



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@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, 3:30 PM

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.
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

3rd Sunday of the month, 2:00 PM
Yucca Valley Alano Club
57637 Yucca Trail
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
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.

July Office Statistics

Meeting Info	35
12 Step Calls	2
Visitors	20
Literature Sales	239
Al-Anon	2
Other 12 Step	2
Miscellaneous	18
Business	40
Zoom Attendance	45

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert Board of Directors

Chairman: Alyssa C.
Vice Chairman: OPEN
Treasurer: Kathy F.
Secretary: Alan G.

Directors

Bill T.
David H.
Nancy L.
Amelia F.
Ginny P.
Alex K.

Office Manager: David M.
Desert Lifeline editing: Bill T.

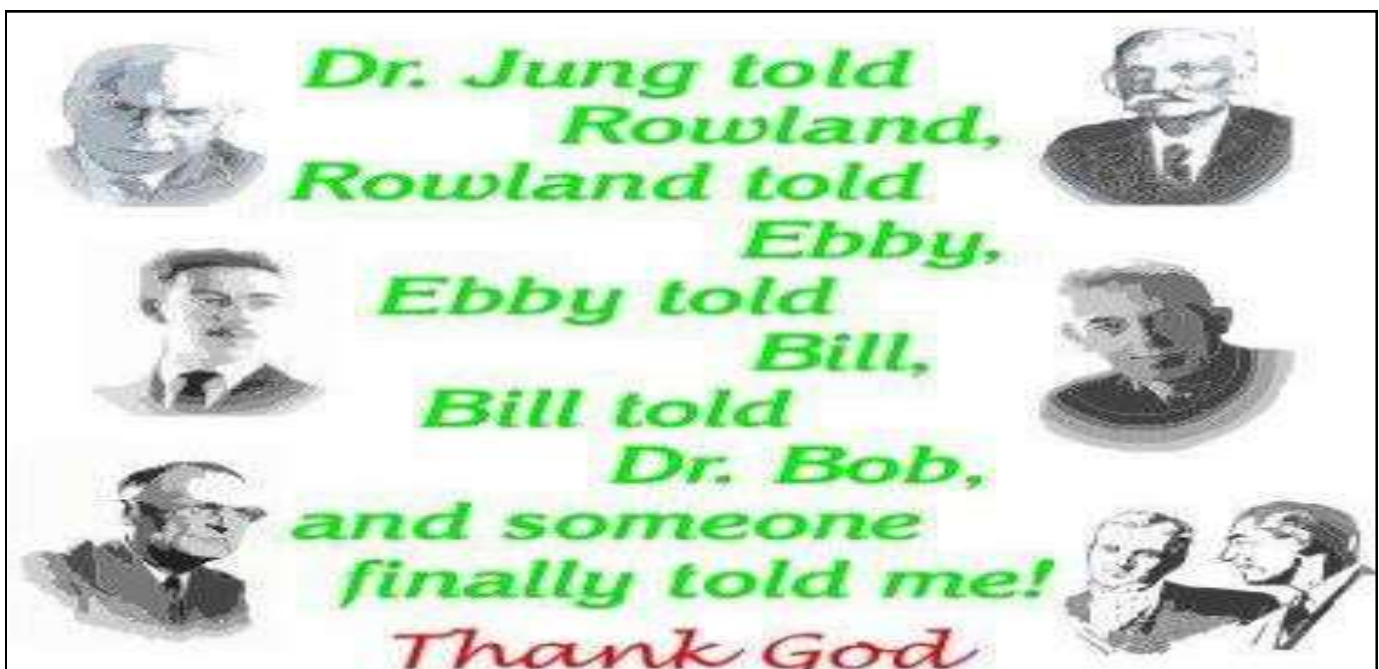
Want to get the Desert Lifeline delivered directly to you via email each month?? Well..... you can! Just go to the Central Office web site, www.aainthedesert.org, and follow the link to sign up! It's just that easy!! And It's FREE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Letters to the Editor or Articles for the Desert 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



A Few of Our Local Speaker Meetings



Sobriety Capital of the World
44359 Palm St. Indio, CA 92201
Friday Night, 8 p.m.

09/05 - Jerry H. - Carlsbad
09/12 - Wyatt F. - Newport Beach
09/19 - Trenton H. - Yucaipa
09/26 - Peter S. - Studio City

Palm Desert Group - Fellowship Hall,
45-940 Portola Ave. Palm Desert CA 92260
Saturday Night, 8:00 p.m.

09/06 - Participation Meeting
09/13 - Linda M. - Palm Springs
09/20 - Vicky B. - 100 Palms
09/27 - Andrew S. - La Quinta

July 2025

Chris	4 yr.
Jerry G.	6 yr.
Bear	12 yr.
Duane H.	24 yr.
Scott U.	25 yr.
Mike	25 yr.
Tony	29 yr.
Marjorie H.	29 yr.
Audrey O.	35 yr.

Happy Birthday



Morgan A.	37 yr.
Sheri P.	37 yr.
Kimberly D.	47 yr.
Ginny P.	51 yr.
Pat W.	51 yr.



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

Step Nine: The Promise Of Intuition
We Will Know Peace
By Rick R.

We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us. (B.B. pg. 84) How many times in your life have you been faced with a decision, and you did not know what to do about it, then a day and a half later, you awakened in the middle of the night, sat up in bed, and said to your-self, A-Hah, and went right back to sleep? Somehow the answer came to you without having to go through days of research.

In the early days of 1970, I was going through a course on human behavior and the instructor was trying to describe how the brain functions. He explained that the human brain has approximately ten billion cells and we only use about one billion of them. He then explained that these cells store everything we experience in our lifetime. The more current events are easier to remember than the things that are off in the distant past, but they are all in there somewhere. He then likened it to a file system where, if you ask a question, the more current answers come immediately, but for those more distant memories, the brain starts searching the files and it may take a while eventually the answer will come.

With all the mental chaos that we bring with us when we enter the Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) program, we have lot of, what I refer to as, *unlearning* to do. We go through the process of trying to rid ourselves of alcoholic thinking and to replace it with sound principles and values. If we are fortunate enough to buy-in completely, and do a thorough job of house-cleaning, so to speak, we can start using the ideas that we hear of, and others used successfully, and we get a surprisingly good result. We may hear as many as twenty or thirty people share at any given meeting. Can we remember everything we hear? To me, the answer is yes. I could come up with a dozen boilerplate A.A. clichés about how the answers come to me but it does not get any simpler than the mental file cabinet theory. Sometimes it seems to me that I am learning when I am not even listening, and it is like getting it through osmosis. If you have ever heard of the police trying to get a witness to remember a license plate number by hypnotizing that person, you understand what I mean. It is in the sub-conscious and there is a curtain-like screen between the conscious and subconscious mind. This is what keeps us from going mad due to the busyness of it all.

I never underestimate the capacity of my mind when it comes to problem solving. Attending A.A. meetings on a regular basis and interacting with the people who have had similar experiences and have found similar solutions to their problems gives me a very encouraging outlook for the future. Many of the answers that I am seeking are right in front of my face and some are deeper in the file cabinet. Most of the time, when faced with the dilemma that is causing me any kind of distress, I can refer to my simple request of my higher power. God, please show me what to do and please give me the strength to do it. I do not do well on my own. It is surprising how often I awake in the middle of the night, say A-HAH, and go back to sleep again. It seems that intuitively the answers come.



AA call to Service
Sign up as a Temporary Contact

Volunteer to be a temporary Contact and when a contact request is received, our committee will contact you if you meet the criterion for that specific request.

Bridges are matched by Age, sex and location.

if you are a match, we contact you and provide you with the information we have on file. i.e. phone # and Email and you (the AA member) will take it from there.

A Temporary contact is
Committing to:

- Attend approx. 6 meetings of various types. introduce the newcomer to people and getting phone #s.
- you dont have to give them rides if you dont want to.
- Explain what AA is. and is not
- Do not provide any monetary assistance.
- Emphasize importance of Steps, Sponsorship, & Literature especially Big Book.
- Do not provide any legal or medical reports or advice.
- Explain importance of a homegroup and our singleness of purpose. (P-16)
- Meeting etiquette
- Differences between the fellowship and the program, between a meeting and a group and Open & Closed meetings.
- Do not tolerate any mistreatment. Remember Universal respect is the key to our usefulness.

Step 9

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

I believe that each Step has a gift for me. Throughout my sobriety as I “worked” the Steps and learned how to incorporate the principle of each Step into my life I found I received a gift from each one. The gift I received from each step was unique and especially what I needed most at that time. A spiritual awakening, a freedom of some kind, a new awareness, shedding another piece of my armor and letting in a little more light. Maybe you could relate to some of my experiences maybe yours were completely different. This, I think, is the miracle of the Steps. Same Steps, yet each of us has our own personal experience with them.

Amends are not just about saying, “I am sorry”. How many times have I said that! I like Webster’s New World Dictionary definition of amends: “Something given or done to make up for injury, loss etc. that one has caused”.

After I had completed my Fifth Step, I thought I had done the hardest thing I would have to do in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Then I came to Steps 8 & 9. Yikes! I felt like **everything** was my fault. How could I ever climb this mountain? I reviewed my list with my sponsor. After some deletions and additions and lots of praying for willingness, I was ready to go into action. The gifts and miracles I had received so far, and the friendships and trust I had formed with my sponsor and others in the fellowship, gave me the courage to press on.

The “Big Book” of Alcoholics Anonymous spends more time on step nine than on any other step. Several specific directions and scenarios are depicted. I found it helpful to reread that section before each attempt. I am reminded to be humble but not to grovel, to focus on my own errors and not on those I perceive were made by others. The book reminds me that all people may not be receptive, but not to be discouraged. Most of all it is stressed that we must not cause any harm in the process of making our amends.

The largest amends I felt I owed was to my family. I made direct amends to them when they were willing to listen. I told them of the wrongs I felt I had done to them, asked if there were anything I could do to make it right, and became the best sister and daughter I knew how to be. I understood that I had to let them be who they were and not what I expected them to be. I understood that my mother would never be the “Mommy” I had always resented her for not being. The gift I received from that is a feeling of being a member of my family instead of a visitor. I saw my mother in a different light. I came to understand her as a woman who had also survived much and I was able to honor her. When my mother passed away last year I was truly grateful that I had completed Step 9 with her and that we had several years of a respectful peaceful relationship.

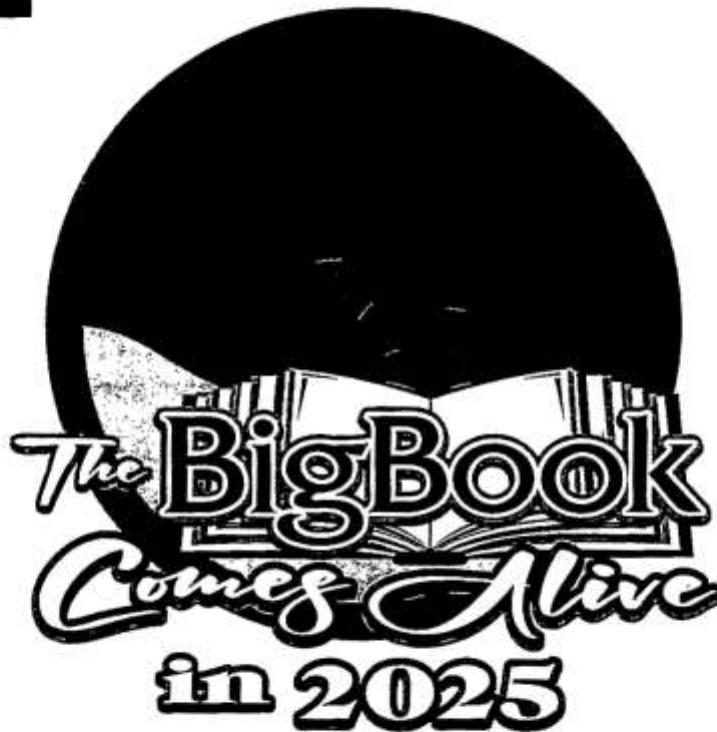
Step Nine is about cleaning house and healing. When I have caused “injury or loss” to someone I have also harmed myself. I have created guilt and fear and alienated myself. So as I make the amends, I am also healed. The healing I experienced in those relationships spills over into all my relationships. The gifts from working this step are many. Remember that this Step is on the threshold of the “Promises”. If you are new and wondering “what’s in this program for me?”, I suggest you grab a Big Book and go to the end of Step nine and read the “Promises”. Many of them have come true for me. I thank God for the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and the many gifts and miracles I have received from working the Steps.

Respectfully submitted,
Daria S.

73rd

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AA CONVENTION

WITH AL-ANON PARTICIPATION



**The Big Book Comes
Alive in 2025**

September 5th - 7th, 2025

**The Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & Spa
Rancho Mirage, California**



19th Annual
Mountain AA Conference
with Al-Anon Participation

A Search For Serenity

Big Bear Performing Arts Center
39707 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Friday, September 5, 2025
6pm - 9pm

Saturday, September 6, 2025
7am - 10pm

Sunday, September 7, 2025
7am - Noon

Hospitality

Delicious Gourmet Luncheon

Five Main AA Speakers and Al-Anon Speaker

Saturday Night Ice Cream Social with Entertainment

Saturday & Sunday Yoga & Sound Bath with Samantha and Nick
(all levels welcome, please bring mat)

Long Timers Meeting

AA and Al-Anon Marathon Meetings

Country Store/Souvenirs

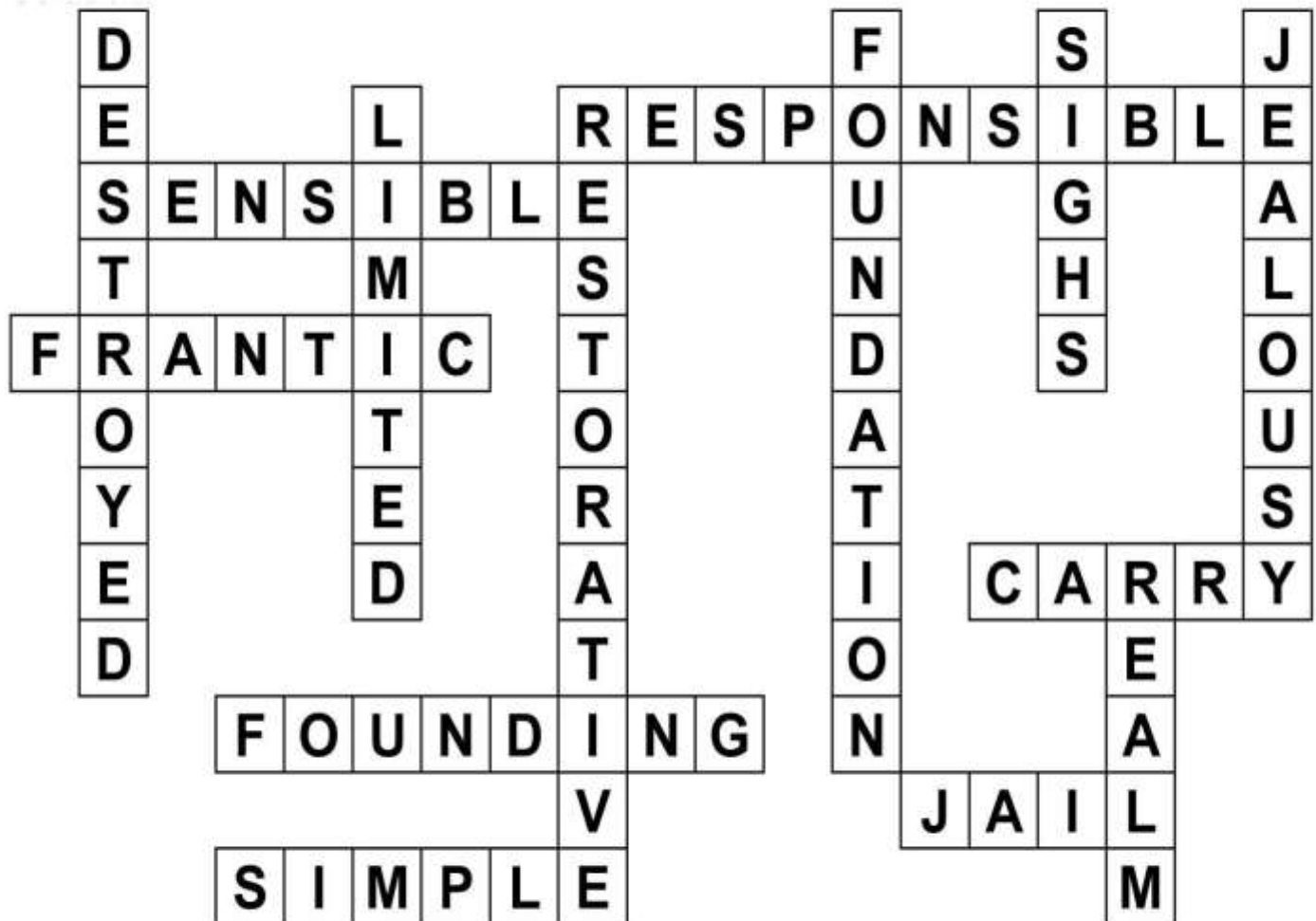
Sunday Morning Pancake Breakfast

SATURDAY MORNING WORKSHOP with Herb K.:
The JOY of LIVING!

www.MountainAAConference.com

August Puzzle Solution

August 2025



"I love reading the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous! I get to see all of the new stuff that's been added since the last time I read the Big Book --- sometimes someone has even snuck in and highlighted stuff for me and written notes in the margin just to bring my attention to that "new stuff"!"

"I didn't think that I had a drinking habit, I thought that I had a drinking hobby --- and EVERYONE needs a hobby!"

Tradition Nine

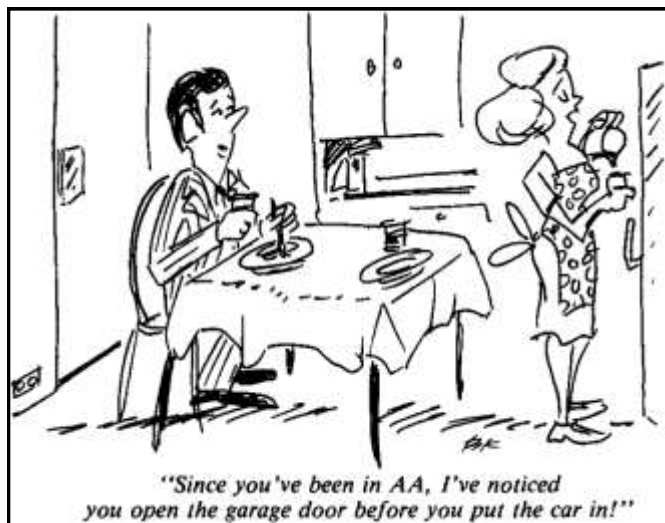
A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

A.A. as an organization is simple, one alcoholic bringing recovery to the next. In the spirit of service, our organizational bodies allow us to “better carry our AA message to others; to make for ourselves a finer, greater Society, and, God willing, to assure Alcoholics Anonymous a long life and perfect unity” (*Language of the Heart*, pg. 89).

When I first came to A.A., I had difficulty understanding how an organization could have the presence and longevity A.A. has with the least possible organization. As I became more involved in service, the more I understood and I became very passionate about the importance of achieving our primary purpose through service. When I first moved to the desert, Central Office was the first place I went. I immediately felt more connected to my new community and picked up a service commitment to volunteer at the office. I could not be more grateful for this experience. Just as A.A. was there for me when I was given the gift of desperation to stop drinking, Central Office was there for me when I needed to get connected to a new city. The more I learned about the role of Central Office, the more involved I became and my love for A.A. deepened dramatically.

Through the spirit of service, a path to carrying the message cleared and I can help ensure that A.A. is there for the next alcoholic, just as it was for me. Through A.A. service, I have experienced a true fellowship develop around me that is united under our primary purpose and it has been the most fulfilling aspect of my life.

Alyssa C.



THE MIDDLE STEPS IN A TIMELY MANNER

Luckily, my sponsor Carl allowed me almost no “*let me think it over*” time as we approached my initial middle step process. No time for fear or hesitation was available! Only minutes after praying the Third Step request for God’s help, he had me start a process I call “spontaneous writing” which provided substantive and honest Fourth Step information. I was warned not to write good things about myself because that would take too many pages. Ha!

This “Spontaneous writing” process started on a Saturday, “*at once*,” per page 64 instructions,” and we then completed the Step Four instructions the following Saturday. Carl then helped me actually “read and do” the Fourth Step process directly from the Big Book (PP 64-71). This process lasted about one hour.

The Step Five process of reporting my newly found character defects, etc., began just a few minutes after finishing Step Four (*First opportunity*, page 74), and Step Six began, “*then*,” (p. 76) and Step Seven was prayed at “*When ready*” (p. 76). Steps Four through Seven, were completed in a few hours that last Saturday. Doctor Carl Jung has written: “*People will do anything to avoid facing their own soul.*” Thankfully, my sponsor didn’t give me time to back out. He followed the Big Book timetable!

As years pass, as I watch newcomers too often disappear between Steps Three and Four, I have become much more appreciative of the Big Book’s timetable for the middle steps. I believe too much in-between time allows fear and doubt to take over; then, even the sincerest Third Step decision will often deteriorate into indecision and inaction.

Sometimes I hear: “*God will show me when to start my inventory*,” or, “*I plan to take my time and do it right*” . . . and so on. I believe it is good to explain, at this point, that what is missed in Step Four can always be taken care of in Step Ten—even years later when they crop up.

Step Ten is continually redoing the mid-steps of the “learning” process above! First of all, I had to learn how to do the mid-steps—only then could I actually put them into action by following these clear-cut Step Ten directions on page 84:

We continue to watch for selfishness, dishonesty, resentment and fear. (Step Four)

When these crop up we ask God at once to remove them. (Steps Six and Seven)

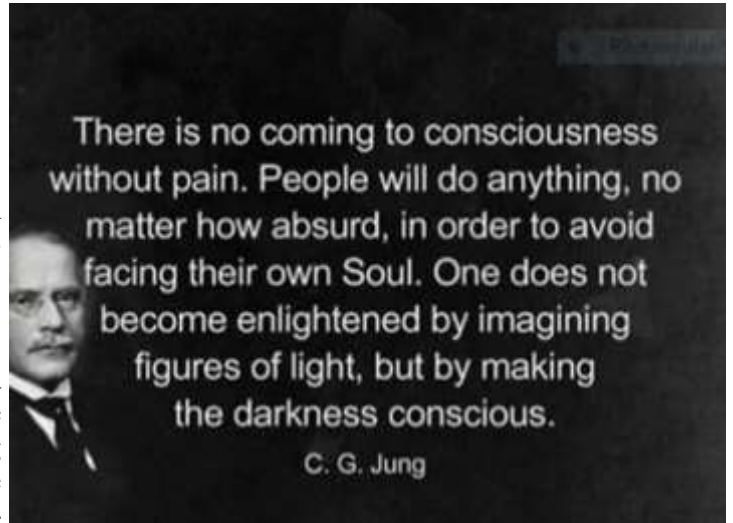
We discuss them with someone immediately. (Step Five)

Make amends quickly if we have harmed anyone. (Steps Eight and Nine)

Speaking of a “timely manner” as in the title of this article, I believe it is important to realize that as I go through my day, to remember that the step Ten instructions include the phrases: “*at once*,” “*immediately*” and “*quickly*.” Of course, these phrases are to be used in sensible context, for the Big Book infers that God gave me *brains to use*! For instance, not to phone my sponsor at work simply because I have some trivial concern or small problem.

Early on, I thought the above directions were to be done only before going to bed at night. Of course, that came from a mis-reading of the first full paragraph of page 86 which is Step Eleven. I now realize that Step Ten is to be done throughout each day. Living these middle steps, via Step Ten, continually provides relief from the anxiety and fear of my drinking days. But I need to remember that AA is a program of action! ~~~

Bob S., Richmond, IN



July Volunteers at Central Office

Amelia F.

Thank You !!

Bill T.
Bob B.

Candice B.
Clarissa H.
Forrest P.
Jason H.
Jean K.
Jim B.
John B.
John C.

Thank You !!

Kathy M.
Miriam L.
Megan L.
Nancy L.
Nikki J.

Pavithra S.
Richard B.
Rob H.
Scott H.
Shannan K.
Stephen St. L.
Teri P.

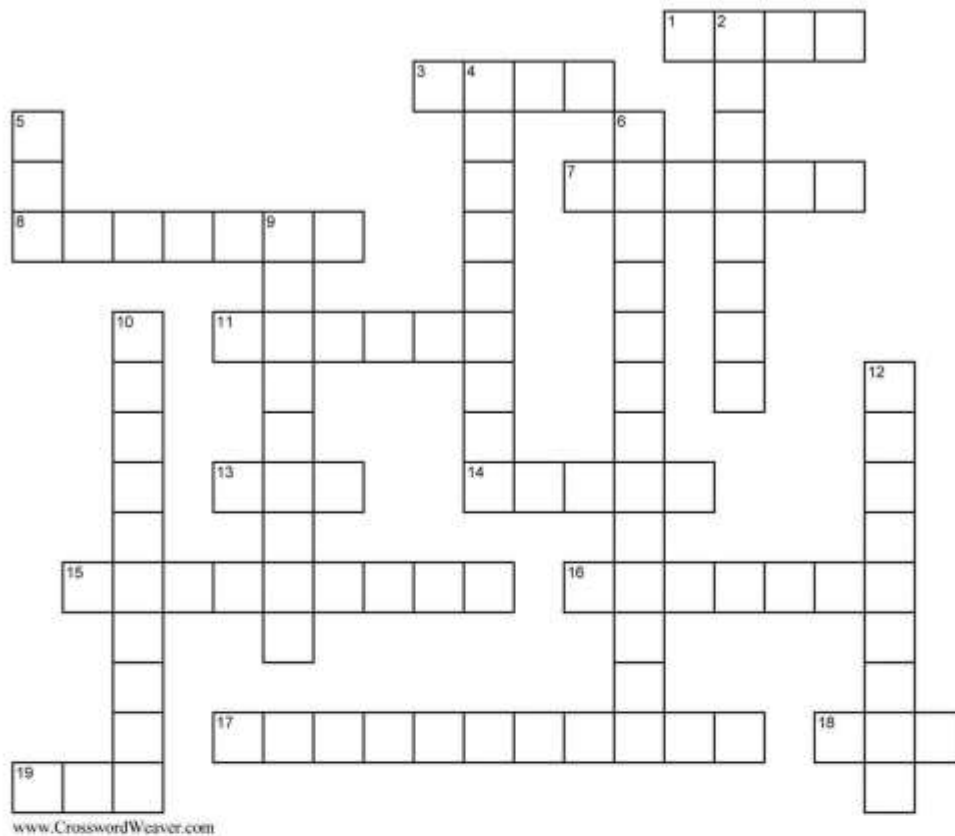
Positive Thinking - Negative Thinking – Reality

Reality Thinking: A Level Playing Field

By Rick R.

Ever since I was a child, anytime I had doubts about an event that was about to happen, someone would suggest “You’ve Got to Think Positive.” As much as I would have liked to be positive, I was seldom able to overcome my doubts simply by willing them away. Eventually I dismissed the idea that positive thinking would make any difference at all. As I got older, and in the grip of alcoholism, my cynicism grew, and I thought that I was always getting the bad breaks. It was easier to complain about everything than it was to take responsibility for myself. Fear of humiliation, responsibility, social activities, and all the other fears that alcoholics are plagued with, was my comfort zone, as long as I could drink myself into oblivion. When that no longer worked for me, I came to Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and have been sober ever since. I learned in A.A. that alcoholics are plagued with *irrational* fear and that these fears far exceed the normal, God given instincts that we were born with and that these fears are the root cause of our problems. Positive thinking may work fine for normal people but for me it translates into *expectations*, and disappointments. In Dr. Paul’s story in the Big Book pg. 417, he said (“My serenity is inversely proportionate to my expectations”) and I agree with him. Negative thinking, on the other hand, has undesirable effects on the alcoholic. It seems that when I am cynical about an issue, it gives me a built-in excuse not to perform. It makes it much easier to sit in a bar and complain about the issue than to take the risk. This plays right into the *irrational fears* that have paralyzed me during my drinking days and still have the potential to keep me from growing in the program. A.A. does not stop life issues from happening, but it does help me to stop doing damage to myself. Over the years of exploring the cause and effect of my experiences, I have become very pragmatic about this issue. Like other issues in my A.A. development I have learned that moving away from the two extremes and closer to the center, which I refer to as, “Reality Thinking,” has taken the artificial emotions (drama) out of my decision making, and that has served me well. I do not get too high when I am on a winning streak or too low when things are not going well. I live my life on a “Level Playing Field,” and it is Real. I have very few disappointments, and my mind is less troubled. For me, peace of mind is the byproduct of this approach to my thinking. Today, I hope for the best, prepare for the worst, and accept whatever happens, and I discovered that often, the things that I used to worry about never happen. The most effective and productive approach for me has been the establishment of a list of principles that I live by, that are consistent with the A.A. program and, other respected philosophies of life, that I have explored, that give me the best possibility to be successful in my undertakings. That does not mean that I never have disappointments, but the successes far outweigh the failures.

September Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Physically I ____ fine.
- 3 As we ____ new power flow in, as we
- 7 ripped the keys out of ____
- 8 nothing disturbing to their ____ or ceremonies.
- 11 thought we could find an ____ softer way.
- 13 American businessman ____ it. "Lets look at the record."
- 14 circle of peace on ____ and good will to men
- 15 This went on ____, and I began to waken very early in the morning...
- 16 urge them not to be ____, for that might spoil matters.
- 17 If he is ____ following the program of recovery
- 18 He could see the ____ crowd inside.
- 19 an individual with a passion for, say ____ - walking.

DOWN

- 2 Fear of people and of ____ insecurity will leave us.
- 4 You may need to ____ him to play once in a while.
- 5 but holds a relatively important ____, can talk to a man with a better position.
- 6 ____ made him willing to believe.
- 9 Presently he is hit again and this time he has a ____ skull.
- 10 watch for selfishness, ____, resentment and fear.
- 12 "The basis of the technique is that Alcoholics Anonymous is the truly ____ principle that a man cannot help himself except by helping others.

Desperation is a Great Motivator

Sincerity is a Great Healer

By Rick R.

Recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) affects people in many ways. The first and most obvious is their ability to abstain from the use of alcohol for without that there can be no recovery. Next is the willingness to abandon the idea that they can do this on their own and to seek the help of something outside of their own failed way of thinking. Third is the act of surrendering and "buying in" completely (so to speak). At this point, the recovery process may differ depending on your age, gender, economic situation, marital status, legal woes, and other side issues. It is not our role to judge anyone who comes to A. A. seeking help nor is it our job to bail them out of their current situation out of sympathy. That does not mean that we cannot buy a meal for a hungry soul or give them a few bucks for gas. We are recovering alcoholics and our role is to listen and to try to understand what they need from us consistent with the principles we have learned and relate our experiences with them. Younger arrivals usually are dual addicted and the average long-term alcoholic that has not experienced the drug culture lifestyle may have a difficult time identifying with them. Recovered addicts usually share about their Rip Off mentality as a user, while the average common variety alcoholic talks about guilt and shame and the need to pay their bar-tab. A high percentage of our membership arrive in their forties in the middle of, or on the cusp of the threat of a divorce, and without experienced feed-back, make bad decisions where, in some cases, they could have salvaged their marriage and saved the children the damage caused by divorce. My main question when greeting a newcomer at a meeting is usually "What brings you to A.A.?" Usually, their response comes in the form of a complaint about the situation they are in, (divorce papers, Dui, Fired from job) etc. My next question is, (If that hadn't happened, would you be here today?" Their response is usually, "Probably not." I then explain that my first wife could have filed for divorce ten times before she was desperate enough to do it and, had she not, I would, still be out there circling the drain or worse. For two years I tried to convince her to take me back, but it did not happen. Desperation brought me to the door of A.A. where I began the life I live today. This type of perspective usually gets their attention, and they often turn out to be more accepting of the need to change. Next, I will share the experience that worked for me. It may come in a sincere statement such as, "I know that I have been wrong about what a husband/father's responsibilities are and that I am an alcoholic and I believe that I've found the solution to my drinking problem. You have suffered from all of this, and I have learned greatly from the mistakes I have made, and I intend to do my best to make it right. Whatever the outcome is, I want to minimize the trauma to the children as we move forward." This type of sincerity sometimes takes the pressure off and gives her some breathing room and in some cases, opens the door to salvaging the marriage. My question is: Can you live up to these proposed actions?

Another area where sincerity and ownership of past mistakes has an unexpected outcome is in the courtroom. Judges have heard every flimsy excuse in the world and can see right through all the BS of a con artists, and they are not fooled by them. Believe me when I say that I have witnessed more than my share of these two approaches to resolving the damages of alcoholic behavior, and the sincere approach far outweighs the con job, most of the time, and you cannot fake sincerity.

Book of the month

\$6.00

75th Edition Big Book

\$6.00

Normally \$12.00 - this month \$6.00

This special edition of Alcoholics Anonymous is a reproduction of the first printing of the first edition of the Big Book as it was published in 1939. This faithful replica of the original — featuring red cloth binding, thick paper and the colorful "circus cover" —

was published to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Big Book.

General Service Conference-approved.

Hardcover 6" x 9"

416 pages



Voices

Do you hear the voices in your head?
Or, do you answer them instead?
Do they cry out in pain?
OR, even know your name?
Do they tell you what to do?
OR, is what you hear untrue?
Do you pay the price?
Or, just indulge in your vice?
What's really under...



Doug D.



Redeemed

I took my bottles to bed.
But of course, I was sick in the head!
I drank every day to get tight,
But for some reason I couldn't get it right!
Whenever I had the blues,
I always chased them with more booze!
The more I drank,
The more I stank!
Then came the day,
I almost blew myself away!
Suddenly, God cleared my dismay!



Doug D.



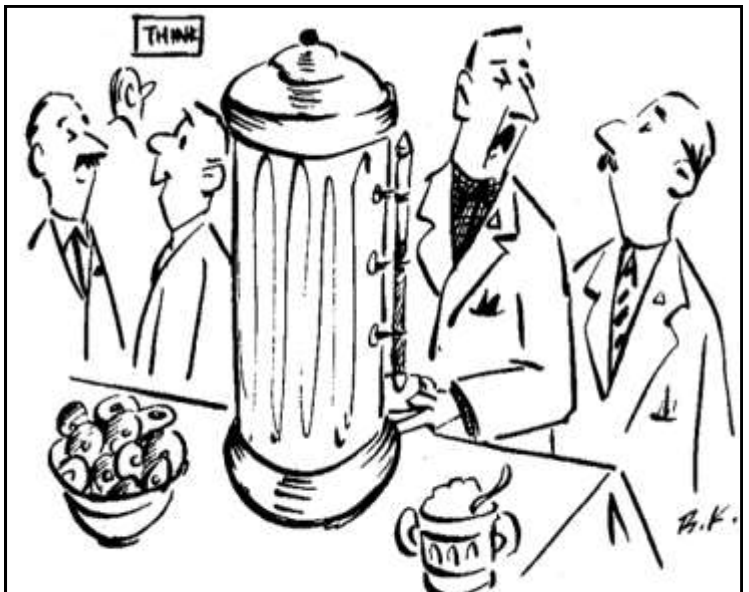
There's more to taking the Steps than reading that big poster on the wall. When I worked the Steps off the wall, I got off-the-wall results.

Sponsee (explaining an unprincipled action): "Well, I think that I did that because I'm in denial."

Sponsor: "Honey, you've been sober for awhile now. I'm not so sure it's denial as much as it's refusal."



"I suppose this Seventh Step is for those who have shortcomings."

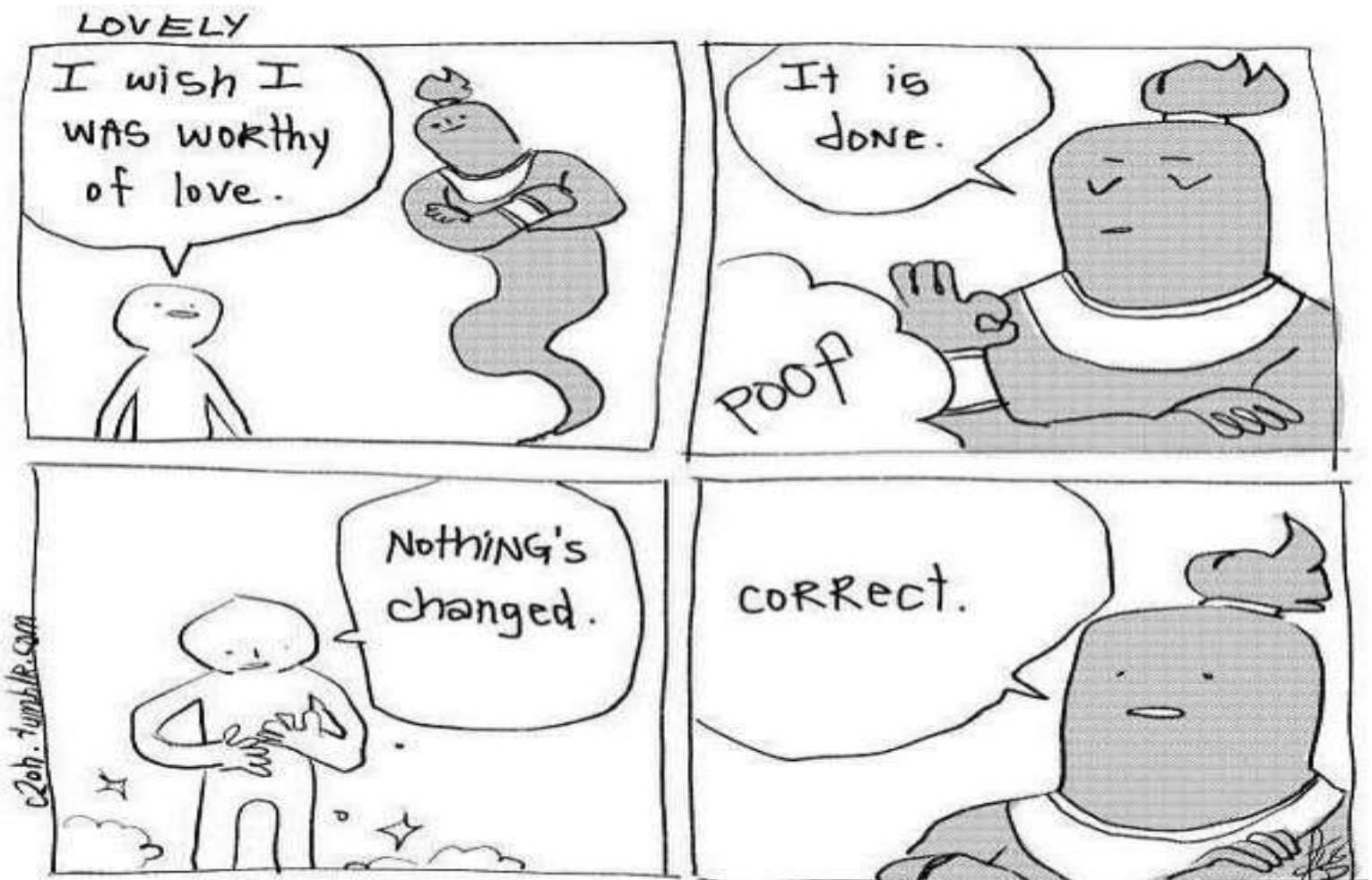


"It's not a resentment really, she just makes me sick!"

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 to 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.



Idyllwild
Alcoholics Anonymous
Speaker Meeting



Last Sunday of Every Month

12pm

St. Hugh's Episcopal Church
25525 Tahquitz Drive
Idyllwild, CA 92549

Come hear a message of
Experience, Strength and Hope
in the beautiful San Jacinto Mountains.



All are Welcome!



51st Annual

MAAD DOG DAZE



9th District Convention



September 5-7 2025

DoubleTree Hotel & Golf Resort

by Hilton Palm Springs

Discounted room rates @\$129 Until 8/09/25 to book: Call 844-543-9184 use code MD2
DoubleTree by Hilton Resort - 67967 Vista Chino, Cathedral City, CA 92234

Weekend Events:

SPEAKER MEETINGS, MARATHON MEETINGS, POOL PARTY,
KARAOKE, DJ DANCE PARTY, *GOLF TOURNAMENT, YOGA,
GUIDED MEDITATIONS, GAMES, RAFFLE PRIZES, 50/50,
MONEY TREE, AND MORE!

*INDICATES TICKETED EVENT



scan or visit
maaddogdaze.org



51st Annual 9th District Convention

- You must be registered to attend ticketed events
- To sit together, you must register on-line or mail in requests together
- If registration is not received by 8/15 you may register on-site on 9/05



PRE-REGISTRATION T-SHIRT

REGISTRATION INFO

ONLINE

Scan To
Register On-line



or visit
maaddogdaze.org

- Pre-Registration \$30
- Recovery Home \$15

ON-SITE

On Site Registration \$35 Open 12pm 9/05

BY MAIL

Make checks payable to: Ninth District Convention
PO Box 4383 Palm Desert, CA 92261

GUEST INFORMATION	ITEM	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
Name _____	Pre-Registration	_____	\$30	_____
_____	Pre-Registration T-Shirt	_____	\$25	_____
Street Address _____	Friday Night Ice Cream Social	_____	\$8	_____
City _____	Saturday Golf Tournament + Lunch	_____	\$100	_____
State, Zip _____	Saturday Buffet Lunch	_____	\$45	_____
Phone _____	Saturday Night AA Plated Banquet	_____	\$70	_____
Email _____	Sat. Dinner Choice: ☐ Beef ☐ Chicken ☐ Vegan/Vegetarian	_____		_____
Name Tag To Read _____	Saturday Night Ice Cream Social	_____	\$8	_____
Group and City _____	Sunday AA Buffet Brunch	_____	\$40	_____
☐ AA ☐ AI-Anon ☐ Guest	Newcomer Donation	_____	\$---	_____
Pre-Reg Unisex Shirt Size: ☐ XS ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL	TOTAL \$	_____		_____

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☐ AA ☐ AI-Anon ☐ Guest	Newcomer Donation	_____	\$---	_____
Pre-Reg Unisex Shirt Size: ☐ XS ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL	TOTAL \$	_____		_____

Make checks payable to: Ninth District Convention PO Box 4383 Palm Desert, CA 92261



No man should think that sobriety comes easily.

Sobriety doesn't come by merely wanting it, or by shouting for it.

Sobriety is built, brick by brick, by total effort and belief.

And it is built in the living faith that, in the end, with the help of our Higher Power, we can achieve mastery of our destiny.

Jim M
Perez Plaza, Cathedral City

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.

What at first look seems to be a contradiction of the Twelfth Tradition, which reminds us to place principles before personalities. It seems to recognize that AA members will allow themselves to lead, but generally do not like being told what to do. Bill Wilson said it is like saying to our leaders, "Act for us, but don't boss us." We members of AA must survive in order to help the other alcoholics still suffering. Thus said, we must support the best General Service Representatives (GSR's) we can find, for it is these people that ultimately select District Committee Members (DCMs) who in turn select the Delegates to the Conference.

Do we appreciate our current GSRs and all the effort they put forth?

Do we get on the bandwagon when asked?

Do we have the talents or gifts when asked to be of further service to AA without compensation?

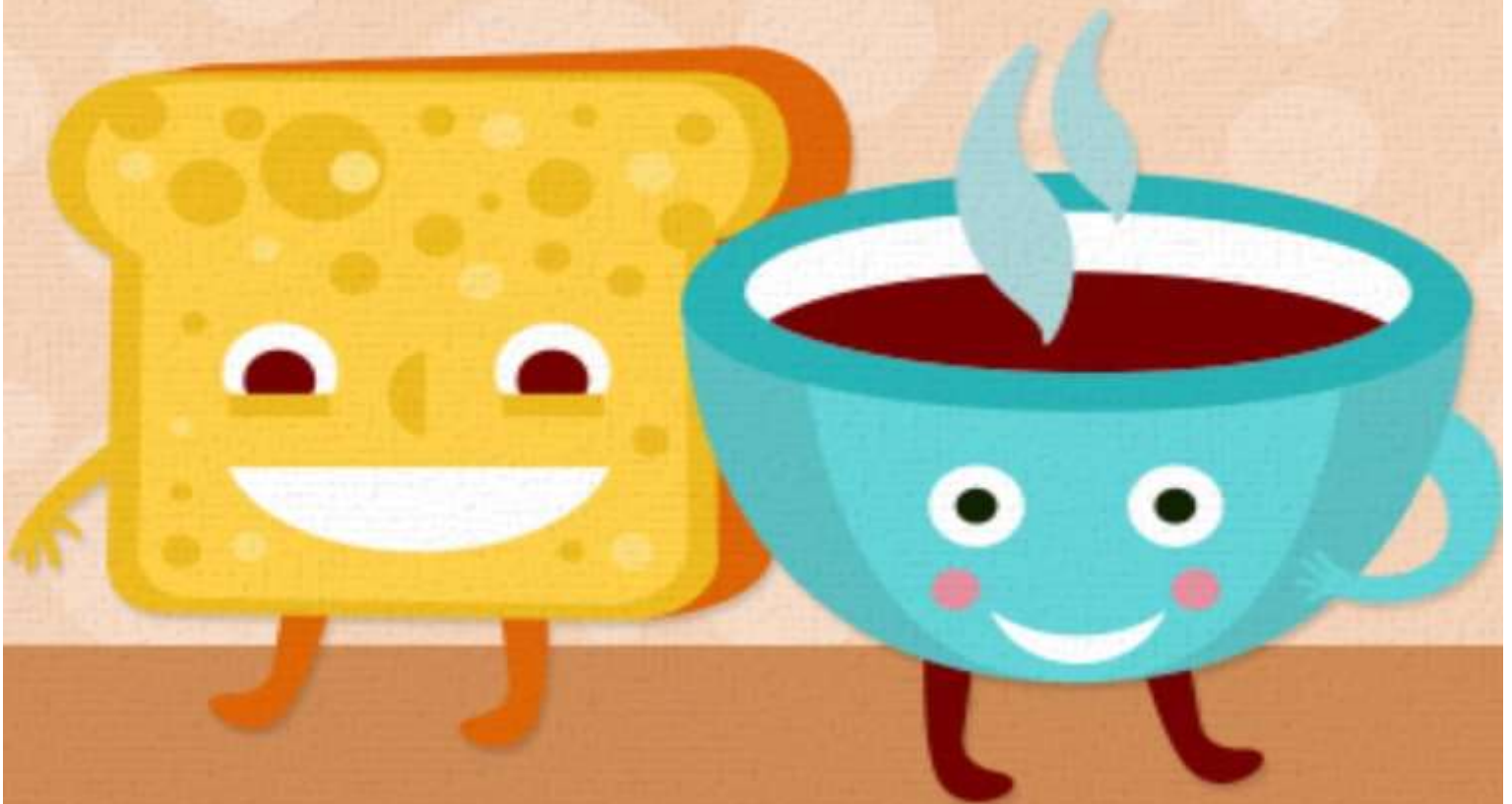
Joe A. Monday Marauders Stag , St. Margaret's



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



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
2025 BRIDGING
THE
GAP
Workshop
Weekend
TEMPORARY CONTACTS
September 5th – 7th 2025

Hosted by Area 5
The Greater Los Angeles Area
Sheraton Ontario Airport Hotel

429 N Vineyard Ave Ontario, CA 91764 (909) 937-8000

Room Rates \$155+tax Room Code BTG

The Annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend
consists of presentations, discussions, shared
experiences and breakout sessions.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

☐ I would like to volunteer to help

Email _____	Service Position _____	Area _____
Name _____	Phone _____	
Address _____	City _____	State _____ Zip _____

breakout session topics you would like	Registration	Before July 1st \$50	EarlyBird In-Person Weekend Registration	\$50	☐
		After July 1st \$60	In-Person Weekend Registration	\$60	☐
		Saturday Only Day Pass	\$40		☐
		Online Attendance	\$60		☐
				Saturday Nite Banquet	\$50
			Vegetarian	☐	
			Total Person One \$		_____

Register Online at BTGWW.org or Mail this form to and a check to:

BTGWW 10001 E Evans Ave #62D Aurora, CO 80247

HOW SPIRITUAL JOY DIFFERS FROM HUMAN HAPPINESS

For years I considered the Big Book statement: “*Happy, joyous and free*” as a bit redundant, for after all, are not happiness and joy the same? (p. 133) However, years later I found that **HAPPINESS** and **JOY** are two completely two different things:

HAPPINESS is a human experience. It disappears when we are sad or depressed. But **JOY** is a “God experience” that may take place even when we are sad or depressed.

I have experienced said unexplained joy while feeling deeply depressed in a tent while camping in Sault Ste. Marie, Canada. I had recently been separated from my ex-wife and was feeling enormous depression. We had camped in that same tent in the Grand Canyon during our honeymoon previously. In the middle of the night, I became unexplainably full of energy, and everything seemed to wax extremely vivid and bright. I was full of **Joy**. This lasted throughout the night.

I believe Bill Wilson was experiencing great **Joy**—not ordinary happiness—after he went through his vital spiritual experience on page 14 of the Big Book: Doctor Silkworth told him: “*Something has happened to you. I don’t understand. But you had better hang on to it. Anything is better than the way you were.*” I believe Bill’s resultant **Joy** prompted him to immediately go out and start helping alcoholics. So, I believe God’s **Joy** can be ongoing!

Then there is Fitz Mayo who had such an ongoing vital spiritual experience that: “*He couldn’t drink even if he would.*” (P. 57, Big Book) There must have been great Joy in that!

Again, Ebby Thacher (Bill’s sponsor), who was not a spiritual person prayed to God: “*as never before*” and was stuck sober for two years and seven months. Again, great **joy** must have been present. (**EBBY** *The Man Who Sponsored Bill W.*, by Mel B. – p. 58) Ebby died in 1966, two years sober.

I believe the blessing of spiritual Joy will come to me when God decides to send it—I cannot just wish for it. However, I believe my chances are all for the better if I try to maintain a fit spiritual condition by living the Twelve Steps.

Bob S



Although she wrote in her online dating profile that she wanted a guy with a sense of humor, this was not what Mindy had envisioned.

The 12 Steps of Non-Recovery

1. We admitted we are powerless over nothing, that we would manage our lives perfectly and those of anyone else who would allow us to.
2. Came to believe there was no power greater than ourselves and that the rest of the world was insane.
3. Made a decision to have our loved ones and friends turn their will and their lives over to our care, even though they couldn't understand us.
4. Made a searching moral and immoral inventory of everyone we knew.
5. Admitted to the whole world the exact nature of everyone else's wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to make others straighten up and do right.
7. Demanded others to either shape up and ship out.
8. Made a list of all persons who had harmed us and became willing to go to any length to get even with them all.
9. Got direct revenge on such people whenever possible, except when to do so would cost us our lives, or at the very least a jail sentence.
10. Continued to take the inventory of others, and when they were wrong promptly and repeatedly told them about it.
11. Sought through complaining and nagging to improve our relations with others as we couldn't understand them, asking only that they knuckle under and do it our way.
12. Having had a complete physical, emotional and spiritual breakdown as a result of these steps, we tried to blame it on others and to get sympathy and pity in all of our affairs.





Central Intergroup of the Desert

Budget Report

July 2025

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	5,728	6,000	(272)
Gratitude Dinner	23,239	8,000	15,239
Interest Income	1	0	1
Sales	12,068	9,000	3,068
Total Revenue	\$41,036	\$23,000	\$18,036
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold	8,061	5,850	2,211
POS Inventory Adjustment	(874)		(874)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$7,187	\$5,850	\$1,337
GROSS PROFIT	\$33,849	\$17,150	\$16,699
Expenditures			
Accounting Services	1,000	1,000	0
Computer Expense	550	520	30
Credit Card Fees	384	315	69
Insurance - Health	547	775	(228)
Insurance - Liability	310	315	(5)
Newsletter Expense	259	225	34
Office Expense	1,517	1,500	17
Outreach		100	(100)
Payroll Expenses	5,117	5,400	(283)
Rent	1,728	1,728	(0)
Storage	269	269	0
Utilities	655	800	(145)
Total Expenditures	\$12,336	\$12,947	\$ (611)
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$21,513	\$4,203	\$17,310
NET REVENUE	\$21,513	\$4,203	\$17,310





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

Want to get the Desert Lifeline delivered directly to you via email each month?? Well..... now you can. Just go to the Central Office web site,

<https://aainthedesert.org/newsletter-sign-up-form/>

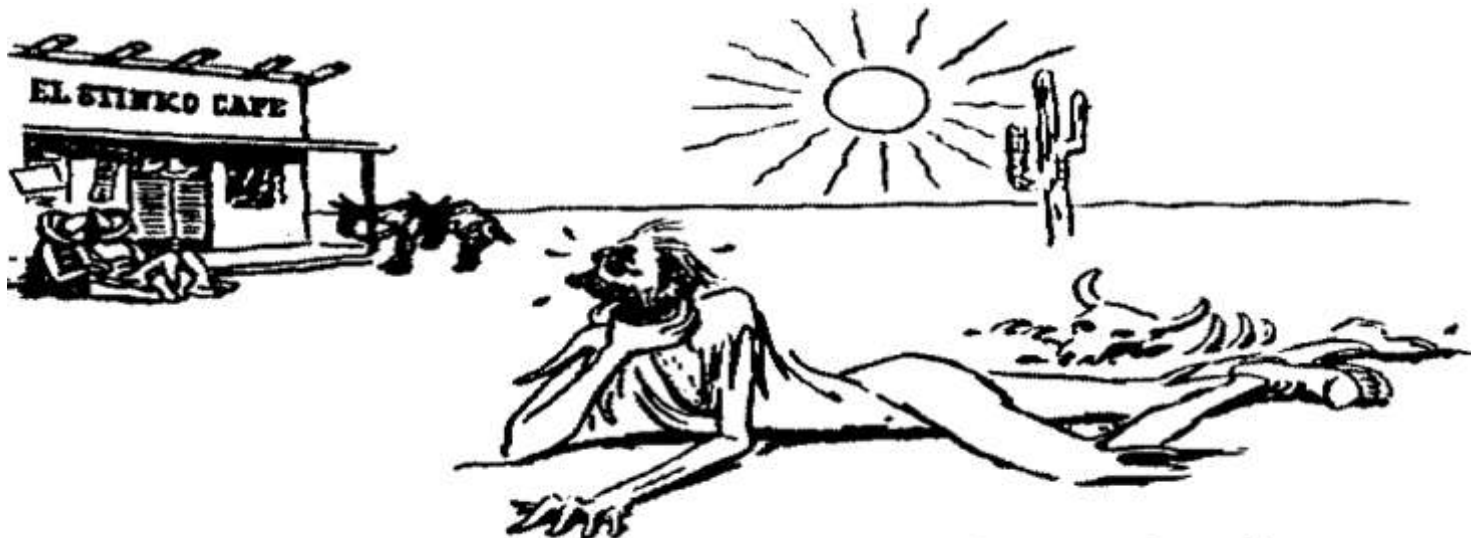
and enter your email address to sign up! It's just that easy!!

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

July 2025

	TOTAL	
	JUL 2025	JUL 2025 (YTD)
3rd 7th 11th Step Meeting	288.40	288.40
630 AM PDCC Zoom Joyce Medford	120.00	120.00
Anonymous No Group Given	1,838.22	1,838.22
As She Sees It La Quinta	65.00	65.00
Big Book Study L Quinta Library	372.92	372.92
Bill's Hour	82.25	82.25
Birthday Contributions	51.00	51.00
Central Intergroup Cathedral City	37.00	37.00
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	152.89	152.89
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert	142.86	142.86
Double Winners	25.95	25.95
Happy Hour Book Study Palm Desert	84.00	84.00
It's A Better Deal Yucca Valley	50.00	50.00
Jaywalkers	84.90	84.90
Living Sober Women Sat. La Quinta	59.00	59.00
No Rules La Quinta	500.00	500.00
Palm Desert 7 AM Attitude Adj.	198.00	198.00
Playing With A Full Deck Palm Desert	245.60	245.60
Singleness of Purpose Men's Stag	880.00	880.00
Sober Divas	75.00	75.00
Stepping Stones	127.00	127.00
Sunday Serenity Group	120.00	120.00
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	77.97	77.97
Winners Meeting Yucca Valley	50.00	50.00
TOTAL	\$5,727.96	\$5,727.96



"Water! Water! With Bourbon and not much ice!"

Grateful in the Desert!



41st Annual Gratitude Dinner!

Earl H. Vista, CA

Fellowship ~ Raffles ~ Live Music

SCAN TO
PAY



November 2, 2025 5 PM - 8:30 PM

Palm Springs Air Museum 745 N. Gene Autry Trail, P.S., CA 92262

Online Ticket Sales: www.aainthedesert.org

A fundraiser hosted by your AA Central Office Intergroup Committee