



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.
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

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.

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Principle Nine

Forgiveness; pardon; disposition or willingness to
forgive.

July Office Statistics

Meeting Info	19
12 Step Calls	1
Visitors	4
Literature Sales	196
Al-Anon	0
Other 12 Step	2
Miscellaneous	36
Business	14
Zoom Attendance	67

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

**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!!**

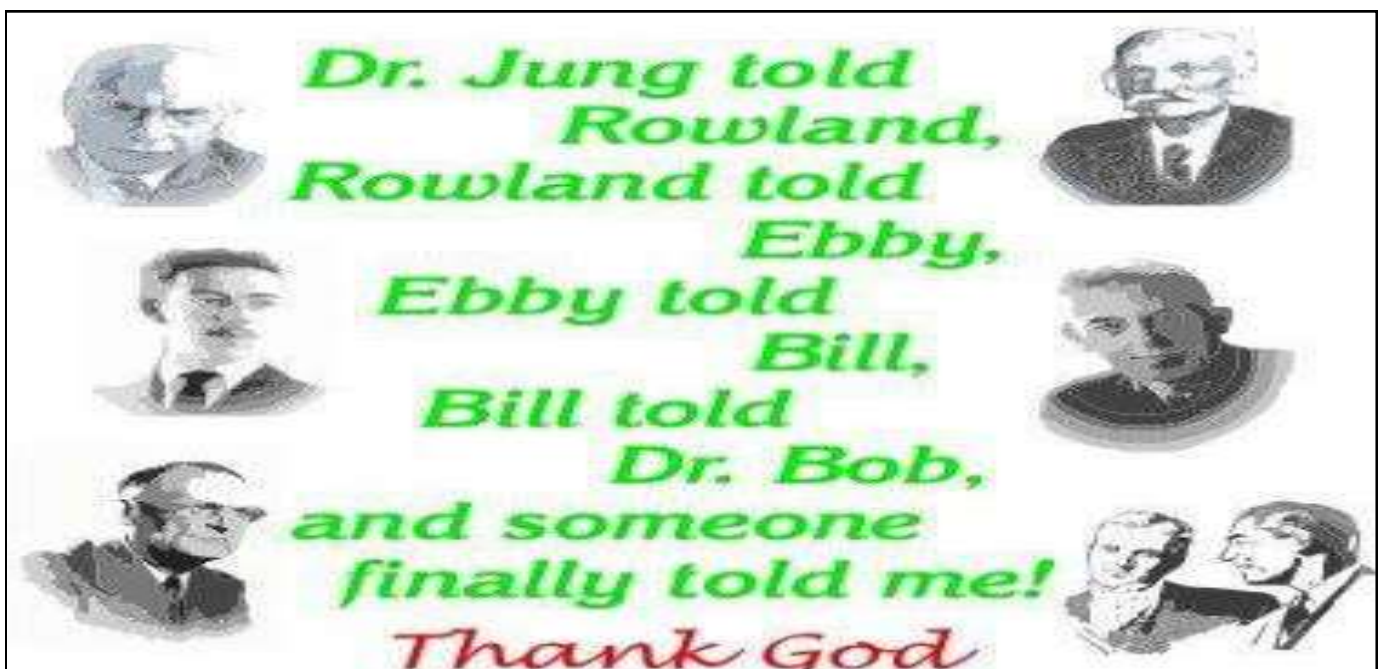
And It's FREE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Letters to the Editor or Articles for the De-
sert 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.

09/04 - David B. - Palm Desert
09/11 - Bear Classic - Los Angeles
09/18 - Wyatt F. - Newport Beach
09/25 - Danny M. - Los Angeles

Palm Desert Group - Fellowship Hall, 45-940 Portola Ave. Palm Desert CA 92260

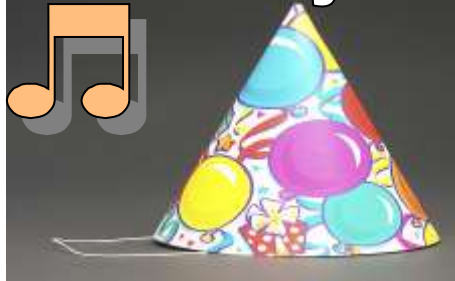
Saturday Night, 8:00 p.m.

09/06 - Paul Mc. - Thousand Palms
09/12 - TBD
09/19 - Clive W. - Palm Desert
09/26 - Dylan I. - Moreno Valley

July 2026

Bear	13 yr.
Duane H.	25 yr.
Scott U.	26 yr.
Mike	26 yr.
Tony	30 yr.
Marjorie H.	30 yr.
Audrey O.	36 yr.

Happy Birthday



Morgan A.	38 yr.
Sheri P.	38 yr.
Kimberly D.	48 yr.
Ginny P.	52 yr.
Pat W.	52 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 Nine

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

As an alcoholic, I have well-developed skills of rationalization and procrastination. I honed those skills over decades of drinking. Self-serving rationalization is the number two tool to an active alcoholic drinker. Right behind number one, self-centered fear.

Since both those defects of character still live within me to a degree (far less than before, thank God), it's easy to pull them out of my tool box and avoid making amends. It's easy to say: "Well, wouldn't it be injurious to that person if they got really, really upset at me?" or "What if they don't forgive me, or worse, spread the details of my misdeeds all around town?" Fear and rationalization can conspire to interfere with the willingness I prayed for in Step Eight.

So prudence, patience and good timing are paramount when making these direct amends. The advice of a sponsor or other fellows in AA as well as advice from the Big Book are essential with regard to doing Step Nine. I had to remember, this Step talks about not injuring them or others, so I have to get over my fear of it injuring me. I had to be willing to accept the reaction of the person I have forgiven, and I have to forgive myself. After all, self-forgiveness may be the only forgiveness I get! Because this Step isn't about being forgiven, it's about owning up to my part in the mess I have made. If the other person wants to hang onto a resentment for a while or forever, that's none of my business.

I would compare the freedom of the wreckage, shame and guilt to the freedom from the obsession to drink. It's that profound. Conquering my fear and actually doing the hard amends was probably the biggest accomplishment in my sobriety. And because I never have to drink again, I never have to do that same amends again.

Rob L
Serenity Group, Cinemas Palme d'Or, Theater 4, Palm Desert

Tradition Nine

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

Alcoholics Anonymous is not an organization in the traditional sense. No one can issue any orders, compel anyone to follow orders, or hand out punishment for not following orders. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern. That being said, then how can Alcoholics Anonymous ever expect to get anything done? The answer is that we as a group must follow the dictates of a Higher Power as expressed in our group conscience.

We chose to live, and be guided, by the spiritual principles of the 12 Traditions, in order to keep AA whole and healthy. We obey spiritual principles, first because our lives as ex problem drinkers depends on it, and then as we stay sober, because we love the life that Alcoholics Anonymous has allowed us to attain.

Ben P
Just the Black Print Big Book Study, Rancho Mirage

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



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

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

zelle

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

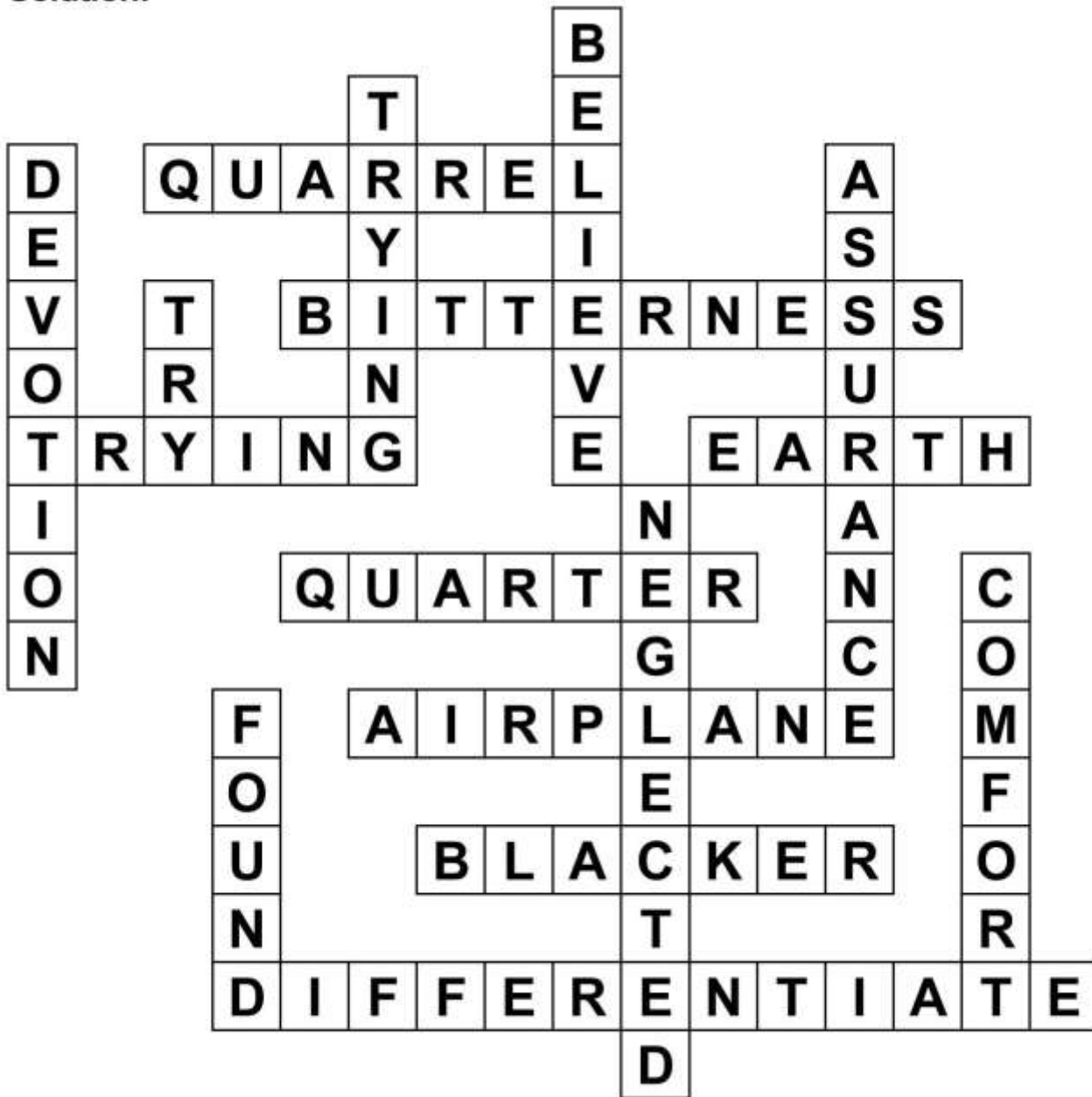
For more information, please contact:

Al S. 310-344-1210

David H. 719-859-3200

August Puzzle Solution

Solution:



"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!"

When I first got to Alcoholics Anonymous, I didn't know that I was an alcoholic. I thought I was just a jerk, and I didn't really have any desire to not be a jerk . . . then I got here and you told me that I AM a jerk, but that I'm also an alcoholic --- and that the Twelve Steps would help with both of those!

This is a story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it.
Everybody was sure Somebody would do it.
Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.
Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.
Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.
It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody asked Anybody.



July Volunteers at Central Office

Adam W.
Allan G.
Amelia F.

Thank You !!

Bob B.
Demi S.

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

Thank You !!

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

Scott H.
Stephen St. L.
Ted St. L.
Teri P.
Terry A.
Victoria A.

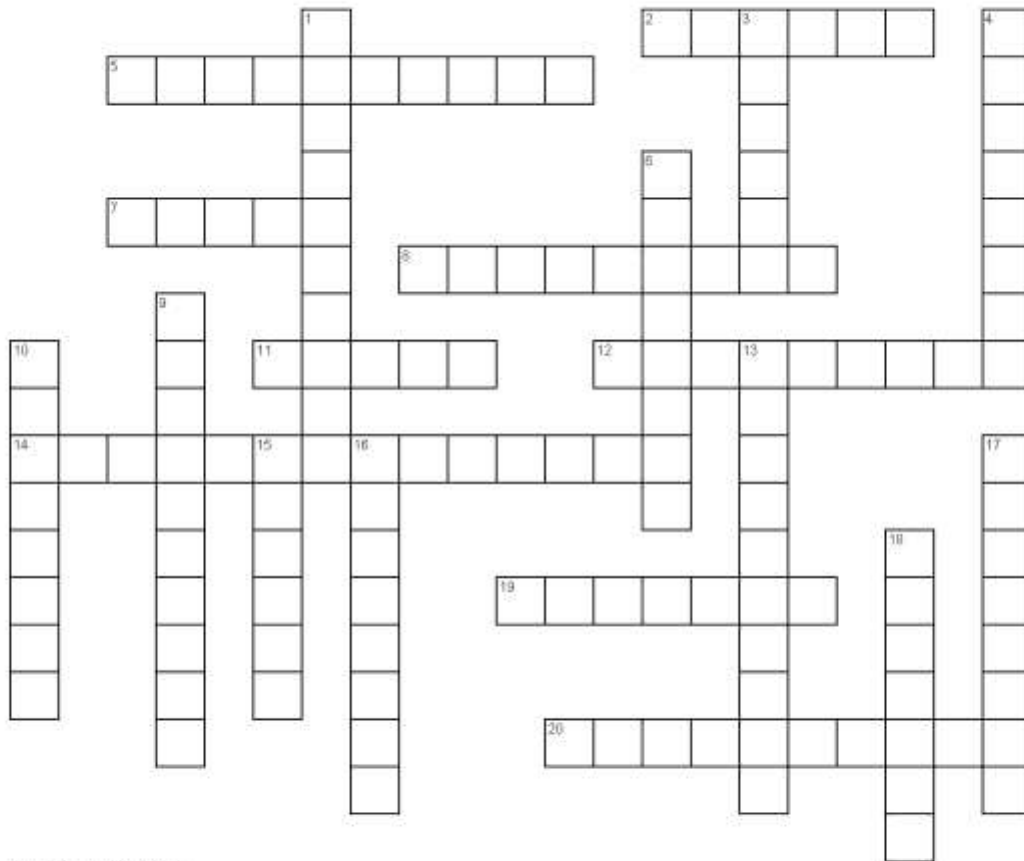
Positive Thinking - Negative Thinking – Reality

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



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 2 about alcoholism, the _____, and described the
 5 high upon the basis _____.
 7 You are not doing him a _____ by keeping him on
 8 hope it strikes home to _____ like him.
 11 They know that they must _____ drink.
 12 it was _____, for my old business
 14 more convincing _____.
 19 when the _____ was expressed that there
 20 which requires the _____ with other people.

DOWN

- 1 manager of a corporation _____ employing sixty-six
 3 and if i were really _____ this time
 4 family will find life more _____
 6 such things, a feeling of _____ may arise
 9 for my old business _____ remained sketptal
 10 me drinding both gin and _____.
 13 father was romantic, _____ and successful.
 15 through the well-known _____ of a spree, emerging
 16 of recoveries, and _____ homes.
 17 He gets a thrill out of _____ in fron t of fast-moving
 18 Carefully _____ the first five proposals, we

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

As Bill Sees It (Large Print)

Normally \$14.30 - this month \$12.00

A source of comfort and inspiration, this collection of Bill W.'s writings addresses themes such as acceptance, gratitude and spirituality. Excerpted from the Big Book, the "Twelve and Twelve," Grapevine and other A.A. literature.

With a topical index to help guide reading and discussion.

Large-print format suitable for those with low vision.

General Service Conference-approved. Softcover

8.5" x 11"

360 pages

Large print



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



LABOR DAY WEEKEND
September 4 - 7, 2026

TO REGISTER, PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM (SEE REVERSE SIDE) OR VISIT [SOUTHBAYROUNDUP.ORG](https://southbayroundup.org)



SCAN QR CODE

Sonesta Hotel
300 North Harbor Drive
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

[SOUTHBAYROUNDUP.ORG](https://southbayroundup.org)

42nd Annual South Bay Family Roundup

Mail Registration Form

_____ Last Name (Confidential) First Name _____ Email Address _____ Phone Number(s) _____ Name on Badge _____ City / Group ☐ AA ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Guest	_____ Last Name (Confidential) First Name _____ Email Address _____ Phone Number(s) _____ Name on Badge _____ City / Group ☐ AA ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Guest
Registration (required to attend all events) Qty _____ @ \$45 each = \$ _____ Al-Anon Luncheon - Saturday (Please select a quantity of 10 when purchasing a table) Chicken Qty _____ @ \$60 each = \$ _____ Vegetarian (pre-order only) Qty _____ @ \$60 each = \$ _____ AA Dinner, Show & Dance Saturday (Please select a quantity of 10 when purchasing a table) Buffet Qty _____ @ \$90 each = \$ _____ Family Breakfast - Sunday Qty _____ @ \$45 each = \$ _____ Sunday Stand Up Paddle Boarding (25 spaces each Meeting) Board Rental Qty _____ @ \$35 each = \$ _____ Bring Your Own Board Qty _____ @ \$10 each = \$ _____ ☐ 10:00 - 11:30 am ☐ 1:00 - 2:30 pm Donation for registration sponsorship gratefully accepted (Specify Amount) \$ _____ Grand Total = \$ _____	

All pre-registration packets with name badges and tickets will be available for pickup in person beginning Friday, September 4th after 3:00 pm at the pre-registration table.

Registration Badges Required for all Events.



Mail this entire page and your check to:
South Bay Roundup
P.O. Box 83
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Limited number of discounted rooms available

3-Day Minimum Stay Required

Rates from \$219 - \$239 + Tax / Day

Sonesta Redondo Hotel

(800) SONESTA (1-800-766-3782)

Ask for 2025 South Bay Roundup Rate - cut off date is August 4, 2026

If not postmarked by August 8, 2026,
please plan on registering in person at the Roundup.

Register online and pay with a credit card at:
SouthBayRoundup.org

(NOTE: 3% handling fee)
SBRU HOTLINE (310) 354-7660



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



District 42 Speaker Meeting

Friday, Sept. 25 @ 7pm
Suzie O- Al-Anon- Meniffee
Royal O- AA- Meniffee

St. Margaret's Church
47535 Hwy. 74 -Palm Desert 92260

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

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.

Long Form: "Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous."

Concept IX is the means by which the Conference addressed how best to select those positions of the A.A. service structure. This review will focus on how this Concept is applied to service positions within our local Districts and Areas.

With this in mind, it is important for the fellowship to consider that the G.S.R., D.C.M., Area Representatives, Area Committee Members, and the Delegate not only serve and represent their respective meetings and districts, but they are entrusted by the members they serve with the "right –of – decision." These individuals not only address issues and concerns of their districts and areas, but they have been empowered by their groups to make decisions, on their behalf, that affect A.A. as a whole. Additionally, it is also important to remember that many of these individuals begin at the local arena in A.A. service and continue on in service at the Conference level. Concept IX is really A.A.'s guideline for promoting from within the existing service structure.

First, it is important to remember the base of the A.A. service structure is dependent on the dedication and ability of the several thousand General Service Representatives (G.S.R.s), several hundred area Committee Members, and nearly a hundred Delegates. The individuals who serve in these service areas are the direct representatives of the A.A. groups. They are the indispensable linkage between our Fellowship and its world service. They are the representatives of the A.A.'s group conscience. Without the support and activity of these service structures, A.A. could not operate permanently at all.

Therefore, when A.A. groups are considering and making their choices for a G.S.R., they should keep the following facts in mind. It is only the G.S.R.s who, in Group Assembly meetings can name Committee Members and finally name the Delegates. Consequently, great care needs to be taken by the groups as they choose these Representatives. In addition, Groups who do not select G.S.R.s should be encouraged to do so. Overall, many Groups are persistent in their weakness of naming G.S.R.'s to represent their group conscience. The needed improvement seems to be a matter of increased care, responsibility and education.

Finally, because the G.S.R.s meet in their Assemblies to name Delegates an even greater awareness of care and dedication must be required. Personal ambitions will have to be cast aside, feuds and controversy forgotten. The vital principle, or if you will, idea that Concept IX brings to the Fellowship as they consider individuals for service positions..."Who are the best qualified people that we can name?" By embracing this concept at the local level, we in turn, strengthen the composition and the leadership of the future Board of Trustees, the Board which in years to come will have to exercise A.A.'s primary leadership in world service administration.

John T
Just The Black Print Big Book Study, Rancho Mirage.



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



"I'm a morning person."



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.



General Service Board of United States/Canada Pacific Regional Forum 2026

December 4-6, 2026 • Wyndham San Diego, CA

You're Invited!

Join us for the 2026 Pacific Regional Forum—an opportunity for A.A. members and anyone interested in A.A. to connect, learn, and share.

Purpose of Regional Forums

Regional Forums strengthen communication and trust among A.A. members, the General Service Board, General Service Office staff, AA Grapevine/La Viña staff, and more.

Program Highlights

Presentations, workshops, and panels

Sharing sessions for questions, comments, and discussion

Moderated by the Pacific Regional Trustee

Sample Program: <https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/regional-forum-sample-program-en.pdf>

Interpretation:

Interpretation will be provided through an AI tool. Please bring a mobile device and ear buds or headset.

Registration

Registration is FREE and opens October 2, 2026. Pre-registration is encouraged; on-site registration will also be available.

<https://www.aa.org/event/2026-pacific-regional-forum>

Hotel Information

Wyndham San Diego

1355 N Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101

Room Rate: \$219, (book by October 2, 2026)

Booking: <https://book.passkey.com/go/2026AAWS> Group Code : AA022026SD

Call In Reservations: 800-996-3426 Mention "2026 Pacific Regional Forum"

More Information

regionalforums@aa.org • (212) 870-3120

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego!

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!



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: () _____

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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 92270Credit 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>
or scan the QR code belowUnwind 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 transferable

Please 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

CENTRAL INTERGROUP OFFICE OF THE DESERT

Statement of Activity

July 2026

	TOTAL	
	Jul 2026	Jan 1 - Jul 31 2026 (YTD)
Revenue		
Contributions		
Birthday Club	237	3,073
Faithful Fivers	145	925
Groups & Individuals	7,148	74,966
Total for Contributions	\$7,530	\$78,964
Gratitude Dinner		
I-Revenue	\$3,080	\$15,430
II-Expenses		(\$20,171)
Total for Gratitude Dinner	\$3,080	(\$4,741)
Interest Income	107	440
Sales	8,211	68,303
Total for Revenue	\$18,927	\$142,967
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	4,254	38,211
POS Inventory Adjustment	(1,510)	1,692
Total for Cost of Goods Sold	\$2,744	\$39,903
Gross Profit	\$16,183	\$103,064
Expenditures		
Accounting Services	1,000	7,000
Computer Expense	531	4,931
Credit Card Fees	\$389	\$2,700
Insurance - Health	765	5,170
Insurance - Liability	332	2,341
Insurance - Worker's Comp		40
Newsletter Expense	180	1,414
Office Expense	1,060	8,423
Outreach	27	312
Payroll Expenses	\$7,446	\$39,827
Plant Expenditures	1,716	3,107
Rent	1,797	12,077
Storage	269	2,152
Utilities	697	3,852
Total for Expenditures	\$16,209	\$93,344
Net Operating Revenue	(\$26)	\$9,720
Net Revenue	(\$26)	\$9,720

CENTRAL INTERGROUP OFFICE OF THE DESERT

Budget Report
January-July, 2026

	TOTAL		
	Actual	Budget	Over budget by
Revenue			
Contributions			
Birthday Club	3,073	0	3,073
Faithful Fivers	925	0	925
Groups & Individuals	74,966	59,500	15,466
Conventions		4,600	(4,600)
Total for Contributions	\$78,964	\$64,100	\$14,864
Gratitude Dinner	(\$4,741)	\$8,000	(\$12,741)
Interest Income	440	0	440
Sales	68,303	73,000	(4,697)
Total for Revenue	\$142,967	\$145,100	(\$2,133)
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold	38,211	47,450	(9,239)
POS Inventory Adjustment	1,692	0	1,692
Total for Cost of Goods Sold	\$39,903	\$47,450	(\$7,547)
Gross Profit	\$103,064	\$97,650	\$5,414
Expenditures			
Accounting Services	7,000	7,000	0
Computer Expense	4,931	4,154	777
Credit Card Fees	\$2,700	\$2,830	(\$130)
Insurance - Health	5,170	4,495	675
Insurance - Liability	2,341	2,116	225
Insurance - Worker's Comp	40	0	40
Newsletter Expense	1,414	1,575	(161)
Office Expense	8,423	10,500	(2,077)
Outreach	312	700	(388)
Payroll Expenses	\$39,827	\$39,827	\$0
Plant Expenditures	3,107	1,489	1,618
Rent	12,077	12,096	(19)
Storage	2,152	1,883	269
Utilities	3,852	3,825	27
State Filing Fees		0	0
Total for Expenditures	\$93,344	\$92,490	\$854
Net Operating Revenue	\$9,720	\$5,160	\$4,560
Other Revenue			
Other Expenditures			
Net Other Revenue			
Net Revenue	\$9,720	\$5,160	\$4,560

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions Report

July 2026

	TOTAL	
	JUL 2026	JAN - JUL, 2026 (YTD)
1 Perez Doug Clark		4,025.00
10th Step Group Palm Desert	215.00	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	493.00	1,145.00
5th Tradition Dinner Meet Desert Hot Springs		100.00
6AM Daily Reprieve - K I S F Desert Hot Springs		100.00
Acceptance Great Facts		50.00
Aging Gracefully in Sobriety	61.00	200.57
Alano Club Palm Springs		1,200.00
Anonymous No Group Given	710.30	19,296.41
As Bill Sees It Women's Mon. Fellowship Hall		677.87
As She Sees It #000690557		394.10
Bill's Hour	65.00	215.00
Birthday Club Contributions	237.00	3,073.00
Came to Believe Fri. Women's St. Margaret's	35.50	35.50
Candle Light Meditation-F Palm Desert		450.00
CDM men's Stag Thurs.	223.00	673.00
Central Intergroup Cathedral City	64.00	353.50
Covert Men's Stag		200.00
Daily Reprieve (10086)	323.10	1,616.40
Daily Reprieve Zoom (657814)	108.98	859.13
Desert Cities AA Group		1,930.00
Desert Women's Banquet		1,166.68
Design for Living 101 Group		756.48
DHS 6am Daily Discussion Desert Hot Springs	100.00	200.00
DHS Noon Discussion - THU Desert Hot Springs		50.00
Dolls of Valley Palm Desert		138.95
Double Winners	41.00	512.00
Faithful Fivers	145.00	925.00
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	300.00	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
Happy Hour Book Study Palm Desert		208.00
Happy Hour Group 103 Sunny Dunes	40.00	1,542.00
Heritage Palms Wed Nite Women	146.80	375.60

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions Report

July 2026

	TOTAL	
	JUL 2026	JAN - JUL, 2026 (YTD)
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	50.00
James Miller		0.51
Jaywalkers Monday Men's Stag 1000 Palms	30.10	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	350.00	850.00
Last Call Group 104		316.98
Living In The Solution Yucca Valley		70.00
Living Sober 13445 Palm Springs	41.78	320.28
Living Sober Group-Joshua Tree		20.00
Living Sober Women Sat. La Quinta		265.00
Living Sober Women's Book Study-THU	127.00	127.00
Loosey Goosey Tue Women	228.50	418.50
Maad Dog Daze Rancho Mirage		2.00
Many Paths Meditation		59.30
Men's Marauders		340.85
Mid Day Group 00419671	858.68	3,416.08
No Matter What Women's Group	75.00	820.84
No Rules La Quinta	400.00	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.	20.00	1,228.00
Palm Desert Keys of the Kingdom		2.00
Palm Desert Saturday Speaker's		170.00
Palm Springs Attitude Adjustment Group Group	139.00	289.00
PDCC 131457 Attitude Adjustment-M-S		855.09
PDCC 630 AM Zoom	100.00	820.00
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
Rock Bottom-TUE Twentynine Palms		55.00
Rule 62 THU Noon100774	214.50	214.50
Rush Hour Group		310.00

Central Intergroup of the Desert

Contributions Report

July 2026

	TOTAL	
	JUL 2026	JAN - JUL, 2026 (YTD)
Santa Rosa Messengers Coachella	68.00	551.00
Serenity Seekers Palm Desert		480.00
Serenity Sisters - Sunny Dunes		177.45
Singleness of Purpose Men's Stag		650.00
Smoking Jackelope Men Stag		200.00
Sober Divas	175.00	475.00
Sobriety Sisters Palm Desert		150.00
Solutions in Sobriety Palm Desert		178.25
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)	547.28	1,101.37
Step Sisters Palm Desert	355.00	1,207.00
Stepping Stones	138.89	421.02
Sun City Ole Time Big Book Study		215.00
Sunday Serenity Group	171.00	1,097.00
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition 7AM Att. Adj. Group #100		2,970.24
Sunny Dunes 7am 424824 Attitude Adjustment Online Group		1,178.00
Sunrise Celebrators Palm Desert	113.40	795.71
Sunset Group La Quinta Park		250.00
The First 164 Pages		707.75
The Promises	15.00	15.00
The Way Out		149.00
There is a Solution		300.00
Vets for Vets Palm Desert		164.50
Wednesday 000029850 Big Book Study of A.A.		481.00
Women's Gratitude Meeting	3.00	103.00
Women's Step Study Perez Plaza Cathedral Cit		100.00
Zoom Women's Big Book Study Big Book Study		50.00
TOTAL	\$7,529.81	\$78,964.16

My favorite part is when we hear from the minority opinion. Where else do I get to share MY opinion and YOU might change your mind --- of course, where else am I open enough to hear YOUR opinion, and maybe change MY mind!?!?"

When I took a look at why I had taken those unprincipled actions, I realized that I still had fear of financial insecurity. When I looked at why I have financial insecurity, I realized that it's because I've been trying to fill a God-sized hole with something other than God!"

Grateful in the Desert!



42nd Annual Gratitude Dinner!

Francine W. Palm Desert, CA

Fellowship ~ Raffles ~ Live Music

SCAN TO
PAY



Ticket Price \$70.00 till 08/31/26 then \$80.00 till 11/03

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