



the Desert Lifeline

November 2014

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
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

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

Step

Sought through prayer and meditation to
improve our conscious contact with God,
as we understood Him, praying only for
knowledge of His will for us
and the power to carry that out.

Tradition

Our public relations policy is based on
attraction rather than promotion; we need
always maintain personal anonymity at the
level of press, radio, and films.

Concept

The trustees should always have the best
possible committees, corporate service
directors, executives, staffs, and
consultants. Composition, qualifications,
induction procedures, and rights and duties
will always be matters of serious concern.

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Principle Eleven

Spirituality - predominantly spiritual character as shown
in thought, life, etc.; incorporeal or immaterial nature.

September Office Statistics

Meeting Info	245
12 Step Calls	10
Visitors	48
Literature Sales	120
Al-Anon	6
Other 12 Step	8
Miscellaneous	31
Business	14

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

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert Board of Directors

Chairman: Ginny P.
Vice Chairman: Traci N.
Treasurer: Mike M.
Secretary: Joe A.

Directors

Carole C.
Carol C.
Garrett D.
Rosemary H.
Rob L.

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 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

September 2014

Kristen	1 yr.
Gary G.	1 yr.
Christopher G.	2 yr.
Pio	21 yr.



Albert T.	24 yr.
Don M.	29 yr.
SherAli J.	39 yr.
Ronnie	43 yr.



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

Step Eleven

Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

Our recovery allows us to live life to its fullest. For many of us, this is a new experience. The temptation is always there to turn to serious prayer and meditation only when the going gets rough. In Step XI, we learn that improving our conscious contact with God on a daily basis through self-examination, meditation and prayer is an unshakable foundation for life in good times and in bad.

Prayer is like doing spiritual sit-ups. When we are consciously connected to our Higher Power, we are keeping ourselves in good shape. The prayer of St. Francis offers us a beautiful goal to strive for. May I take direction from the Eleventh Step and seek to understand, more than to be understood. Each day we can become a channel of His peace if we but pause and make the simple request: "Thy will, not mine, be done". We in AA learn not to fall into the old habit of making itemized lists for God with all of our pleas and complaints. I used to tell God how huge and how many my problems were, and now I am able to tell my problems how huge my God is.

Persistent prayers in this humble fashion have found strength, wisdom, peace of mind and a quality of sobriety they cherish. Those who remain skeptical and cannot receive the power of prayer and a conscious contact with God are those who haven't prayed enough. Enough being the operative word. Step XI allows the most skeptical the opportunity to give prayer a chance. Take time out from the life you've been given in recovery for God as you understand Him. He is listening.

Judi M
10AM Feelings and Solutions, Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert

It has been my experience that often when I cannot decide between two (or more) options, it's because the answer that would give me peace is actually, None of the above.

Insanity isn't doing the same thing over again expecting different results. That's stupidity.
Insanity is knowing the answer and not applying it to your life.

Pain is not the absence of spirituality. It is your better self trying to get out!

Tradition Eleven

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

Although my hand flew up the other night at the Intergroup meeting, I have some concern writing about Tradition 11. It states, "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films." I was fortunate enough to be a GSR several years ago, when controversy swelled over the billboard captioned "Had Enough??" The sign showed a picture of an anonymous man with his face in his hands. We must be careful about honking our horns, while not forgetting our primary purpose is to carry the message of AA to the still suffering alcoholic. The debate will probably always linger over whether this advertisement was right or wrong. I think as we read Tradition 11 through, we should still stick with what works, (which is attraction rather than promotion). The tradition says we as **individuals**, should never be identified, bottom line. We leave it up to our own actions (attractions) as being the calling card. The man with his face in hands is something we alcoholics can identify with, those feelings of guilt, shame and fear. Those drunks that may be feeling those same things might just relate and have the whereabouts to call the number on the billboard! Or they could visit our website and get the help they need from Alcoholics Anonymous. All this said with a conviction that we, the members of AA, have set an example while maintaining personal anonymity and without sensational advertising.

Joe A.

Monday Marauders Men's Stag, St. Margaret's Church, Palm Desert

The thing that frightens a lot of alcoholics about AA's Steps is the specter of onrushing sainthood, which is probably as good an illustration as any of alcoholic presumption--or arrogance.

Expectations are premeditated resentments.

"Dear God, Please help me to see other people as you see them,
Love other people as you love them,
and forgive other people as you forgive them."

September Volunteers at Central Office

Alan S.
Angilena B.
Ann K.
Bob M.
Brad L.
Dallas E.
Dennis H.
Dyana S.

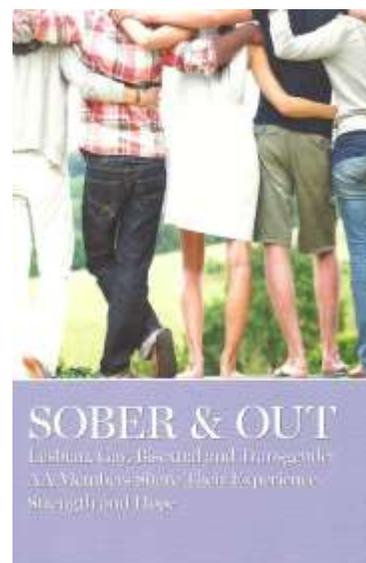
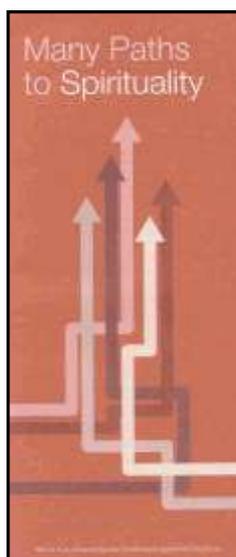
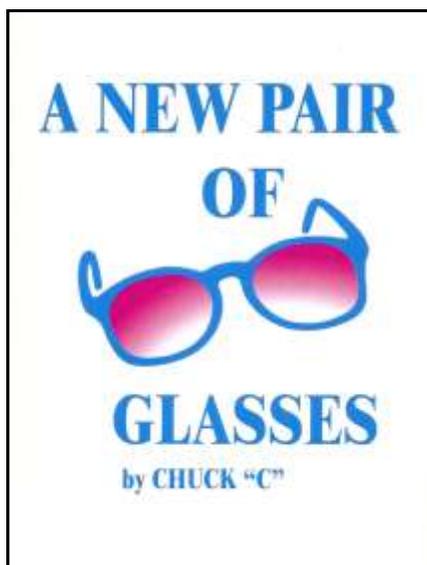
Eileen C.
Jay A.
Jimmy Who?
Kathy P.
Lobo M.
Mary Ann C.
Mary-Ann Mc L.

Thank You !!

Michael W.
Mollie B.
Molly S.
Patrick L.
Paul A.

Paul B.
Peggy M.
Roger F.
Rivers V.
Susan B.
Tom O'M.
Tracy M.

Thank You !!



These New Inventory Items at "YOUR" Central Office are selling well.
Let your members know we can provide for their needs.

\$10.00

\$10.00

Book of the month

Pass it On

Biography of A.A.'s co-founder and the development of the Fellowship

Normally \$11.00 - this month \$10.00

\$10.00

\$10.00

November Puzzle

Find the words on the right in the letters below and circle the words.

acceptance
gratitude
honesty
willingness
sponsor
steps

traditions
alcohol
meetings
powerless
unmanageable
contempt

e s p o w e r l e s s
l g n i w d s r i t s
b e m a i u a t p e g
a m m l l t a m e p n
e n a c l i e r p s i
g s n o i t i d a r t
a a o h n a o n y h e
n s a o g r o e r n e
a g c l n g r n m c m
m a c c e p t a n c e
n a y t s e n o h l n
u t n e s p o n s o r

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

October 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

Tonight Sunday, September 28th, 2014 Sandy Beach passed on while attending a local meeting here in Tampa.

He passed in peace and the struggle he has had in the last several years is finally over and I believe he is with his God and all of God's children in Heaven.

He had returned from the hospital this past Thursday after a 3 week stay, where he had recovered from a fall that caused pain but fortunately did not have any broken bones. He was attending the 7:30pm Sunday night Step meeting at Palma Ciega Presbyterian Church, where at approximately 7:40pm while the group was reading the first two pages of Step One in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions he leaned forward put his head on the table and went to God.

Love and service,
Katherine

Concept Eleven

"The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern."

Concept XI is one of the concepts that is devoted to describing the relationship of various service entities and how they work together. The Trustees hold final responsibility for AA's World service administration, but they will always need the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executive staffs and consultants. The way in which all of these entities are formed and function is handled with great care. In a nutshell, Concept XI boils down to these four guidelines:

- 1)** The status of executives: Competent executive direction must always be held by one person with whatever assistance is needed. This one person must have ample freedom and authority to do the job as long as the work is well done. It is inefficient to have too many cooks in the kitchen.
- 2)** How to compensate paid workers: Each paid executive, staff member or consultant should be paid in reasonable relation to the value of the similar service or ability in the commercial world. Cheap help is apt to feel insecure and inefficient which may be more costly in the long run. In other words, if you pay peanuts, you may get monkeys.
- 3)** Rotation among paid staff workers: The spirit of rotation is exercised by most paid staff members. At AA's General Service Office, most of the staff member's assignments are changed every two years. Each staff member is expected to possess the general ability to do, or to learn how to do, any job in the place except for office management. It can be summed up as "Musical Hats".
- 4)** Full "Participation" of paid workers is very important: Paid personnel should enjoy a status that is suitable to their responsibility just as our volunteers do; therefore, they must be able to vote. As Bill Wilson declared, "Members of this group not only support the leadership of the Trustees, they share leadership with them."

Anonymous

My recovery is like trying to go up on the down escalator . . .
you can get there, but you've got to move right along!

"Honey, even GOD can't steer a parked car! Put it in gear and start
down the road . . . just try not to hit anyone or run anyone over!"

When I'm in the middle of another one of those "challenging grown opportunities," it seems like it is going to be this way forever . . . that's when it seems the most difficult time for me to remember that "it came to pass", it did NOT come to stay!

I heard someone say, "take what you like and leave the rest." My sponsor leaned over and said, "Honey, you'd better take it all, 'cause you don't know what you'll need yet."

I came to Alcoholics Anonymous because I knew that if I drank again, I would die.

One of my mentors in the program, Ron, told of arriving drunk at his DWI court appearance, resulting in the judge delaying the case for a few days.

At the rescheduled hearing, Ron again arrived intoxicated, and the judge admonished him "Mr. D, you're drunk again!" Ron replied, "No, your Honor, I am not drunk again. I am drunk STILL. There's a difference."



Days of Future Past

I've often wondered what could have been
When I thought of booze as my friend.
The world we exist in is a shadow in Space
I seemed somehow out of line and out of place

The footprints I left oh so long ago
Drift by just like tiny flakes of snow.
Wonder of wonders has taken place
God took the reigns to slow my pace.

With no regrets about my past.



Doug D.



The Searcher

They call me the Searcher,
I've been searching high and low.
But it matters not where I go.
I used to seek the ultimate high,
Then I realized I won't get it until I die!
Some call me a desperate man
But now I help wherever I can.
I used to worship only gold,
Now I listen to my story unfold.
I was always on the run
I carried nothing but my gun...
Now that I've slowed my pace
I've finally found my place

So, now, I see.... it's only up to you...
To see what's really true!



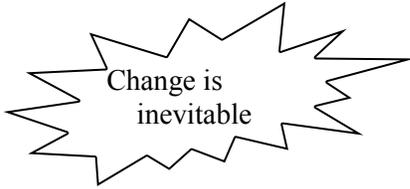
Doug D.



NEW MEETINGS & MEETING CHANGES

Location Change

How's Your Now, Thursday @ Noon in La Quinta now meets at the Dance Studio, 78134 Calle Tampico - enter via rear entrance, please.



Speaker Meetings



Palm Desert Group - Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert

Saturday Night, 8:00 p.m.

- 11/1 - David M. - Whitewater
- 11/8 - Helen H. - Cathedral City
- 11/15 - David G. - Rancho Mirage
- 11/23 - Henry S. - Palm Desert
- 11/30 - Sue S. - Palm Desert

Sobriety Capital of the World Indio

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

- 11/7 - Jim H. - Chicago
- 11/14 - Peggy M. - Orange County
- 11/21 - Eric F. - Los Angeles
- 11/28 - Brian B. - La Quinta

Speaker Meetings



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

Tuesday Night, 7 p.m.

- 11/4 - Stephen V.
- 11/11 - Alfonso
- 11/18 - Natalie Z.
- 11/25 - Alistar Z.

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



The 41st Annual Ninth District AA Convention **COMMITTEE *PLANNING* MEETINGS**



Have some fun & Bring a friend – get involved!

The 4th **Sunday** of the every month

At 4 pm ~ Fellowship Hall

Dates: October 26 ~ November 23

December **NO** meeting

January 25th

February 22nd

March 22nd

April 26th

May 24th

June 28th

July 26th

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

Convention: August 7 - 9, 2015 at

Hyatt Indian Wells



48th Annual Las Vegas Round Up
November 27-30, 2014

Celebrating an Attitude of Gratitude

Riviera Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV 89109

Limited number of rooms available at \$49/night!

To reserve a room, please contact the hotel directly at 1-800-634-6753
and mention Las Vegas Roundup, code SLVRU14

Events

Speakers | Golf Tournament | Walk/Run | Friday & Saturday Night Dances
Saturday Night Banquet | Sunday Morning Breakfast
Marathon Meetings | Sobriety Count Down | Fellowship

Pricing

Pre-Registration \$35.00
Golf \$65.00
Walk/Run \$20.00
Saturday Night Banquet \$50.00
Sunday Morning Breakfast \$30.00

Registration badge required for all Round Up activities and events

Visit us online www.lasvegasroundup.org
to register and to get latest Round Up news



A man in a hot air balloon realized he was lost. He saw a person on the ground and yelled down to him, "Can you help me? I don't know where I am." The man replied, "Sure, I'll help you. You are in a hot air balloon hovering 30 feet above the ground...between 40 and 41 degrees North latitude and between 59 & 60 degrees West longitude."

"Wow, you must be an AA sponsor", said the man in the balloon. "I am", said the man, "but what gave me away?"

"Well", answered the balloonist, "everything you told me is technically right but I am still lost. Frankly you're not much help at all and you might even have delayed my trip."

"You must be an AA sponsee", replied the man. The man in the balloon was amazed and said, "I am, but how did you know?"

The man on the ground said,

"Well, you don't know where you are or where you're going.

You have risen to where you are due to a lot of hot air.

You are expecting other people to solve your problems and...

the fact is that you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but..... somehow now it's my fault"!

When I sit in a quiet place and listen to my mind, I see what a wild thing it can be
Then I realized this is what I had been letting run my life! YIKES!"

The thing that I found the toughest about the "rigorous honesty" part of the program was the honesty part. I had been so deceitful for so long that I no longer knew when I was lying and when I was telling the truth. I didn't mind so much when I lied to you, but I no longer knew when I was lying to myself. That's when a woman walked up to me and offered to be my sponsor. She made it so much easier!

Want to get the Desert Lifeline delivered directly to you via email each month?? Well..... now you can. Just go to the Central Office web site, www.aainthedesert.org, and follow the link to sign up! It's just that easy!! And

500 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

**** TO ALL WOMEN IN AA ****

PALM SPRINGS IS HOSTING THE

51st INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FOR AA WOMEN ONLY

February 5, 6, 7, & 8, 2015

"THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART WILL BE SPOKEN HERE"

**THIS ANNUAL EVENT GATHERS WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD
FOR FOUR EXTRAORDINARY DAYS OF FELLOWSHIP**

**WE'LL HAVE PANEL DISCUSSIONS, WORKSHOPS, SPEAKER MEETINGS,
AND MANY OTHER ENRICHING ACTIVITIES**

PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY!

EMAIL OUR VOLUNTEER CHAIR, TONI T. ~ 51STiwcVOLUNTEERS@GMAIL.COM

OR

MAIL YOUR INFORMATION TO:

51ST IWC,

PO BOX 2535

PALM DESERT, CA 92261

***NOTE: Please join us; we meet at 10:30AM on the 3rd Saturday of each month
at Central Office in Cathedral City.***

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Mike Murphy
DATE: October 15, 2014
SUBJECT: Treasurer's Report, September 2014

CENTRAL OFFICE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2014

	Sept. Actual	Sept. Budget	Variance	Jul.-Sept Actual	Jul.-Sept Budget	Variance
Income:						
Group Contributions	\$1,539	\$4,165	\$(2,626)	\$7,598	\$12,498	\$(4,900)
Convention Contributions	\$8,000	\$600	\$7,400	\$8,470	\$6,000	\$2,470
Gratitude Dinner	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Literature Sales	\$4,502	\$4,600	\$(98)	\$13,017	\$13,800	\$(783)
Medallions	\$1,740	\$1,920	\$(180)	\$5,369	\$5,760	\$(391)
All Other Income	\$(45)	\$550	\$(595)	\$449	\$2,247	\$(1,798)
Total Income	\$15,736	\$11,835	\$3,901	\$34,903	\$40,305	\$(5,402)
Expenses:						
Literature expense	\$3,726	\$3,694	\$32	\$10,879	\$11,082	\$(203)
Medallion expense	\$314	\$508	\$(194)	\$2,812	\$3,130	\$(318)
Salaries and Benefits	\$3,868	\$3,526	\$342	\$11,287	\$10,578	\$709
Gratitude Dinner	\$-	\$2,124	\$(2,124)	\$-	\$3,373	\$(3,373)
Rent	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$-	\$4,050	\$4,050	\$-
Utilities	\$329	\$379	\$(50)	\$1,293	\$1,125	\$168
All Other Expenses	\$2,182	\$2,432	\$(250)	\$6,100	\$6,746	\$(646)
Total Expenses	\$11,769	\$14,013	\$(2,244)	\$36,421	\$40,084	\$(3,663)
Net Income	\$3,967	\$(2,178)	\$6,145	\$(1,518)	\$221	\$(1,739)

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

**Central Office of the Desert
Group Contributions
September 2014**

	Sep 14	Jul - Sep 14
12X12 - La Quinta	0.00	40.00
12x12 Happy Hour-TUE Yucca Valley	0.00	140.00
164 Group - WED - Palm Springs	20.00	55.00
3rd, 7th & 11th Step - SUN - Palm Desert	0.00	304.13
ABC Group-SUN Palm Desert	0.00	50.00
AS Bill Sees It 10AM - MON Palm Desert	58.00	58.00
Attitude Adj-ALL Meetings Palm Springs	50.00	509.00
Attitude Adjustment-M-S PDCC, Palm Desert	400.00	800.00
Attitude Adjustment 7AM M-S Palm Desert	112.00	202.00
Big Book Study - Wed - Palm Springs	12.00	67.71
Big Book Workshop - THU Yucca Valley	10.31	10.31
Black Sheep Group - WED - Rancho Mirage	0.00	80.02
CDM Men's Stag-TUE Palm Desert	50.00	110.00
Central Intergroup	46.00	78.35
Creative Expressions-SUN Palm Desert	0.00	25.00
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	75.70	240.38
Desert Pow Wow	8,000.00	8,000.00
Feelings & Solutions-WED Palm Desert	0.00	64.80
Fellowship Hall	0.00	108.00
Goals Group	40.00	40.00
Great Events-Daily Yucca Valley	0.00	45.00
Hi-Desert SpeakersGroup-SAT Yucca Valley	0.00	95.00
IWC Committee 2015	10.00	30.00
Jaywalkers Men's Stag - PD	0.00	10.00
Just the Black Print Book Study-WED - RM	0.00	250.00
Ladies Nite Out-WED Palm Desert	0.00	190.00
Men's Stag - MON Rancho Mirage	0.00	158.00
No Rules - La Quinta	0.00	270.00
Palm Desert Group -SAT - Palm Desert	0.00	102.49
Perez Plaza Meeting Room	0.00	409.20
Primary Purpose -TUE Palm Desert	0.00	100.00
Q & A - FRI - Palm Desert	0.00	42.90
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
Serenity Seekers-FRI - Palm Desert	120.00	240.00
Sobriety Brothers	59.50	59.50
Sobriety Capitol of World-FRI Indio	0.00	63.26
Solid Solutions - TUE - Palm Desert	227.00	227.00
Speakeasy BB/S-FRI Palm Desert	0.00	200.00
Step Sisters-MON Palm Desert	123.50	272.50
Step/Tradition Study-FRI Palm Desert	0.00	110.00
Stepping Stones-TUE Palm Desert	0.00	55.60
Sunday 8AM Serenity Group	0.00	47.14
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition Group - ALL - PS	0.00	725.47
Sunrise Celebrators-M-S Palm Desert	79.69	234.40
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	0.00	200.00
Women's Meeting-MON Yucca Valley	15.00	15.00
Women's Q & A-FRI Palm Desert	30.50	30.50
TOTAL	9,539.20	15,597.93

