



the Desert Lifeline

October 2026

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

Continued to take personal inventory
and when we were wrong
promptly admitted it.

Tradition

Alcoholics Anonymous has no
opinion on outside issues; hence
the AA name ought never be
drawn into public controversy.

Concept

Every service responsibility should
be matched by an equal service
authority, with the scope of such
authority well defined.

Principle Ten

Vigilance: Exercising self-discovery, honesty, abandonment,
humility, reflection, and amendment on a momentary, daily, and
periodic basis.

August Office Statistics

Meeting Info	22
12 Step Calls	1
Visitors	77
Literature Sales	173
Al-Anon	6
Other 12 Step	2
Miscellaneous	39
Business	8
Zoom Attendance	68

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert Board of Directors

Chairman: Jessica P.
Vice Chairman: Amelia F.
Treasurer: Kathy F.
Secretary: Alan G.

Directors

Alex K.
Christa V.
Meredith B.
Teri P.
Jett T.

Office Manager: David M.
Newsletter Editor: Anonymous

Tradition 10 Checklist

(for all A.A. members to consider)

**Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues;
hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.**

Taken from SM F-131 The Traditions Checklist

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an “**AA opinion**” on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the “AA opinion”?
3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?
5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps Unconscious, ways?



August Volunteers at Central Office

Adam W.
Allan G.
Amelia F.

Thank You !!

Bob B.

Hope I.
Jean K.
Jessica C.
Jim B.
John B.

Thank You !!

Kathy M.
Pavithra S.
Rob H.
Rob R.
Sam D.

Stephen St. L.
Ted St. L.
Teri P.
Terry A.
Victoria A.
William S.

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

10/03	-	Jeannette C.	-	Palm Desertt
10/10	-	Mike Mc.	-	Palm Desert
10/17	-	Elias M.	-	La Quinta
10/24	-	Scott P.	-	Bermuda Dunes
10/31	-	Janis C.	-	1000 Palms

Sobriety Capital of the World Group
ABC Recovery 44374 Palm St. Indio
Friday Night, 8 p.m.

10/02	-	Michael M.	-	Orange County
10/09	-	Hubert R.	-	Banning
10/16	-	Boone	-	Orange County
10/23	-	Darrin P.	-	Santa Barbara
10/30	-	Scott S.	-	Ventura



October Speakers



August 2026

Shoshanna S. 5 yr.

Judith E. 38
John H. 42 yr.



Sunny W. 45
Francine W. 47

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

Deeper Rooted Emotional Problems

The Center Line of Life
By Rick R.

We are all born with a Conscience and an Ego. We all have Instincts. We, as human beings, are also born with the Use of Practical Reasoning, and that separates us from the animals, who, for the most part, live by their instincts. The degree to which these assets and liabilities affect our behaviors differs in all of us. "Yet these instincts, so necessary for our existence, often far exceed their proper function. "(12&12 Step 4)" Most normal people make mistakes in their lives and that is normal since no one is perfect. Most Alcoholics, however, take their life to the brink of destruction before they become desperate enough to surrender and enter the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. (A.A.) Most alcoholics struggle with emotional difficulties that far exceed the normal range. Some of these troubles can be rectified simply by acknowledging that they exist and being willing to change our motives and behavioral habits.

Unfortunately, A certain percentage of our fellowship have Deeper Rooted Emotional Problems that are permanent and cannot be cured simply by practicing A.A. principles alone. They are often masked by the use of alcohol and when a person stops drinking and starts dealing with their behavioral problems, these things rise to the surface in the form of: O.C.D; A.D.D; Bipolar Disorder; P.T.S.D; and many others that can only be subdued by the use of medications that, in some cases, dulls the mind of the patient to the extent that they would resist taking the medication and would rather live with the symptoms. Not knowing this, we sometimes misunderstand the people stricken by these deeper-rooted mental conditions and believe, by their sharing, that they are Resistant, Arrogant or Egotistical etc. when displaying behaviors that the average person is not afflicted with. These conditions are not always at the extreme levels and each of us, being Alcoholics, have a degree or behavioral problems that are outside of the normal range else why would we need to attend A.A. meetings. Let us consider the normal range to be 5 degrees on either side of the center line. The extremes of the abnormal behavioral problems extend out to 50% on either side of the centerline. Let us take Fear as an example. Some people are so fearful they are afraid to leave their home, while others are so fearless that they may dive off a cliff into a pool of water. These are extremes, and we all fall somewhere in between. Those of us who are fortunate enough not to be afflicted by those pre-mentioned mental disorders, are blessed in the sense that, practicing the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous, can bring us back towards the center line and we can lead a somewhat normal life.

For those ill-fated ones afflicted by those conditions, they can stay sober, but the behaviors are still apparent to us and, unless we can recognize and replace the habit of Judging Them by Their Outward Behavior, we are still outside the normal range ourselves, and when we replace the habit of being judgmental with the habits of Compassion and Empathy, we are somewhat closer to the center line. We can change all those alcoholic behaviors when we recognize them, simply by looking deeper into our motives for our actions pointed out in the A.A. program. Steps Six and Seven begin this process of recognizing our *defects of character*, based on our thinking, and changing the *shortcomings or actions* that result from those thoughts. "There are those too who suffer from grave emotional and mental disorders but many of them do recover if they have the capacity to be honest." (BB pg. 58) My question is, do we have the capacity to be accepting when we recognize that some of us have these, uncontrollable deeper-rooted issues and that we cannot compare them to ourselves and be judgmental about these difficulties. Love, Compassion and Empathy are the center line positions in these cases. They need our understanding.





When I was new I'd call my sponsor with a problem and I'd pour out this terrible tale of woe and she'd say, "So what?"

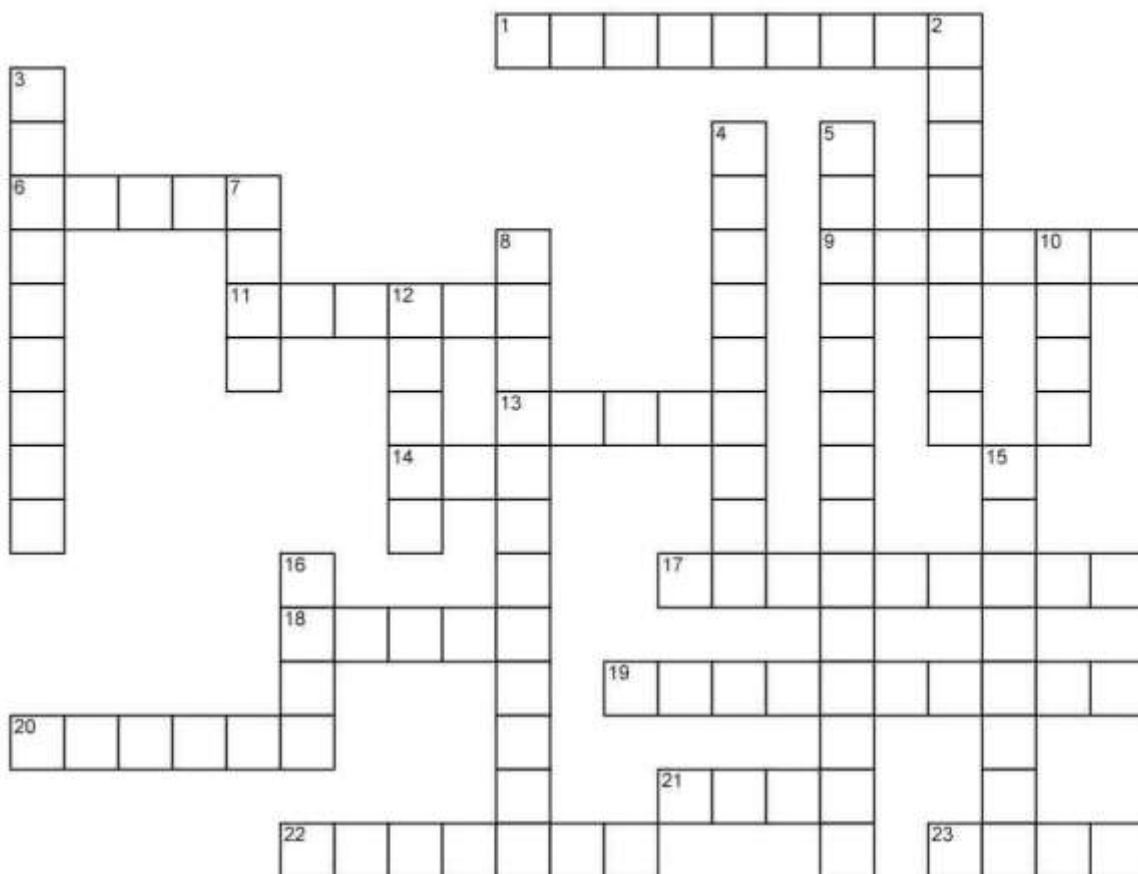
Excuse ME!?!?!? So WHAT!?!?!?

With time I came to see the wisdom of her response . . . most of my terrible tales of woe really are "so whats"!

Today I know that with many things, I don't have to fix it or change it. I can just say 'so what' and go on about my day. Most of those things seem to take care of themselves.

Sponsor to Sponsee: The problem is that half of your brain manufactures BS and the other half believes it!

October Puzzle



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 1 Dr. William D.
- 6 Russian potato juice
- 9 How often we've seen them fail
- 11 Bill was offered a job at his lab
- 13 In what city did Bill meet Bob?
- 14 36% of AA members are sober over ____ years
- 17 meeting in print
- 18 Alcohol
- 19 International Convention City (2 words)
- 20 soundness of mind
- 21 Mrs. Dr. Bob
- 22 Physician, Heal ____
- 23 Bill's longtime secretary

DOWN

- 2 Dr. Bob's middle name
- 3 You have to take one
- 4 Author of the March 1, 1941 article in the Saturday Evening Post
- 5 He is quoted in Appendix 2 (2 words)
- 7 The 3rd Step prayer doesn't have it but the 7th Step prayer does
- 8 our life when we got to AA
- 10 Alcoholics are like men who have lost these
- 12 Dr. Bob surname
- 15 Circle and ____
- 16 Who brought the message to Bill Wilson

Puzzle answers will appear in next month's Desert Lifeline.
You can also find them on our web site — www.aainthedesert.org

The Hunt

You slammed into my life like a train that ran away
And then you slipped into the night so I would die in vain.

My heart was torn in pieces and my soul was ripped to shreds.
I couldn't live without you yet I wished that you were dead.

Somebody said they'd seen you on the other side of town.
So I decided it was time to finally hunt you down!

I chose my weapons carefully—made sure each one would kill.

To see you begging for your life would give me such a thrill!

I set out on my journey—Sweet revenge would soon be mine!
Determined I would find you—I was running out of time.

My journey—long and treacherous I searched both high and low.
My body soon grew weary as I still had far to go.

The sun sat on the mountain high—the valley low and dark
I prayed for soul salvation as I aimed to reach my mark.

Then finally— I stood there and I faced your fortress door
My search was finally over and I'd have to hunt no more!

My hand was weak and trembling as my fist began to knock
But when the door swung open both my knees gave way in shock!

For on the other side there was a mirror I could see
my own reflection staring back—**MY NEMESIS WAS ME!**

A note was taped upon the glass with letters bright and red.
“To Me”— I must have written because this is what it said:

*“Hurt people DO hurt people—It's a fact you can't deny
Even harder to accept when it's been Me, Myself, and I.*

*For I've never really loved myself nor valued my own worth
I've claimed since the beginning I've been dying since my birth*

*It's a matter of perception and we're all free to decide
To find our journey's answers we must search ourselves inside.*

*For the living and the dying both see things a different way
While the dying hide in darkness those who live embrace each day.*

*We're not immoral sinners with a stamp upon our soul
We lost the fight for human plight we thought we could control.*

*The beauty of this paradox is simple—not complex
No magic potion could relieve our self-inflicted hex*

*The answer's in surrendering the shackles we've held dear
With honest self admission, final victory is here!”*

Though my heart still felt confusion and my mind was reeling still
The hunt was finally over and I didn't have to kill.

I dropped my cache of arsenal into the holy ground,
And headed back to safety with the answers that I'd found.

My load was so much lighter and a smile was on my face
I'd finally found solution and now could slow my pace.

I guess there was a difference for the people all around
Could see that I was happy with the answers that I'd found.

They asked me many questions, because **they** were still in pain.

*“Please tell us the solution so that **WE** can do the same!”*

I humbly shared my story
Then we gathered hand in hand
With heads bowed low in reverence
We asked God to command:

*“Take my will—my life—
Please guide me now
And show me how to live.”
And with that supplication
it is now our turn to give.*

It's important I remember about all those years gone by
When all I had to live for was the day that I would die.

It was in my darkest hour that I finally found the light
The hunt for me has set me free and death has lost the fight!

By Teri K Palm Springs



AA call to Service

Sign up as a Temporary Contact

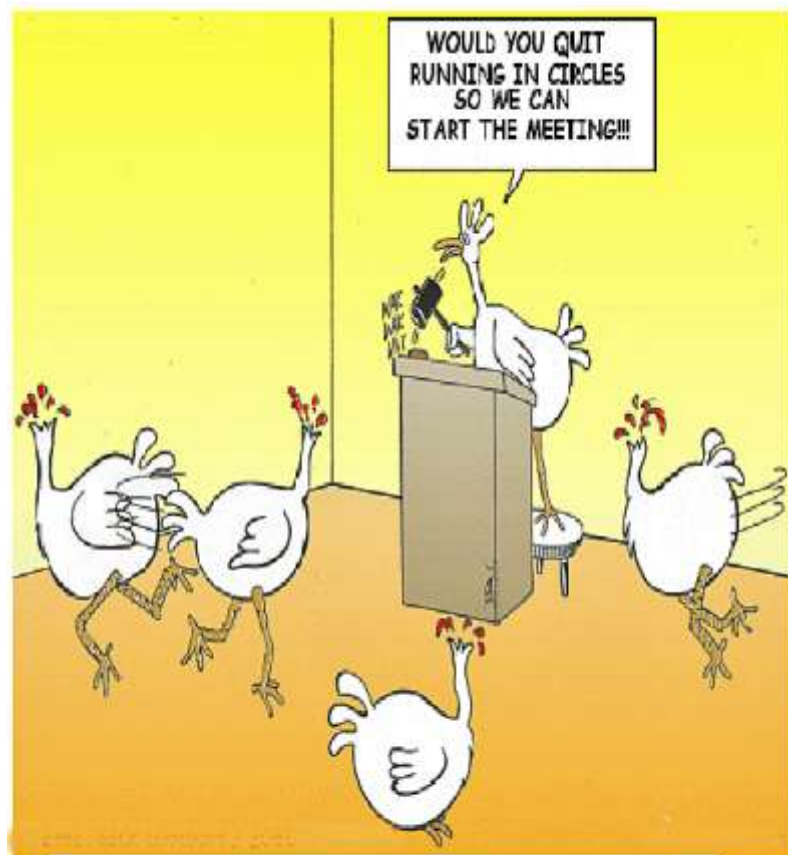
Volunteer to be a temporary Contact and when a contact request is received, our committee will contact you if you meet the criterion for that specific request.

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.



At The Monday Night Meeting Of Chickens With Their Heads Cut Off Anonymous Meeting

JOIN THE FAITHFUL FIVERS!

“When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer.”

• Bill W.

- Reprinted from *The Language of the Heart* with permission from the AA Grapevine, Inc.

Faithful Fiver Contributors 2026

We had a total of 8 people contribute to Faithful Fivers in July, donating \$175!! Adding to the year-to-date total of \$950.00

THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!

Yes! Please enroll me as a Faithful Fiver!

I agree to pledge!

Here is my contribution of

\$ _____ for _____ months

Description

Faithful Fivers are members who choose to support the continuing word of Central Office with recurring monthly contributions. The suggested monthly contribution is \$5.00, but a greater amount is always appreciated.

In keeping with our A.A. 7th Tradition of self support, we accept contributions only from A. A. members.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please make your checks payable to:

Central Office

And mail to:

35-325 Date Palm Drive

Suite 107

Cathedral City, CA 92234



venmo



For Zelle contribution use
(442) 352-3913 from your
bank app

zelle®

Given the current financial options of our lives, although checks and cash still work, using digital transfer is preferred by many. Venmo and Zelle options are here for you to send individual contributions. A regular monthly contribution using “Bill Pay” from your bank is also a modern option.

Your Central Office not only keeps a current inventory of the chips, books and pamphlets your local meetings can conveniently find here in Cathedral City, but our phone volunteers also support any who need information on their court ordered signature requirements. We provide hourly signatures using the Zoom Meeting available each day during business hours. The 18 volunteers here each week also handle 12 Step calls for those needing to directly connect with members one-on-one to help with their drinking.

The Teleservice Volunteers who answer the phones one evening a month to support any local Alcoholics when the office is closed increases out office’s ability to support the “Responsibility Pledge” where the hand of A.A. is available to those in need.

Our website that synchronizes daily with the “Meeting Guide” app provides locally updated meeting information that synchronizes directly to this hand-held meeting directory be “geo-located “ to the Coachella Valley. Without this office’s website, our local meetings would be compromised from another area.

Your continued and regular support of our office, giving honor to, not only the Gift of Sobriety you have received can be personally recognized with this regular contribution here at Central Office.

David M. Office Manager

21st ANNUAL JOE BENITEZ DESERT MEN'S BANQUET
"INTO ACTION"

Sunday, November 1st, 2026

Fantasy Springs Resort-Casino

Indio, CA

Exit Golf Center Parkway, Off I-10 FWY

4PM – Meet & Greet

5PM – Dinner / 6:30PM -Speaker

\$65.00 per person / \$650.00 per table

For more information, please contact:

Al S. 310-344-1210

David H. 719-859-3200



CV Desert Central Intergroup | 35-325 Date Palm Dr. Ste 107 | Cathedral City, CA 92234

Your Birthday Club Invite

Welcome, this is your invitation to join the Birthday Gratitude Club of AA, Coachella Valley where we honor and celebrate each sober year with gratitude, purpose and financial responsibility. Also, your Birthday contribution to Central Office, is helping sustain the vital work of our Central Office in Cathedral City-carrying the message and serving those who still suffer.

You will receive your 2026 Certificate of Appreciation, as a small token of our gratitude, in a responding email from Central Office.

Together, let us grow this monthly opportunity for giving and gratitude to reach many more members. Our goal is to extend this important monthly fundraising opportunity to many more members this year and in the years ahead.

AA Birthday milestones

- Birthday celebrations and contributions serve to inspire others, reinforce the importance of continued sobriety, build fellowship, and help fund the important work of our Central Office.
- It is common for other members to offer support, cards, or gifts to the person celebrating. Please help us make it a common practice for celebrants to mark their milestone with contributions to Central Office along with contributions from their AA friends and Sponsees.

Historical Context of Birthdays in AA

The practice of giving a "birthday contribution" (often a dollar per year of sobriety to support AA services) grew organically within AA culture, reflecting Bill Wilson's belief that:

- **AA must remain self-supporting (Tradition Seven).**
- **Gratitude is best shown through service and financial responsibility.**

1. Gratitude for Sobriety

Bill wrote that gratitude should express itself in action:

"Gratitude should go forward, rather than backward."

Zelle:
(442) 352-3913
From your
Banking app

Venmo



Name: _____
Sobriety Date: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Contribution: _____
Your Cake Meeting: _____

For further information: Ira Meltzer 760.808.1444

Please Join our Private FaceBook Group: Sobriety Birthday Coachella Valley

Concept Ten

Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

Defining concept ten basically defines how there is an ultimate authority. However equally distributed to the service committed either by the A.A. groups, the conference, or the Trustees. Equally meaning there is always an ending to a decision by equal means, not by preference of choice. The service committed by AA Groups, the conference, the Trustees, etc. are matched by certain authorization matched by responsibility and no further authority. This can only be changed by appropriate decisions on the situation. How does authority distribution work in our every day life one may ask? And how a process like this works? By taking control of one's actions through understanding and adequate judgment.

Homer A.
Men's Stag, Sloan's Restaurant, Indio, Wednesday Night

Tradition Ten

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Tradition Ten, like all our traditions, is an important tradition and concentrates on the purity of A.A. As long as we respect these traditions, Alcoholics Anonymous can remain intact and pure to its primary purpose and continue to have a message carried to alcoholics who suffer in and out of the fellowship.

We should be proud that we (A.A. as a whole) have never allowed ourselves to be divided by any major issue that the world has presented. In doing some research for this project, I learned more about a group called the Washingtonians. Their first vision was to be an organization of alcoholics who helped one another stay sober. And they were just that for a while. Their membership grew to over one hundred thousand members in the early 1900's. But, they allowed influential people, who weren't all alcoholic, to use their society for their own reasons. Because of this, they basically got sidetracked and their attention was diverted from staying in the solution to the disease of alcoholism.

Fortunately for us, people in early A.A. history, learned from the Washingtonians. They decided, and have taken the appropriate action, to stay out of public controversy by creating our tenth tradition. Because A.A. continues to be the number one most effective influence on my life and keeping me sober, I take personal responsibility to make sure I leave my opinion on outside issues away from sponsorship and the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous and pray that all others do too. This has to do with tradition one and our common welfare. Our recovery depends on us sticking together with the same vision in keeping A.A. pure.

Garrett D.
Serenity Group, Cinemas Palme D'Or, Theater 4, Palm Desert, Sunday

[illegible]

Nassau: "The surest way to lose your health is to keep drinking to other people's."

The Tenth Step Acid Test
Principles to Live By
By Rick R.

Each of our steps takes a certain amount of thoroughness but for most of the steps, it seems we will be working on them for the rest of our lives as they involve practicing principles that we have incorporated into our day to day living experiences, and after the Ninth Step has been given due diligence, we can go on to Step Ten. This is not the time to rest on our laurels. Having put a little time between us and our last drink required a lot of effort, and it would be a shame to lose interest in the growing process at this time. My ego is always ready to move right into those empty spaces when I vacate my growing efforts. My approach to Step Ten was confusing at first, as I thought I was going to be running around with a clipboard for the rest of my life, and I didn't like the idea of credit and debit lists and penciling out things, but I tried it for a while, and I still didn't like it. I couldn't see monitoring myself on every face-to-face verbal transaction and running around apologizing to everyone that I may have made a mistake with. That was my first impression of step ten. What I discovered was that the tenth step is a framework for the upkeep and maintenance of all of the previous nine steps, and as I incorporated those principles into my value system it made me aware of my mistakes and it became easier and easier for me simply because the more I live by unselfish, proven principles, the less mistakes I make, and the easier it became to right those mistakes on the spot. When I first heard the term, "cash register honesty", it meant more to me than just being honest with a cashier. It meant that I had to stop taking advantage of everyone. That is a principle to live by. Since I started on this journey, I have wanted to be free of all the sick feelings I had about myself and, at first, I couldn't find anything in the Big Book or the 12&12 that I could sink my teeth into. The one thing that came close was the term: *sins of omission, but that was too direct*. I was looking for a broader term that would have covered the things that I was unaware of. All my life, under a mountain of misdeeds and inappropriate behavior was the word **NEGLECT**. I then Googled it and found it twice in the Big Book (pg.97 and 129) and twice in the 12&12 (pg.81 and 151) but I don't think I ever saw it addressed as seriously as all of the other major defects are, but it was *major for me*. I discovered it in the process of doing the tenth step. To set the tone for my day-to-day activities I start by making my bed when I get up in the morning. By doing this I am making a statement that I won't be neglectful, irresponsible, lazy, etc. If I am at the market, I'll find a stray cart and return it to the rack, just to make up for all the times I pushed a cart into the flower bed and fled. The acid test is how diligent I am at continuing these exercises in selflessness until they become second nature. You may have your own way of giving back to make it right and these things cost us nothing, but if I'm willing to do them, it's a cinch I won't be ripping anyone off today. It helps to have a clear conscience, and it may be what a good role model should be doing. I want to be quick to address my mistakes, for we know that nobody's perfect, and I don't want to miss the spiritual boat. Now it all comes down to *going through each day without doing anything I regret*, and I hope I pass the acid test.

Book of the month
"Our 12 Steps"

\$13.50

\$13.50

A brand-new collection of stories from AA members about the joys and challenges of working the program's Twelve Steps of Recovery. Each chapter illuminates a different Step through the experiences of a wide variety of AA members. This volume features all-new, up-to-date stories from the pages of Grapevine, the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. Great for sponsees and AA Step meetings.

\$13.50

Normally \$16.95
This Month \$13.50

\$13.50

NEWCOMER IMPRESSIONS OF AA

(What should I do—or not do!)

Using the same sort of foul language that I used as a thirteen-year-old to impress my parents that I have finally *grown-up*, leaves the newcomer with the impression that I am too immature or slow-witted to be taken seriously (psychologists call this attention-grabbing technique: “**shockers**”).

If I mock the Twelve Steps during the reading of chapter Five (*What’s the point? Balk-balk, Ha! Ha! etc.*) I am likely to leave the newcomer with the impression that the AA Twelve Step program is not to be taken seriously. The “Ha-Ha” may also come from seasoned members, just to be polite, although they may consider this “AA virus” as a crashing bore.

It feels good to share “let it all hang out,” at discussion meetings. However, if I do not share how the Twelve Steps are working in my daily life (My experience, strength, and hope), I leave the impression that AA is limited to a group-therapy solution. Bill Wilson wrote: “***Sobriety—freedom from alcohol—through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps, is the sole purpose of an A.A. group.***” * Group therapy is good, so far as it goes, but AA is better than that! We have a Twelve Step solution that really works.

If I spend my time during the important “*meeting after the meeting*” with my regular friends, but ignore the newcomer, I am apt to leave them with a negative impression of AA—they came in lonely and left lonely. A less-than-welcome reception may cause their first AA meeting to be their last AA meeting. I need to have AA literature ready for them with a robust welcome before they dash out the door.

I need to better maintain a neat appearance at meetings—something I am not always so good at! A general conception is that AA is comprised of skid row bums. Newcomers are happily impressed to find this is not so. After all, if I am to be trudging the road of happy destiny, shouldn’t I be dressed for the occasion?

Bob S

* Problems Other than alcohol (*Excerpts*) F8

Faith

When you have come to the edge
Of all the light you know,
And are about to step off into
The darkness of the unknown,
Faith is knowing
One of the following two things
will happen:

There will be something solid to stand on
Or you will be taught how to fly.



“I hate that smug look you get when you’re going to a closed meeting!”

Yucca Valley Alano Club Event!

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Good People Good Times ♥

Friday, October 9

6:00 PM

AT THE ALANO CLUB

All Are Welcome!

Our Story Continues... ♥

TIME CAPSULE BURIAL

AT THIS MEETING WE WILL BE BURYING THE TIME CAPSULE!
IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO PUT IN IT, THIS WILL BE THE DAY!

CATERED TACOS!

FREE EVENT!

LIVE DJ

MUSIC • FUN • GOOD VIBES

DON'T MISS IT!

74th

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AA CONVENTION
WITH AL-ANON PARTICIPATION**



**Get Your Spiritual
Kicks in 2026**

October 16th - 18th, 2026

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

REGISTRATION FORM 74th Southern California AA Convention**For more information - Visit our website at: www.aasocal.com**

Please fill out completely – print or type. If not mailed before September 8th, please plan to register online or at the Convention.

Name: _____
Last First

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____

E-mail: _____

Name Badge to Read: _____

City or Group: _____

☐ AA ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Alateen ☐ GuestName: _____
Last First

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____

E-mail: _____

Name Badge to Read: _____

City or Group: _____

☐ AA ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Alateen ☐ Guest

*Additional Name Badge to Read: _____

City or Group: _____

☐ AA ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Alateen ☐ Guest

*For additional registration if paying for more than two persons.

The Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & SpaGo to www.aasocal.com to make Reservations

71333 Dinah Shore Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Credit card required to make reservation,
but will not be charged until arrival.Guests may choose the option of paying with
cash or credit card at check in. Cancellation
must be made 72 hours prior to arrival date
or will be subject to 1 night charge.**Rooms as low as \$190*****plus tax (13.29%) +\$5 resort fee (Approx. \$220)****THE SPECIAL GROUP RATE IS ONLY
AVAILABLE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 8, 2026
SO, PLEASE BOOK YOUR ROOM SOON!**

Book your rooms early Telephone: (800) 524-4557

Book Your Room Online:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/SCAAC2026>

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Unwind at this beautiful Palm Springs resort set on 360 acres of lush landscape, championship golf, picturesque mountain views and a secluded location. Lounge by the pool or unwind at the spa during your desert retreat. The Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & Spa is surrounded by landscaped courtyards and extensive waterways. Guests enjoy elegant accommodations, ample meeting space, and a relaxing climate. In the enchanting desert, our resort enjoys sunny days and cool, relaxing nights. Play two championship golf courses, unwind in one of three sparkling pools, and be pampered at Spa at Westin Rancho Mirage. Experience culinary delights at Pinzimini. Each of the 472 guest rooms offers a private patio, Heavenly® Bed and Heavenly® Bath.

*Rate \$190 plus tax (13.29%) +\$5 resort fee Approx. \$220
Single-Quad per room (Maximum 4-people per room)
Free Self Parking / Valet Parking \$28 plus tax
Must cancel at least 72 hrs before arrival date with no penalty.
BOOK ONLINE: <https://book.passkey.com/go/SCAAC2026>
Call 877-253-0041 be sure to mention SCAAC
"Southern California AA Convention" to get the convention rate.

PLEASE NOTE:

Room rates are good for October 16, 17, & 18, 2026
convention dates, based on availability.**BE OF SERVICE!!!**

Help us celebrate our three legacies of "Unity," "Service," & "Recover."

By being of service! Check "Yes" to Volunteer

☐ Yes E-mail: _____

Event	Quantity	Amount	Total
Registration	_____	@ \$45	_____
YPAA Pre-Registration Package includes Friday Night DJ Dance	_____	@ \$45	_____
Saturday Night Live Band (and photo booth)	_____	@ \$10	_____
Saturday Al-Anon Luncheon	_____	@ \$65	_____
Tables of 10	_____	@ \$650	_____
☐ Meat ☐ Vegetarian			
Saturday AA Banquet	_____	@ \$80	_____
Tables of 10	_____	@ \$800	_____
☐ Meat ☐ Vegetarian			
Golf Tournament	_____	@ \$120	_____
5K/10K Fun Run/Walk**	_____	@ \$35	_____
Pickleball Tournament	_____	@ \$40	_____
Poker Run	_____	@ \$25	_____
Bill W. Fund	_____	@ \$10	_____

**Specify T-shirt Size: (Only with 5K/10K Run)

☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐ XXXL

Total Enclosed _____

Confirmations & Tickets will not be mailed to you
Registrations are not transferablePlease make check/money order payable to
74th SCAAC

Mail this form with check/money order to:

74th Southern California AA Convention

26580 Paseo Tranquila

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

For information E-mail:

southerncaliforniaaaconvention@gmail.com

If paying by credit card please go online:

www.aasocal.com

Step Ten

Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

I remember when I first read **Step 10 – Continued to take personal inventory, and when we were wrong promptly admitted it** – I didn't really think much about it. I always promptly admitted when I was wrong when I was out there drinking. I had no problem saying I was sorry...time after time, I would say, "I'm so sorry, I was drunk." In fact, that one sentence seemed to be my stock apology to many, many people.

What I realized after I got sober and had begun working the steps, was that Step 10 wasn't just about saying I was sorry after I had done something wrong or if I had hurt someone, but rather *changing* the behavior so I wouldn't have to apologize. This is where a continuous personal inventory became so important in my sobriety.

Step 10 is a two-fold, maintenance step; just as it says on page 85 of *The Big Book*, "What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition." Step 10 allows me to keep my side of the street clean and all I can really do is strive to keep it clean on a daily basis. When old behavior creeps in (because it does), doing a daily inventory affords me an invaluable opportunity to find out why it's rearing its ugly head and to deal with it accordingly. Additionally, my daily inventory acts as a kind of spiritual barometer for me. If I snap at someone at work, then that is when my spot-check inventory comes in handy. When I give myself that brief moment to "pause when agitated or doubtful," then I'll know I must make amends promptly...not allowing the potential negative situation to get worse.

Step 10 is an important and essential tool in my sobriety...one of the *many* that AA has laid at my feet.

Lee F. Step Sisters, Joslyn Senior Center, Monday night



Relapse

Oh, what a waste
I just wanted a taste
But then there were dragons to chase
Good times took a toll
I lost self-control
And ended up catching a case

Oh, what to do now?
I believe that somehow
Some angel or God has my back
Hope it won't be too long till I feel like I'm strong
And get back all the things that I lack

So I hope and I pray
That I'll do what I say
And finally make a new start
For God who knows all
keeps on breaking my fall
Although I keep breaking His heart

Jessica June

Tradition Ten

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

I was tremendously relieved, when I first entered into Alcoholics Anonymous to learn that AA will not, or more importantly, cannot force its membership to take sides on any issue that is not founded in its primary purpose of carrying its message to the next suffering alcoholic. Tradition Ten, in its long form, states that in matters of politics, alcohol reform or sectarian religion, AA as a whole should not express any opinion which may arouse heated debate.

I entered the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous a ripped apart lost soul. While I truly appreciated the outstretched hands of welcome, I was a little untrusting of the motives from the membership. The thought would pop through my head, "what do these people want from me?"

You see, ever since early adulthood I have been approached by several smooth talking, sparkling-eyed hucksters who have all made reasonable messages of world peace, revolution or personal salvation. Although well-intentioned with all these various movements, very few of them left enough of a lasting impression for me to stick around. For usually one of two things happened, either that particular issue had lost its relevance or the in-fighting became so unbearable that a group would ultimately disband. In my case, I generally had always felt like an outsider. I never identified what I believed, but one thing for sure, I've come to recognize that since I got sober, my personal views, beliefs and my life in general has been changing and evolving. The attitudes and views I had in early sobriety are really not the same as they are today. I may vote differently, spiritual matters have taken different twists and turns, and ideas on alcohol reform and treatment have changed.

So if a single individual can have such a drastic change of heart in several matters, how can anyone believe they can keep a group growing strong if they allow such heated topics to enter into the debate and stay? The pioneers of Alcoholics Anonymous have paved a way for all of us to pursue our own personal desires, yet to remind us that whatever our protestations, we must remain true to our groups and keep whatever outside issue out of AA starting at our group level.

Nothing can so split us apart without the application of Tradition Ten.

Jay A. Desert Men's Big Book Study, Foundation for the Retarded, Palm Desert



"I used to recommend AA to patients with drinking problems. Now, I give them a rectal exam instead. It's just as ineffective, but there is less shame involved."



"You're kiddin'! Practice these principles a day at a time? Remember, our days are six months long!"

CENTRAL INTERGROUP OFFICE OF THE DESERT

Statement of Activity
August 2026

PROFIT & LOSS

Net profit for August

\$7,615

\$25,129

Income

\$17,514

Expenses

	TOTAL	
	Aug 2026	Jan 1 - Aug 31 2026 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions		
Birthday Club	45	3,118
Faithful Fivers	15	940
Groups & Individuals	8,707	83,674
Total for Contributions	\$8,767	\$87,732
Gratitude Dinner		
I-Revenue	\$8,485	\$23,915
II-Expenses		(\$20,171)
Total for Gratitude Dinner	\$8,485	\$3,744
Interest Income	110	550
Sales	7,767	76,070
Total for Revenue	\$25,129	\$168,096
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	4,727	42,952
POS Inventory Adjustment	(623)	1,069
Total for Cost of Goods Sold	\$4,104	\$44,021
Gross Profit	\$21,025	\$124,075
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	1,000	8,000
Computer Expense	614	5,545
Credit Card Fees		\$85
QuickBooks Payments Fees	336	743
Revel		2,199
Square Fees	10	18
Total for Credit Card Fees	\$345	\$3,045
Insurance - Health	765	5,935
Insurance - Liability	332	2,672
Insurance - Worker's Comp		40
Newsletter Expense	326	1,740
Office Expense	1,138	9,561
Outreach	27	338
Payroll Expenses		
Salary	4,611	41,503
Taxes	353	3,288
Total for Payroll Expenses	\$4,964	\$44,791
Plant Expenditures		3,107
Rent	1,797	13,874
Storage	269	2,421
Utilities	833	4,685
Total for Expenditures	\$12,410	\$105,754
Net Operating Revenue	\$8,615	\$18,321
TOTAL		
	Aug 2026	Jan 1 - Aug 31 2026 (YTD)
Net Revenue	\$8,615	\$18,321

CENTRAL INTERGROUP OFFICE OF THE DESERT

Budget Report
January-August, 2026

	TOTAL		
	Actual	Budget	Over budget by
Revenue			
Contributions			
Birthday Club	3,118	0	3,118
Faithful Fivers	940	0	940
Groups & Individuals	83,674	65,500	18,174
Conventions		4,600	(4,600)
Total for Contributions	\$87,732	\$70,100	\$17,632
Gratitude Dinner	\$3,744	\$8,000	(\$4,256)
Interest Income	550	450	100
Sales	76,070	82,000	(5,930)
Total for Revenue	\$168,096	\$160,550	\$7,546
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold	42,952	53,300	(10,348)
POS Inventory Adjustment	1,069	0	1,069
Total for Cost of Goods Sold	\$44,021	\$53,300	(\$9,279)
Gross Profit	\$124,075	\$107,250	\$16,825
Expenditures			
Accounting Services	8,000	8,000	0
Computer Expense	5,545	4,704	841
Credit Card Fees	\$3,045	\$3,154	(\$109)
Insurance - Health	5,935	5,095	840
Insurance - Liability	2,672	2,431	241
Insurance - Worker's Comp	40	0	40
Newsletter Expense	1,740	1,800	(60)
Office Expense	9,561	12,000	(2,439)
Outreach	338	800	(462)
Payroll Expenses	\$44,791	\$44,791	\$0
Plant Expenditures	3,107	1,489	1,618
Rent	13,874	13,824	50
Storage	2,421	2,152	269
Utilities	4,685	4,625	60
State Filing Fees		0	0
Total for Expenditures	\$105,754	\$104,865	\$889
Net Operating Revenue	\$18,321	\$2,385	\$15,936
Other Revenue			
Other Expenditures			
Net Other Revenue			
Net Revenue	\$18,321	\$2,385	\$15,936

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions Report

August 2026

	TOTAL	
	AUG 2026	JAN - AUG, 2026 (YTD)
1 Perez Doug Clark		4,025.00
10th Step Group Palm Desert		215.00
12 and 12 Men's Stag Palm Desert		250.00
164 Group - WED - Palm Springs		114.97
3 7 11 Meeting - THU - Twentynine Palms		23.00
3rd 7th 11th Step Meeting		1,145.00
5th Tradition Dinner Meet Desert Hot Springs		100.00
6AM Daily Reprieve - K I S F Desert Hot Springs		100.00
7AM Zoom Meeting #150	675.50	675.50
Acceptance Great Facts		50.00
Aging Gracefully in Sobriety		200.57
Alano Club Palm Springs	200.00	1,400.00
Anonymous No Group Given	1,665.00	20,961.41
As Bill Sees It Women's Mon. Fell. Hall P.D. 000030452		677.87
As She Sees It #000690557		394.10
Bill's Hour		215.00
Birthday Club Contributions	45.00	3,118.00
Black Sheep Group	55.21	55.21
Came to Believe Fri. Women's St. Margaret's		35.50
Candle Light Meditation-F Palm Desert		450.00
CDM men's Stag Thurs.		673.00
Central Intergroup Cathedral City		353.50
Covert Men's Stag		200.00
Daily Reflections 10AM Women's Zoom	70.00	70.00
Daily Reprieve (10086)	453.15	2,069.55
Daily Reprieve Zoom (657814)	92.62	951.75
Desert Cities AA Group		1,930.00
Desert Women's Banquet		1,166.68
Design for Living 101 Group	413.08	1,169.56
DHS 6am Daily Discussion Desert Hot Springs	100.00	300.00
DHS Noon Discussion - THU Desert Hot Springs		50.00
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert		138.95
Double Winners	42.00	554.00
Faithful Fivers	15.00	940.00
Female Friends 118265 Yucca Valley		113.00
First Things First		60.00
Friday 12&12 Step Study		146.00
Friday Night Big Book Study 29 Palms		200.00
Friday Noon La Quinta Library		1,550.00
Good Morning to You Book Study		100.00
Great Events Kent Stevenson 655942		100.00
Groovy Group		361.00
Gut Level Participation Yucca Valley		30.00

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions Report

August 2026

	TOTAL	
	AUG 2026	JAN - AUG, 2026 (YTD)
Happy Hour Book Study Palm Desert		208.00
Happy Hour Group 103 Sunny Dunes	788.00	2,330.00
Heritage Palms Wed Nite Women		375.60
Hi Desert Speakers Group 100783 Kelly Ames		10.00
How Is Your Now La Quinta		311.15
How It Works Palm Desert #1759302854		124.50
IHOP Overflow Wed. Men's Stag		270.00
It's A Better Deal Yucca Valley		50.00
James Miller		0.51
Jaywalkers Monday Men's Stag 1000 Palms		145.01
Keep It Simple Fellowship Desert Hot Springs		200.00
Keep It Simple Group Speaker Meeting		597.00
La Quinta Library Mon. Big Book Study		1,052.00
La Quinta Library Wed 12 & 12		850.00
Last Call Group 104	185.43	502.41
Living In The Solution Yucca Valley		70.00
Living Sober 13445 Palm Springs	30.30	350.58
Living Sober Group-Joshua Tree	16.50	36.50
Living Sober Women Sat. La Quinta		265.00
Living Sober Women's Book Study-THU		127.00
Loosey Goosey Tue Women		418.50
Maad Dog Daze Rancho Mirage		2.00
Many Paths Meditation		59.30
Men's Marauders		340.85
Mid Day Group 00419671		3,416.08
No Matter What Women's Group		820.84
No Rules La Quinta		1,739.00
Noontimers Yucca Valley		30.00
One Day At a Time Palm Desert 000509245		520.00
Over 50 12&12 Group		132.07
Palm Desert 7 AM Attitude Adj.	494.00	1,722.00
Palm Desert Keys of the Kingdom		2.00
Palm Desert Saturday Speaker's		170.00
Palm Springs Attitude Adjustment Group Group	25.00	314.00
PDCC 131457 Attitude Adjustment-M-S	438.54	1,293.63
PDCC 630 AM Zoom	380.00	1,200.00
Playing With A Full Deck 49925		542.05
Primary Purpose Blythe		100.00
Promises		15.00
Promises Group Yucca Valley		272.00
Recovery after Relapse		104.00
Road Runners		400.00
Rock Bottom-THUR Twentynine Palms		150.00

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions Report

August 2026

	TOTAL	
	AUG 2026	JAN - AUG, 2026 (YTD)
Rock Bottom-TUE Twentynine Palms		55.00
Rule 62 THU Noon100774		214.50
Rush Hour Group		310.00
Santa Rosa Messengers Coachella		551.00
Serenity Seekers Palm Desert	240.00	720.00
Serenity Sisters - Sunny Dunes	148.33	325.78
Singleness of Purpose Men's Stag		650.00
Sisters Under the Skin Palm Springs	272.00	272.00
Smoking Jackelope Men Stag	100.00	300.00
Sober Divas	75.00	550.00
Sobriety Sisters Palm Desert		150.00
Solutions in Sobriety Palm Desert	30.00	208.25
Spiritual Awakening in A.A.		200.00
Spiritual Meeting Sun. Noon Yucca Valley		30.00
St. Paul's Tuesday Night Men's Stag		1,100.00
Stay Connected 9am (Zoom)		1,101.37
Step Sisters Palm Desert		1,207.00
Stepping Stones		421.02
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study		215.00
Sunday Serenity Group	202.00	1,299.00
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition 7AM Att. Adj. Group #100	1,337.37	4,307.61
Sunny Dunes 7am 424824 Attitude Adjustment Online Group		1,178.00
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	106.31	902.02
Sunset Group La Quinta Park		250.00
The First 164 Pages		707.75
The Promises	12.00	27.00
The Way Out		149.00
There is a Solution		300.00
Vets for Vets Palm Desert	60.00	224.50
Wednesday 000029850 Big Book Study of A.A.		481.00
Women's Gratitude Meeting		103.00
Women's Step Study Perez Plaza Cathedral Cit		100.00
Zoom Women's Big Book Study Big Book Study		50.00
TOTAL	\$8,767.34	\$87,731.50

Grateful in the Desert!



42nd Annual Gratitude Dinner!

Kay S. - Sherman Oaks, CA

Fellowship ~ Raffles ~ Live Music

\$70.00 Tickets

Reserved Seating in tables of 12

Be Sure not to miss the GALA event of the season

“Scholarship purchases available to support Newcomers”

**SCAN TO
PAY**



November 8, 2026 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