



the Desert Lifeline

December 2021

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

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert

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Suite 107
Cathedral City, CA 92234

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

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Web site: www.AAintheDesert.org



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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,
5:30 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

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

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	137
12 Step Calls	3
Visitors	38
Literature Sales	184
Al-Anon	0
Other 12 Step	4
Miscellaneous	43
Business	43
Zoom Attendance	56

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert Board of Directors

Chairman: Allan G.
Vice Chairman: Joe A
Treasurer: Kathy F.
Secretary: Blake H.

Directors

Alex K.

Bill T.


Kenneth J

Daphne F.



Alyssa C. Outreach Chair

Desert Lifeline Editor: Bill T.
Crossword Puzzle-Master: Ali G.
Office Manager: David M.

October 2021



Mario R. 22 yr.
Dani M. 26 yr.
David M. 28 yr.



Happy Birthday



B.J. C. 30 yr.
Char A. 39 yr.

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

Although the current social aspects of our Fellowship keep the normal channels of celebrating at a minimum, if you are celebrating, please let us know!

I used to think that peace of mind was highly overrated . . . then I worked the steps and came to understand a peace that I had never known.

All resentments contain fear. All fears do not contain resentments.

Tradition Twelve

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

In the *Language of the Heart*, Bill W wrote: “the Twelve Points of Tradition are little else than a specific application of the spirit of the Twelve Steps of recovery to our group life and to our relations with society in general” (page 94). Tradition Twelve builds on the spiritual aspect of anonymity referred to in the Eleventh Tradition and “[asks] us to give up personal desires for the common good” (Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 187). By remaining an anonymous member of Alcoholics Anonymous, I fulfill my role in safeguarding the program for future generations of recovering alcoholics. As described in our literature, the concept of anonymity was developed out of lessons learned by our early members, and out of fear for the budding society. Over time, it has grown into confidence that anonymity not only protects individual members, but A.A. as a whole.

Tradition Twelve and its “mood of humble anonymity” provides me an opportunity to set aside my own personality, and the personalities of others to better carry the message (The Language of the Heart, page 94). I am just another anonymous member. Within A.A., my personality often conflicts with the personalities of others. In meetings and in service work, I receive opportunities to deflate by ego by recognizing that I only know what I know. I can exercise a true humility by remaining right sized, doing my very best one step at a time and focusing on carrying *the* message of recovery as opposed to *my* message of recovery.

Outside of A.A. I can look for the primary purpose of any situation, whether it be the company I work for or a personal relationship and ask myself what I can do to fulfill that. With the new design for living, I can live an honest life and remain willing to learn whatever I can.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Lifeline and its readers for allowing me to share my Tradition Study. Through our literature, conversations with other members and these articles, I have developed a new appreciation for our Traditions and experienced a significant amount of personal growth. Thank you for my sobriety. “The Twelve Points of Tradition would make us one with each other and whole with the world about us. Unity is our aim.” (The Language of the Heart, page 94)

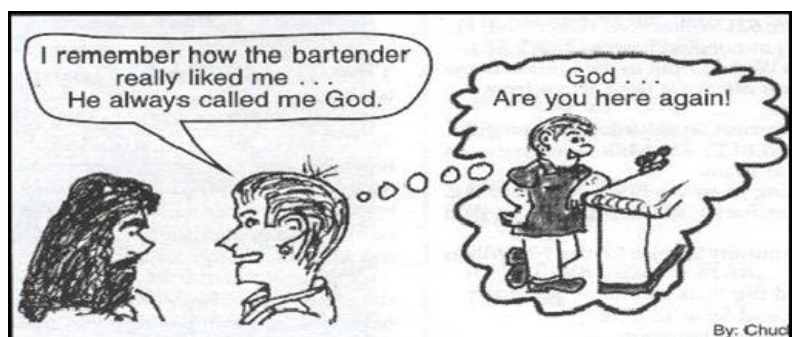
Alyssa C.



**Sobriety Capitol of the World Group -
ABC Recovery Center, Indio
44359 Palm St.**

Friday Night, 8:00 p.m.

12/03 - Pej Man from Los Angeles, CA
12/10 - Chris H. from Downey, CA
12/17 - Angela L. from Santa Clarita, CA
12/24 - Kimberly from Palm Springs, CA
12/31 - Mickey B. from Santa Monica, CA



Divine Surrender

Release me from these shackles!
I struggle & I fight
Finally set Free
The Unseen now in sight.

Take what is given
Then give it all away
Redemption in the Spirit
Given, Day by Day.

Intrinsically, I handle
That which used to baffle
Alas, it is a Miracle
Being freed from my own shackles!

Gifting what is Gifted,
Burden of self is lifted
Delivered from Insanity
Back home from whence I drifted.

Comb deep within
Reclaim that which was lost.
Amazing Grace – So Deep...
Was far too high a cost.

Atonement – Restitution
For all it is, I steal.
No suffering, Escape,
No frothy emotional appeal.

New Family, we stand,
Real Love? A Celebration?
Self Loathing? ...We are divorced.
A Sweet Emancipation!

The Things I cannot change?
Acceptance is what I've Learned
New Serenity within,
Rebuilt, the bridges burned.

Muster up the courage
To change the things I can,
Letting go – Divine Surrender
To a Higher Power's Plan.

Wisdom is the difference
Between the can & can't.
For what we sow – we harvest,
From the life we plant.

Daniel M. 10/2019

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

The Gift of Desperation **By Rick R.**

I woke up in Desperation, Half a century ago
I had squandered all my options and, I had no place to go.
Guilt and Shame and Loathing thoughts weighed, heavy on my mind
But I was used to waking up, with dark thoughts of that kind
My drinking used to mask the feelings, that I felt that day.
And if I ventured just one sip, they'd soon be washed away
As I look back on that event, it's very plain to see
The thought that gripped my conscience was, A New Reality
It was my Day of Reckoning and, I Cherish it today
For without that Desperation I, may not have called AA
Within moments of exposure to that kind and loving group
The drink obsession vanished. Optimism closed that loop.
Thinking someday I'd be tempted; I was vigilant from the start.
And since it never happened, I thank God with all my heart
For decades I have questioned why it works so well for me
While watching others suffer through a life of misery
When asked that simple question I now answer with a smile
It happened when Desperation far Outweighed my own Denial

Merry Christmas/Happy Holidays

WE SHOULD JOIN!

DCYPAA

WHAT'S THAT?!

**DESERT CITIES
YOUNG PEOPLE in
ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS**

**BUSINESS
MEETING
EVERY SUNDAY
6 P.M. @ FELLOWSHIP HALL!**

ZOOM ID: 834 7667 7292 | PASSWORD: 834062

DCYPAA.ORG | DCYPAA@DCYPAA.ORG

October Volunteers at Central Office

Alyssa C.
Ali G.

Bob B.
David B.

Thank You !!

Thank You !!

Amelia F.
Anna R.
Bill T.

Eileen C.
Greg C.

Jim B.
Katie Z.
Mark L.

Nikki C.
Robert S.
Steven St. L.
Vicky P.

\$4.00

\$4.00

Book of the month

Big Book Large Print (Abridged)

Normally \$5.00 - this month \$4.00

Known as the "Big Book," the basic text of Alcoholics Anonymous has helped millions of people recover from alcoholism since the first edition appeared in 1939. Chapters describing the A.A. recovery program — the original Twelve Steps — and the personal histories of A.A.'s co-founders remain unchanged since the original, while new stories have been added to the personal histories with each edition.

Fourth Edition (2001).

General Service Conference-approved

\$4.00

\$4.00

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.**

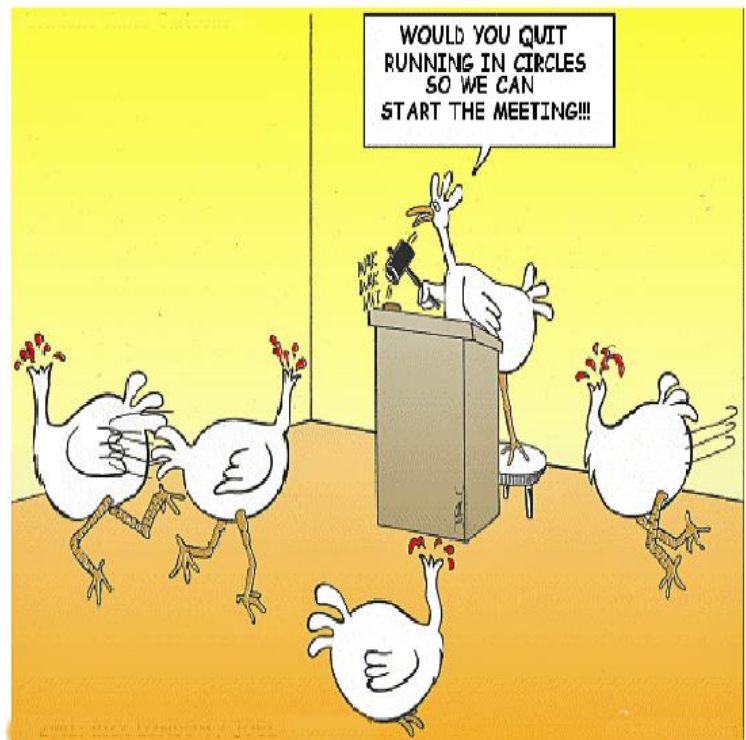
“Freely you have received; freely give.” This is the main thought that leads us to share the message to still-suffering alcoholics. Then we discover that there is so much more.

This is the step of spiritual development. Our instincts out of control that caused most of our problems are still there. Here is where we can let our higher power, God, be our director and show us how to redirect our instincts instead of making our own misery of satisfying our instincts. We can have God lead us: to change our attitudes and actions about financial and emotional security, to discover how we can forgive and love others and even ourselves, to have the grace to be gentle with others and ourselves when we make mistakes, to be content with more humble, less glittering successes.

We begin to discover that the things that seem to be setbacks are often a part of the pathway to better things. We begin to practice love and tolerance not only with the newcomer, but in our meetings, and even in our families.

We discover a priceless reward of diligently working the twelve steps- being able to deal with life's situations and problems, big and small, that would have previously led to a drink.

Toni T Palm Desert



**At The Monday Night Meeting Of Chickens With
Their Heads Cut Off Anonymous Meeting**

November Puzzle Solution



I would like to acknowledge the work of our new “Puzzle Master” Ali G. Her generous sprit of customer service has been a blessing to all who come in during her volunteer position here every other Monday from 1-5PM. But most noteworthy, her insightfully thorough puzzles, as is this one from November, can give us all pause to consider the depth of our understanding of the many important details of our Life-Sustaining Program of Recovery.

The Values I Learned as a Child

An All-Encompassing Spiritual Roadmap

By Rick R.

As I navigate my way through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.), with only a limited education, but a desire to learn all I can about life as it unfolds, it occurs to me that most of the things that the program teaches me are things I've have been taught before. I learned the Ten Commandments in church. In the Boy Scouts, I learned that a scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent. In sports I learned of Teamwork and of Disappointment. In kindergarten, I learned to play fair in the sand box, I also heard of the Golden Rule. These things have been around long before me and even before A.A; so, where did I go wrong? I, like most Alcoholics that come into the program, had a myriad of personal problems, and at first, I believed that those life issues including Marital, Legal, Economic, Physical, etc.; were the cause of my drinking the way I did. At that time, I was not experienced enough to understand the ins and outs of these things.

I am not sure that anyone can just drop what they have been conditioned to do, just because they quit drinking. There must be more to it than that. If at first, we are fortunate enough to envision the wonderful life we can experience as the result of fully embracing this program, we will first, want to clear up the wreckage of the past. This we can do by thoroughly going through the Steps in the spirit they were intended to be taken, being careful not to hold back anything. As we approach the twelfth step, we are introduced to the Saint Francis prayer in the 12&12. Francis was not a saint when he wrote this prayer, but he expresses that these virtues were the answer to all the misguided thinking of the past. Note that not one of his requests is for help with things that are of a selfish or material nature.

I am not affiliated with any religious organization, but I am not threatened by religious doctrines, and I agree with the statement on pg. 87 BB. "Be quick to see where religious people are right. Make use of what they offer". I am sometimes honored when a newer member of the program asks for some guidance and I will usually suggest that he/she write out this prayer in long hand, paste it on his/her mirror and read it every day for a minimum of 30 days, and I guarantee that it will influence your thinking for the rest of your life. It did for me. I do not know of a more practical thing to set the tone for a person's interactions with others.

Thinking back on it, I always knew the right thing to do, but was not always strong enough to do it. I dismissed these things, not realizing the pain that would result as I lost my direction in life. The Saint Francis prayer is one of the ways in which the program suggests we revisit our early value system. It gives us a spiritual direction that deals with the change in our inner self, which, if we heal in that area, the material world will take care of itself. When faced with a sticky situation, I have a choice whether to escalate it or to back off and withdraw with love and understanding. After years of trying my best to live in the spirit of this prayer, it occurred to me that, as the result, I qualify in all those things I learned as a child, in church, in the Boy Scouts, in Kindergarten, The Golden Rule, and in childhood sports. To me, it is an ALL-ENCOMPASSING SPIRITUAL roadmap.

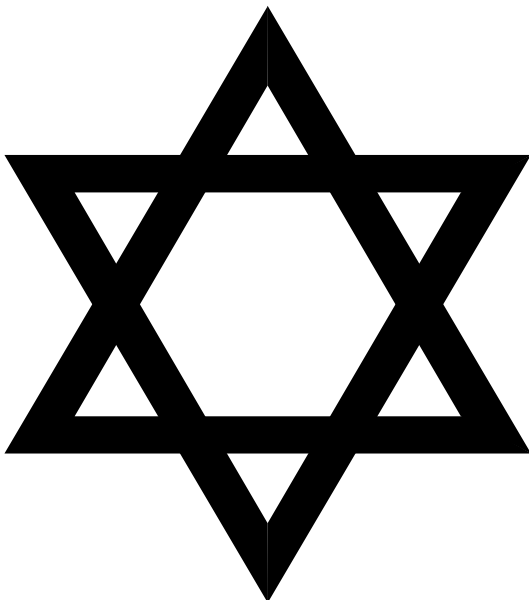
Concept Twelve

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.

Concept 12 is a very important concept for World Service. It consists of the 6 General Warranties of the General Service Conference. These Warranties ensure that the Conference stays “right sized” and focused on the fellowship it serves. Concept 12, like the other concepts, is spiritually based, but its focus is describing the relationship between the various service entities and how they work together.

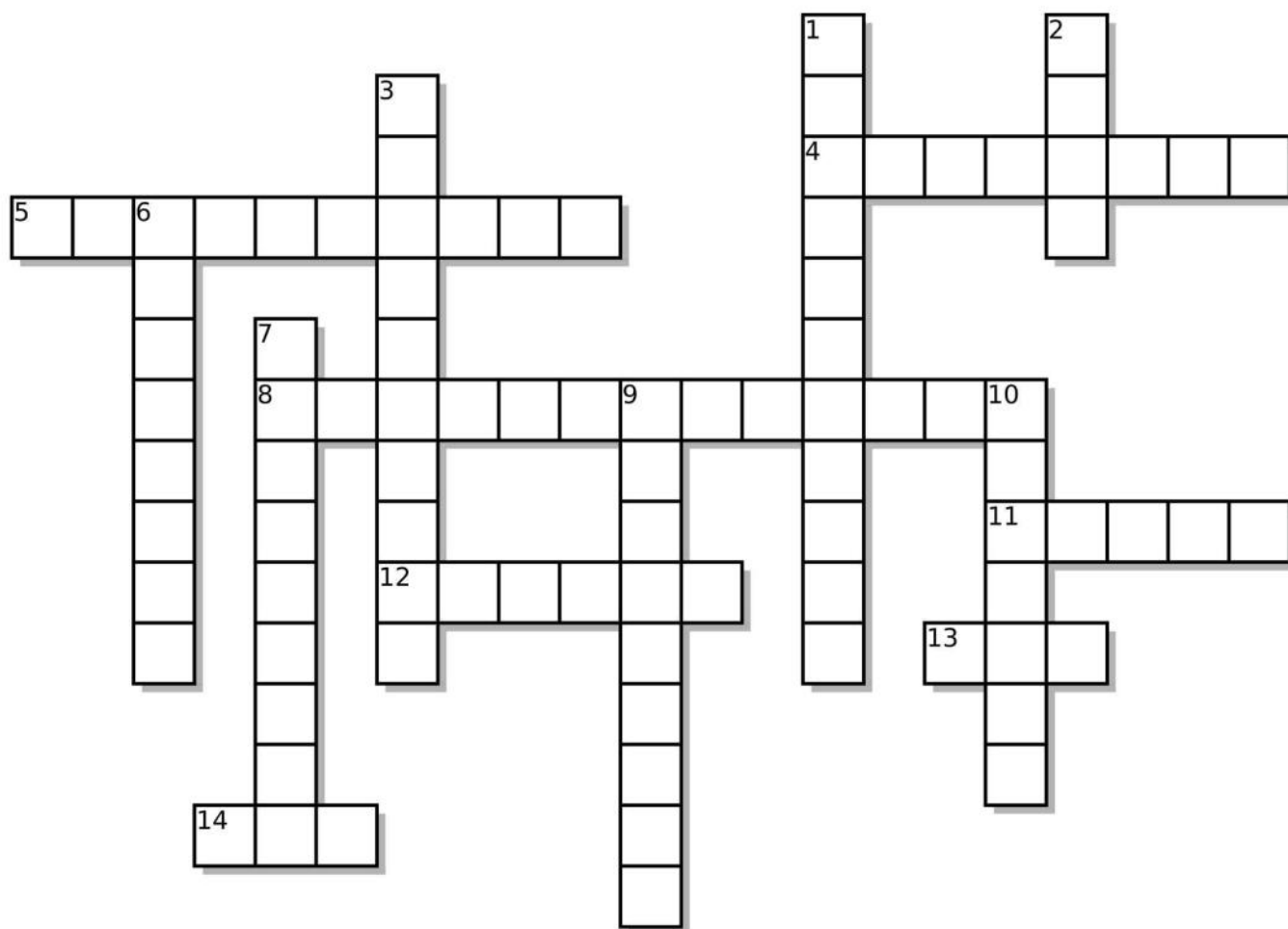
Basically, Concept 12 states that the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the A.A. Tradition, being ever mindful that the conference never become too wealthy or too powerful. This is accomplished by the various Warranties. Warranty 1 follows the guidelines laid down by the 7th tradition, and also limits individual member's donations to achieve that goal. Warranty 2 stipulates that sufficient operating funds, plus one full year's operating expenses of the G.S.O. and the Grapevine, shall be its reserve fund. The remaining warranties ensure that no one person be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others, that all important decisions be reached by a vote, and that the conference stays out of public controversy. Of all the concepts, concept 12 and its warranties can only be changed by written consent of three-fourths of all A.A. Groups in the world. Bill Wilson had the infinite wisdom to set these warranties “in stone” to ensure that Conference holds fast to the movement it serves.

Patrick G Men's Stag, Palm Desert



12-10-2021





ACROSS

- 4 ..._____ contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives.
- 5 What is the number one offender?
- 8 Principles before _____
- 11 What was Dr. Bob's dog's name?
- 12 If we are planning to stop drinking, there must be no reservation of any kind, nor any lurking notion, that someday we will be _____ to alcohol.
- 13 How many General Warranties of the Conference are there?
- 14 We practice the principles in _____ our affairs.

DOWN

- 1 Daily _____ - This collection of readings moves through the calendar year one day, and one page, at a time.
- 2 How many editions of the Big Book are there?
- 3 ...The Conference itself will always remain _____ in thought and action. (from Concept XII)
- 6 The state of being calm, peaceful, and untroubled.
- 7 The alcoholic has a daily reprieve from drinking contingent upon the maintenance of our _____ condition.
- 9 The spiritual foundation of all our Traditions
- 10 The spiritual principle behind Step 12.



Central Intergroup of the Desert

Statement of Activity

October 2021

PROFIT AND LOSS

-\$410

Net income for October

\$18,141

Income

\$18,551

Expenses

	TOTAL	
	OCT 2021	JUL - OCT, 2021 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	8,713	32,018
Interest Income	0	17
Sales	9,428	31,626
Total Revenue	\$18,141	\$63,661
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	6,821	21,371
POS Inventory Adjustment	271	(650)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$7,091	\$20,721
GROSS PROFIT	\$11,050	\$42,940
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	600	2,400
Computer Expense	409	1,440
Credit Card Fees	211	1,197
Insurance - Health	432	1,721
Insurance - Liability		1,083
Newsletter Expense		203
Office Expense	963	3,563
Payroll Expenses	6,210	18,631
Rent	1,520	6,081
Storage	181	721
Utilities	931	2,507
Total Expenditures	\$11,459	\$39,548
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ (410)	\$3,392
NET REVENUE	\$ (410)	\$3,392



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 www.centralintergroup.org

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2021-2022 - FY22 P&L

July - October, 2021

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	32,018	25,914	6,104
Interest Income	17	24	(7)
Sales	31,626	23,923	7,703
Total Revenue	\$63,661	\$49,861	\$13,800
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold	21,371	14,380	6,991
POS Inventory Adjustment	(650)		(650)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$20,721	\$14,380	\$6,341
GROSS PROFIT	\$42,940	\$35,481	\$7,459
Expenditures			
Accounting Services	2,400	2,400	0
Computer Expense	1,440	1,508	(68)
Credit Card Fees	1,197	645	552
Insurance - Health	1,721	1,648	73
Insurance - Liability	1,083	1,117	(34)
Insurance - Worker's Comp		1,053	(1,053)
Newsletter Expense	203	100	103
Office Expense	3,563	3,000	563
Payroll Expenses	18,631	18,684	(53)
Rent	6,081	6,080	1
Storage	721	712	9
Utilities	2,507	2,282	225
Total Expenditures	\$39,548	\$39,229	\$319
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$3,392	\$ (3,748)	\$7,140
NET REVENUE	\$3,392	\$ (3,748)	\$7,140

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

October 2021

	TOTAL	
	OCT 2021	JUL - OCT, 2021 (YTD)
164 Group - WED - Palm Springs	131.95	131.95
3-7-11 Step Meeting #681237		129.00
3rd & 11th Step - SUN Palm Desert		15.00
5th Tradition Dinner Meet Desert Hot Springs		150.00
9am Staying Connected (Zoom)	351.29	1,504.41
Alano Club Palm Springs	300.00	1,092.00
All My Friends	54.00	54.00
Anonymous No Group Given	2,069.00	5,624.31
Attitude Adjustment-M-F P.D. Santa Fe Square	199.00	223.65
Attitude Adjustment-M-S , Palm Desert PDCC	1,138.00	1,274.00
Birthday Contributions	57.00	225.18
Black Sheep Group		444.75
CDM Men's Stag-TUE		314.00
Central Intergroup Cathedral City		83.00
Covert IHOP Mon. Mens Stag	74.11	148.11
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	411.32	2,534.75
DCYPAA All Valley Young People's		50.00
Desert Men's Big Book Stu Palm Desert	80.00	395.00
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert		100.00
Female Friends Yucca Valley		160.00
Happy Hour Book Study Palm Desert	35.00	35.00
IHOP Overflow Mon. Men's Stag		200.00
Jaywalkers Men's Stag Palm Desert		127.50
Just the Black Print Big Rancho Mirage	257.70	636.70
Living Sober Group-Joshua Tree		100.00
Living Sober Palm Springs 146975	100.15	100.15
Meditation Meeting 1000 Palms		172.00
Men's Mauraders Palm Desert		200.00
Monday Night Traditions		87.00
No Matter What Group		100.00
No Rules La Quinta	1,050.00	1,050.00
Over 50 12&12 Step Study	121.75	121.75
Palm Desert 7 AM Attitude Adj. 122976		546.00
PAIm Desert Keep It Simple		116.00
Palm Desert Q & A - 10 AM		5,000.00
Palm Desert Saturday Speaker's		100.00
Road Runners Bermuda Dunes		220.00
Rock Bottom-THUR Twentynine Palms		30.00
Rock Bottom-TUE Twentynine Palms		20.00
Round Table Serenity Group		300.00
Santa Rosa Big Book Thump Coachella		479.00
Sisters Under the Skin Palm Springs		300.00
Smoking Jackelope Men Stag		100.00

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

October 2021

	TOTAL	
	OCT 2021	JUL - OCT, 2021 (YTD)
Sober Divas	150.00	375.00
Solid Solutions- TUE		213.00
Spirituality in Recovery 258223	110.50	151.50
Step Sisters Palm Desert		176.50
Stepping Stones Palm Desert	137.00	137.00
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study	111.00	111.00
Sunday Serenity Group		147.42
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition Group	663.78	2,629.95
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	57.38	262.59
Sunset Group La Quinta Park	45.61	275.31
The First 164 Pages	382.00	382.00
Thurs. 7PM Attitude Adj.	145.00	145.00
Tuesday Zoomers Step Study	50.00	50.00
Twilight Step Study 126569 Palm Desert		71.50
We're Not Really Here		248.00
Wed Nite Women's Discussion Heritage Palms	100.00	200.00
Women's Voices		1,317.00
Yerba Santa Round Table Top Discussion	330.85	330.85
TOTAL	\$8,713.39	\$32,017.83

CELEBRATING

**The life
of Nicolas Theodore
and his *51 years*
of Service to our A.A.
Fellowship**



Sunday, December 19th 2021 @ the ABC Recovery Center Cafeteria

444274 Palm St. Indio, CA 92201

Breakfast will be served 9:00 AM-10:30 AM Followed @ 11:00 AM by an A.A. Speaker Meeting

The Speaker is to be Jim H. from Chicago Ill.