Upon evaluation of the process recently, and an upgrade to our phone service, we have reduced the amount of technological training necessary for Teleservice Volunteers! Each day the volunteer taking the phones that evening will be reminded of their shift by our office staff and informed that the phones from Central Office will be automatically forwarded to their phone at the close of day. The necessary information needed to follow-up with 12 Step Calls, and the monthly calendar is available on the website as before, but the logging on and disconnecting from a separate number is no longer necessary. This puts more volunteers involved personally with each other, and makes the access more convenient.

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert Board of Directors

Chairman: Traci N.
Vice Chairman: Russell J.
Treasurer: Ainslie M.
Secretary: OPEN

Directors

Geoff M.
Lobo McG.
Sheri P.
Sid B.
OPEN
OPEN

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

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

November 2013

Richard P. 1 yr.
Patrick H. 3 yr.
Keri S. 3 yr.
Brian B. 6 yr.



Tim H. 6 yr.
Paulette Q. 38 yr.



**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.

Everyone has to start somewhere.

I abundantly love and believe in the twelve steps with my whole heart. By learning a design for living via the steps and principles, my little life has been blessed a thousand times over. It's kind of overwhelming to write about step one.

It has been said that step one is "the only step [you] have to work perfectly", and I do in fact agree with this, because to *live* the first step means I am not going to pick up a drink or drug today. The admission that I am powerless over alcohol means that once I start drinking, I cannot stop. The obsession will kick in and I am useless and will inevitably die from this disease.

I am one of those alcoholics whose unmanageability was self-evident. It was undeniable that I was homeless, unemployable, estranged from friends and family, lost and lonely and drowning in a dark abyss. It sounds melodramatic, but that characterizes the end of my drinking.

Powerlessness, however, was difficult concept for me to grasp. Ultimately, I control very little in life. The traffic, the weather, other people, places, things...all I can really control is my *response* to all these things. I do the footwork, and my Higher Power takes care of the rest.

What is amazing and ironic about the first step is the empowerment I feel when I fully admit that I am powerless over alcohol. To know who I am – a true alcoholic – provides the foundation for my recovery. Then I am able to open the door for a power greater than myself to guide me.

HM, sober through the grace of God and the Fellowship of AA since 1/1/12

Secretary Workshop

Saturday February 6th 2016 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

November Volunteers at Central Office

Char A.
Catherine S.

Thank You !!

Dallas E.
Darlene M.
David T.
Dyana S.
Eileen C.

Emil M.
Gail S.

Jay A.
Jim B.
Kathie P.
Lobo Mc G.
Marge C.
Mary Anne C.
Michael W.
Mike B.

Thank You !!

Patrick L.
Paul A.

Rivers V.
Sandy W.
Sarah K. (& Zeke)
Steve P.
Tonia B.

Thank You !!

Tracy M.
Vickie G.
Zebra Mark

Thank You !!

Great Reality Deep Within

I had scooted through the holiday season one long-ago January without a drink for the first time in memory since teenage years. Even though I had been sober five full months, my gratitude was overshadowed by fear after enjoying a happy-happy parade on Hollywood Boulevard, I marched right into a bar on Cherokee Avenue and *almost* ordered a happy-happy gin & tonic. Thank God I didn't! It was definitely one of those strange mental blank spots mentioned on page forty-two of the Big Book. Terrified, I rushed back to my Santa Monica apartment, fell to my knees, and asked God to save me from a seemingly impending drunken spree.

What was I doing wrong? I had been going to at least two meetings daily, and *working* the Steps from the pull down shades at the clubhouse. God's answer came in the form of a new sponsor named Carl. He informed me that the directions for AA recovery were in the Big Book, and nowhere else; that *meetings only* were probably not sufficient for me to recover . . . that my mental obsession to drink would triumph over my willpower whether I was happy, depressed or in-between. But then Carl took me through the Twelve Step process and I soon began to recover.

It was later explained that down deep within the alcoholics mind there exists a quiet undetectable, *I-need-a-drink* self which may linger surreptitiously for years before it attacks. Indeed, page forty-three informs us that we have no effective mental defense that our defense must come from a higher power. But then, Bill W. informs us that we also have a marvelous often unknown protector; he calls it a "*Great Reality deep within*" (p. 55). Dr. Carl Jung called it a God Archetype. For whatever name, it is much more powerful than the mental obsession, and luckily for we alcoholics, this can be ours and it can last for a lifetime if we live the AA program of action. Many Januarys have passed since those days of yore, but the thought of drinking no longer appears in my emotional vocabulary. Thank you God! ~ Bob S.

Book of the month

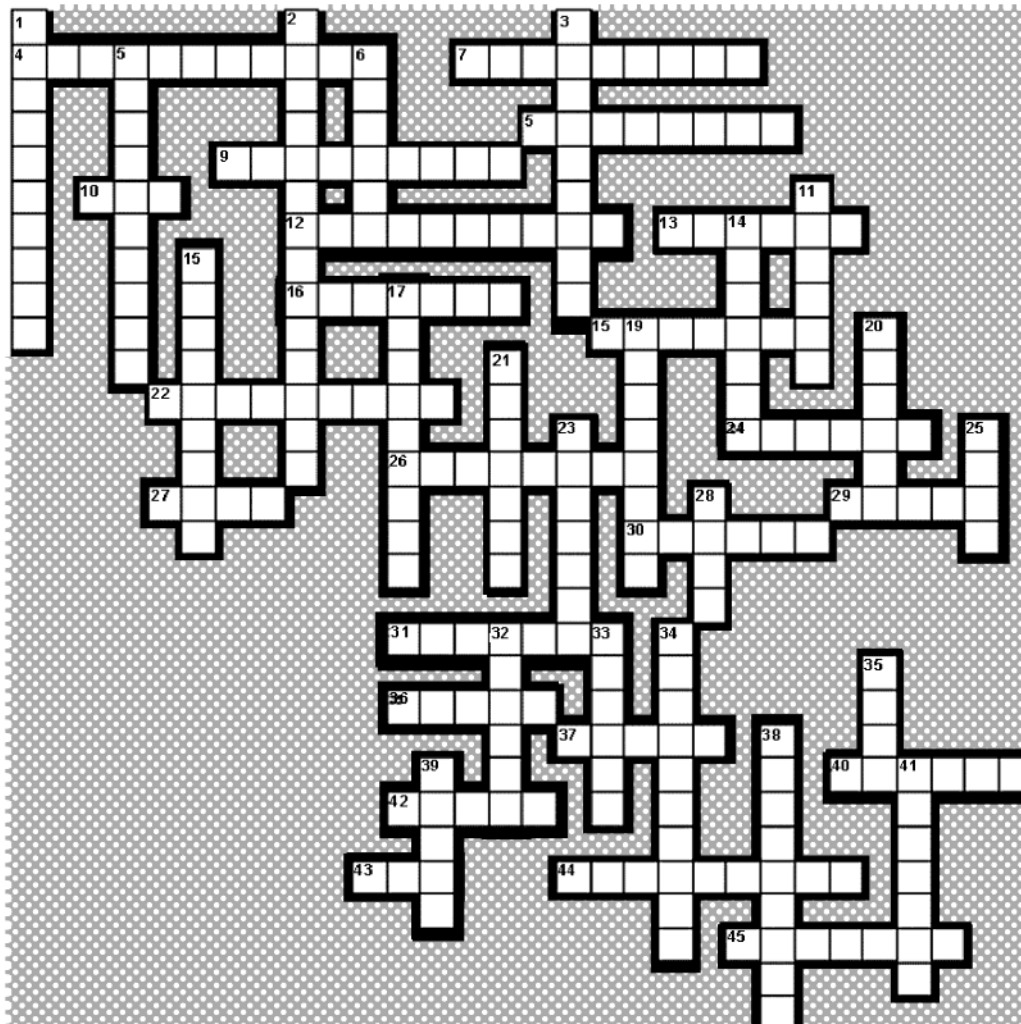
"As Bill Sees It"

Soft Cover

This collection of Bill's writings is a daily source of comfort and inspiration.

Normally \$8.60 - this month \$7.00

Big Book & 12/12 Puzzle



Down

1. Cheerfulness and laughter make for _____
2. Three words used at end of most meetings
3. Fourth Step
5. AA Organization as a whole
6. Step where we "come to believe"
11. Asking for guidance
14. "Self-supporting" Tradition
15. A.A. Member
17. Your primary meeting (two words)
19. Step requiring prayer and meditation
20. First Serenity Prayer request
21. Second Serenity Prayer request
23. 12th Step: Carry the _____
25. _____ Does It
28. "Faith without works is _____"
32. Ninth Step
33. _____ have we seen a person...
34. "Number One" offender
35. Hard-nosed sponsor, aka "Big Book _____"
38. Spritual _____
39. AA co-founder (two words)
41. Program mentor

Across

- | | |
|---|--|
| 4. Self-will run riot | 26. Granted one day _____ |
| 7. Foundation of all our traditions | 27. Live and Let _____ |
| 8. _____ Prayer | 29. Twelve _____ |
| 9. AA co-founder (two words) | 30. Number of Steps |
| 10. First word of Serenity Prayer | 31. Meeting where only one member shares |
| 12. Sitting in silence | 36. What an _____! |
| 13. Avoid manufacturing this | 37. When to give advice |
| 16. More important than keeping sober | 40. Third Serenity Prayer request |
| 18. Came to _____ | 42. First Things _____ |
| 22. Sixth Step refers to defects of _____ | 43. Result until we let go absolutely |
| 24. _____ Power | 44. First Step admission |
| | 45. Primary AA resource (two words) |

Puzzle answers will appear in next month's Desert Lifeline.
(Thanks to the Yucca Valley Alano Club for this months puzzle)

Tradition One

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

Alcoholics are notoriously a headstrong and willful bunch of die-hard individualists. Stubborn to a fault and perversely bent on doing things our own way even when it turns out to be the wrong way, we are very much, in Bill W.'s words, "a crowd of anarchists." Fortunately, those of us in recovery can agree on a couple of key points. We all want to live free from tyranny of alcohol and we share an abiding faith in the solution represented in the twelve steps of AA. On that basis, we can make common cause.

Human history is full of stories celebrating people who have joined together in spite of their differences that they might overcome a common foe. Given the right circumstances, desperate need and willingness can yield a miraculously effective formula for unification. Bonds grow overnight between relative strangers; consensus flowers where there was once divisiveness and dissent. It's one of the less catastrophic ways in which we, as a species, change and grow.

But there is one problem with this potent combination of desperation and faith that makes such miracles possible; it tends not to outlast the sense of immediate crisis. Newly sober and still possessed by the shared feeling of having narrowly escaped disaster, we celebrate spirit of "camaraderie, joyousness and democracy" amongst ourselves regardless of our station in life. However, once the overpowering burden of the obsession to drink is removed and we begin to rebuild our individual lives, we often become more sensitive to the differences between us and are less liable to focus on the common threads that bind us together. Again, it's a human thing, not specific to alcoholics by any means. Gratitude and harmony give way to petty squabbling and factionalism when times are good. Go figure.

Luckily for us inebriates. The founders of A.A. were canny fellows. They knew only too well how easy it is for a grateful drunk to get some sobriety and begin patting himself on the back only to stroll blithely off the next cliff in his path. As I says in our basic text, our relief at having survived a common peril, though powerful, is not enough to ensure our continued survival as a group. "the tremendous fact for every one of us is that we have discovered a common solution. We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree" (Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 17). Upon joining the fellowship, we soon learned that our own sobriety was and is inextricably bound up with that of other alcoholics. "Our very lives, as ex-problem drinkers, depend upon our constant thought of others and how we may help meet their needs" (Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 20). With admirable brevity, Tradition One codifies this crucial recognition of the group's importance.

For alcoholics, the group is where things happen. A.A. groups provide forums where "we can join in brotherly and harmonious action." We go to meetings to get to know each other and to carry the message to newcomers, to celebrate our recovery, and to affirm our identity as part of something much larger than ourselves. The group is the embodiment of our shared belief in a common solution centered on the simple miracle of one alcoholic helping another. Without the group there would soon be no more Alcoholics Anonymous—it's that simple. "The group must survive or the individual will not." (12 Steps and 12 Traditions: 132) Tradition One gently reminds us to put aside our differences when they threaten to disrupt the balance and harmony of the group.

Within the fellowship, we have an unprecedented degree of liberty to organize ourselves and conduct our business in any way we see fit. Thoreau's maxim, "That government is best which governs least" clearly pinpoints a key element of our guiding ethos. Subject to a few basic principles, we are free to structure our groups as we please, letting experience and our group conscience take the place of statutory law. Groups and meetings come and go. Those that continue to grow and thrive do so because they embody the key principles of the A.A. program: unity, recovery and service. As long as we practice what we preach, acting with compassion, tolerance, and humility, we are less apt to wind up our on a limb somewhere with no visible means of support.

It's instructive to look at the Traditions Checklist to get a better sense of where we tend to err when translating this principle into practice. The ten questions contained on the checklist provide a set of indicators designed to contrast actual behavior with the intent of Tradition One. Unsurprisingly, all ten questions concerning this tradition address some aspect of the alcoholic ego. Certain character defects come up again and again. Am I divisive or do I promote unity? Am I genuinely considerate of others or do I simply give lip service to these ideals while remaining intolerant and judgmental? Do I embrace the whole of A.A. or only those parts that appeal to me? The need to accede gracefully to the dictates of the group conscience can sometimes cause even veteran A.A.'s falter. All of us like to think that we bring something of unique value to the common table whether it is a potluck dish or a new idea. Learning to accept that our brilliance may sometimes go unrecognized can take some getting used to.

At the end of the day, Tradition One is about gratitude, humility and self-sacrifice. I managed to get sober in the first place only because the hand of A.A. was there to help. Whenever I get to thinking that I know better, I have only to remind myself that I tried in vain for many years to get all my ducks in a row. Together we accomplish the seemingly impossible. Alone we are simply powerless. As Ben Franklin said, "we must hang together ...else, we shall most assuredly hang separately."

Mark J.
Long Beach, CA



Speaker Meetings



**Palm Desert Group -
Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert**
Saturday Night, 8:30 p.m.

01/2 - Ira R.	Desert Hot Springs
01/9 - Dean A.	La Quinta
01/16 - Katie G.	Palm Desert
01/23 - Jerry Mc D.	Cathedral City
01/30 - Zenny H.	Indio

**Sobriety Capital of the World
Indio**
Friday Night, 8 p.m.

01/01 - Steve W.	Calimesa, CA
01/08 - Jerome S.	Corona, CA
01/15 - Jackson F.	Alexandria, VA
01/22 - Pacific Group	Tarzana, CA
01/29 - Ruby M.	Orange County

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.

Concept One

Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship.

At the International Convention held in St. Louis in 1955, Bill W. turned over to the fellowship of alcoholics anonymous the reigns of world service responsibility to the fellowship as a whole on behalf of himself, Dr. Bob, the Trustees and old-timers of that time.

Page 7, AA concepts of the AA service manual, I quote in part:

“Not one member in a thousand could tell who our Trustees were. Not one in a hundred had the least idea what had been done for AA’s general welfare. Tens of thousands already owed their chance at sobriety to the little notice activity of our Trustees and general services.”

I almost think this remains true today. We have poor representation at the Central Office meetings on the first Thursday of the month and a poor turnout at District 9 meetings on the first Tuesday of the month. Bill W. was concerned that he and Dr. Bob would die some day as well as other old-timers in AA. The message of sobriety had to be passed on to future generations. Who was to do this? Who would help AA survive for the future?

When I entered the doors of AA, Alcohol had whipped me very badly, I was the sickest I had ever been. *I fell on my face after missing the first step into the AA room* I was entering. I was picked up off the floor, I was helped to a table, handed a partial cup of coffee and was told to listen if I wanted to feel better. I listen and did what I was told without question. I wanted to feel better. I didn’t understand a thing when I arrived here in very poor shape. Thanks to the old-timers who were here to teach me, I am still around to also pass along what I have learned and experienced since my arrival. My sobriety date is 01 April 1976.

Since that time I have been of service in one way or another. I have filled many positions more than once. I was in the U. S. Navy and had to travel overseas. AA world services made sure I had names, phone numbers and listing of AA everywhere I went. As a result it was not necessary for me to drink in the ports I used to drink to oblivion in. I am still here.

In the AA service structure, everything begins and ends at the group level. In the organizational charts of the AA service manual the charts shows the AA Groups as the boss, everyone else are their representatives. The conference committee and Trustees are at the bottom of the chart.

Each member and each group of AA has a voice in AA world services. In order for your voice to be heard, your groups elect representatives who carry your voice that goes all the way to the conference and trustees and world services.

I have not forgotten step one since they picked me up, nor tradition one, nor concept one.

Dave H
Primary Purpose Group, Desert Hot Springs

What “Conference Approved” Literature Means

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

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.

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 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 2015

	Nov 15	Jul - Nov 15
10th Step Study-THU Palm Desert	0.00	139.01
11AM Palm Springs Duplicate Customer	0.00	118.45
12 & 12 Step Study - THU - Cathedral City	0.00	81.60
12 & 12 - La Quinta	0.00	60.00
12 & 12 Bk Study-TUE Cathedral City	0.00	17.51
12 & 12 Happy Hour-TUE Yucca Valley	0.00	44.23
12 and 12 Men's Stag F.H. Monday	0.00	90.00
164 Group - WED - Palm Springs	0.00	127.20
3rd, 7th & 11th Step - SUN - Palm Desert	73.32	339.82
5th Tradition Dinner Meeting - DHS	0.00	75.00
6 AM Wake-Up	0.00	201.00
630AM Attitude Adj. Palm Desert	1,000.00	1,600.00
AA SUNCity- Palm Desert	0.00	122.01
Anonymous - no group given	0.00	534.72
AS Bill Sees It 10AM -MON Palm Desert	0.00	116.50
Attitude Adj-ALL Meetings Palm Springs	90.00	360.00
Attitude Adj. THU Eve. - Rancho Mirage	0.00	277.39
Attitude Adjustment 7AM M-S Palm Desert	0.00	269.00
Big Book Study - Wed - Palm Springs	73.00	308.75
Black Sheep Group - WED - Rancho Mirage	0.00	200.00
Came to Believe-WED Cathedral City	80.00	80.00
CDM Men's Stag-TUE Palm Desert	56.00	231.00
Central Intergroup	0.00	54.42
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	51.00	250.00
Desert Angels-THU Indio	0.00	60.00
Desert Men's Banquet	1,061.00	1,061.00
Desert Men's Big Book -TUE Palm Desert	75.00	75.00
Dolls of Valley -WED Palm Desert	0.00	74.02
Feelings & Solutions-WED Palm Desert	0.00	40.65
Free Spirit-THU Cathedral City	0.00	82.00
Goals Group	0.00	30.00
Half Measures-TUE Cathedral City	82.00	82.00
How It Works-ALL Meetings Palm Springs	100.00	200.00
How It Works-WED Palm Desert	0.00	330.00
Into Action-TUE Cathedral City	0.00	0.00
Jaywalkers Men's Stag - PD	0.00	202.65
Just the Black Print Book Study-WED - RM	233.00	651.00
Keep It Simple-Many DHS	0.00	241.20
Keep It Simple - THU - Cat City	0.00	82.00
Keys to the Kingdom-SAT Palm Desert	0.00	160.00
Living In The Solution -SUN -Yucca Valley	0.00	18.00
Living Sober-MON Cathedral City	0.00	80.00
Living Sober Group-ALL Joshua Tree	15.00	25.00
Meditaion Meeting-FRI Palm Desert	0.00	95.50
Meditation Meeting-THU Cathedral City	0.00	92.00
Men's Mauraders-MON Palm Desert	0.00	225.00
New Freedom - TUE - Palm Desert	0.00	120.00
No Rules - La Quinta	0.00	300.00
Ole Time Sunday AA Meeting - Sun City	0.00	200.00
Phoenix Bilingual Book Study	0.00	25.00
Playing With A Full Deck-THU -Palm Desert	0.00	94.15
Primary Purpose -TUE Palm Desert	0.00	50.00
Rebel Group - SUN - Palm Desert	104.56	104.56
Road Runners -MON Bermuda Dunes	0.00	87.00
RoundTable Group -THU Palm Desert	0.00	25.50
Sane Saturday-SAT Cathedral City	0.00	86.80
Santa Rosa Big Book Thumpers-WED-Coachell	0.00	215.00
Santa Rosa Messengers - Coachella	0.00	100.00
Saturday's Survivors-SAT Cathedral City	89.60	169.60
Seniors in Sobriety - TUE11am Palm Spgs.	0.00	150.05
Serenity Seekers-FRI - Palm Desert	120.00	240.00
Serenity Sunday-SUN Cathedral City	80.00	80.00
Singleness of Purpose	509.50	1,286.30
Sober Out'a The Book-FRI Cathedral City	80.00	80.00
Sobriety Capitol of World-FRI Indio	0.00	61.00
Solid Solutions - TUE - Palm Desert	0.00	184.04
Solutions in Sobriety-SAT Palm Desert	0.00	71.11
Speaker Q&A - Cathedral City	0.00	90.00
Spiritual Awakening-SAT Cathedral City	0.00	82.80
Step Sisters-MON Palm Desert	0.00	521.38
Step Study-WED Cathedral City	84.00	84.00
Step/Tradition Study-FRI Palm Desert	0.00	28.33
Stepping Stones-TUE Palm Desert	0.00	117.50
Sunday Morning-SUN Cathedral City	0.00	104.00
Sunday Serenity Group	40.00	407.89
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition Group - ALL- PS	574.62	1,727.40
Sunrise Celebrators-M-S Palm Desert	122.75	339.13
Sunset Group - Joshua Tree	0.00	50.00
ThirdTradition-THU-Landers	0.00	100.00
Twilight Step Study-TUE Palm Desert	0.00	125.00
Vets for Vets - TUE - Palm Desert	0.00	110.00
What's Good About Today? Wed-Cat City	0.00	80.00
Winners Meeting-WED Palm Springs	0.00	200.00
Women's Meeting-MON Yucca Valley	0.00	24.00
Women's Meeting-WED Palm Desert	0.00	113.00
Women's Step Study- Yucca Valley	0.00	8.99
TOTAL	4,794.35	17,648.16



The Last Run

Have you ever made a promise you couldn't keep?

Did it ever cause those you love to weep?

When it came time to choose...

Did you decide you had nothing left to lose?

I've faced these dilemmas many times,

Until I could no longer justify my crimes!

When at last I finished my run,

It turned out my life had just begun!

The Steps turned my life around,

I found that God's Love knows no bounds.



"God can't give you anything new until you let go of the old."

Oh how I love to hang on to what I think I know. I came into the program filled with opinions, ideas, resentments, attitudes, beliefs, etc., and even though many of them were literally killing me, I fiercely resisted letting them go. I was obstinate and defensive, but because I had hit a bottom, I was also willing to try something new.

That willingness was the crack in my personality through which God's energy and grace entered. I was taught that with willingness comes surrender, and one by one I began peeling back the layers of the onion that were my old ideas. As I uncovered, discovered and discarded them, God gave me new ways of looking at, thinking about and acting in my life. Slowly, a new man was being born.

What I have found over the years is that letting go is a constant and ongoing process. Each new relationship, job, situation or season brings me face to face with some old ideas or opinions that I've not examined yet. When I become stuck or unhappy these days, I now know to pray for the willingness to let go so God can give me something new.

Today, I'm not as resistant to let go because I know that God always has something better for me.

**Today's quote was from
Wisdom Volume II.**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Michael Patterson

DATE: December 16, 2015

SUBJECT: Treasurer's Report, November 2015

CENTRAL OFFICE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT, November 2015

	Nov Actual	Nov Budget	Variance	July-Nov Actual	Jul-Nov Budget	Variance
Income:						
Group Contributions	\$ 4,794	\$ 4,000	\$ 794	\$ 17,662	\$ 20,000	\$ (2,338)
Convention Contributions	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ (500)	\$ 8,872	\$ 9,000	\$ (128)
Gratitude Dinner	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Merchandise Sales	\$ 8,074	\$ 7,565	\$ 509	\$ 40,233	\$ 37,825	\$ 2,408
All Other Income	\$ 1,022	\$ 205	\$ 817	\$ 1,932	\$ 1,025	\$ 907
Total Income	\$ 13,891	\$ 12,270	\$ 1,621	\$ 68,699	\$ 67,850	\$ 849
Expenses:						
Merchandise Expense	\$ 4,714	\$ 5,140	\$ (426)	\$ 26,671	\$ 25,700	\$ 971
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 3,821	\$ 5,076	\$ (1,255)	\$ 20,374	\$ 20,880	\$ (506)
Gratitude Dinner	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rent	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,365	\$ (15)	\$ 6,750	\$ 6,825	\$ (75)
Utilities	\$ 632	\$ 350	\$ 282	\$ 2,452	\$ 2,320	\$ 132
All Other Expenses	\$ 4,018	\$ 2,125	\$ 1,893	\$ 16,126	\$ 11,570	\$ 4,556
Total Expenses	\$ 14,535	\$ 14,056	\$ 479	\$ 72,374	\$ 67,295	\$ 5,079
Net Income	\$ (645)	\$ (1,786)	\$ 1,141	\$ (3,675)	\$ 555	\$ (4,230)

Prudent reserve equals 8.4 months

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

GRATITUDE DINNER 2016

SPEAKER MEETING

SATURDAY
April 2ST 2016



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: Charlie C.
from Burbank

*Tickets
\$20.00*

Ticket Sales begin Feb. 4th

Service Opportunities, we need your help!!

Anyone interested in participating can call Central Office 760.324.4880

Or Email: GratitudeDinner@aainthedesert.org

Chair: Carole - 505.440.5758

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

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

