



the Desert Lifeline

May 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

Admitted to God, to ourselves,
and to another human being the
exact nature of our wrongs.

Tradition

Each group has but one primary
purpose—to carry its message to
the alcoholic who still suffers.

Concept

Throughout our structure, a
Traditional "Right of Appeal"
ought to prevail, so that minority
opinion will be heard and
personal grievances receive
careful consideration.

F

I

V

E

Principle Five

Integrity - the state or character of being true;
living in honesty; being truthful.

March Office Statistics

Meeting Info	98
12 Step Calls	9
Visitors	73
Literature Sales	175
Al-Anon	0
Other 12 Step	5
Miscellaneous	46
Business	33

TeleService Report

Our TeleService calendar is being kept current by Central Office volunteers. Your new Board member, Russell J., has diligently coordinated scheduling for new members willing to be of service, enhancing our ability to be responsible to any alcoholic who calls after office hours. Please think about either yourself or a willing sponsee taking a shift to keep this vital service available to the Fellowship and any alcoholic in need of support in recovery. **Paul A. continues to be available to train new members who sign up. Thanks, Paul, for continuing to help make this a functioning project for us all!**

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert Board of Directors

**Chairman: Traci N.
Vice Chairman: Russell J.
Treasurer: Ainslie M.
Secretary: Lobo Mc G.**

Directors

**Geoff M.
Sheri P.
Sid B.
David T.
Carlos M.**

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

March 2015

Cynthia G. 1 yr.
Michael S. 2 yr.
Karen B. 6 yr.
Suzanne J. 7 yr.



Jason C. 11 yr.
John E. 32 yr.
Tony C. 33 yr.



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

Concept Five

Throughout our world service structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, thus assuring us that the minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

In the light of the principle of the “Right of Appeal” all minorities – whether in our staffs, committees, corporate boards, or among the Trustees – should be *encouraged* to file minority reports whenever they feel a majority to be in considerable error. And when a minority considers an issue to be such a grave one that a mistaken decision could seriously affect A.A. as a whole, it should then charge itself with the actual *duty* of presenting a minority report to the Conference.

In granting this traditional “Right of Appeal” we recognize the minorities frequently can be right; that even when they are partly or wholly in error they still perform a most valuable service when, by asserting their “Right of Appeal,” they compel a thorough-going debate on important issues. The well-heard minority, therefore, is our chief protection against an uninformed, misinformed, hasty or angry majority.

The traditional “Right of Appeal” should also permit any person in our service structure, whether paid or unpaid to petition for the redress of a personal grievance, carrying his complaint, if he so desires, directly to the General Service Board. He or she should be able to do this without prejudice or fear of reprisal.

When we look at our world services, we find that here we have also gone to great lengths in our trust of minority groups. Under Tradition Two, the group conscience is the final authority for A.A. world service, and it will always remain so respecting all the larger issues that confront us. Nevertheless the A.A. groups have recognized that for world service purposes the “group conscience of A.A.” *as a totality* has certain limitations. It cannot act directly in many service matters, because it cannot be sufficiently informed about the problems in hand. It is also true that during a time of great disturbance the group conscience is not always the best possible guide because temporarily, such an upset may prevent it from functioning efficiently or wisely. When, therefore, the group conscience cannot or should not act directly, who does act for it?

The second part of Tradition Two provides us with the answer when it describes A.A. leaders a “trusted servants.” These servants must always be in readiness to do for the groups what the groups obviously cannot or should not do for themselves. Consequently the servants are bound to use their own information and judgment, sometimes to the point of disagreeing with uninformed or biased group opinion.

SUMMARY; Concept V, refers generally to World Service, its organization, staff, committees, Trustees etc. For a full description of Concept V refer to The A.A. Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service. These paragraphs were extracted from the A.A. Service Manual.

Bill T.
Alkies Only, Palm Desert

STEP 5

“Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.”

Free 1st from Alcohol...2nd from SELF

Step 5 – Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs...

Well who would want to do THAT? Admit my wrongs to another person?

Having JUST finished an exhaustive listing of my life's resentments, the area of my life that was threatened by others' actions, what part I had in each resentment, my fears, sexual wrongs and what I lovingly refer to as my “Take it to the Grave” actions, I SURELY didn't want to have to ADMIT all of that baggage to another person!! I mean GOD already knew! Wasn't that enough? Why on earth would another person need to be involved? Well...the question is the answer. Why indeed! Obviously the step required ACTION. So obviously the fact that there existed a next step, proved that it wasn't enough to just list these things on paper.

Wrestling with the eminent embarrassment and humiliation that was sure to entail, I called my sponsor with the hopes of postponing the inevitable. I shared my feelings of avoidance and fear with her to which she replied, “Add fear of step 5 to your Fears list, and be here at 3:00!” There was no getting around it. I knew that this had to happen to stay sober. I just didn't really understand why.

Why? Why? Why...I pondered. So I reviewed the Big Book which said... The BEST reason is this: “If we skip this vital step, we may not overcome drinking.” Well THAT was a huge realization! But still, my logical mind wanted to know why I would not overcome drinking unless I did this step. I read on... “More than most people, the alcoholic leads a double life. He is very much the actor. To the outer world he presents his stage character. This is the one he likes his fellows to see. He wants to enjoy a certain reputation, but knows in his heart he doesn't deserve it.” When we admit our defects we learn of HUMILITY, FearLESSness and HONESTY. These are all principals/ characteristics that are vital to our staying sober. We have lived in fear and lies for too long. It was time to get honest!

So I “manned up” and headed over. My sponsor and I spent hours exhausting the lists that I had created. And guess what? I didn't die! I wasn't made fun of or put out on the porch for being a horrible person. I LEARNED and I GREW from what my sponsor had to share with me of her experience and wisdom. And thru the process, for the first time that I can remember, I felt truly free. I felt that a huge weight was lifted from me. The process of contrary action had, once again, left me a better, freer and happier person than I was before.

My housecleaning had resulted in the garbage being taken to the curb, put in the trash cans and waiting for my Higher Power to come take it to the dump. My squeaky clean home was one of comfort and peace. PEACE! Something I hadn't known before. Not to my core. Not ever! But here it was. It simply came.

So THERE is the WHY of Step 5. We develop peace thru humility, fearlessness and honesty. It is not to be feared. It is to release fear and give us the ability to be free to move forward in our Step work and our Sobriety. It is a cleansing that gives us life...and it is Good!

Jana D.

The only time I get depressed is when I'm thinking about myself!

This is not a self-help program, this is a help OTHERS program.

Speaker Meetings

Cornfield Meeting - Palm Springs

Friday Night, 7 p.m.

- 5/6 - Mark McC. - Los Angeles
- 5/13 - Adrienne B. - Palm Springs
- 5/20 - Lauren T. - Palm Springs
- 5/27 - Jeff W. - Palm Desert

Sobriety Capital of the World - Indio

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

- 5/6 - Frank B. - Palm Springs
- 5/13 - Kenny W. - Northridge
- 5/20 - Ellie G. - Los Angeles
- 5/27 - Charlie H. - Las Vegas



Palm Desert Group - Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert

Saturday Night, 8:00 p.m.

- 5/7 - Michelle - Palm Desert
- 5/14 - John A. - Palm Springs
- 5/21 - Ray M. - Palm Springs
- 5/28 - Ryan - Palm Springs

Please check the web site (www.AAintheDesert.org) for any changes since the printing of the newsletter.

\$9.00

Book of the month

\$9.00

Drop the Rock

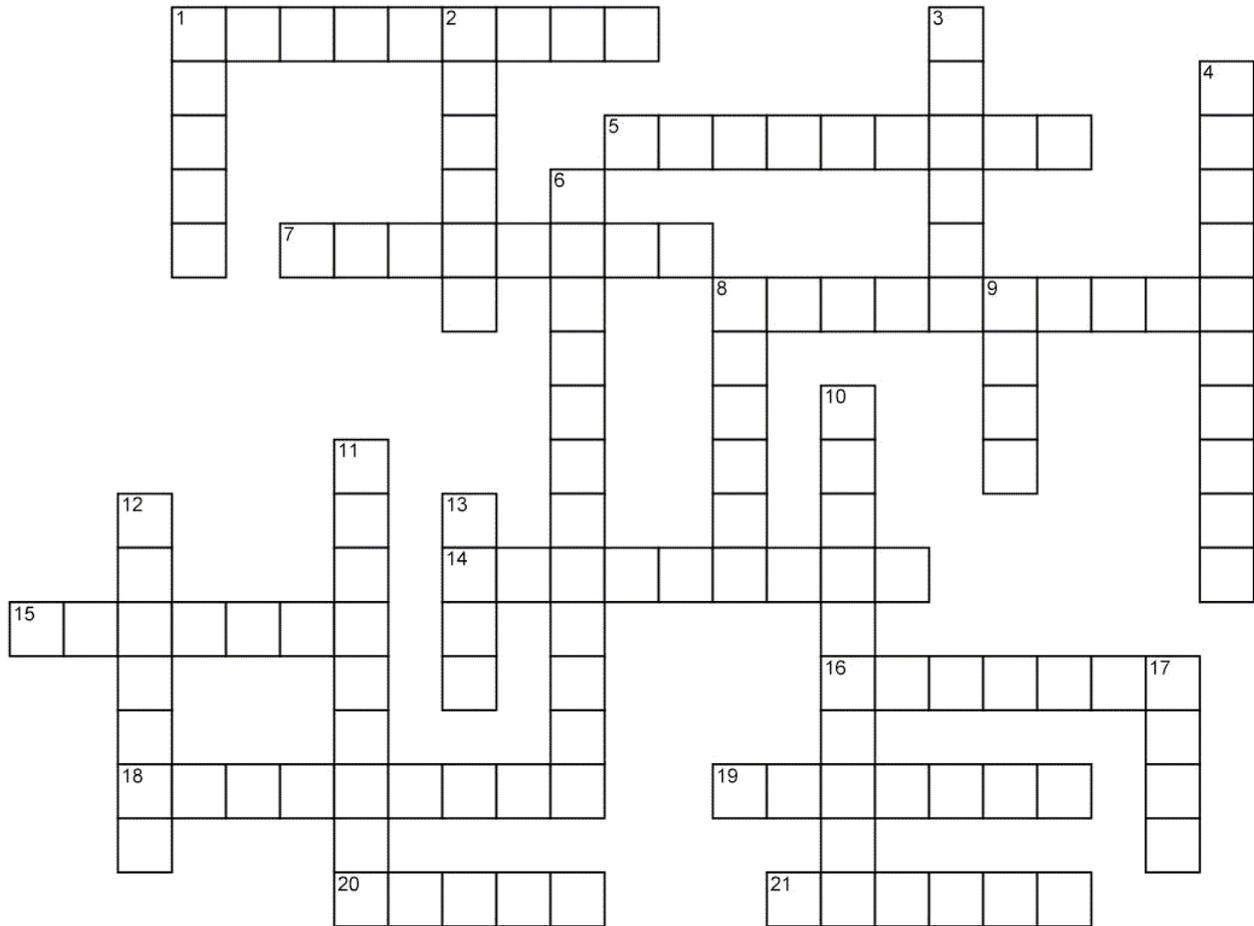
Resentment. Fear. Self-Pity. Intolerance. Anger. The Author explains, these are the "rocks" that...sink recovery- or at the least, block further growth in the areas of Steps Six and Seven

\$9.00

Normally \$10.00 - this month \$9.00

\$9.00

May Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Dr. William D.
- 5 press, radio and films
- 7 Started AA in Cleveland
- 8 He sent a telegram of good wishes
A.A.'s 2nd International Convention
- 14 Saturday Evening Post
- 15 Freedom From
- 16 Physician, Heal _____
- 18 Our magazine
- 19 Little Angel of A.A.
- 20 He Sold Himself _____
- 21 Crossing the River of _____

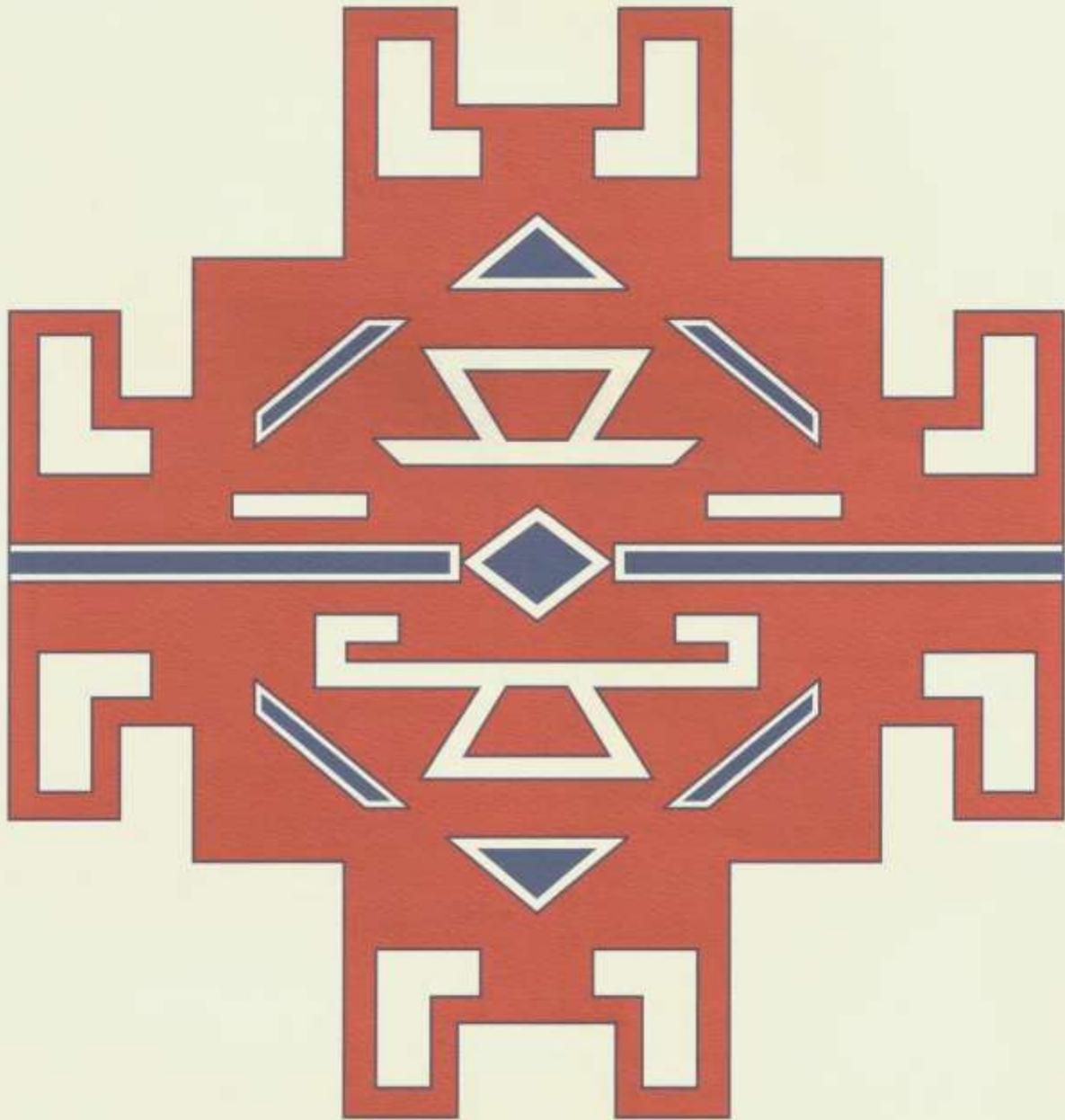
DOWN

- 1 appendices
- 2 AA predecessor
- 3 Bill was offered a job at his lab
- 4 spiritual
- 6 our life when we got to AA
- 8 chapters in the Big Book
- 9 The Housewife Who Drank At
- 10 _____ Was the Answer
- 11 Step one
- 12 Freedom From
- 13 One of the co-founders of AA in Canada
in 1944
- 17 happy, joyous and _____

Puzzle answers will appear in next month's Desert Lifeline.
You can also find them on our web site — www.aainthedesert.org

A.A. DESERT POW WOW
WITH AL-ANON PARTICIPATION
RENAISSANCE INDIAN WELLS RESORT & SPA

JUNE 9, 10, 11, 12, 2016
INDIAN WELLS, CALIFORNIA



<http://www.desertpowwow.com>



Advance Ticket Discount Price
\$10.00
(\$12.00 at the park on the day of!)



Unity Day Picnic

Fun & Fellowship
for the whole
Family.

Saturday, July 9th 2016
12PM - 4PM

DCYPAA
Participation

Food / Games - 12:00AM - 4:00 PM
Raffle - 4:00 PM
Meeting - 5:00 PM
Poker Tournament—7:00 PM

Note: Limited RV Space available,
no onsite motorcycle parking

Returning to Hurkey Creek!



56375 Highway 74
Mountain Center, CA 951.659.2050
Tickets available at meetings and Central Office

For questions or to get involved, call Randy C. @ 760.668.2133
or Brian B. @ 760.660.8986 or email UnityDayPicnic@aainthedesert.org.

Overnight camping available at Hurkey Creek - \$20/weekend per adult, children under 5 are Free!
Camping dates are July 7th thru 10th. For specific questions about camping you can also contact:
Randy C. @ 760.668.2133 or Brian B. @ 760.660.8986

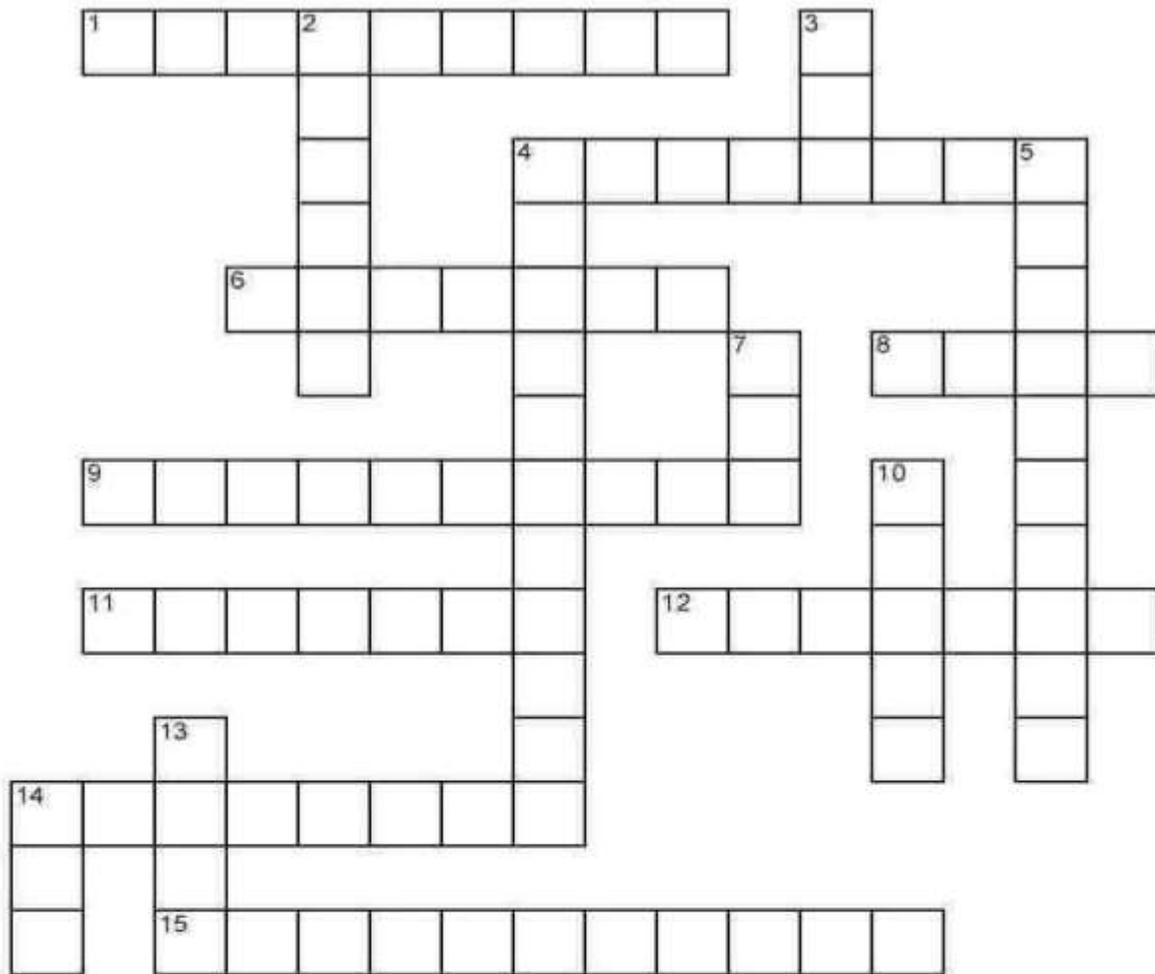


Volleyball
Water Balloon Toss
Pie Eating Contest
Tug Of War
Cornhole
Horseshoes
Relay Race



Many, many more activities

May Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 meeting in print
- 4 A _____ View of Alcoholics Anonymous
- 6 This month's principle
- 8 Akron
- 9 International Convention 2010 location
- 11 In the last AA survey, most alcoholics were this
- 12 Most common occupation amongst AA members
- 14 Circle and _____
- 15 AA received this in 1951 from the American Public Health Association

DOWN

- 2 June conference (2 words)
- 3 What Happened to _____
- 4 August conference (3 words)
- 5 the name of the April Central Office fundraiser (2 words)
- 7 In the last survey, most AAs attended an average of this many meetings per week
- 10 It Happened to _____
- 13 As _____ Sees It
- 14 36% of AA members are sober over _____ years

Tradition Five

Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

The glue that holds the AA program together is the 12 Traditions. Tradition Five deals with the unity of each group and its ability to carry its spiritual message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

In turn, the ability of an AA member to identify himself and to bring a spiritual message of recovery to the newcomer is surely a gift from God! It is always important to remember that our spiritual condition depends upon the quantity and quality of our spiritual maintenance.

There is another reason for each meeting's singleness of purpose. An alcoholic can seldom stay sober unless they pass on the gift of sobriety that was so freely given to them. It is also important to remember that our spiritual maintenance relies upon not putting anything in our bodies that will affect us from the neck up, which in turn will set off the allergy in the body which creates the phenomenon of craving.

AA groups have shown over the years that they can help problem drinkers as other methods seldom can. This is a "One Day at a Time" program. You must remember that there is no graduation from the AA program and the highest rank that can be reached in AA is sobriety.

We are gathered together at meetings for one common goal and that is to help each other recover and maintain sobriety!

Jim B.
Groovy Tuesday Meeting
Palm Desert

Secretary Workshop

Saturday May 28th 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

March Volunteers at Central Office

Brad L.
Char A.
Carol F.

Eileen C,
Emil M.
Gail S.
Grant G.
Jim B.

Thank You !!

Rivers V.
Steve P.
Tonia B.
Tracy M.
Val M.
Vickie G.
Zebra Mark

Thank You !!

David T.
Dyana S.

Kristin

Kathie P.
Lobo Mc G.
Marge C.
Mary Anne C.
Paul A.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Michael Patterson
DATE: April 14, 2016
SUBJECT: Treasurer's Report, March 2016

CENTRAL OFFICE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT, March 2016

	Mar Actual	Mar Budget	Variance	July-Mar Actual	Jul-Mar Budget	Variance
Income:						
Group Contributions	\$ 10,110	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,110	\$ 42,443	\$ 36,000	\$ 6,443
Convention Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,872	\$ 9,500	\$ (628)
Gratitude Dinner	\$ 11,997	\$ 5,300	\$ 6,697	\$ 13,377	\$ 18,500	\$ (5,123)
Merchandise Sales	\$ 8,945	\$ 7,565	\$ 1,380	\$ 68,984	\$ 68,085	\$ 899
All Other Income	\$ 160	\$ 205	\$ (45)	\$ 3,912	\$ 1,845	\$ 2,067
Total Income	\$ 31,212	\$ 17,070	\$ 14,142	\$ 137,588	\$ 133,930	\$ 3,658
Expenses:						
Merchandise Expense	\$ 6,889	\$ 5,140	\$ 1,749	\$ 45,434	\$ 46,260	\$ (826)
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 4,275	\$ 3,951	\$ 324	\$ 37,921	\$ 36,684	\$ 1,237
Gratitude Dinner	\$ 9,907	\$ 12,800	\$ (2,893)	\$ 9,907	\$ 12,800	\$ (2,893)
Rent	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,365	\$ (15)	\$ 12,150	\$ 12,285	\$ (135)
Utilities	\$ 28	\$ 350	\$ (322)	\$ 3,428	\$ 3,645	\$ (217)
All Other Expenses	\$ 3,340	\$ 2,125	\$ 1,215	\$ 25,179	\$ 20,070	\$ 5,109
Total Expenses	\$ 25,789	\$ 25,731	\$ 58	\$ 134,019	\$ 131,744	\$ 2,275
Net Income	\$ 5,423	\$ (8,661)	\$ 14,084	\$ 3,569	\$ 2,186	\$ 1,383

Prudent reserve equals 8.5 months

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

