



the Desert Lifeline

November 2025

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.
Zoom I.D. 924 237 7111
P.W. Intergroup

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.
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

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.

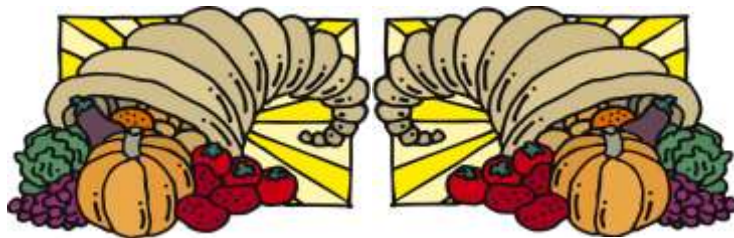
Tradition

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.



E
L
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V
E
N

Principle Eleven

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

September Office Statistics

Meeting Info	45
12 Step Calls	3
Visitors	43
Literature Sales	221
Al-Anon	0
Other 12 Step	0
Miscellaneous	13
Business	16
Zoom Attendance	51

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.
Amelia F.
Ginny P.
Alex K.

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

September 2025


Sean G. 11 yr.




Jackie D 16 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.

11/01 - Zach W. - Palm Desert
11/08 - Harold Y. - Westchester
11/15 - Linda M. - Palm Springs
11/22 - Lee A. - Los Angeles
11/29 - Wyatt V. - Venice

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

Friday Night, 8 p.m.

11/08 - Abreah G. - Los Angeles
11/15 - Patricia H. - Corona
11/22 - Kimberly R. - Orange County
11/29 - Joe P. - Coachella



November Speakers



Adam W.
Amelia F.

Thank You !!

Bill T.
Bob B.
Dan S.

Forrest P.
Jason H.
Jean K.
Jim B.
John B.
Mark H.

Thank You !!

Megan L.
Nancy L.
Nikki J.
Pavithra S.

Rob H.
Scott H.
Sean T.
Shannan K.
Sharif T.
Stephen St. L.
Teri P.

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

\$3.00

AA for the Older Alcoholic (Large Print)

\$3.00

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 \$4.50

This Month \$3.00

\$3.00



\$3.00

Tradition Eleven

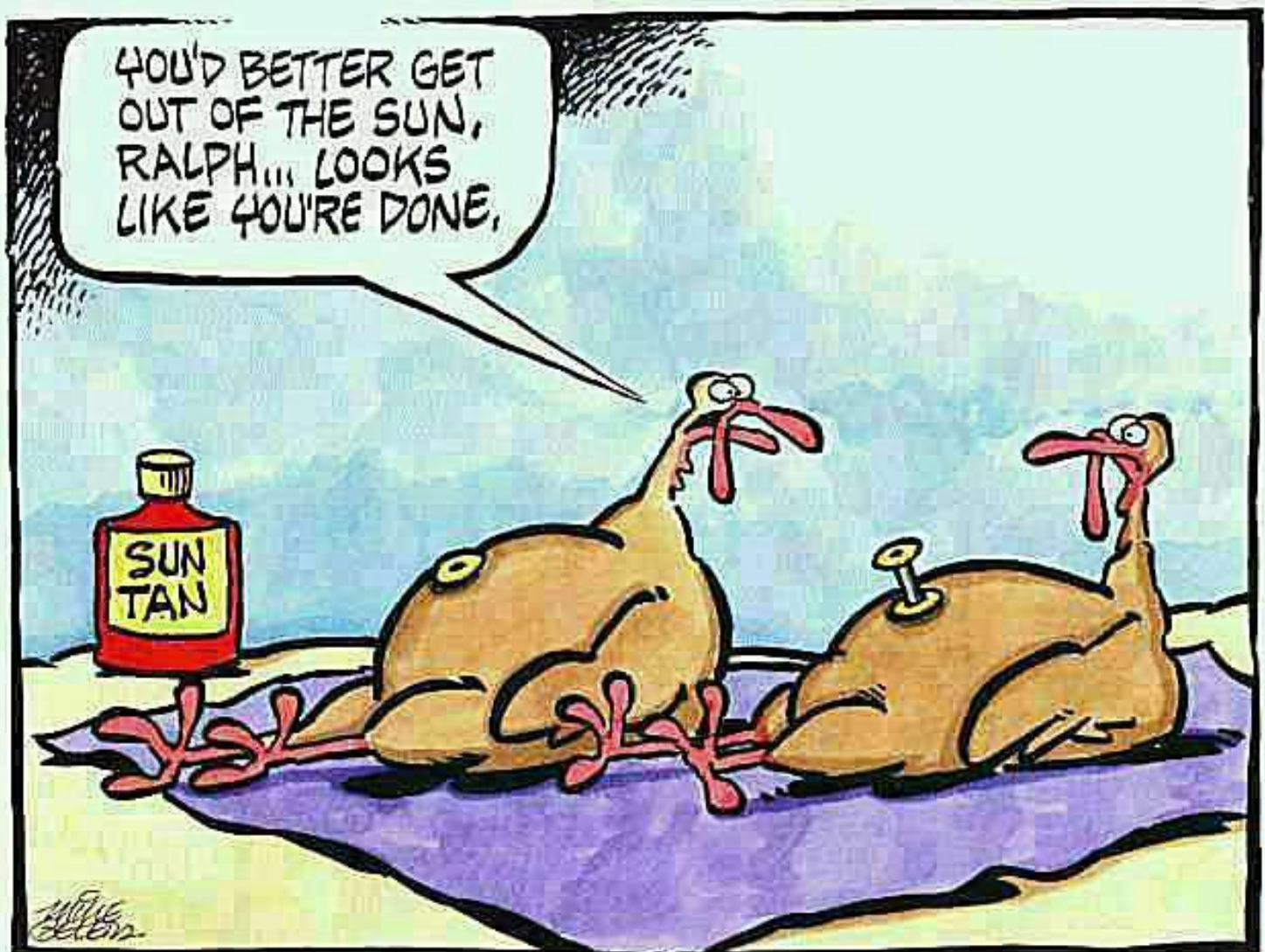
Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

It is written in our 12/12 on page 181, "We found that we had to rely upon the Principle of Attraction, rather than of Promotion". I have always found and seen that it is the best way for our Friends and Family to promote us.

However, "painstakingly slow", this always keeps me humble. Now over time I understand what the "Old Timers" meant by "they're watching how you Walk".

I've learned that I don't need to be anonymous in the meetings, but always, "at the level of press, radio, and films". Never to promote, or praise myself, but to always be there when someone reaches out.

Tony C.
Roadrunners, Bermuda Dunes



November

Find the words on the right in the letters below and circle the words.

acceptance
gratitude
honesty
willingness
sponsor
steps

traditions
alcohol
meetings
powerless
unmanageable
contempt

Puzzle

e s p o w e r l e s s
l g n i w d s r i t s
b e m a i u a t p e g
a m m l l t a m e p n
e n a c l i e r p s i
g s n o i t i d a r t
a a o h n a o n y h e
n s a o g r o e r n e
a g c l n g r n m c m
m a c c e p t a n c e
n a y t s e n o h l n
u t n e s p o n s o r



*Came to
Believe
Group*

SPEAKER MEETING

SATURDAYS AT 7 PM

Join us on Saturdays at 7 PM for experience, strength, and hope from members of the fellowship!

November Speaker Schedule



11/1: Michaela - Palm Desert
11/8: Brian S. - Palm Desert
11/15: Dennis H - DHS
11/22: Josh A. - Thsnd Plms
11/29: Gina - Palm Desert



Alano Club of the Desert 463 W. Dominguez Rd, Palm Springs

October Puzzle Solution

Solution:



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

The Alano Club 50th Anniversary Party

We are looking for volunteers

For Committees

Please attend the next Event
Meeting

Saturday, November 22nd

at 9:30am

In the Meeting Room

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?????

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.

Although AA is non-profit we realize the importance of having competent paid staff members. I once saw an illustration that compared AA to a church with an open floor with room for all which stands for recovery, pillars representing the traditions and the beacon of light that is meant to shine a light of hope into the world of an Alcoholic. Concept eleven is the way we maintain competent people servicing that light making sure it doesn't go out. The Chapter serves as a basic outline of how to go about running the different committees, what their function is, who sits on the boards. The issue of pay, the spreading of power, time in office are all answered. Possibly I could write an entire essay on this chapter that would be neatly skipped over as friends of bill seek out the crossword puzzle, but the importance of well trained people running AA's world service is not something that can be taken lightly.

Stuart H.
Monday Men's Stag, Rancho Mirage

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!"

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

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.

When I arrived at AA, fully surrendered, I realized that it was only through a Higher Power that I was granted the grace to recover. The Steps were at first daunting and I felt like a failure at everything I had ever attempted. As I reviewed the Steps, I realized what a task I had ahead of me. Being a good alcoholic, however, I did look for the easier, softer way. Many of the steps seemed impossible for me in my fragile state. Step Eleven, however, seemed to be one that I could probably practice successfully right from the start.

I realized that the miracle of recovery I was experiencing would not have been possible had my Higher Power not carried me through the wreckage of my drinking. I knew that if He was with me then, He was surely with me now.

This was one commitment I could make – to pray or meditate regularly. There were no rules as to the manner or duration, so it was possible for me to succeed at something. I started out with strict dedication to 4 meditation texts, which was the discipline I needed at the time. Later I found that I was drawn in different directions. Again, I was so grateful that this was something I couldn't do wrong. My life in early sobriety was entirely black and white – when the step said, “praying ONLY for knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out”, that was my ONLY prayer. I wouldn't even be sincere in saying the Serenity Prayer, but keep asking for “knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out”. As I grew in sobriety, there was also intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth. I realized that as long as I was sincere in my contact with God, the form and wording mattered little.

Further benefits of practicing this step are the feeling that my Higher Power is always by my side; there is a quick and almost automatic acknowledgement of gratitude to him when good things happen and when things do not go my way, instead of whining and feeling sorry for myself I just as quickly move to acceptance, looking for my part and the lesson I should be learning. I continue to remind myself that God doesn't need to hear my prayers, it is the act of praying that gets me out of myself and keeps me on the path of greatest usefulness to God and to my fellows.

Jane T.
Dolls of the Valley, Palm Desert

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?

Sober Vacations International

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Sober Village Michès Playa Esmeralda

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Central Intergroup of the Desert

Statement of Activity

September 2025

PROFIT & LOSS

Net profit for September

-\$7,472

\$9,948

Income

\$17,420

Expenses

	TOTAL	
	SEP 2025	JUL - SEP, 2025 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions - Groups & Individuals	6,232	18,866
Gratitude Dinner	(6,731)	18,143
Interest Income	1	7
Sales	10,446	31,218
Total Revenue	\$9,948	\$68,234
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	5,330	17,918
POS Inventory Adjustment	(173)	(1,049)
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$5,156	\$16,869
GROSS PROFIT	\$4,792	\$51,365
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	1,000	3,000
Computer Expense	546	1,644
Credit Card Fees	370	1,089
Insurance - Health	713	1,819
Insurance - Liability	310	930
Newsletter Expense	223	700
Office Expense	1,307	3,945
Outreach	75	75
Payroll Expenses	4,964	17,681
Rent	1,728	5,183
Storage	269	807
Utilities	758	2,113
Total Expenditures	\$12,264	\$38,986
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ (7,472)	\$12,379
NET REVENUE	\$ (7,472)	\$12,379

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

September 2025

	TOTAL	
	SEP 2025	JUL - SEP, 2025 (YTD)
3rd 7th 11th Step Meeting		288.40
5th Tradition 7AM Attitude Adjustment Group #100		1,776.61
630 AM PDCC Zoom Joyce Medford	140.00	260.00
Alano Club Palm Springs		200.00
Anonymous No Group Given	500.00	3,120.44
As Bill Sees it Sunny Dunes 830AM		380.39
As She Sees It La Quinta		124.00
Big Book Study L Quinta Library		372.92
Bill's Hour		82.25
Birthday Contributions	16.00	98.00
Black Sheep Group		250.00
Central Intergroup Cathedral City	17.36	54.36
Daily Reprieve-Daily Palm Desert	157.51	819.96
Desert Cities AA Group	2,732.00	2,732.00
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert		142.86
Double Winners	36.00	131.95
Female Friends Yucca Valley	50.00	50.00
Friday Night Big Book Study 29 Palms	100.00	100.00
Friday Noon La Quinta Library	354.00	354.00
Happy Hour Book Study Palm Desert		84.00
Happy Hour Group Sunny Dunes		816.00
It's A Better Deal Yucca Valley		50.00
Jaywalkers Monday Men's Stag 1000 Palms		84.90
Just the Black Print		579.32
Last Call Group 104		165.77
Living Sober Group-Joshua Tree		10.00
Living Sober Women Sat. La Quinta		59.00
Men's Stag Book Study		100.00
Monday Daily Reflections 29 Palms	125.00	125.00
No Matter What Women's Group		133.51
No Rules La Quinta	400.00	900.00
Ojai Women's Meeting		21.35
Oxy-Moron Group	100.00	100.00
Palm Desert 7 AM Attitude Adj.	175.00	574.00
Palm Desert Saturday Speaker's	50.00	50.00
Palm Springs Attitude Adjustment Group Group	25.00	75.00
Playing With A Full Deck Palm Desert		245.60
Ray's Wed. Nite Meeting Joshua Tree		183.26
Saturday 29 Palms 12 & 12	286.00	286.00
Serenity Seekers Palm Desert		240.00
Singleness of Purpose Men's Stag		880.00
Smoking Jackelope Men Stag	200.00	200.00
Sober Divas	75.00	225.00

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions - Groups & Individuals

September 2025

	TOTAL	
	SEP 2025	JUL - SEP, 2025 (YTD)
Solutions in Sobriety Palm Desert	76.38	76.38
Spiritual Meeting Yucca Valley	40.00	40.00
Stepping Stones		127.00
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study	244.50	244.50
Sunday Serenity Group	76.00	261.00
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	105.81	281.74
Thursday Night Discussion 29 Palms	150.00	150.00
Tuesday Gut level		60.00
Vets for Vets Palm Desert		50.00
Winners Meeting Yucca Valley		50.00
TOTAL	\$6,231.56	\$18,866.47

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.

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.