



the Desert Lifeline

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 107
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
760.324.4851

Web site: www.AAintheDesert.org



manager@aaainthedesert.org
chairman@aaainthedesert.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

Now meeting on Zoom
Meeting I.D. 928 8170 4093
Password: 642408

(When in-person again: 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
www.coachellavalleyhandi.org

Mid-Southern California Area (MSCA)

PO Box, 51446, Irvine CA 92619-1446
Web site: www.msca09aa.org

General Service Office New York

Contribution Mailing address
Post Office Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407
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, 2:15PM
Joshua Tree Fellowship Hall
6430 Park Blvd.
Joshua Tree, CA 92252
Mailing Address: P O Box 1692
Yucca Valley, CA 92286-1692

Step

Made direct amends to such
people wherever possible, except
when to do so would injure them
or others.

Tradition

A.A., as such, ought never be
organized; but we may create
service boards or committees
directly responsible to those
they serve.

Concept

Good service leadership at all
levels is indispensable for our
future functioning and safety.
Primary world service leadership,
once exercised by the founders,
must necessarily be assumed
by the trustees.

N
I
N
E

Principle Nine

Forgiveness; pardon; disposition or willingness to
forgive.

June Office Statistics

Meeting Info	26
12 Step Calls	1
Visitors	33
Literature Sales	166
Al-Anon	2
Other 12 Step	1
Miscellaneous	54
Business	2
Zoom Attendance	51

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

**Chairman: Alyssa C.
Vice Chairman: Daphne F.
Treasurer: Kathy F.
Secretary: Blake H.**

Directors

**Alex K.
Kenneth J.
Bill T.
Samantha W.
Cyndi Y.**

**Desert Lifeline Editors: Nikki J. & Anna R.
Office Manager: David M.**

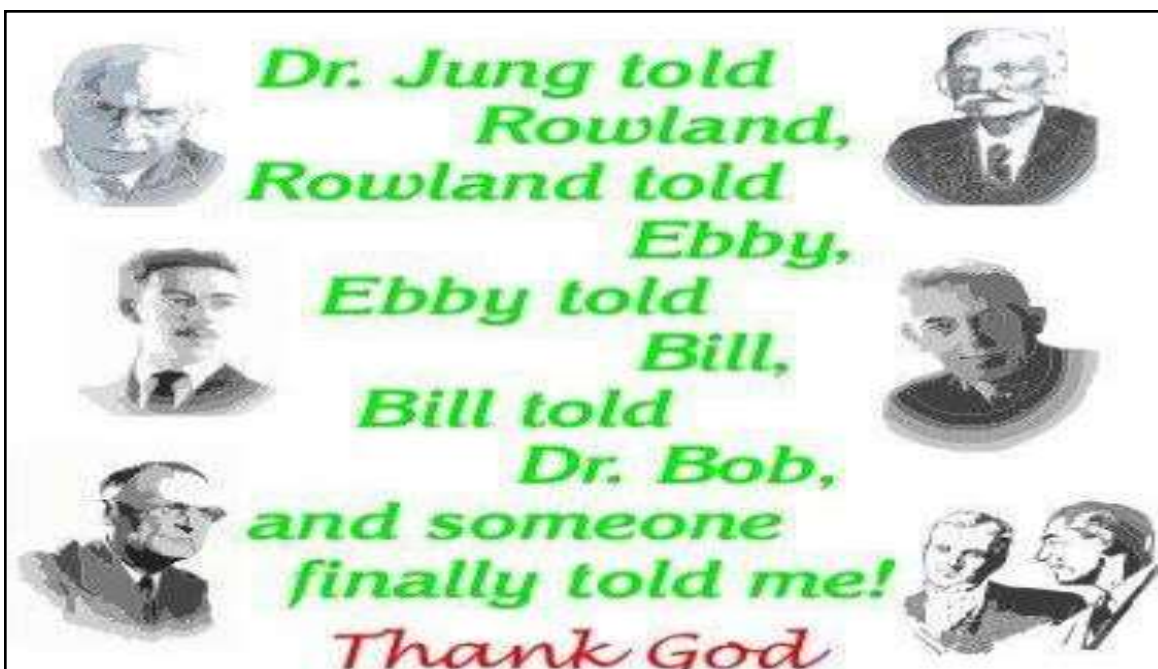
**Want to get the Desert Lifeline
delivered directly to you
via email each month??
Well..... you can! Just go to
the Central Office web site,
www.aainthedesert.org, and
follow the link to sign up!
It's just that easy!!
And It's FREE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Letters to the Editor or Articles for the De-
sert 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 107,
Cathedral City, CA 92234.

E-mail: manager@AAinthesdesert.org



Tradition Nine

A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

What a bunch of anarchists!! We have no rules for the individual to speak of, "The only requirement for membership is a "desire to stop drinking".

Service boards and committees?? I am SO tempted to get on my soapbox. I have seen so many people complain about the way a meeting is run, but do I see them at a group conscience where such things are discussed? Everyone is invited and welcomed. Why not attend??

Service boards and committees are a necessity and I have been of service on several. There are a lot of dedicated people in this program who give a great deal of time and effort to make things work. If you are unhappy about the way things are, just get involved. Your voice will be heard.

On a national level, the "General Service Office" is always there to offer suggestions and answer questions but even they realize that they're limited to that.

Every group is autonomous and has to deal with their own issues. We are free to call ourselves "A.A." as long as we honor the traditions and stick to our primary purpose— "To stay sober and help other Alcoholics achieve sobriety".

We are free to be whatever we want to be, but if we want to be "Alcoholics Anonymous" we have to realize our limitations. This disease is enough for any twelve step program to deal with.

Randy H., Thursday Night Big Book, Yucca Valley

September Speaker Meetings

Sobriety Capital of the World 44359 Palm St. Indio, CA 92201

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

09/02	- Doug R.	Tujunga, CA
09/09	- Rick M.	La Quinta CA
09/16	- Carol M.	Orange County
09/23	- Joey G.	Los Angeles, CA
09/30	- Tom P.	Dana Point, CA

Palm Desert Group - Fellowship Hall, 45-940 Portola Ave. Palm Desert CA 92260

Saturday Night, 8:00 p.m.

09/03	- Alana D.	Palm Springs
09/10	- Stephen S.	Cathedral City
09/17	- Mike R..	Marina Del Rey
09/24	- Susan R.	Palm Springs

Faithful Disease

I hate your meetings and your Higher Power. I hate anyone who works a program. To all who come in contact with me, I wish suffering and death.

Who am I, you ask? I am your faithful disease. I have seven strong and helpful attributes. In addition to being Cunning, Baffling and Powerful, I am also Progressive, Patient, Permanent and - above all - Faithful!! That is ME, aren't I wonderful? I have killed millions and am very pleased. I just love to catch you with the element of surprise. I love pretending I am your friend and lover. Haven't I given you comfort? Wasn't I there when you were lonely? When you wanted to die, did you not call on me? I was there for you, always ever so faithful. I love to make you hurt and cry. For me, it is true glory when you can't feel anything at all. I will give you instant gratification, and all I ask of you is lifelong suffering. I've always been here for you. When things were going right in your life, you invited me to join in the celebration. When you said you didn't deserve these good things, I was the only one that agreed with you. Together, we were able to destroy all of these good things, especially family.

Yet, you people don't take me seriously at all. Instead, you take strokes, heart attacks and even diabetes more seriously. Fools that you are, don't you know that without my help, these things would not be possible?

I am such a hated disease, and yet I never come uninvited. You choose to have me, and like so many, you have chosen me over serenity and peace.

More than you hate me, I hate all who work and live a Twelve Step program. Your program, meetings and Higher Power weaken me, and I cannot function in the manner that I am accustomed. When you are working your program, I must lie patiently. You don't see me, but I am permanently here, growing bigger and stronger every day.

Don't LIVE and take your sobriety seriously, because I am taking you DEAD...serious.

Faithfully,
Your Disease

July 2022

Happy Birthday



Duane H.
Scott U.

21 yr.
22 yr.

Audrey O.
Morgan A.
Sheri P.

32 yr.
34 yr.
34 yr.



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

Step 9

Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Earlier in the program of AA we began living the third step prayer and asked to be relieved of the bondage of self. Living the ninth step is the practical, mechanical, physical mechanism by which those bonds are removed. It is guilt, shame, secrets, resentments and regret that empower the deeds and words of our sick past to control us today. The ninth step directs us to stand up, be accountable and in turn be freed of those defects. Many of us read things into this step that aren't there, such as looking for forgiveness or acceptance. It's more about making us acceptable to ourselves than to anyone else. Sure, some relationships will be repaired, but it is the relationship with ourselves that is the one that we are working on here. "The Promises" await us and will come, quickly or slowly.

Rob L
Serenity Group, Cinemas Palme D'Or, Palm Desert

Concept Nine

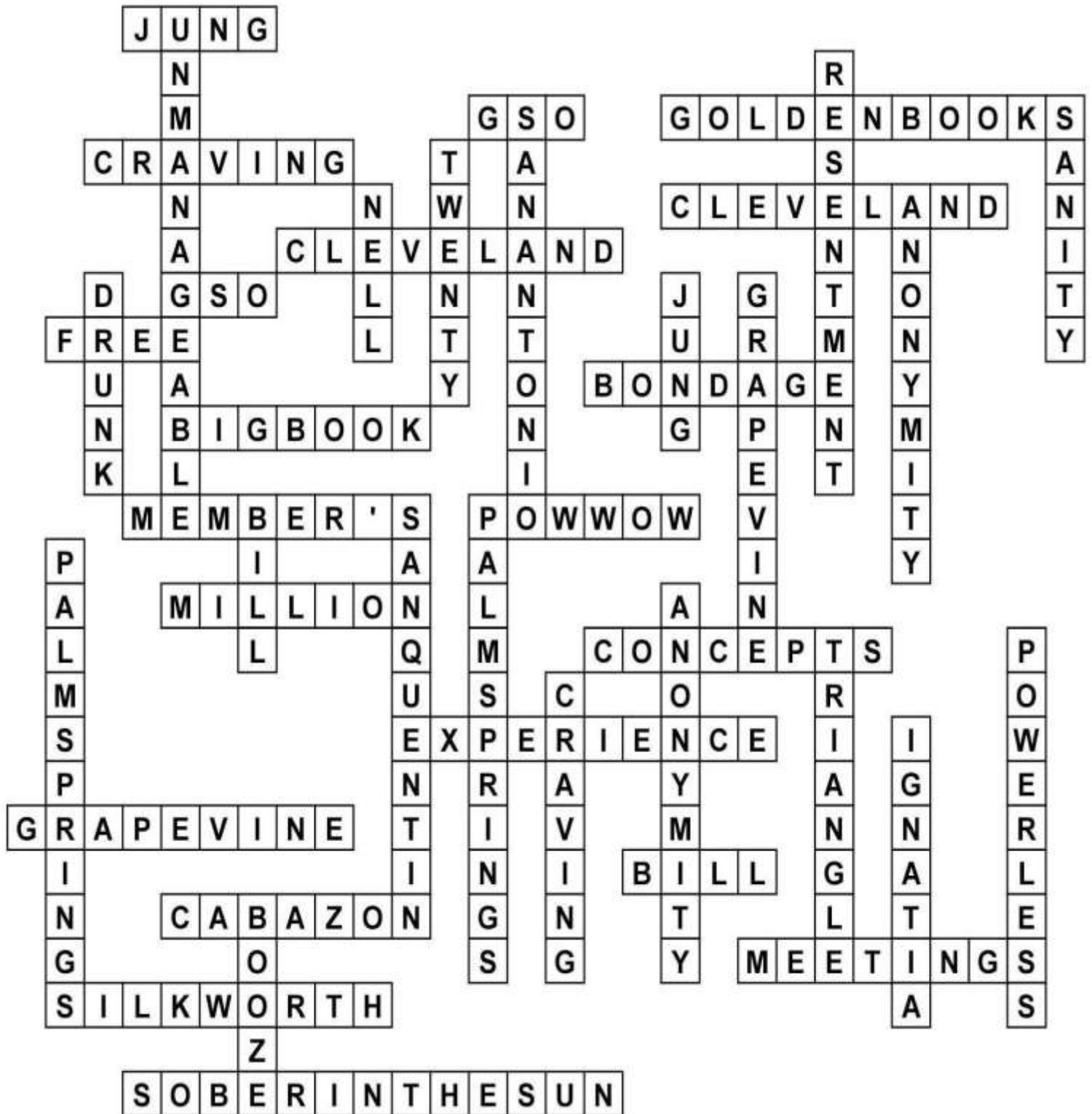
Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

No matter how carefully we design our service structure of principles and relationships, no matter how well we apportion authority and responsibility, operating results of our structure can be no better than the personal performance of those who must man it and make it work. Good leadership can hardly function well in a poorly designed structure. Weak leadership can hardly function at all, even in the best of structures. But once we have created a basically sound structure, that job is finished, except for occasional refinements.

With *leadership* we shall have a continuous problem. Good leadership can be here today and gone tomorrow. Furnishing our service structure with able and willing workers has to be a continuous activity. When making choices of G.S.R.'s, the A.A. groups should therefore have such facts well in mind. It ought to be remembered *that it is only the G.S.R.'s* who, in group meetings (or in caucus) can name committee members and finally name the delegates. **Groups who name no G.S.R.'s should be encouraged to do so.**

John E
Alkies Only, Palm Desert

August Puzzle Solution



July Volunteers at Central Office

Ali G.

**Brian C.
Bob B.
Dean B.**

Thank You !!

Thank You !!

**Amelia F.
Anna R.**

**James F.
Jody B.
John C.
Joy**

**Julie H.
Mark L.
Nikki J.**

**Sean G.
Shari S.
Steven St. L.
Vicky P.
Wanda H.**

An Education in the Art of Living

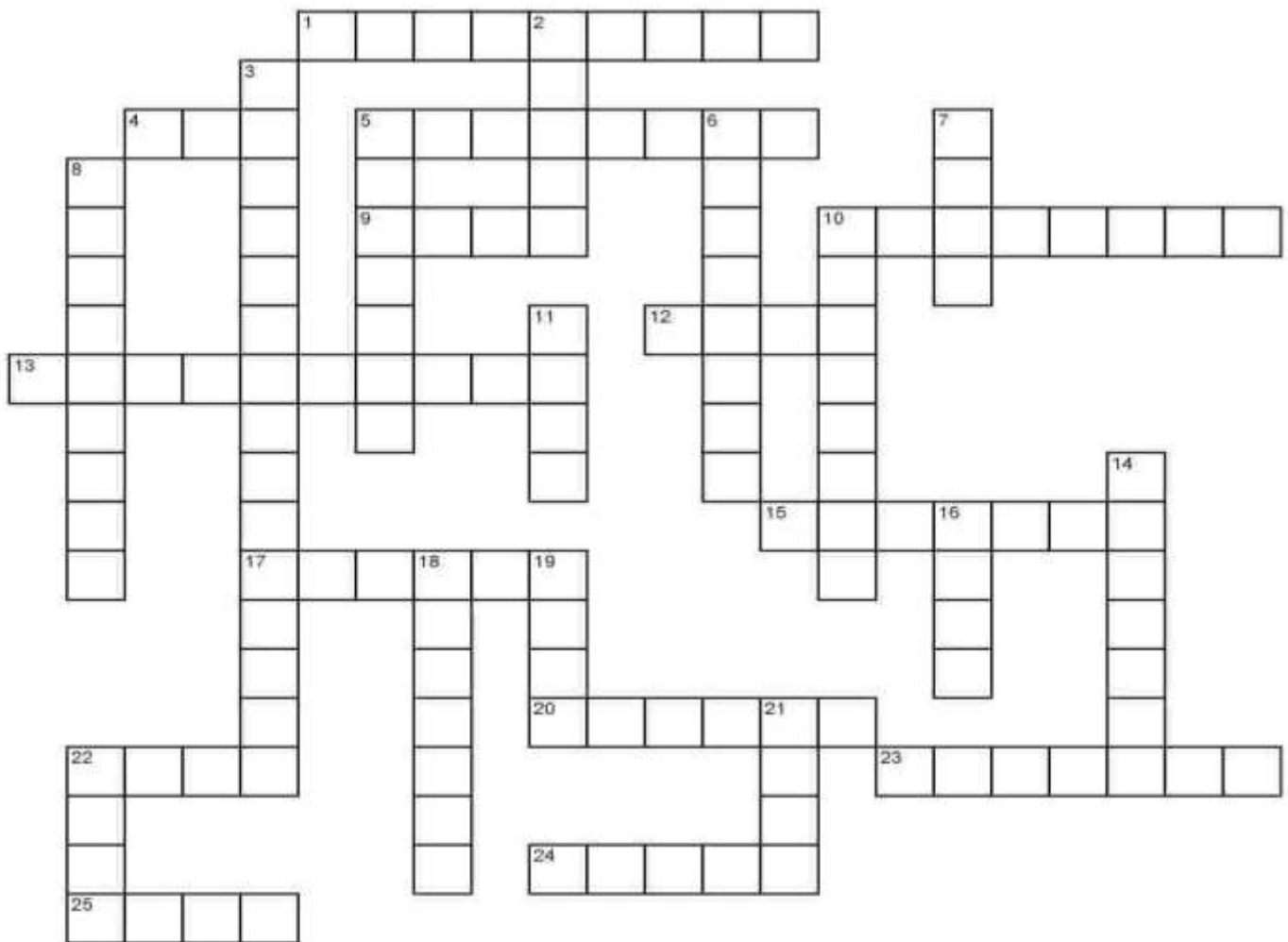
Sharing Our Experience, Strength, and Hope
By Rick R

For the newcomer, the first 164 pages of the Big Book contain the framework of how to overcome the disaster of a life consumed by Alcoholism. As I drank myself into the corner of life and ran out of options, I desperately searched for answers. Something told me to try Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and there I found People who had overcome most of the troubling issues of life. Each chapter in the Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous) has a certain subject, and they try to explain specific areas of our lives where we could improve our thoughts and behaviors. It seems that if we did what they suggested in those 164 pages everything would be fine with us alcoholics; but wait! Next, they published The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (12&12) to give more amplifying information as to how to incorporate the steps into our daily lives. As I continued to progress in the program it caused me to seek a vastly more serious understanding of the depth of this disease and how serious my symptoms were.

The first 164 pages just scratched the surface, but they gave me a challenge as to what degree of commitment I would pursue as I began to uncover defect after defect in a Thousand Facets of my sick mentality. Fear, insecurity, and my EGO dogged my every step and as I become strong enough to overcome my Ego-driven approach to these issues, my Conscience started getting a foothold. It motivated me to dig deeper yet and pursue a life based on unselfish Principles and to abandon the faulty thinking of the past. As I continued to grow, I had to come to terms with the understanding of a Power greater than myself and I was encouraged to read a book by Emmet Fox entitled "The Sermon on the Mount". He has been considered by many to be an inspiration that the founders of the A. A. program incorporated into the Spiritual Solution to the doubters like me. His book removed all those doubts.

Next, I had to learn how to become a good Husband, Father, Friend, Coworker, and so on. As we share our experiences with each other we are in the state of learning how to solve those Thousand Facets of our sick mentality. My wife came home from an Al Anon meeting, in my early years of sobriety, all excited about the topic of "Examining our Motives. That one little statement changed my entire way of thinking about my behavioral problems. Selfishness---Self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles. (BB pg.62) If selfishness is the root, (motive) then unselfishness is the obvious solution. That simple understanding set, in place, a habit of living by unselfish motives and as a result, I am not ashamed of anything I do today. I have a clear conscience, and it is so much easier than I thought it would be. It does not say generous, it just says unselfish. DUH! The world is full of supporting information concerning all the facets of the different mental troubles the alcoholic is faced with when seeking answers. When we use the word, Love, I thought it was a feeling, but I found a version of Love in a book by Scott Peck's, "The Road less Traveled", that defines Love as: Caring for and Nurturing another Person's Soul. It is an *action* word, and I can Love everyone even if they do not love me back by wanting the best for them and offering my help. Using these examples is my way of encouraging everyone who finds it difficult to experience the quiet satisfaction that they expect to receive from the program, to find the answers by looking deeper into the subject and seek out the answers that help you to set, in place those unselfish Principles and Habits which lead to, as an old friend refers to as, "Peace of Mind and a Quiet Heart".

September Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Where Dr. Bob went to college
- 4 New York offices
- 5 "Home Brewmeister"
- 9 "He Thought He Could Drink Like a Gentleman"
- 10 Dr. Bob's middle name
- 12 Bill's longtime secretary
- 13 First prison to hold a meeting (2 words)
- 15 Freedom From
- 17 Author of "The Keys of the Kingdom"
- 20 "A Flower of the South"
- 22 Swiss psychiatrist
- 23 Little Angel of A.A.
- 24 "From Farm to City"
- 25 Bill's sponsor

DOWN

- 2 "Women Suffer Too"
- 3 Original company that published the Big Book (2 words)
- 5 it is a phenomenon
- 6 This is prior to investigation
- 7 As He Sees It
- 8 Author of the March 1, 1941 article in the Saturday Evening Post
- 10 Dr. Bob's middle name
- 11 Dr. Bob's wife's name
- 14 State where Dr. Bob was born
- 16 "The Car Smasher"
- 18 State where Bill W was born
- 19 Dr. Bob's wife
- 21 "He Sold Himself Short"
- 22 The month that AA was "born"

The Speed of Life

The Bad Days are But Distant Memories

By Rick R.

I am seven years old and every adult in my immediate environment is drinking daily and it is not hard for me to get a taste of beer, (if I wanted one), but I do not necessarily like the taste, so no problem.

I am ten years old, and beer is beginning to taste better but still not my favorite, but a little sip of whiskey, now and then, tastes O.K. but it is harder to get the adults to give it up.

I am thirteen years old, and my friend and I talk an old drunk into buying us a few quarts of beer, and we commence to get drunk for the first time in our lives, and *now I know why* all those adults drink this stuff every night. I was giddy, sloppy, stupid, sick, and eventually unconscious. I woke up the next morning and went off to school with a nasty hangover. I was in the eighth grade at that time. Still, it was no problem.

From that time on my mind was consumed with thoughts of how I was going to repeat *that wonderful experience*. As I started high-school I worked in a bowling alley from six pm till ten thirty pm, setting up pins (in the old days) and when we got off, we would go straight to a sleazy bar where we could get someone to buy beer for us. From there, we would go to an abandoned school building and drink till all the beer was gone, get into fist fights with each other, wake up the next morning with black eyes, skinned up knuckles and elbows, go back to school and come up with some ridiculous story about what had happened.

I am sixteen years old, and I am allowed to party with the adults and shortly after getting my driver's license, I am asked to drive someone home, and on the return trip, I missed a turn and smashed into a parked car. I continue to drink unabated. I quit school in May of my senior year with almost no resistance, Join the navy in August of that same year, locked up for gang fighting, have my second drunk driving accident when I drive into a gas station and hit a car at the pump. I continue this kind of behavior for ten more years and am lucky to have survived after more trips to jail, failed marriage, broken bones, cuts and bruises and broken relations with everyone that means anything to me.

I am twenty-eight years old, surrender and show up at A.A. coming out of a blackout. I am greeted on the front lawn of a little yellow house in the suburbs that is being used to hold meetings, by three people who welcome this stranger with opened arms as though they are expecting me. They began to listen patiently to my tales of woe, nodding as they seem to understand. Their eyes are soft and gentle, and I feel their compassion.

At the early age of twenty-eight, I believed my life was over but, one of them says "*life isn't passing you by near as fast as you think it is*" and they say, *come inside and have a cup of coffee*. They were right; I had a profound change of perception.

From that moment on I have never wanted a drink and all those bad days are but distant memory. My hope is that all who arrive at the doors of A.A. can be accepted with the same love and kindness that I experienced. I have been sober Fifty-two years;

I am eighty years old and on my way to *one hundred +* and life is good.

Book of the month

\$8.00

\$8.00

Big Book (Large Print)

Normally \$9.50 - this month \$8.00

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.

Softcover 7" x 10.25" 608 pages Large Print

17TH ANNUAL JOE BENITEZ DESERT MEN'S BANQUET

“CAME TO BELIEVE”

Sunday, November 6th, 2022

Fantasy Springs Resort-Casino

Indio, Ca.

Exit: Golf Center Parkway, East on 1-10

4 pm - Meet & Greet

5 pm - Dinner/6:30 pm - Speaker

\$50.00 per person / \$500.00 per table

Reservations must be in no later than Oct. 24th 2022

For more information, please contact:

Al S. 310-344-1210

John E. 760-272-8449

David H. 719-859-3200

For Tables, Please include at least one reservation form.

Make Checks Payable to: Desert Men's Banquet

Mail to: 78-138 Calle Norte, La Quinta, Ca. 92253

GRATITUDE DINNER 2022

SPEAKER MEETING

SATURDAY
November 12th, 2022



Save The Date

***Food is to be catered by
J's Deli Palm Desert***

Home-Made Desserts from
the Fellowship
Tickets available at meetings, or at
Your Central Office.

**Speaker: Nancy N.
from Tujunga, CA**

**Tickets
35.00**

Ticket Sales begin Sept. 1st.

ROOM LIMITED TO MAXIMUM SALES OF 400 TICKETS!

Service Opportunities, we need your help!!

Anyone interested in participating can call Central Office 760.324.4880

Or Email: GratitudeDinner@aainthedesert.org

Chair: Samantha W.

5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

5:00 PM – Doors open

6:00 PM – Dinner served

7:00 PM – Speaker Meeting

**Club Shenandoah Springs
32700 Desert Moon Dr.
Thousand Palms, CA 92276**



DCYPAA ELECTIONS ARE BACK



**WE'VE DISBANDED AND NOW
WE'RE BACK!**

All positions are open and available!
Be a part of the best committee in the west.
Service, sobriety, and a dang good time!

POTLUCK

POTLUCK

POTLUCK

DATE :

09.11.2022

TIME :

2 PM - 6 PM

LOCATION

Fellowship Hall

WEBSITE

dcypaa.org

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: 748-100-091

DCYPAA.ORG | DCYPAA@DCYPAA.ORG



**Meet the Board
Refreshments**

Unveiling of our new sign

**4711 E Palm Canyon Dr
Suite B Palm Springs CA 92264**

sunnydunes.org

A Non-profit 501 (c)(3) Corporation

Speeding

The State trooper pulled over a car for speeding, and walked up to the driver to get his license and registration. "Do you realize you were going 75 miles an hour in a 60 mile an hour zone?" "Well, officer, I was only speeding up just to pass the truck that was going slow in the right lane." His wife says "That's not true, Charlie, you've been driving that fast since we left home." "Shut up woman", says the husband. "And you were not wearing your seat belt, either" said the trooper. "Well, officer, I had just undone it to reach over and get my registration out of the glove compartment." The wife says "Charlie, you haven't been wearing the seat belt since we left home. You never do." "Damn it, I said shut up". The trooper hears this and walks over the the passenger side and asks the wife "Does he always talk to you like that?" "Oh no," she says, "only when he's been drinking."

Robert B.





Central Intergroup Office of the Desert
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 Phoenix, AZ 85018-1500
 (602) 998-1500
 www.centralintergroup.org

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Statement of Activity

July 2022

PROFIT AND LOSS

-\$2,246

Net income for July

\$13,311

Income

\$15,557

Expenses

	TOTAL	
	JUL 2022	JUL 2022 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	5,100	5,100
Interest Income	0	0
Sales	8,211	8,211
Total Revenue	\$13,311	\$13,311
Cost of Goods Sold	\$5,728	\$5,728
GROSS PROFIT	\$7,583	\$7,583
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	800	800
Computer Expense	410	410
Credit Card Fees	238	238
Insurance - Health	463	463
Insurance - Liability	278	278
Office Expense	634	634
Payroll Expenses	4,513	4,513
Rent	1,566	1,566
Storage	218	218
Utilities	709	709
Total Expenditures	\$9,830	\$9,830
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ (2,246)	\$ (2,246)
NET REVENUE	\$ (2,246)	\$ (2,246)



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 www.centralintergroup.org

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Budget vs. Actuals: CIO Budget - FY23 P&L

July 2022

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	5,100	5,008	92
Interest Income	0	0	0
Sales	8,211	6,271	1,940
Total Revenue	\$13,311	\$11,279	\$2,032
Cost of Goods Sold	\$5,728	\$3,308	\$2,420
GROSS PROFIT	\$7,583	\$7,971	\$ (388)
Expenditures			
Accounting Services	800	800	0
Computer Expense	410	400	10
Credit Card Fees	238	169	69
Insurance - Health	463	465	(2)
Insurance - Liability	278	287	(9)
Newsletter Expense		150	(150)
Office Expense	634	750	(116)
Payroll Expenses	4,513	4,513	(0)
Plant Expenditures		200	(200)
Rent	1,566	1,566	(0)
Storage	218	218	0
Utilities	709	703	6
Total Expenditures	\$9,830	\$10,221	\$ (391)
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ (2,246)	\$ (2,250)	\$4
NET REVENUE	\$ (2,246)	\$ (2,250)	\$4



"Joining AA was an excellent move, Fenton. But let's not overdo the 'easy does it'!"

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

July 2022

	TOTAL	
	JUL 2022	JUL 2022 (YTD)
12 & 12 La Quinta Library Wed Noon	72.11	72.11
24 Hours a Day	61.50	61.50
5th Tradition 7AM Attitude Adjustment Group	765.53	765.53
9am Staying Connected (Zoom)	276.00	276.00
Anonymous No Group Given	399.00	399.00
As Bill Sees It -10AM-M Fel. Hall P.D.	69.00	69.00
Attitude Adjustment-M-F P.D. Santa Fe Square	93.00	93.00
Attitude Adjustment-M-S , Palm Desert PDCC	130.00	130.00
Birthday Contributions	100.00	100.00
Central Intergroup Cathedral City	16.80	16.80
Covert IHOP Mon. Mens Stag	50.00	50.00
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	236.47	236.47
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert	85.80	85.80
Great Events Yucca Valley	200.00	200.00
Happy Hour Group Sunny Dunes	300.00	300.00
Jaywalkers Men's Stag Palm Desert	140.00	140.00
Last Call Group	106.22	106.22
No Matter What Group	37.50	37.50
No Rules La Quinta	228.81	228.81
Over 50 12&12 Step Study	207.03	207.03
Palm Desert 7 AM Attitude Adj. 122976	161.00	161.00
Rule 62 THU Noon	150.00	150.00
Rush Hour Group	185.00	185.00
Serenity Seekers Palm Desert	120.00	120.00
Spiritual Awakening in A.A.	263.00	263.00
Stepping Stones Palm Desert 81054	90.00	90.00
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study	81.00	81.00
Sunday Serenity Group	51.42	51.42
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	44.55	44.55
Sunset Group La Quinta Park	55.68	55.68
The First 164 Pages	208.38	208.38
Vets for Vets Palm Desert	65.00	65.00
Wednesday Night Serenity 600735	50.00	50.00
TOTAL	\$5,099.80	\$5,099.80