



the Desert Lifeline

November 2022

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@aainthedesert.org
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

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.

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

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.

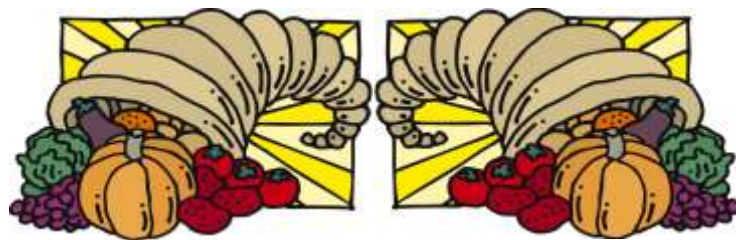
Tradition

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	40
12 Step Calls	0
Visitors	33
Literature Sales	200
Al-Anon	1
Other 12 Step	0
Miscellaneous	57
Business	2
Zoom Attendance	84

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. & John C.
Office Manager: David M.

September 2022



Sean G.



8 yr.



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

A Belated 50 year Birthday Celebration

Luther W.

Who 's Sobriety Date is Aug. 15 1972

His legendary dedication and leadership in our local Fellowship inspires all who are fortunate enough to share time with him!

Traditions Checklist

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.

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem *unattractive*?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

Dear Child of Mine;

You said you were willing to go to any length. The first requirement is that you be convinced that your life run on self-will can hardly be a success. You will always be in collision with someone or something, even though your motives are good. There is no way to entirely rid yourself without My help. You have to have My help. I am your director, I am your Father and you are My child. This is the keystone of the new and triumphant arch through which your will passed to freedom/ you need to rid the things in your life which have been blocking you. Ask Me to save you from being angry. I will show you how to take a kindly and tolerant view of each and everyone. Resolutely look for your own mistakes, where were you are to blame? Fear somehow touches every aspect of your life. You once had great self-*confidence, but it didn't solve your fear problem or* anything else. When it made you cocky, it was worse. Perhaps there is a better way. Ask Me to remove your fear and direct your attention to what I would have you be. Make a list of the people you have hurt by your conduct, and are willing to straighten out that past; I will remove whatever self-will that has blocked you off from Me.

Love God

(words from the Big Book Chapter 5)

\$7.00

Book of the month

\$7.00

“Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions”

(Hard Cover)

The “Twelve and Twelve” contains 12 essays by Bill W. that expand upon each of the Steps — the A.A. program of recovery — with helpful examples and personal insights, and another 12 that explain how the Traditions protect the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous.

\$7.00

Normally \$8.90- this month \$7.00

\$7.00

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!"

September Volunteers at Central Office

Allison S.
Amelia F.

Dean B.
Dominik L.

Thank You !!

Thank You !!

Anna R.
Bob B.

James F.
Jim B.
Jody B.
John B.

John C.
Julie H.
Forrest P.
Mark L.

Morgan S.
Nikki J.
Sean G.
Steven St. L.
Vicky P.

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

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

Have you an Honest Desire to Stop Drinking?

If alcohol is a problem to you and if the "Twenty Questions" have convinced you that you are an alcoholic, perhaps you will say, "Yes, but I can't stop for several days." When you are in pain it is not easy to stop.

All of us who are new members of Alcoholics Anonymous find it hard to stop for a few days. "I can take it," or "I have it done," we say to ourselves. But the truth is that we are not able to stop for several days and we are really not in a position where we can stop for several days.

We define an alcoholic as one who has lost the ability to control his or her drinking, one whose drinking disturbs his or her business, family or social life and who can not stop for long, even though he may want to. We regard alcoholism as an illness, an addiction of the mind coupled with an illness of the body.

If you honestly desire to stop drinking, Alcoholics Anonymous can help you. The A.A. program really works. It has already helped millions who suffered from the terribly destructive disease of alcoholism.

What is Alcoholics Anonymous?

Alcoholics Anonymous, known as A.A., has been founded by two men who had a great need to stop drinking. They were both doctors. One was a physician and the other was a lawyer. They were both men of great ability and they were both men of great faith. They were both men of great love and they were both men of great courage.

Are you an Alcoholic?

To answer this question, ask yourself the following questions and answer them as honestly as you can.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Do you have time from work due to drinking? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Is drinking making your home life unhappy? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Do you drink because you are shy with other people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Is drinking affecting your reputation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Have you ever felt nervous after drinking? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Have you gotten into financial difficulties as a result of drinking? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Do you have to drink to get to sleep? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

How Can A.A. Help Me to Stop Drinking?

Here are some suggestions which have helped many thousands of A.A. members to stop drinking.

Admit that you are an alcoholic. This is the first step and the most important.

Have an honest desire to stop drinking.

Read the book, "Alcoholics Anonymous." As soon as possible. Also read the A.A. literature.

Attend every meeting of your A.A. group. Do this at least once a week, make this your number one duty, ahead of every other business, family or social responsibility. Remember your drinking came first before any A.A. meetings came first.

Bring your spouse, other close relative, or friend to an A.A. meeting.

Search out in an A.A. newcomer who needs help and try to help him or her as you have been helped yourself.

Talk and associate with other A.A. members as much as possible. Ask questions freely. Remember, however, personal disclosures to fellow members are confidential.

The Twenty Questions

???

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert
Alcoholics Anonymous
35-325 Date Palm Dr., Suite 107
Cathedral City, CA 92234
(760) 324-4880
www.aainthedesert.org

WELCOME NEWCOMER PACKAGE

Need help? Someone to talk to?
Call someone on the list below.
They want to help!

NAME:

PHONE:

This is our
Newcomer Packet
envelope in English

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert

35-325 Date Palm Dr., Suite 107

Cathedral City, CA 92234

(760) 324-4880

9:00am-8:00pm Mon-Fri

10:00am-2:00pm Sat. & Sun.

www.aainthedesert.org

This is a new
version of
our 20
Questions
Pamphlet in
English

Over the last few years, the local Spanish Speaking Fellowship has reached out to this office for books and literature. In response, we have doubled the library of AAW Spanish language inventory, and included the local list of Spanish speaking meetings on our website which synchronizes regularly with the "Meeting Guide" App. This month, we launch a new inventory item:

(Paquette de Bienvenida Para Recién Llegados)

A Newcomer Packet for the Spanish speaking meetings. It contains the same documents translated by AAWS or this office.

¿Tiene usted un deseo honesto de dejar de beber?

Si el alcohol es un problema para usted y si las Veinte Preguntas le han convencido de que usted es un alcoholista, tal vez diga: "Sí, pero no puedo dejar de beber por varios días." Cuando usted está en dolor, no es fácil dejar de beber.

Definimos a un alcoholista como alguien que ha perdido la capacidad de controlar su consumo de alcohol, alguien cuyo comportamiento, su vida social, su vida profesional, su vida familiar o su vida en general se ve afectada por su consumo de alcohol. Definimos a un alcoholista como alguien que no puede dejar de beber por varios días y que necesita ayuda para dejar de beber.

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¿Qué es Alcoholics Anonymous?

Alcoholics Anonymous, conocido como A.A., fue fundada por dos hombres que tenían una gran necesidad de dejar de beber. Eran ambos médicos. Uno era un médico y el otro era un abogado. Eran ambos hombres de gran capacidad y eran ambos hombres de gran fe. Eran ambos hombres de gran amor y eran ambos hombres de gran coraje.

¿Eres Alcohólico?

Para responder a esta pregunta, responda las siguientes preguntas y responda tan honestamente como pueda.

- | | Si | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. ¿Puede alguna de sus responsabilidades de trabajo debido a la bebida? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. ¿La bebida hace infeliz su vida hogareña? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. ¿Cree que bebe porque es tímido con otras personas? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. ¿La bebida está afectando su reputación? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. ¿Alguna vez ha sentido nerviosismo después de beber? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. ¿Ha tenido dificultades financieras como resultado de la bebida? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. ¿Recuerda a compañeros de trabajo o a un amigo infeliz cuando bebe? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

¿Cómo puede A.A. ayudarme a dejar de beber?

Hay algunas sugerencias que han ayudado a miles de miembros de A.A. a dejar de beber.

Admita que es alcoholista. Este es el primer paso y el más importante.

Admita que tiene un deseo honesto de dejar de beber.

Lea el libro, "Alcoholics Anonymous." Tan pronto como sea posible. También lea la literatura de A.A.

Asista a todas las reuniones de su grupo de A.A. Haga esto al menos una vez a la semana. Haga de esto su deber número uno, por delante de cualquier otra responsabilidad profesional, familiar o social. Recuerde que su forma de beber ha precedido a cualquier otra actividad de A.A.

Traga a su esposa, otro pariente cercano o amigo a una reunión de A.A.

Conéctese con un miembro de A.A. Busque a alguien que necesite ayuda y trate de ayudarlo como usted ha sido ayudado. Recuerde que su forma de beber ha precedido a cualquier otra actividad de A.A.

¿Eres Alcohólico?

Para responder a esta pregunta, responda las siguientes preguntas y responda tan honestamente como pueda.

- | | Si | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 8. ¿La forma de beber le hace dudar de su familia? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. ¿Ha disminuido su rendimiento de trabajo desde que bebe? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. ¿Se le acorta una bebida a una hora de trabajo o de estudio? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. ¿Quiere un trago a la mañana siguiente? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. ¿Bebe la noche anterior para dormir? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. ¿Ha disminuido su rendimiento de trabajo desde que bebe? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. ¿Bebe en situaciones de peligro o riesgo? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. ¿Bebe para ocupar el tiempo libre o para olvidar problemas? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. ¿Bebe solo? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Las Veinte Preguntas

???

Alcoholics Anonymous del Valle de Coachella
4116 DATE PALM DR., SUITE 17
CATHEDRAL CITY, CA 92234
(760) 895-1361
www.aaintcoachella.org

PAQUETE DE BIENVENIDA PARA RECIÉN LLEGADOS

¿Necesitas ayuda? ¿Alguien con quien hablar?
Llame a alguien en la lista a continuación.
Ellos quieren ayudar!

NOMBRE:

TELÉFONO:

This is our new
Newcomer Packet
envelope in Spanish

Alcoholics Anonymous del Valle de Coachella

34-116 DATE PALM DR., SUITE 17 |
CATHEDRAL CITY, CA 92234
Teléfono: (760) 895-1361
Juntos todos los jueves de
7:00pm a 9:00pm.

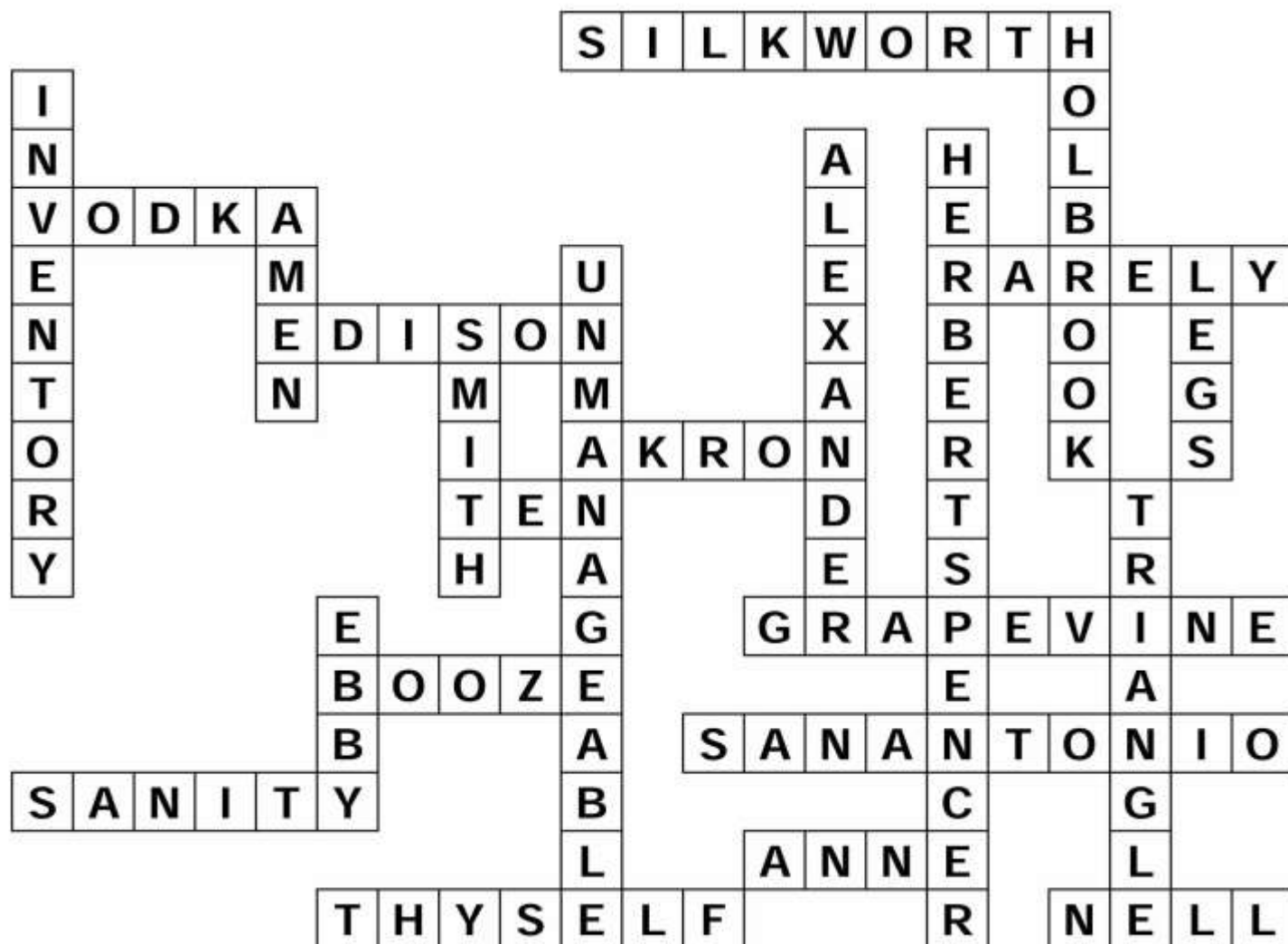
https://aaintcoachella.org

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October Puzzle Solution



How many sponsors does it take to change a light bulb?
Only one, but the bulb has to really want to change.

He orders two shots. He proceeds to pour out the first one all over the bar, downs the second one and then orders two more. He pours out the first one on the bar, downs the second one and orders two more.

The bartender asks him why he keeps pouring out the first shot all over the bar.

The alcoholic replies with "My AA group said all I need to do is avoid that first drink."

A guy wants a divorce. He tells the judge "I can't take it anymore she's out going from bar to bar every night way past midnight"

The judge responds "what's she doing"

The guy says "looking for me"

Secretary / Treasurer Workshop

Saturday, November 5, 2022

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**FELLOWSHIP HALL
45-940 PORTOLA AVE.
Palm Desert, CA 92260**

*What should I do about all of the
cross-talk going on in the meeting?*

*A drunk person came to our
meeting? What do I do?*

*What is the difference between
being a G.S.R. and an
Intergroup Rep.?*

*One of our members talks on and on
and on and on..... What do I do?*

*If I take a Treasurer's Commitment, how is
the money divided and where do I send it??*

Come learn the ins and outs of being a Secretary or Treasurer for a Group, as well as other commitments related to local Arms of Service.

This is geared towards both new and experienced secretaries. The material is based on AA literature and the experience of many long-term AA members. The workshop is open to all that are interested!

Please call Central Office 760.324.4880.

If you have any questions.

Presented by:

**Central Intergroup Office of the Desert
35-325 Date Palm Drive, Suite 107
Cathedral City, CA**

The Unselfish Spirit

Accepting The World as It is

By Rick R.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. The degree that the individual carries out these two goals is not mandated by the A.A. body and the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. The AA program offers suggestions on how to overcome the difficulties brought about by the disease of alcoholism and not simply the act of drinking. These difficulties come in the form of *spiritual damage* and *material wreckage*. It seems that our spiritual damage lies in the unseen part of our makeup such as, our thinking, our motive, our fears, our conscience, our ego, guilt, shame, self-esteem, and the like. *Our material wreckage often comes as the result of our spiritual damage and is the residue of our spiritual condition.* Selfishness- self –Centeredness! That, we think is the root of our trouble. (pg. 62 BB.) That, being said, isn't it apparent that unselfishness would be the solution to our trouble? That seems to oversimplify the solution but, in my experience, it is so simple that it is usually overlooked. Most alcoholics have spent their lives taking advantage of everything and everyone around them and as the result, have been plagued by the guilt and shame that only a drink could mask. The program of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) suggests that *we live by principles*, and I cannot find one selfish principle in the Big Book or the 12&12. I believe that most of the people that truly have a desire to stop drinking and embrace the A.A. program start to change the behaviors that they recognize as counterproductive simply because they can hear these things that we all share at meetings, and they change the most obvious shortcomings in their day-to-day activities. This is a good start and with time it starts to erode much of the shameful habits of past that had become commonplace. Talk of inventories and amends cause us to think at a different level about those material matters. That is usually the only thing that we are aware of in the beginning. *When we talk about spiritual matters, it seems that we all have different perceptions of exactly what we mean by "spiritual".* If, for the sake of simplicity, we think of it as our innermost self, such as *our ego, conscience, our mind, our heart, or soul, if you like, and realize that this is where our spirit resides and where our emotions live, and that is also where the pain of our past thrives.* If we want to achieve the peace of mind that is promised in step nine, we will have to come to terms with the process of acceptance of the world as it is and of the people in that world. If we want to be accepted and forgiven for our past mistakes, we must be willing to accept all the people that we find fault with and give them the same latitude that we are seeking. To accomplish this, we can *stop being judgmental and replace that with an understanding spirit.* We will have to *replace gossip and character assignation with compassion and empathy.* If we can't do that, then how can we expect the world around us to accept us and forgive us for our past mistakes? This is no time to rest on our laurels, so to speak. It's time to begin cleaning out the attic. This is where we begin to free up that space in our minds that has been keeping us awake at night. This is truly the path to developing the *unselfish spirit*, and with it come a peace of mind that's hard to imagine while we were still playing God ourselves. It costs me nothing to be kind. *My wish for those other people is that they can someday find the same peace of mind for themselves that this process has provided for me. What more can I say*

**Palm Desert Group -
Fellowship Hall, 45940 Portola Ave.
Palm Desert Saturday Night, 8 p.m.**

11/05	-	David B.	Thousand Oaks
11/12	-	Brooke F.	Palm Desert
11/19	-	Alyssa C.	Desert Hot Springs
11/26	-	Calvin C.	Palm Desert

**Sobriety Capital of the World Group
ABC Recovery 44374 Palm St. Indio**

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

11/04	-	Reese M.	Coronado, CA
11/11	-	Iron Mike	Texas
11/18	-	Danny S.	San Fernando Valley
11/25	-	Julie D.	Upland CA



November Speakers



A.A. was founded on the premise that it would be self-supported through member contributions.

For the past 61 years, contributing a single dollar has been almost a tradition.



1960...10¢
1970...20¢
1980...35¢
1990...50¢
2000...\$1.00
2008...\$1.75



1960...25¢
1970...65¢
1980...\$1.65
1990...\$2.00
2000...\$3.00
2008...\$4.90



1960...22¢
1970...35¢
1980...90¢
1990...\$1.10
2000...\$1.20
2008...\$3.39

Today's dollar has only 10 cents of the purchasing power of a 1960's dollar.



1960...\$1.00
1970...\$1.00
1980...\$1.00
1990...\$1.00
2000...\$1.00
2008...\$2.00

Acknowledging these economic facts,
why not responsibly compensate

BY DROPPING IN ?BUCKS FOR 2022?

For those who can't afford it, the important thing is to keep coming back.

Breaking the Multi-Generational Cycle

Our Children need a Safe Environment

By Rick R.

Early in my first marriage I could easily rationalize all my alcoholic behaviors. These things meant nothing to me, at the time, but *that all changed the day that I became a father*. It didn't change my behavior, but it *did affect my conscience*. From that day forward I felt guilty about my inability to be a good father and as the result, my only son developed problems as bad as, or worse than my own. My wife and I separated and were divorced within two years of his birth, and I got sober one year after that and have been sober ever since. My current wife of fifty-two years and I have done everything we could to be *supportive of my first wife* and my son from a distance and as he turned ten years old, she asked us if we would take custody of him, since she was still having difficulties of her own and we understood and gladly accepted her offer. This was the right thing to do but it didn't solve my son's problem. *He was damaged and the die was cast*. He struggled with drugs and alcohol problems into his late forties and is now in the program, *sober for ten years and doing well*. From this experience and from the observation of the newer members that come to us while in the process of a divorce or a marriage *influenced by alcohol or drugs*, the children are often emotionally damaged and have *very little chance of evolving into healthy adults*. Some of the symptoms I've read about are as follows: Children of alcoholics **endure chronic and extreme levels of tension and stress**. At times, children of alcoholics **may begin to feel as though they are responsible for the problems and are likely to develop problems with drugs and alcohol themselves**. These are just a few of the things that I and my family have experienced firsthand and it was not a pretty sight. There were many sleepless nights in sobriety wondering where my son was and fearing the worst. It took many years of anguish before he finally surrendered, and we finally had some peace of mind. My experience concerning this situation is to give some perspective on this matter to minimize the emotional damage to the children when the parents either divorce or reconcile their marriage. Divorces are messy with the pain and disappointment of a failed relationship and my divorce was no different. Fortunately for us, I realized that *my child would be witness to how I treated his mom* and from that day forward I have not been critical about her in or out of his presence. I only talk understanding and compassion and I taught him that same principle, and in time, she came around to the same way of thinking, and we all moved on with grace. When my grandson was born, the same thing happened when his mom and dad separated and my wife and I had a the chance to provide virtually all of his daycare, and we had the opportunity to shield him from most of the trauma by providing him with a safe environment, with love and comfort, explaining to him that they were good people but they have problems and we cannot judge them but we can help them when they are ready. The most vital part was the *safe environment*. We had the opportunity to walk him through these things with compassion and understanding. I am happy to say that he just completed his first year of college at the age nineteen with virtually no signs of emotional damage, no drugs or alcohol, no smoking of any kind and very mature. He talks to us freely about all subjects. We can break the cycle, but we must get our priorities straight as soon as possible, consider the damage to our children, put the past behind us and we must be strong enough to forgive. Every minute counts if we want to break the cycle.

When I pray for knowledge of God's will and how I can be of service to my fellows, I'm never quite sure what to expect. When I wound up in Omaha, Nebraska another "transplant" explained that she figured that God had brought her there to "await further instructions!"

Early in sobriety, I was talking with my sponsor about how much I disliked "religious people" -- they were so hypocritical, etc. He just kind of smiled and said, "Yeah. I bet you'd like them just fine if you were the Pope."

He shouldn't have even put that thought in my head! ME in charge! ME! Oh. I see what he did there.

Step Eleven

Sought through Prayer and meditation to improve our constant 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

My experience has been that expectations are the filter through which I interpret my circumstances. If I was told that I'm staying in a penthouse suite at a hotel, and I got there and the hotel only had two floors and the only difference between my room and the others was that I had HBO, I would probably be disappointed. BUT, if I was told I was going to prison and was taken to the SAME room at the SAME hotel, I would be overjoyed!
Same room. Different expectations!

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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**

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**



ROOM LIMITED TO MAXIMUM SALES OF 360 TICKETS!

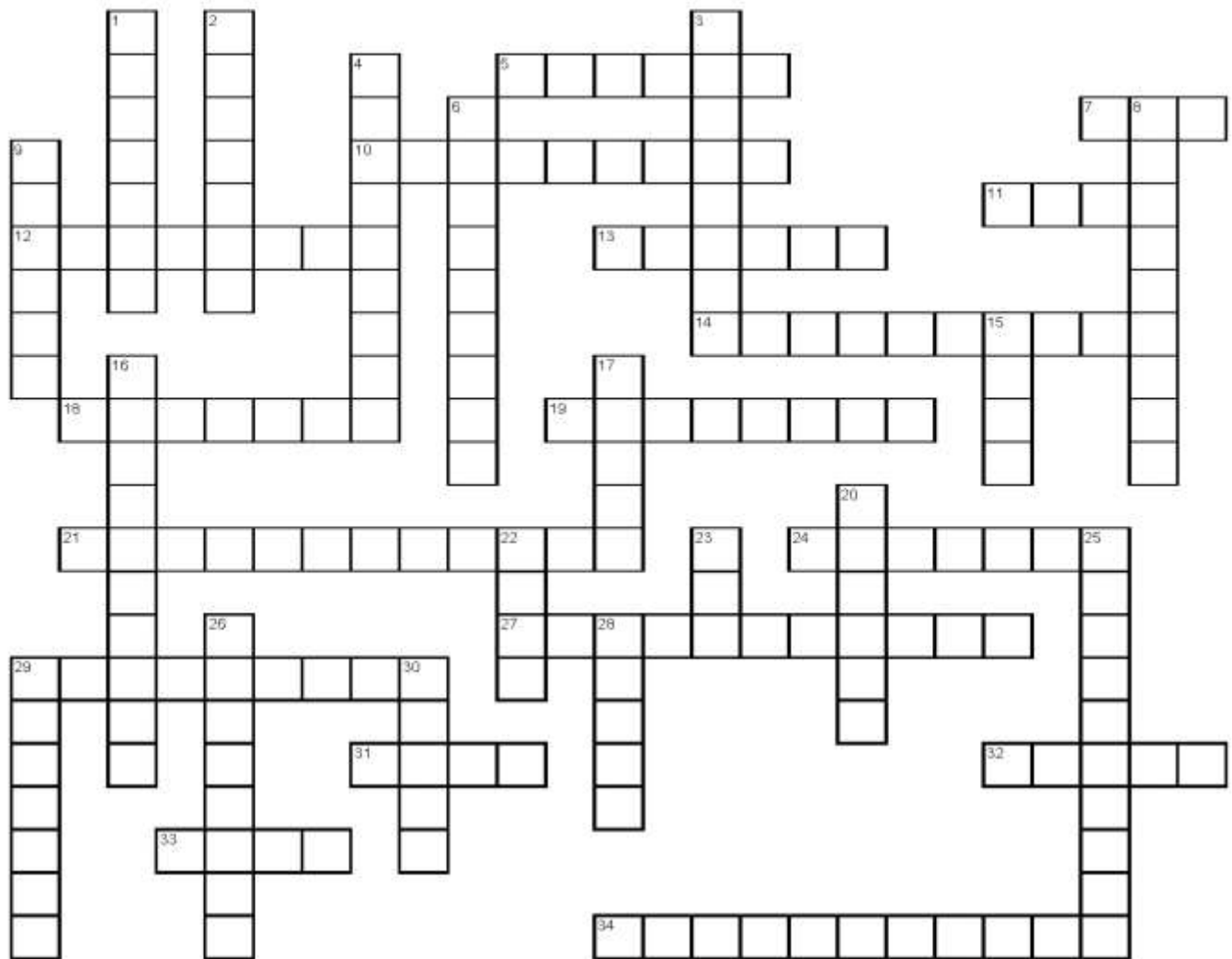
Service Opportunities, we need your help!!

Anyone interested in participating can call Central Office 760.324.4880

Or Email: GratitudeDinner@aainthedesert.org

Chair: Nanette A.

November Puzzle



ACROSS

- 5 What we become half way through
- 7 New York offices
- 10 press, radio and films
- 11 Bill's secretary
- 12 Circle and _____
- 13 soundness of mind
- 14 International Convention 2010 location
- 18 We carry it
- 19 Twelve
- 21 our life when we got to AA
- 24 Freedom From
- 27 AA received this in 1951 from the American Public Health Association
- 29 1st AA Convention city
- 31 Swiss psychiatrist
- 32 It Happened to _____
- 33 happy, joyous and _____
- 34 August conference (3 words)

DOWN

- 1 Little Angel of A.A.
- 2 it is a phenomenon
- 3 Ninety
- 4 meeting in print
- 6 Step one
- 8 Dr. William D.
- 9 Dr. Bob had one, Bill didn't
- 15 Akron
- 16 What we can't afford
- 17 Alcohol
- 20 June conference (2 words)
- 22 As He Sees It
- 23 What Happened to _____
- 25 spiritual
- 26 A _____ View of Alcoholics Anonymous
- 28 Dr. Bob
- 29 This month's principle
- 30 Intoxicated



Central Intergroup of the Desert

Statement of Activity

September 2022

\$6,418

Net income for September

\$24,763

Income

\$18,345

Expenses

	TOTAL	
	SEP 2022	JUL - SEP, 2022 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	9,861	20,760
Gratitude Dinner	7,390	7,590
Interest Income	0	8
Sales	7,512	26,588
Total Revenue	\$24,763	\$54,946
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	4,646	17,872
POS Inventory Adjustment	365	634
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$5,011	\$18,506
GROSS PROFIT	\$19,752	\$36,440
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	800	2,400
Bank Charges	15	30
Computer Expense	435	1,281
Credit Card Fees	344	881
Insurance - Health	473	1,409
Insurance - Liability	278	834
Newsletter Expense	459	603
Office Expense	492	2,145
Payroll Expenses	6,769	15,795
Plant Expenditures	695	908
Rent	1,616	4,898
Storage	218	654
Utilities	740	2,220
Total Expenditures	\$13,334	\$34,059
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$6,418	\$2,382
NET REVENUE	\$6,418	\$2,382



Central Intergroup of the Desert

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

July - September, 2022

		TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	20,760	19,057	1,703
Gratitude Dinner	7,590		7,590
Interest Income	8	24	(16)
Sales	26,588	16,212	10,376
Total Revenue	\$54,946	\$35,293	\$19,653
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold	17,872	9,009	8,863
POS Inventory Adjustment	634	3	631
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$18,506	\$9,012	\$9,494
GROSS PROFIT	\$36,440	\$26,281	\$10,159
Expenditures			
Accounting Services	2,400	2,400	0
Bank Charges	30		30
Computer Expense	1,281	1,200	81
Credit Card Fees	881	437	444
Education & Training		1,200	(1,200)
Insurance - Health	1,409	1,395	14
Insurance - Liability	834	861	(27)
Newsletter Expense	603	450	153
Office Expense	2,145	2,250	(105)
Payroll Expenses	15,795	15,795	0
Plant Expenditures	908	600	308
Rent	4,898	4,698	200
State Filing Fees		60	(60)
Storage	654	654	0
Utilities	2,220	2,162	58
Total Expenditures	\$34,059	\$34,162	\$ (103)
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$2,382	\$ (7,881)	\$10,263
NET REVENUE	\$2,382	\$ (7,881)	\$10,263

I'm grateful that I'm learning that "my side of the street" does not include YOU!

You know how it seems that God puts people in our lives just before we have to walk through something really challenging? Well, now I am REALLY afraid! I had three women ask me to sponsor them this week --- what could God have planned that I need THREE new sponsees?????

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

September 2022

	TOTAL	
	SEP 2022	JUL - SEP, 2022 (YTD)
24 Hours a Day		61.50
3rd & 11th Step - SUN Palm Desert		246.00
5th Tradition 7AM Attitude Adjustment Group		765.53
5th Tradition Dinner Meet Desert Hot Springs		70.00
9am Staying Connected (Zoom)	227.50	1,106.51
Alkies Only Bermuda Dunes	371.00	371.00
Anonymous Cathedral City	32.00	32.00
Anonymous No Group Given	1,472.30	2,123.90
As Bill Sees It -10AM-M Fel. Hall P.D.		69.00
Attitude Adjustment-M-F P.D. Santa Fe Square		268.00
Attitude Adjustment-M-S , Palm Desert PDCC		130.00
Birthday Contributions	8.00	149.00
Candlelit High Desert Yucca Valley	17.56	17.56
Central Intergroup Cathedral City	35.00	54.80
Coachella Desert Men's Group 670417		200.00
Covert IHOP Mon. Mens Stag		50.00
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	868.45	1,471.82
DCYPAA All Valley Young People's		105.00
Desert Pow Wow Rancho Mirage	5,000.00	5,000.00
Design for Living Group		224.76
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert		85.80
First Things First 350102		181.50
Great Events Yucca Valley		200.00
Groovy Tuesday Group Palm Desert	60.00	60.00
Group '48-MON- Palm Springs		41.00
H&I Committee	5.00	5.00
Happy Hour Book Study Palm Desert		25.00
Happy Hour Group Sunny Dunes		300.00
Jaywalkers Men's Stag Palm Desert		140.00
Just the Black Print Big Rancho Mirage		429.40
La Quinta Library Mon/Wed Noon	21.00	93.11
Last Call Group		106.22
Living Sober Group-Joshua Tree		100.00
Motley Crew Zoom	50.00	50.00
No Matter What Group		80.00
No Rules La Quinta		228.81
Over 50 12&12 Step Study		207.03
Oxy-Moron Group 709592	100.00	100.00
Palm Desert 7 AM Attitude Adj. 122976	177.00	553.00
Palm Desert Saturday Speaker's	100.00	150.00
Primary Purpose Bermuda Dunes		210.00
Primary Purpose Blythe	100.00	100.00
Round Table Serenity Group		140.10

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

September 2022

	TOTAL	
	SEP 2022	JUL - SEP, 2022 (YTD)
Rule 62 THU Noon		150.00
Rush Hour Group		185.00
Santa Rosa Big Book Thump Coachella		267.00
Saturday 12 & 12		120.00
Serenity Seekers Palm Desert		360.00
Singleness of Purpose		250.00
Sisters Under the Skin Palm Springs	75.00	75.00
Sober Divas		75.00
Sobriety Sisters Palm Desert		21.18
Spiritual Awakening in A.A.		263.00
St. Paul's Tuesday Night Men's Stag		342.00
Step Sisters Palm Desert		89.25
Step/Tradition Study Palm Desert	150.00	150.00
Stepping Stones Palm Desert 81054		90.00
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study	47.25	128.25
Sunday Serenity Group	123.18	251.78
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition Group		421.25
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	45.56	121.39
Sunset Group La Quinta Park		55.68
The First 164 Pages	238.25	446.63
Twilight Step Study 126569 Palm Desert		118.18
Unity Day Picnic	200.00	200.00
Vets for Vets Palm Desert		65.00
We're Not Really Here	45.00	45.00
WED Big Book Coachella		25.00
Wednesday Night Serenity 600735		50.00
Yerba Santa Round Table Top Discussion	292.00	292.00
TOTAL	\$9,861.05	\$20,759.94

Serenity Prayer by definition

God grant me peace and calm without emotions to accept the things I cannot change.

Help me in my mind to be able to face danger, fear and difficulties so I can change.

Grant me the understanding and the ability to discern what is true and right so that I may know the difference. Amen

Thy will be done, not mine.



**AA 3,7,11
STEP MEETINGS
AT SERENITY HALL**

Sundays @ 10:30am

Starting November 6th

***74350 Alessandro Dr. Suite A-1
Palm Desert, CA 92260***



**AA
Meetings
Zoom Info**

**Zoom Meeting
ID:
973 559 2660
PW: 3711step**

**You are NOT
alone!!!**

**Live Clean and
Sober!**

**All are
Welcome!!!**