



# the December 2018 Desert Lifeline

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

**Central Intergroup  
Office of the Desert**  
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10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sat. & Sun.

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[chairman@aainthedesert.org](mailto:chairman@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](http://www.msca09aa.org)

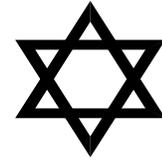
**General Service Office**, PO Box 459,  
Grand Central Station NY 10163  
Web site: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

**DCYPAA**  
Every Sunday 6:00 P.M.  
Fellowship Hall 45940 Portola Ave.  
Palm Desert  
Email: [webmaster@dcypaa.com](mailto:webmaster@dcypaa.com)

**General Service**, District 30  
4th Sunday of the month, 3:30PM  
Joshua Tree Fellowship Hall  
6430 Park Blvd.  
Joshua Tree, CA 92252  
Mailing Address: P O Box 1692  
Yucca Valley, CA 92286-1692



## Step



# T

Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

# W

## Tradition

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

# E

## Concept

The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

# L

# V

# E

# Principle Twelve

**Service** - an act of helpful activity; help; aid: *to do someone a service.*

**October Office Statistics**

Meeting Info	39
12 Step Calls	2
Visitors	38
Literature Sales	111
Al-Anon	2
Other 12 Step	3
Miscellaneous	23
Business	6

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

**Chairman: Russell J.  
Vice Chairman: Geoff M.  
Treasurer: Ainslie M.  
Secretary: Jim B.**

**Directors**

**Carlos M.  
Duane H.  
Dennis B.  
Allan G.  
Joe A.  
Desert Lifeline Editor: David M.  
Office Manager: David M.**

**October 2018**

Val S.	1 yr.
Turk	1 yr.
Ian	1 yr.
Kirk	2 yr.
Nancy F.	3 yr.
Jara	4 yr.
Anthony	4 yr.
Sam	7 yr



Mario R.	19 yr.
Dani M.	23 yr.
David M.	25 yr.
Ms. Carter	25 yr.
Sonia G.	29 yr.
Jeanne H	32 yr.
Irene M.	38 yr.

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

It's been my experience that the Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous are a journey . . . but they are not a journey until I put them into practice in my life. If I'm not using the steps in my life, I'm not on a journey --- I'm just looking at a travel brochure.

Sponsee to Sponsor: ". . . . Yeah, but, they . . . "

Sponsor to Sponsee: "Do you know who 'they' even are? I don't know about you, but it's been my experience that 'they' is really just WE without ME."

I will never get to see what God has behind door #2 if I have my foot firmly lodged in door #1.



## A Joyful Time of year Bringing Joy to the Less Fortunate

By Rick R.

How appropriate it seems that there are twelve months in a year and we have twelve steps in the program. The joy of good living is the theme of the twelfth step and it blends right in with the holiday season in November and December, starting with Thanksgiving and ending with the New Years Eve celebration. This time of year does bring a lot of joy to many of us but it also brings *distress to some of the less fortunate ones* who haven't yet been blessed with the gift of sobriety and peace of mind, *in and outside of A.A.*

During my drinking days I used to be very uncomfortable about the holidays. I never knew how to act around normal people unless I was half smashed. When invited to a celebration, I felt like *a charity case* and would rather just hang out at the bar where I felt safe. I never got into the spirit of reaching out to others. My family always celebrated the different holidays, and I always (due to My discomfort) would put a damper on it by complaining about the tacky gifts that people would buy for each other and the mad rush to go shopping and the commercializing facade that it had become. Any excuse was better than facing *me* and the miserable wretch I had become.

After being sober for several years it occurred to me that I still had some of those same attitudes, and that I was still holding on to them to some degree largely due to the inconvenience of it all. I explained this problem to a dear friend once, and he asked, "Does the rest of the family enjoy the holidays?" I said yes. He then said, "Why don't you just take a back seat and just watch the joy in their eyes as they experience these things." I did exactly what he suggested and when I started to observe *the child-like innocence and happiness it brought to them*, it gave me a whole new appreciation for this time of year. It brought *tears of Joy* to my eyes and I no longer wanted to be the grouch, putting a damper on the joy that they were having. I have been following this line of thinking ever since and it has changed my whole attitude concerning these things.

This change of attitude has inspired me to apply the unselfish lessons that I've come to understand and now I spend the holiday season filled with Joy. *If it works like that for the holidays, then why can't I bring it with me for the rest of the year?* This has been my mission for several years, and I am always looking for the opportunity to brighten the lives of people less fortunate than myself. I try to do these things *anonymously and without fanfare*. I also try to consider the discomfort that I used to feel when I was the one on the receiving end of a charitable gesture. I am very careful to do these things in a way that *preserves the dignity of that other person*. I don't have to wait for the holidays to do these things. Every day is a holiday in and outside of my home, and you can believe me when I say; I reap more than my share of the joy.

## HAPPY, JOYOUS, BUT NOT FREE

(The Hollywood Christmas parade was a watershed lesson)

Bill W.'S spiritual experience of mid-December 1934, was an event of important historical significance, yet very few relate with it from their own moment of *sudden "God-consciousness."* However, I suffered the following illusion many years ago.

When I was sober about three months, and had yet to go through Twelve Steps, I experienced a similarity to what Bill W. jokingly referred to as a hot flash. Late one November night while in deep meditation, sitting on a pile of rocks protruding into the Pacific Ocean, I was suddenly overtaken with tremendous joy and exuberant fiery energy. I actually started running down Venice Beach through the night. I seemed to feel almost weightless; perhaps I could walk on water—good that I didn't. Ha! This Joyously overwhelming spell lasted into the early morning.

It occurred to me that I probably had *had* a similar experience as Bill W.! (p. 14) It seemed plausible that the obsession to drink had been lifted — perhaps I was now a recovered alcoholic! Time to relax and take it easy! I would never drink again! I had arrived! Well, I hadn't! The very next month, after a Christmas Day parade on Hollywood Blvd., I marched right into a bar and almost ordered a gin and tonic — I only have God to thank that I didn't!

Appendix Two, "*Spiritual Experience*" (p.567) tells us that a spiritual experience or awakening causes "*a personality change sufficient to bring about recovery from alcoholism*" — that definition didn't apply for me! My exciting episode on those rocks allowed me to become dangerously complacent. As years pass, these joyous episodes still occur, albeit to much lesser degree, but I have learned not to take them too seriously. The famous monk author, Thomas Merton, referred to such pleasant spiritual episodes as, "*The wrong flame.*"

This may be a symptom of an "AA Honeymoon," which is okay, but is certainly not a signal to become complacent. The good news is that I immediately went through the steps with a new sponsor. A few months later I was given a blessed release from that nagging compulsion to drink—it has never returned! Living the AA Steps has been my recovery solution—not simply attending meetings, but both are necessary for me to remain happy, joyous and *free*.

Bob S.

## Tradition Twelve

*Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions,  
ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.*

Anonymity = Humility = Blessings

So, you may wonder how I came up with that formula. I thought that tradition 12 was about protecting others identities and not giving preferential treatment to others, which I still believe.

After reading the long form of tradition 12, I saw that there was more to it. I realized that the personality that needs to come behind the principles is often our own -my own. How often do we think that we are or deserve to be the exception to the rule, maybe 'just this one time'.

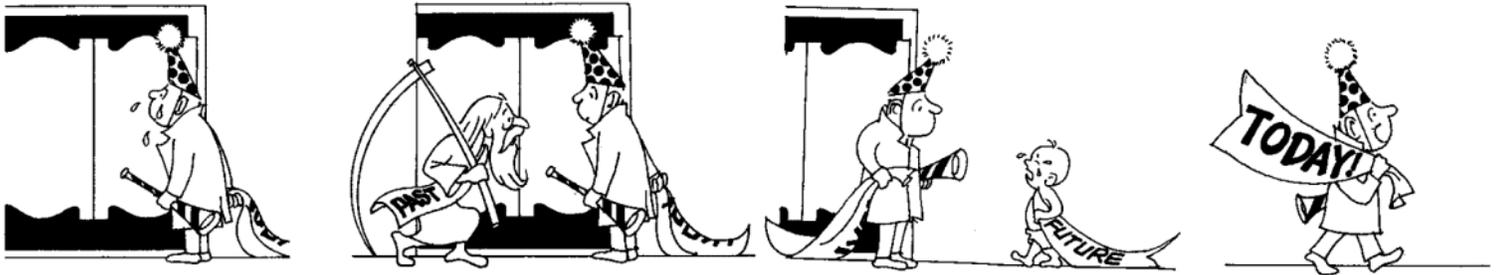
We may also think that we can take advantage of our name, title, position, or finances to promote A.A. to a greater extent for the benefit of others.

At any given time: we are sure to see a well known celebrity fall from grace, a prominent politician involved in scandalous activities, a trusted religious or financial leader abuse their power, or a person rise to or fall from wealth and the morals they once had seem to have disappeared.

How quickly we have seen their blessings disappear also.

Tradition 12 (long form) - And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

Toni T.  
10th Step Study, Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert



I couldn't quit shaking as I detoxed in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous . . .  
but I'm grateful for the shaking, since it was the only exercise I was getting!

Maintaining sobriety is like feeding a parking meter . . . It's all about change.

Spirituality is doing what I said I was going to do, when I said I was going to do it,  
and being somewhere when I said I would be there!

Just because something doesn't turn out the way that I wanted,  
does not mean that it's wrong.

**October Volunteers at Central Office**

Aaron C.  
Alan S.  
Alyssa C.

Eileen C.  
Emil M.  
Greg C.

**Thank You !!**

**Thank You !!**

Richard M.  
Steve P.  
Terry S.  
Tracy M.

Bill Le G.  
Bill T  
Brad L.  
Carol A.

Harriet M.  
Jose Q.  
Jim B.

Kristin V.  
Kathie P.  
Kanani  
Mary Anne C.

**The Twelve Rewards**

1. We can all have Hope, instead of desperation;
2. Faith, instead of despair;
3. Courage, instead of fear;
4. Peace of Mind, instead of confusion;
5. Self-respect, instead of self-contempt;
6. Self-confidence, instead of helplessness;
7. The respect of others, instead of their pity and contempt;
8. A clean conscience, instead of a sense of guilt;
9. Real friendships, instead of loneliness;
10. A clean pattern of life, instead of a purposeless existence;
11. the love and understanding of our families, instead of their doubts and fears;
12. and the freedom of a happy life, instead of the bondage of an alcoholic obsession.

All this and more through AA, are we grateful enough? Gratitude will continue the miracle of your sobriety, I found that out.

*as written by Ann C. of Niles, Ohio - sober April 1, 1948*

**\$6.50**

Book of the month

**\$6.50**

**Big Book Large**

**Print Abridged**

**\$6.50**

Normally \$8.00- this month \$6.50

**\$6.50**

## Step Twelve

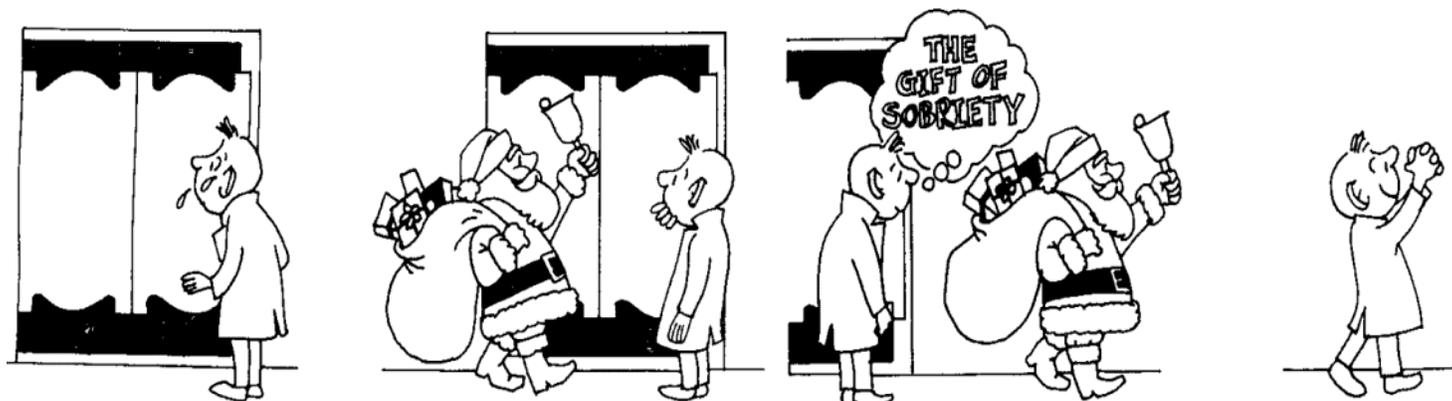
*Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.*

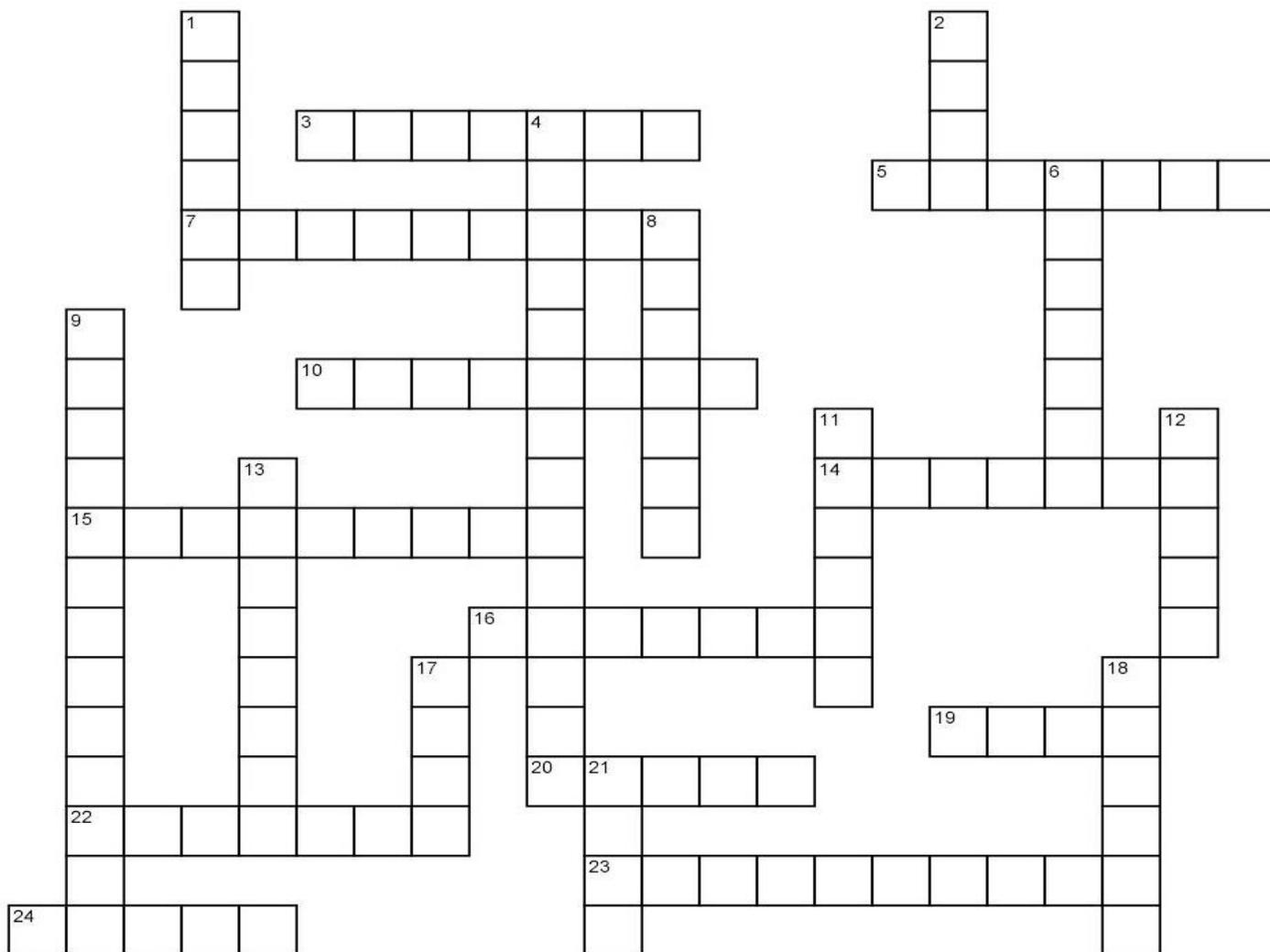
As I see it, the 12th step is broken down into three parts. The first part, "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps" promises me that if I've completed these steps to the best of my ability, I will have had a spiritual experience. It doesn't say I had to understand, believe in, or really want to work these steps. It just says I have to do them. And the result is a spiritual awakening. I can attest to this. When I was taken through the steps I really didn't want to do them, nor did I think they'd really work. In fact I worked these steps because my life had become such a morass of problems, I had run out of options. But the truth is by working these steps I had begun to change my behavior, and in changing my behavior I had unknowingly begun to have a spiritual experience.

The second part, that "we tried to carry this message to alcoholics," reminds me that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other measures fail. When we think about "carrying the message" most of us think of things like speaking at a meeting or sponsorship. While these are important (most notably sponsorship), there are so many other ways we can carry the message. There's getting the phone number of a newcomer and calling him or her rather than handing them our number and telling them to call us. It's not being a distraction during meetings by doing things like, texting, checking the scores on our PDA's, reading a newspaper, knitting, talking during the meeting, etc. It's being an active member of a home group, helping to make it a safe place for the new member. It's trying to be a positive example of the program.

And the 3rd part of this step, "practice these principles in all our affairs" is probably the most difficult. It's very easy for me to be spiritual in a meeting of alcoholics anonymous, but it's much tougher when I'm at work, driving on the freeway, or in my home. It's in my life outside the rooms of AA, where I get to put into practice, the spiritual principles that the 12 steps are based on. To be of love and service, to practice patience, tolerance and understanding in my interaction with others, that's where the true measure of my spiritual condition is defined.

Ben P  
Just The Black Print Big Book Study, Rancho Mirage





**ACROSS**

- 3 Your AA guide
- 5 Came to \_\_\_\_\_ that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
- 7 Dr. Bob and the Good
- 10 What we all want to maintain
- 14 We carry it
- 15 Honesty, unselfishness, purity and love
- 16 Freedom From
- 19 One of our co-founders
- 20 Dr. Bob
- 22 On the road to happy \_\_\_\_\_
- 23 the act of taking or receiving something offered
- 24 Intoxicated

**DOWN**

- 1 Dr. Bob had one, Bill didn't
- 2 Step two
- 4 Bill and Lois' home (2 words)
- 6 Little Angel of A.A.
- 8 The number of printings of the first edition of our Big Book
- 9 Saturday Evening Post article in March, 1941
- 11 What we become half way through
- 12 We'll know it
- 13 prior to investigation
- 17 Who brought the message to Bill Wilson
- 18 chapters in the Big Book
- 21 \_\_\_\_\_ Dog Daze

# Local Speaker Meetings

## Sobriety Capital of the World

### Indio

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

- 12/07 - Joe P. - Coachella, CA
- 12/14 - Charlie H. - Las Vegas, NV
- 12/21 - Lydia W. - Woodland Hills, CA
- 12/28 - Doug R. - Tujunga, CA



## Santa Rosa Messengers

### CV Christian Church, Coachella

Saturday Night, 7:00 p.m.

- 12/01 - Mark J. - Indio
- 12/08 - Tommy D. - Palm Desert
- 12/15 - Tim C. - Indio
- 12/22 - Joe R. - Palm Desert
- 12/29 - Michael P. - Rancho Mirage

## Palm Desert Group -

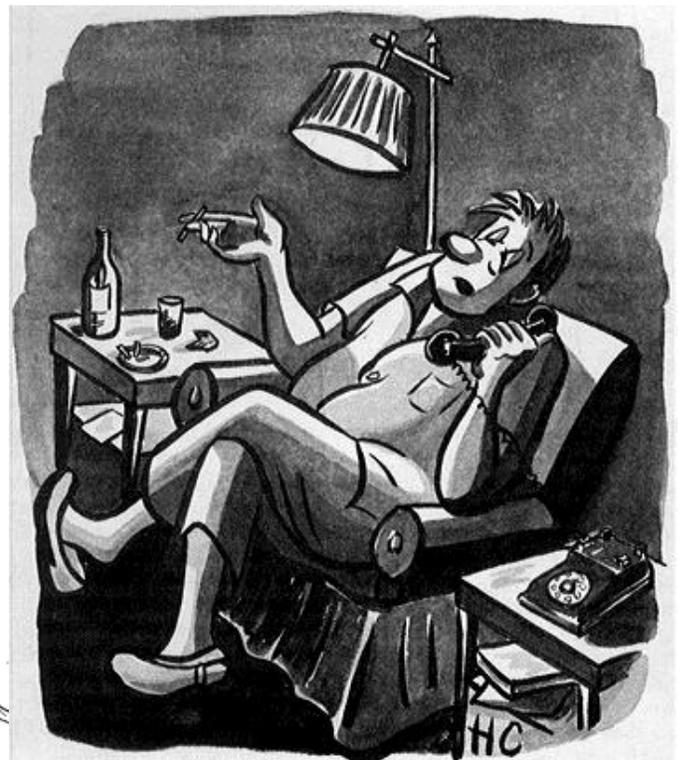
### Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert

Saturday Night, 8:00 p.m.

- 12/01 - Pam S. - Palm Desert
- 12/08 - Henry S. - Palm Desert
- 12/15 - Perry C. - Palm Desert
- 12/22 - Fernando O. - Covina
- 12/29 - Lexi S. - Apple Valley



"I love it downtown. . . Everything within walking distance."



"No, I've never tried AA. But if it's got alcohol in it I'm sure I'd like it."

**NEW MEETINGS & MEETING CHANGES**

**New Meetings:**

**Cathedral City**, there is a new noon meeting at the new Perez Meeting Hall at the new address 34116 Date Palm Dr. Units 5&6. the "Friday Noon Discussion Meeting" is now there for you interested in a lunch meeting during the week in Cathedral City.

**Cathedral City**, there is a new Women's Meeting "One Day at a Time" that meets at 10:00 AM at the new Perez Meeting Hall 34116 Date Palm Dr. Units 5&6

**Indio**, the "5th Tradition Group" meets at Martha's Village 83791 Date Ave. at 7:00 PM on Thursday

**Palm Desert**, the new "Get In Where, You Fit In" meeting is being held at E-Cig City 73910 Hwy 111 Unit L on Saturday at 10:00 AM

**Palm Desert**, the women's meeting "Acceptance is the Answer" meets Thursdays at 6:30 PM at Serenity Hall, 74-350 Alessandro Dr. Suite A

**Palm Springs**, the new "Big Book Personal Stories" meeting at 559 S. Palm Canyon meets on Monday at 5:30 PM

**Palm Springs**, the new "Daily Reflections" meeting takes place on Fridays, 7:00 AM on the 3rd floor at the LGBT Community Center of the Desert 1301 N. Palm Canyon Dr. please note the door is locked at 7:00 sharp, please make sure to get there before 7

**Palm Springs**, the new "Come To Believe" meeting takes place on Mondays, 7:00 AM on the 3rd floor at the LGBT Community Center of the Desert 1301 N. Palm Canyon Dr. please note the door is locked at 7:00 sharp, please make sure to get there before 7

**Thousand Palms** the new "Rush Hour Group" meets on Thursday at 5:30 P.M. at Club Shenandoah Springs in the Art's & Crafts room, 32700 Desert Moon Dr.

**Twentynine Palms**, the new 7:00 AM Discussion meeting on Saturday at the St. Martin in the Fields Church, 72348 Lorrea Ave

**Meeting Change of Location**

**Cathedral City**, the Perez Meeting Hall has a new address 34116 Date Palm Dr. Units 5&6.

**Palm Desert**, all of the meetings that were at Freedom Hall on Fred Waring are now meeting at the new: "Serenity Hall" 74350 Alessandro Dr. Palm Desert

**Rancho Mirage**, "Solid Solutions" Tuesday nights @ 7:00 PM (Discussion, Young People) now meets at the Palm Desert Country Club Recreation Hall 77800 California Dr.

**Meeting Change of Name, Type or Time**

**Palm Desert**, the Sunday night "Rebel Group" at Fellowship Hall, 45940 Portola, is now meeting at 7:45 PM instead of 8:00 PM

**Palm Desert**, the 10:00 A.M. Monday Women's "As Bill Sees It" meeting at Fellowship Hall, 45940 Portola, is now a closed meeting for Alcoholics only.

**Palm Desert**, the Wednesday 6:30 P.M. "Ladies Night Out" women's meeting at Serenity Hall, 74350 Alessandro Dr. suite A-1 is now a Closed meeting for Alcoholics only and meets from 6:30 P.M. until 7:45 P.M.

**Meeting no Longer in Existence**

**Coachella**, The Friday 5:30 Santa Rosa Step Study meeting at the C.V. Christian church is no longer meeting

**Desert Hot Springs**, the 7:30 PM Thursday Step Study at the K.I. S. Fellowship Hall no longer meets

"When I first got to the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous, I tried to figure out just how to introduce myself in these rooms . . . somehow being an "addict" or an "anda" sounded so much better than just being "an alcoholic".

"My sponsor suggested that I read Bill's and Bob's stories in the Big Book. After doing that, I figured that if "alcoholic" worked for them, it was good enough for me, too!"

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If I were baking a cake and the recipe had 12 ingredients, but I decided that I didn't really need all of those and only put in, say 7 of the ingredients, I would not get the results that the recipe promised.

My experience has been that it is the same with the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. In order to get the results, I have to take ALL of the steps and put them into practice in my life, not just the ones that I think I need!

## **Do you want to be part of the problem or part of the solution?**

Watching Alcoholics coming and going wondering why they just don't get it. Hearing people that have been given the solution saying that "AA has just gotten too watered down" yet the first 164 pgs of the Big Book and the 12 Traditions haven't changed. So the AA program has not changed. What's changed are many of the meetings of AA. We've gone from people who have worked the program sharing their experience, strength and hope, to anyone sharing about whatever they want with little or no regard to the Traditions. We have Secretaries that have little or no knowledge of the Traditions or the importance that they be honored by the group. We have sponsors who are sponsoring yet haven't worked the steps and no real knowledge about the Traditions. On page 164 it states "you cannot transmit something you haven't got". Then there are all those newcomers coming from treatment facilities with no one welcoming them to AA and explaining to them we are not an extension of that facility that they need to start fresh in our program and it's against our Traditions to discuss that facility in our meetings. So some meetings have gone from sharing on the solution to our Alcoholism which is doing the 12 steps as outlined in our Big Book and honoring our Traditions, to group therapy, drunk-a-logs or worse yet drug-a-logs. So if you haven't worked the Steps of AA and you are sharing what you've learned in treatment or somewhere else you are not sharing the solution of AA. Why is this happening? How can we be upset if no one is teaching them what they need to know?

There are those of us who were given the Solution to recover by those Old-timers who stressed you have to pass it on to keep it. They didn't sit back in meetings letting newcomers run the show. They believed they were responsible that any where any time someone was reaching out for the hand of AA that AA would be there. They believed that if the Traditions were not honored Alcoholics Anonymous would not survive. They were clear that they had a singleness of purpose and that if you had a problem with Alcohol they had a solution. You were told that only you could decide whether or not you were alcoholic and that you should listen to other alcoholics to see if you could identify. You were told you didn't need to share because you didn't know how to stay sober but they did. You were also told if you wanted help to please talk to someone at the break or after the meeting. Meeting time was to share how they've stayed sober. They were not trying to fit you into AA they let you decide if you fit in AA. Their primary purpose was to help the Alcoholic that still suffers. They cared about that newcomer who came into the room; they wanted them to hear how they could also recover. The Alcoholics who had recovered were not there to see what they could get out of the meeting; they were there to give back.

Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path. How are they supposed to follow the path if no one is showing them our path? We can't blame anyone for what is happening to our AA meetings when we are unwilling to stand up for our Traditions. So the next time you are sitting in an AA meeting ask yourself if you are being Responsible for making sure there is a hand of AA reaching out. Remember you can't transmit something you haven't got so if you haven't gotten it you need to get it. Our Twelve Steps promises recovery for those who are willing to follow the clear-cut directions in the Big Book. It's a real shame the newcomer isn't hearing that. The Traditions aren't about protecting the individual they are there to protect AA. So the next time the Traditions are being violated or you are not hearing the AA message what are you going to do for that suffering Alcoholic. Keep in mind the Newcomer that is there looking for the answer is probably sitting quietly in the back of the room listening needing to find hope. Remember you might be their only chance of hearing about that solution found in the Big Book! So when you are sitting there not wanting to say anything to the individual that is breaking the Tradition because you might offend them or when you want to discount the person that is standing up for the Traditions you are offending AA. The Traditions are there to preserve our Unity of singleness of purpose. United we Stand Divided we fall.

Simple ,not easy, a price had to be paid.

Vicki L  
10th Step Study, Fellowship Hall, Palm Desert

## The Wreckage of the Past Desperation Outweighed the Denial

By Rick R.

Coming from a life that was anything but normal to the life I live today was difficult to imagine at that point when I became desperate enough to consider the possibility that could salvage what time I had left on this planet. The life I lead before I entered the A.A. program was like the ball in a pinball machine bouncing from one issue to another and trying to survive the endless pursuit of success but always ending in defeat and going down the drain only to wake up the next morning and starting the same game all over again. They say that insanity is doing the same thing over and over expecting a different result. Running from the realities of life was easy with the help of John Barleycorn as it gave me that brief feeling of peace that I got about half way through my second drink, which quickly lead to "oblivion and the awful awakening to face The hideous Four Horsemen-- Terror, Bewilderment, Frustration and Despair." (B.B. Ch. 11) Not understanding how the obsession to drink, and the relief that it gave me, had ruled out any kind of inquiry into the idea of quitting drinking until *desperation outweighed the denial* and I sought out Alcoholics Anonymous. As I look back on my journey through the A.A. program, and all of the *mental relearning* that has been involved, I can only say that if I could relive it all over again, one thing I would change is *the doubts I had at every level of development*. Arriving with a skeptical mind, I had a slow but determined attitude from the very start and I think that it has served me well, but in hind sight, it was *the unlearning of the ego driven habits* that had been the source of all of my misguided mentality and a failed, selfish way of life. If, however, I hadn't experienced it in the way it evolved for me, I would not be capable of passing it on to the next person that enters this process with all of the doubts that seem to be so common to the recovery process. The one thing that I can say for sure is that knowing what I know today, and what I have experienced, up to this point, if I had the opportunity to do it all over again, I would change, the speed at which I let go of all of my selfish, fearful and skeptical way of accepting the simplicity of the of the program and I would cut to the chase. In a nut shell I might explain it like this. Be accountable by doing the best I can to clean up the wreckage of the past and making restitution; adopting and applying unselfish principles and motives in all of the decision making process and, accepting every human being I know, exactly as they are with love and compassion. This understanding of life has evolved for me over the past forty eight years in the A.A. program and has provided a peace of mind that is well above anything that I could have contemplated and without peace of mind there can be little happiness. Today, there is very little conflict in my life and the only discomfort I feel is when I am in a situation that I cannot remove myself from but that is rare and completely resolved as the time comes when I can detach myself without being judgmental and critical as I move on. That pinball machine is quiet, as is my heart, and the principles I live by today make it so. Who could ask for more?

### **Not the poem you may think it is . . . .**

One night I had a wondrous dream,  
One set of footprints there was seen,  
The footprints of my precious God,  
But mine were not along the shore.

But then some stranger prints appeared,  
And I asked God, "What have we here?  
Those prints are large, and round, and neat,  
But Lord, they are too big for feet."

"My child," He said in somber tones,  
"For miles I carried you along.  
I challenged you to walk in faith,  
But you refused and made me wait."

"You disobeyed, you would not grow.  
The walk of faith, you would not know.  
So I got tired. I got fed up.  
And there I dropped you on your butt."

I've found in life, there comes a time,  
When one must fight, and one must climb,  
When one must rise and take a stand.  
Or leave their butt prints in the sand.



# Sponsorship & \* Safety in AA

Join us for a time to re-discover the importance of Sponsorship and the significance of exercising Safety in our AA Fellowship

**Saturday January 5th, 2018,  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**



**Hope Lutheran Church  
45940 Portola Ave.  
Palm Desert, CA 92260**



**SPONSORED BY GENERAL SERVICE DISTRICT 9**



Central Intergroup Office of the Desert  
 3030 Lake Park Dr  
 Colton, CA 92324 - Suite 104  
 OPEN: Mon-Fri 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
 (951) 234-4887  
 www.aarthealth.org

## Central Intergroup of the Desert

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

October 2018

#### Profit and Loss

**\$7,165**

NET INCOME FOR OCTOBER

**\$20,265**

INCOME

**\$13,100**

EXPENSES

	TOTAL	
	OCT 2018	JUL - OCT, 2018 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions - Conventions	8,045	8,485
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	4,545	14,980
Interest Income	1	29
Sales	7,674	27,382
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$20,265</b>	<b>\$50,876</b>
Cost of Goods Sold	<b>\$4,515</b>	<b>\$17,858</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$15,750</b>	<b>\$33,018</b>
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	500	2,000
Computer Expense	386	1,540
Credit Card Fees	117	380
Insurance - Health	389	1,549
Insurance - Liability	247	1,104
Newsletter Expense	147	492
Office Expense	809	1,977
Outreach		378
Payroll Expenses	3,903	15,612
Reimbursement - Mileage		147
Rent	1,476	5,904
State Filing Fee	25	25
Storage	143	572
Utilities	443	1,849
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$8,585</b>	<b>\$33,528</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$7,165</b>	<b>\$ (511)</b>
<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>\$7,165</b>	<b>\$ (511)</b>



Central Intergroup Office of the Desert  
 800.224.7464 Fax: 951  
 Cathedral City, CA 92234 State 562  
 OFFICE: 760.329.5471 TOLLFREE: 760.534.7464  
 1760, 534-4882  
 www.desertlifeline.org

## Central Intergroup of the Desert

### BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: CIO BUDGET 2018-2019 - FY19 P&L

July - October, 2018

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
<b>Revenue</b>			
Contributions - Conventions	8,485	1,500	6,985
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	14,980	12,824	2,156
Interest Income	29	28	1
Sales	27,382	29,895	(2,513)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$50,876</b>	<b>\$44,247</b>	<b>\$6,629</b>
Cost of Goods Sold	\$17,858	\$18,921	\$ (1,063)
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$33,018</b>	<b>\$25,326</b>	<b>\$7,692</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Accounting Services	2,000	2,000	0
Computer Expense	1,540	1,496	44
Credit Card Fees	380	792	(412)
Education & Training		135	(135)
Insurance - Health	1,549	1,528	21
Insurance - Liability	1,104	1,116	(12)
Newsletter Expense	492	467	25
Office Expense	1,977	2,575	(598)
Outreach	378	0	378
Payroll Expenses	15,612	16,912	(1,300)
Reimbursement - Mileage	147	600	(453)
Rent	5,904	5,904	0
State Filing Fee	25		25
Storage	572	572	0
Utilities	1,849	1,789	60
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$33,528</b>	<b>\$35,886</b>	<b>\$ (2,358)</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ (511)</b>	<b>\$ (10,560)</b>	<b>\$10,049</b>
<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ (511)</b>	<b>\$ (10,560)</b>	<b>\$10,049</b>

So after I explained everything to her, in vivid detail, my sponsor's response was: "Well, it seems to me that you can choose to be dragged through life kicking and screaming . . . or you can get up and walk with the rest of us."

**ouch!**

**Sponsee (to sponsor) via text messaging:**  
 I feel guilty that I don't call but I don't know how

**Sponsor to sponsee via text messaging:**  
 It's just like texting except u push the numbers ;-)



Central Intergroup Office of the Desert  
 25001 Lake Mead Dr.  
 Coachella Valley, CA 92228 Phone: 760-866-1111  
 COYOIL, BARRINGTON BLVD / DANA POINT CA 92629  
 (714) 774-4800  
 www.centralintergroup.org

# Central Intergroup of the Desert

## GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

October 2018

	TOTAL	
	OCT 2018	JUL - OCT, 2018 (YTD)
12 and 12 Men's Stag R.M.. Monday		300.00
164 Group - WED - Palm Springs	241.18	241.18
559 Meeting Hall	25.00	100.00
6AM Pierson - K I S F Desert Hot Springs		600.00
AA Step Study - Fri Coachella		124.00
ACNL - Inland Empire	188.00	188.00
Anonymous No Group Given	1,171.00	1,976.69
Attitude Adjustment-M-S , Palm Desert PDCC	700.00	700.00
Big Book Study - Wed Palm Springs	30.00	158.25
Big Book Workshop Yucca Valley		30.00
Birthday Contributions	153.00	550.80
Black Sheep Group		639.77
Cathedral City 12 &12 Book Study-TUE		50.00
CDM Men's Stag-TUE		201.00
Central Intergroup Cathedral City		46.00
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	23.00	119.00
DCYPAA All Valley Young People's		41.05
Desert Men's Big Book Stu Palm Desert		200.00
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert		52.74
Double Winners AA Meeting		30.00
Goals Group Desert Hot Springs	40.00	40.00
Happy Hour Book Study Palm Desert		70.00
Jaywalkers Men's Stag Palm Desert		180.00
Just the Black Print Big Rancho Mirage		1,163.00
Ladies Nite Out Palm Desert	66.00	66.00
Living Sober Book Study Palm Desert		76.00
Living Sober Rancho Mirage		100.00
Living Sober-WED women	67.17	67.17
Men's Mauraders Palm Desert		500.00
Mon. Women's Meeting Yucca Valley	50.00	65.00
Monday Daily Reflections 29 Palms		80.00
Morongo Valley Paradise Group	100.00	100.00
New Freedom Palm Desert		300.00
No Rules La Quinta		730.40
Online Donation	100.00	185.00
Over 50 12&12 Step Study		93.90
Palm Desert 7 AM Attitude Adj.	92.00	404.00
Palm Desert Q & A - 10 AM	36.22	36.22
Palm Desert Saturday Speaker's	64.71	214.71
Pathfinders Big Book Stud Bermuda Dunes	50.00	50.00
Playing With A Full Deck Palm Desert		35.00

Central Intergroup of the Desert

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

October 2018



Central Intergroup, Office of the Desert  
 95330 Lake Forest Dr.  
 Cathedral City, CA 92234 Suite 104  
 OFFICE: 760-338-9847 / 760-338-9848 & 949-451-1100  
 (760) 338-9850  
 www.centralintergroup.org

	TOTAL	
	OCT 2018	JUL - OCT, 2018 (YTD)
Rule 62 THU Noon		106.00
Rush Hour Group		40.00
Santa Rosa Big Book Thump Coachella	463.50	613.50
Saturday Speakers Meeting		90.00
Serenity Group Joshua Tree		56.00
Serenity Seekers Palm Desert	120.00	240.00
Sobriety Capitol of World Indio	60.00	193.62
Solutions in Sobriety Palm Desert	80.50	118.08
St. Paul's Tuesday Night Men's Stag	473.00	473.00
Step Sisters Palm Desert		357.58
Stepping Stones Palm Desert		73.97
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study		207.00
Sunday 8am Serenity Group	94.02	326.34
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	56.61	228.33
The First 164 Pages		140.00
Thurs. Night Participation 29 Palms		50.00
Twilight Step Study Palm Desert		120.00
Vets for Vets Palm Desert		57.00
Wed Nite Women's Discussion Heritage Palms		120.50
Winners Meeting Palm Springs		240.00
Women of Palm Springs		170.00
Women's Q & A Palm Desert		53.73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,544.91</b>	<b>\$14,979.53</b>



*"Like you, I'm also a prince in disguise."*



*"Of course, you're the only one who can say whether or not you're an alcoholic."*



## 2019 MAAD Dog Daze

**COME AND BE PART OF THE COMMITTEE!!!**

3rd Sunday of Each Month 4:00 PM

All other meetings are held at Fellowship Hall unless otherwise noted  
Fellowship Hall- 45940 Portola Ave, Palm Desert, CA 92260

Dec. 16th Meeting 4:00 @ Central Office  
35-325 Date Palm Dr. Cathedral City CA 92234

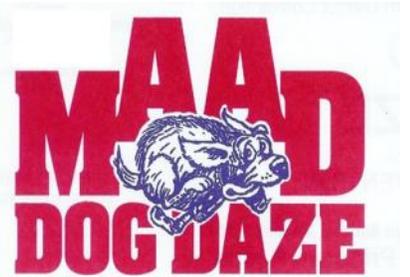
Final Walk-Through July 28th 4:00 PM @ Hotel



For more Information email:

[MaadDogDazeConvention@gmail.com](mailto:MaadDogDazeConvention@gmail.com)

Convention August 9, 10 & 11 , 2019



**DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON RESORT | 67967 Vista Chino | Cathedral City, CA 92234**