



the Desert Lifeline

November 2024

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 at Central Office
35325 Date Palm Dr.
Suite 107
Cathedral City, CA 92234

Zoom Meeting I.D. 928 8170 4093
Password: 642408

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

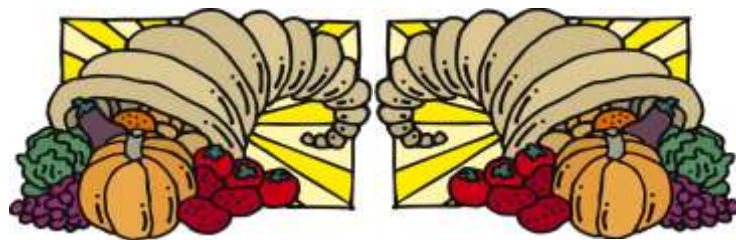
Sought through prayer and meditation to
improve our conscious contact with God,
as we understood Him, praying only for
knowledge of His will for us
and the power to carry that out.

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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N

Principle Eleven

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

September Office Statistics

Meeting Info	43
12 Step Calls	1
Visitors	46
Literature Sales	282
Al-Anon	0
Other 12 Step	1
Miscellaneous	29
Business	8
Zoom Attendance	57

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



**Chairman: Daphne F.
Vice Chairman: OPEN
Treasurer: Kathy F.
Secretary: Alan G.**

**Directors
Blake H.
Alyssa C.
Alex K.
Bill T.
Bruce K.
Ginny P.**



**Desert Lifeline Editor:
Office Manager: David M.
Proof reading and editing: Bill T.**

September 2024

Sean G. 10 yr.


Jackie D 15 yr.

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

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

- 11/02 - Louis O. Hollywood
- 11/09 - Norma U. La Quinta
- 11/16 - Ric S. Santa Monica
- 11/23 - Palm S. Palm Desert
- 11/30—Wyatt V. Venice

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

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

- 11/01 - Terry F. La Costa
- 11/08 - Kevin B. Tarzana
- 11/15 - Brent W. Orange County
- 11/22 - Thom P. Dana Point
- 11/29 - Joe P. Coachella



November Speakers



September Volunteers at Central Office

Amelia F.

Thank You !!

Bill T.
Bob B.
Forrest P.

Jim B.
John B.
John C.
John R.

Thank You !!

Kiki T.
Kathy M.
Megan L.
Nikki J.

Pavithra S.
Rob H.
Shannan K.
Shelby C.
Shoshanna S.
Stephen St. L.

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)

Book of the month

\$1.50

AA for the Older Alcoholic (Large Print)

\$1.50

Eight alcoholics share their stories of finding recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous after the age of 60. Far from feeling that their lives are over, these men and women express that, having come to A.A., it is time to start living. Large-print format suitable for those with low vision.

General Service Conference-approved.

Soft Cover Booklet

Normally \$2.00

This Month \$1.50



\$1.50

\$1.50

Concept Eleven

While the trustees hold final responsibility for AA's world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs and consultants.

Therefore, the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern.

This concept discusses the qualifications, relationship and composition of the underlying committees of the trustees of the General Service board as outlined in the service manual. In AA, final responsibility and ultimate authority is at the group level; however, in order for AA to function effectively, we depend upon the AA General Service Board to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of AA. The success of the General Service Board depends upon the competent leadership and harmonious association of the non-trustee committee members, directors, executives and staff members.

In corporate America, the CEO is responsible for the final decisions on policy based on the input of the committees under him. To insure effective leadership in AA, there are several service corporation directors, staff, committees and executives that provide advice to the general service board. No active service board can function well unless it has sustained a competent executive direction.

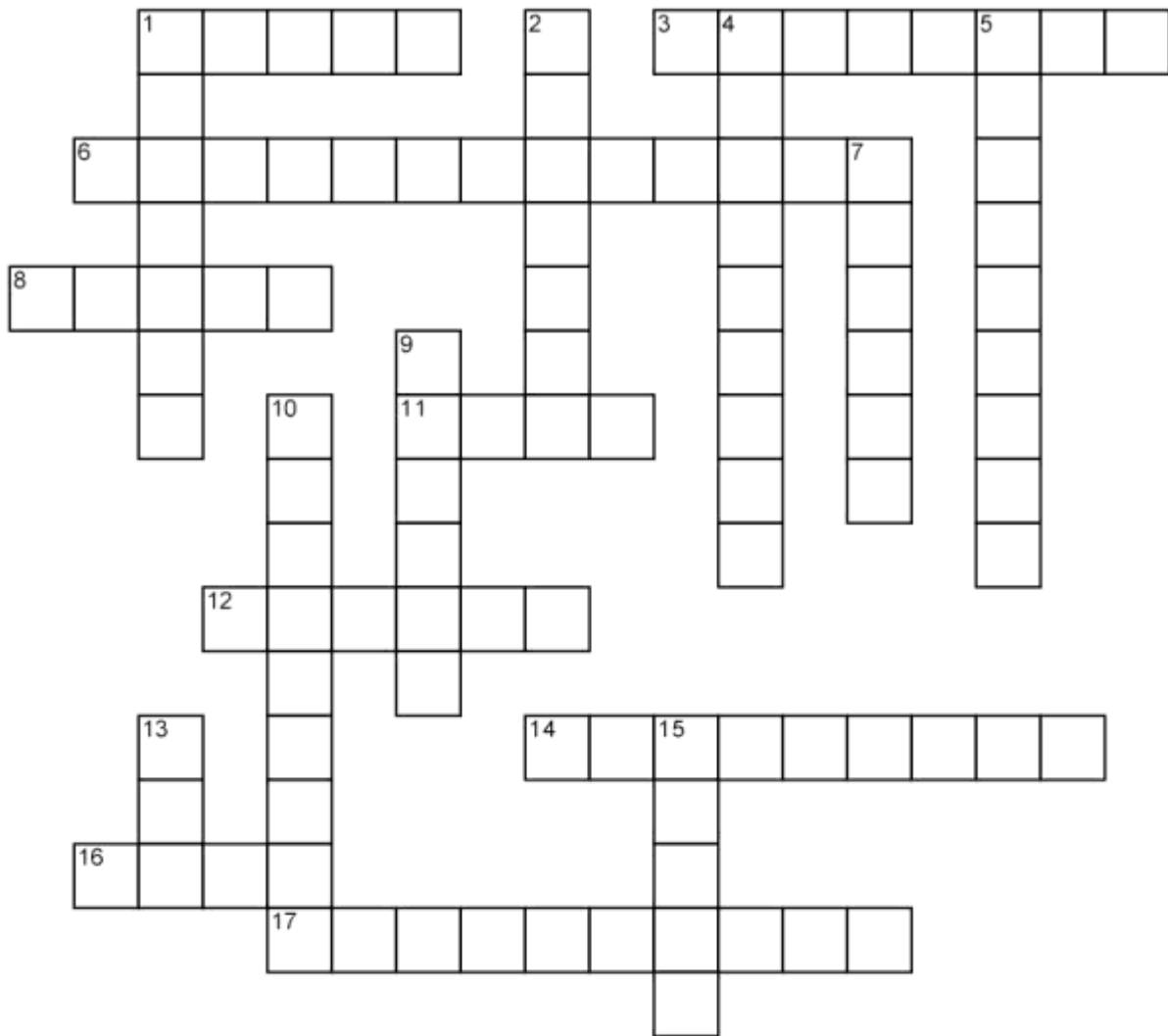
The concept addresses the financial compensation of these executives and staff members as outlined in the service manual. Equitable compensation is important. Just because AA is a non-profit organization, employees must be compensated based on their value and the competitive rate in the marketplace. Underpaid employees would be making personal financial sacrifices and it is likely that their performance will be inferior.

Most paid staff members are rotated yearly. Employees are all paid the same and increases are based on time served. The primary reason for rotation and equal staff pay was for the security and continuity of the office since all employees are expected to do or learn how to do any job. This system is contrary to corporate America but was put in place to avoid any significant disruption of business with the departure of any employees.

Full participation of paid workers is very important. In the AA structure of service, we must do more than give our executive paid workers a place on the board. We must treat them as we do our volunteers.

There are many forces that can threaten a good working relationship. Such are the realizations we can use every day. If we are fully aware of these tendencies, we are better equipped to deal with them. The sustained willingness to practice spiritual principles in all our affairs can accomplish this. We shall never need to have any fear of our future harmony.

Marty F
Friday Night Serenity Seekers, Palm Desert



ACROSS

- 1 Dr. Bob surname
- 3 prior to investigation
- 6 Saturday Evening Post article in March, 1941
- 8 Second Principle
- 11 Mrs. Dr. Bob
- 12 what trusted servants don't do
- 14 AA meeting in print
- 16 Step two
- 17 International Convention City (2 words)

DOWN

- 1 AA's very essence
- 2 The number of printings of the first edition of our Big Book
- 4 Dr. Bob and the Good
- 5 Akron hotel when Bill needed to talk to another drunk
- 7 How often we've seen them fail
- 9 AA got this award in 1951
- 10 Honesty, unselfishness, purity and love
- 13 General Service Office
- 15 Our _____ is self-centered, ego-centric



District 42 Speaker Meeting

Friday, Nov. 22 @ 7pm

Teresa F. Al-Anon - San Clemente

Mike F- AA- San Clemente

St. Margaret's Church

47535 Hwy. 74 in Palm Desert 92260

Come early for a cup of coffee, snacks and fellowship! Donated snacks are appreciated. Literature and mugs will be available for purchase.

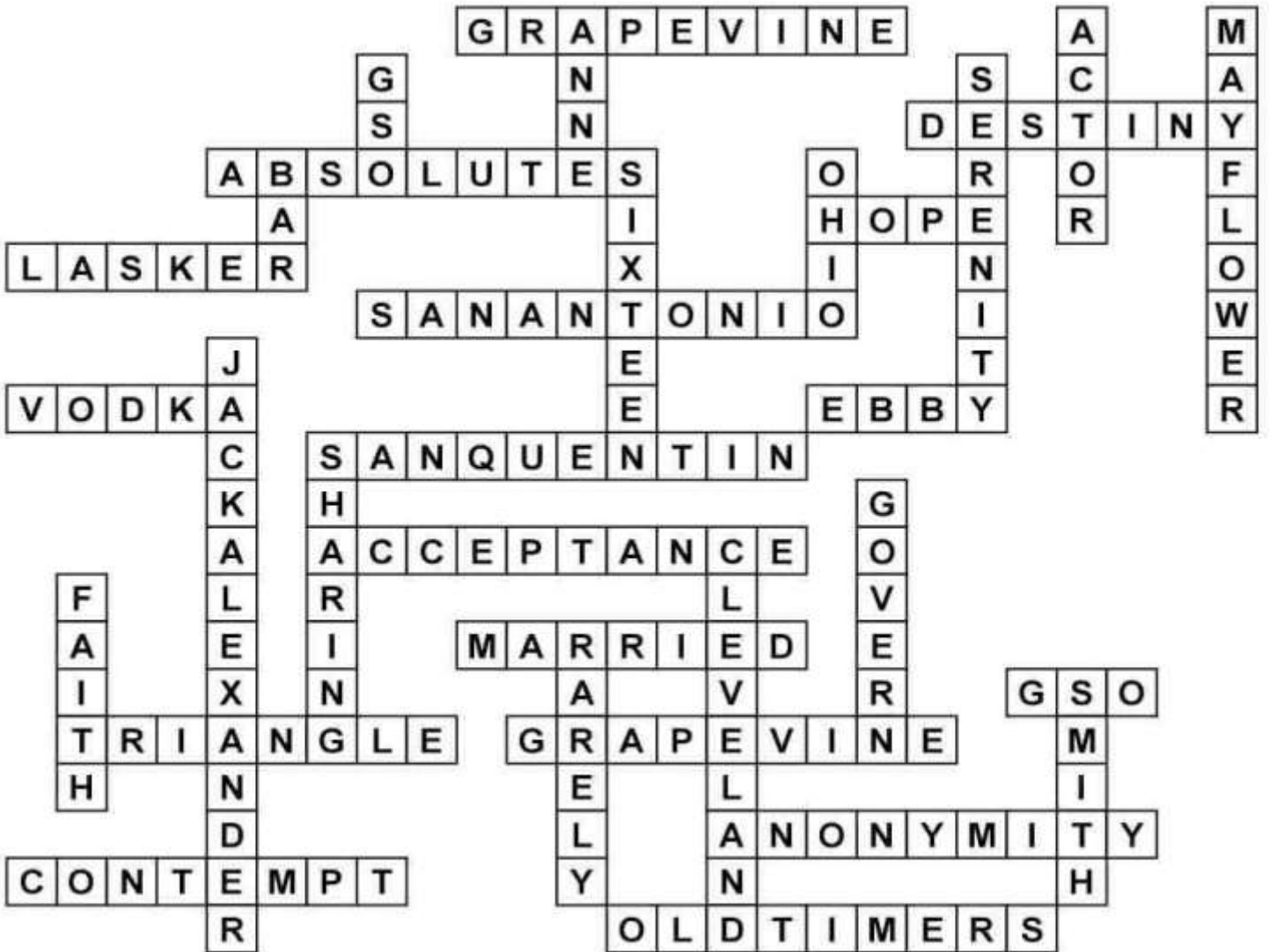
The Twelve Rewards

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. 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

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"

A New Holiday Perspective

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. November is often referred to as the Gratitude month, due the celebration of Thanksgiving. The joy of good living is the theme of Step Twelve, and it blends right in with the Christmas holiday season in December and ending with the New Year's Eve celebration. This time of year, does bring joy to many of us but it also brings *distress to some of the less fortunate ones* who have yet to 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 extremely uncomfortable about the holidays. I never knew how to act around normal people unless I was half smashed. When invited by one of my siblings to Thanksgiving dinner, 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, especially Thanksgiving and Christmas, and I would always (due to my discomfort) put a damper on it by complaining about the tacky gifts that people would buy for each other at Christmas 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 my wife and two adolescent girls and *the childlike 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 perspective concerning these things.

This change of attitude has inspired me to apply the unselfish lessons that I have 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 ever since my friend suggested it, 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 careful to do these things in a way that *preserves the dignity of that other person*. I do not 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. I hope this brings a new perspective to those who, like me, had trouble enjoying this time of year and I hope you all have a joyful Holiday Season, and many more.

March 1992

At the Expense of Others

Vol. 48 No. 10

"I'm an alcoholic--and a drug addict." "I have to say this--for me." "I know this is a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous but. . ."

I used to think I had to share about my drug use. After all, AA teaches us to be rigorously honest, doesn't it? And as a younger person in AA, I was different than a lot of the older, "pure" alcoholics, wasn't I? Nobody is going to tell me what to say. Nobody did, either. (A couple of old-timers took me aside after the meetings to talk about this, but I dismissed them.)

One night, I was talking in the parking lot after a meeting of my home group. As the people cleared out, I realized there were just two of us left--myself and a newcomer. He was in his sixties. We got to talking and he actually seemed to be listening to me! I really felt amazed that a man old enough to be my grandfather would listen to me about anything, and especially about AA.

The meeting that night had been on Step One and many people, including me, recalled their use of drugs (some in great detail). This man and I began to talk about the meeting and then he dropped a bombshell on me. He didn't think he qualified to be an alcoholic because he hadn't used any drugs! Here was a man who drank for more years than I have been alive (most of them, by his account, alcoholically), yet he didn't feel like he belonged in AA. And we were supposedly talking about alcoholism!

Well, I sputtered and stammered for a while and I finally convinced him that the only requirement for membership was a desire to stop drinking and that there were no requirements for drug use involved. Thank God he is still sober.

Later that night, I really began to question myself and the message I was carrying. Sure, it was important that I qualified and identified myself, but were the details worth it at the possible expense of others? I realized I should stick to alcohol and alcoholism in order to keep the door wide open, not make it more narrow. If even one person gets the wrong idea and feels they don't belong, that is one too many. Besides, I had been sober for a while and I knew what I was.

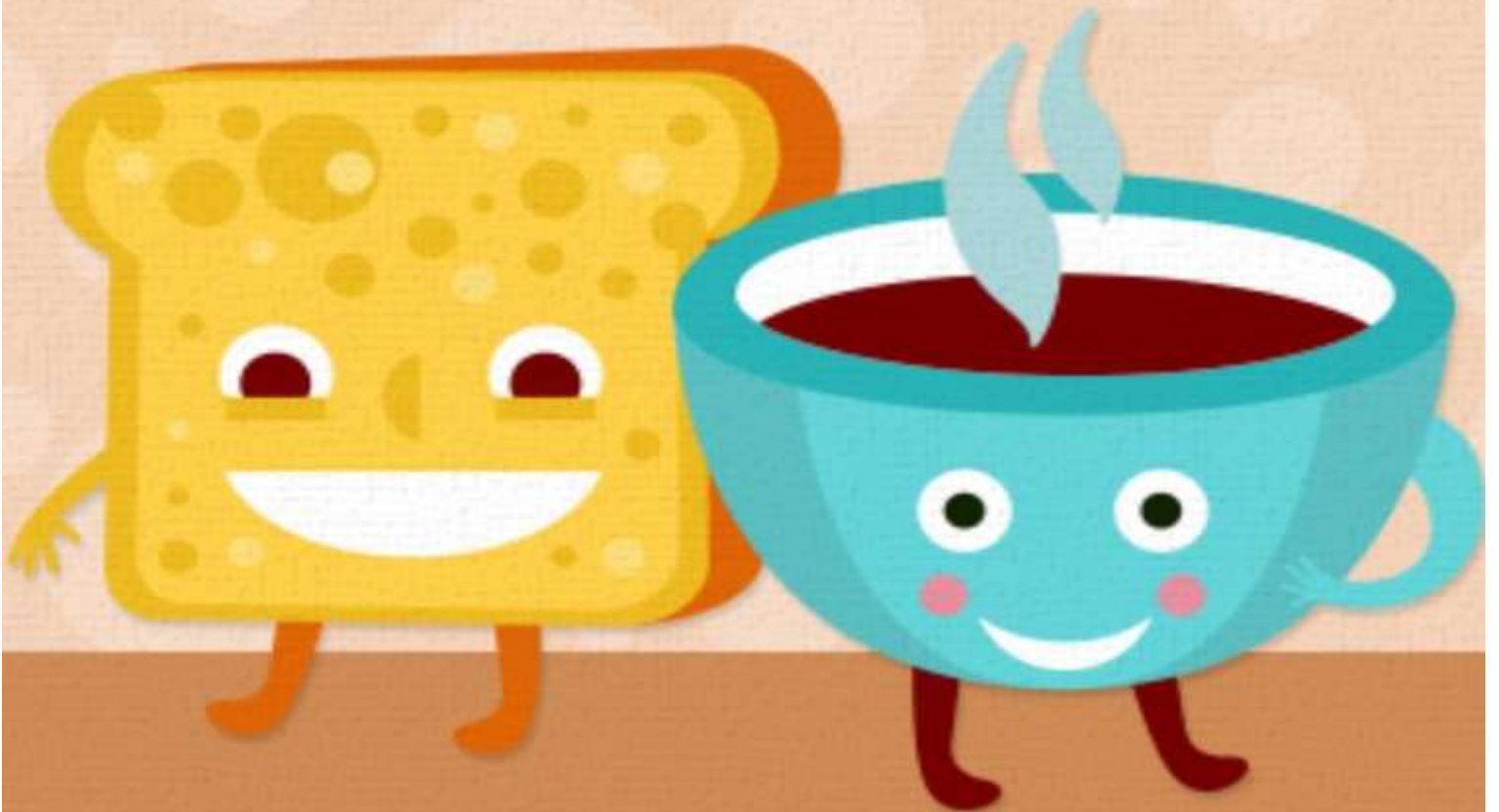
I guess I started to think just a little more about other people than I did about myself. So that's why some groups are so concerned about AA's singleness of purpose--some groups in my area even read a statement of singleness of purpose before their meetings. It isn't just to be tedious and nitpicky and to "bust chops," especially the chops of young people. It is so all alcoholics can feel that they belong once they get to AA.

J. H.
Dover, Pennsylvania

**First Sunday Of Every Month Join Us
For Breakfast & Speaker meeting
At ABC RECOVERY CENTER hosted By
ABC Alumni Committee**

\$10 for breakfast served 9am-11am! Meeting starts 11:30

44359 PALM ST, INDIO, CA 92201



Step Eleven

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

Step 11 is an important maintenance step in my life to keep me on the daily walk of sobriety and refreshes my spiritual contact with my Higher Power.

This step helps align my will with the will and knowledge of the Higher Power on a daily basis.

I now know this step is needed since several attempts at trying to get sober since the late 70's. My will and selfishness always got in the way of recovery from alcoholism. Life events would happen, and I'd take sobriety for granted and eventually got drunk one more time.

Cooperation with a power greater than ourselves can pull us out of the alcoholic rut. Surrendering selfishness and embracing honesty, open-mindedness and a spirit of helpfulness develops a spirit of forgiveness and an increasing ability to help others.

Dave K
Friday Night Speakers Meeting, Joshua Tree

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?????

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!"

I gave up all my friends when I came into Alcoholics Anonymous.

That wasn't as difficult as it may sound . . . I didn't have any more friends!

I'm always amused by all the attention folks pay to the promises in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous (page 75, pages 83 and 84, page 164, we could increase the list ad infinitum).....

Who else but an alcoholic would expect a reward for being given a gift?

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."

Friends of AA who publicized AA got much more favorable responses than individual members shouting from the rooftops, so to speak. Doctors, affluent businessmen, clergymen and others advocated our movement from the moment of AA's conception. They have "reported AA with enthusiasm which the most ardent members would find hard to match".*

Carrying the message of recovery through AA and attracting newcomers by being a positive example negates any need for promotion. This lack of promotion is a show of humility and is therefore praised by the many friends of AA, who in turn praise our cause and suggest us to the still suffering alcoholic. If it weren't for this tradition, we might otherwise have been branded self-righteous do-gooders and/or heretics out to proclaim our way of life over others'.

This is a new era. In recent times, specifically in regard to technological advances, the principle of personal anonymity is of utmost importance. A developing issue of breaking personal anonymity on the internet and social networks (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.), promoting AA principles and slogans has been and continues to break this tradition and damages AA as a whole. In the long form of Tradition 11, it states, "Our names and pictures as AA members ought not be broadcast, filmed or publicly printed.*"

To safeguard AA, it is imperative that all individual members maintain personal anonymity while exemplifying our principles in our daily lives. Our program of recovery works and the hand off AA is needed. To continue to grow and protect AA through adherence to all traditions is our aim. We need only attract and be available when help is needed. "There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.*"

Caroline D
Fearless and Thorough, Palm Desert



I have had spiritual awakenings . . .
but mostly after having rude awakenings!

Losers do what they want and maybe get around to what needs to be done.

Winners do what they must and then get to do what they want.

I recently shared that I'd had an epiphany about something and a delightful woman said to me, "It's been my experience that sometimes an epiphany is an 'ah-ha' moment, and sometimes it's an 'oh, crap!' moment. Which one was yours?"

Overheard in a meeting on the Traditions: "I have no opinion outside of my own issues."



Central Intergroup Office of the Desert
 50175 Lake Park Dr.
 Las Vegas, NV 89148 • 702.735.1100 • www.cidi.org

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Statement of Activity

August 2024

Net profit for August

\$191

\$21,704

Income

\$21,513

Expenses

	TOTAL	
	AUG 2024	JUL - AUG, 2024 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	7,473	14,921
Gratitude Dinner	4,247	18,259
Interest Income	455	456
Sales	9,529	18,614
Total Revenue	\$21,704	\$52,250
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	6,207	12,241
POS Inventory Adjustment	(167)	47
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$6,040	\$12,288
GROSS PROFIT	\$15,664	\$39,961
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	800	1,600
Computer Expense	609	1,090
Credit Card Fees	312	715
Insurance - Health	762	1,360
Insurance - Liability	324	648
Newsletter Expense	240	452
Office Expense	1,346	3,150
Payroll Expenses	6,769	11,282
Plant Expenditures	1,499	1,964
Rent	1,661	3,323
Storage	269	538
Utilities	881	1,590
Total Expenditures	\$15,473	\$27,713
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$191	\$12,248
NET REVENUE	\$191	\$12,248



Central Intergroup of the Desert

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget 2024-2025

July - August, 2024

		TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	14,921	9,000	5,921
Gratitude Dinner	18,259	0	18,259
Interest Income	456	24	432
Sales	18,614	16,800	1,814
Total Revenue	\$52,250	\$25,824	\$26,426
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold	12,241	8,400	3,841
POS Inventory Adjustment	47		47
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$12,288	\$8,400	\$3,888
GROSS PROFIT	\$39,961	\$17,424	\$22,537
Expenditures			
Accounting Services	1,600	1,600	0
Computer Expense	1,090	1,031	59
Credit Card Fees	715	453	262
Insurance - Health	1,360	1,342	18
Insurance - Liability	648	630	18
Newsletter Expense	452	1,200	(748)
Office Expense	3,150	2,600	550
Outreach		200	(200)
Payroll Expenses	11,282	13,651	(2,369)
Plant Expenditures	1,964	0	1,964
Rent	3,323	3,322	1
Storage	538	572	(34)
Utilities	1,590	1,635	(45)
Total Expenditures	\$27,713	\$28,236	\$ (523)
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$12,248	\$ (10,812)	\$23,060
NET REVENUE	\$12,248	\$ (10,812)	\$23,060

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."

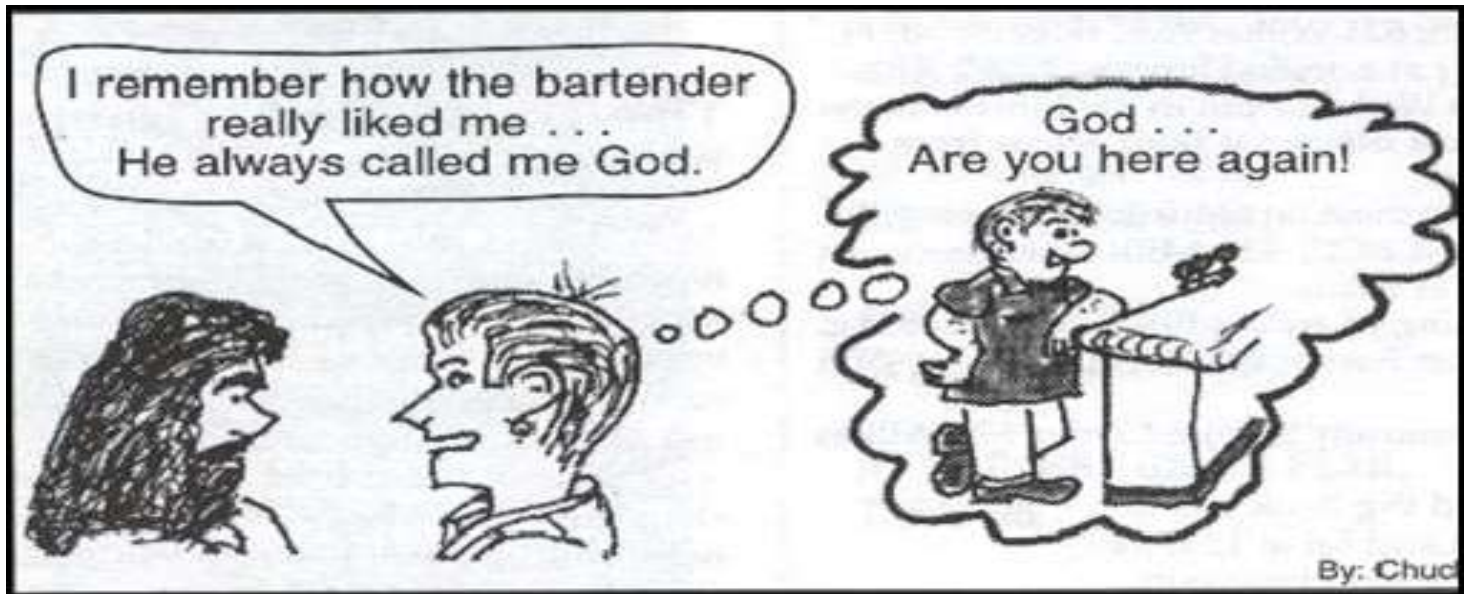
He shouldn't have even put that thought in my head! ME in charge! ME! Oh. I see what he did there.

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

August 2024

	TOTAL	
	AUG 2024	JUL - AUG, 2024 (YTD)
Step Sisters Palm Desert	830.00	830.00
Step/Tradition Study Palm Desert		303.55
Stepping Stones	93.50	93.50
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study		141.75
Sunday in the Park		405.21
Sunday Serenity Group	146.00	299.00
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert		76.16
TGIF Group 611390 Yucca Valley	30.00	30.00
The First 164 Pages		334.50
Thursday Niters Group	180.00	180.00
Tuesday Night Men's Stag Book Study	225.00	225.00
TOTAL	\$7,473.18	\$14,920.57



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.

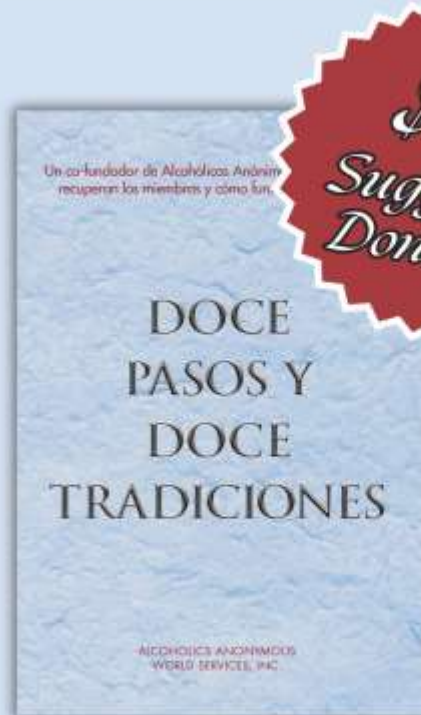
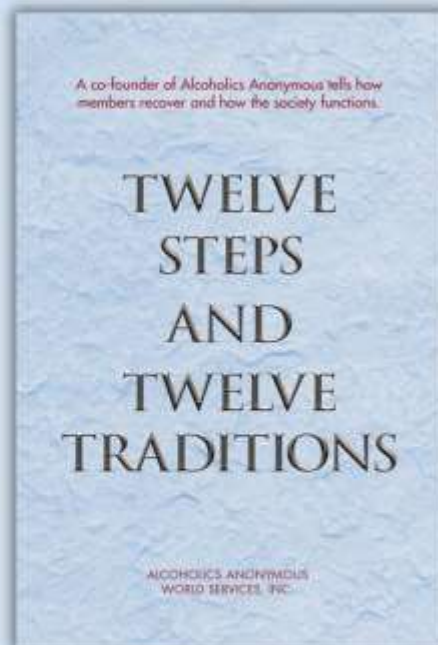
DCYPAA & LA SOLUCION PRESENT

Traditions WORKSHOP

Fellowship Hall - Small Room

45940 PORTOLA AVE, PALM DESERT, CA 92260

Saturday, November 9
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



PLEASE BRING A POTLUCK DISH TO SHARE!