

GRATITUDE GAZETTE

www.temeculacentraloffice.org Phone (951) 695-1535

September 2010



gazette@temeculacentraloffice.org

A Color Copy of this news-
letter is available on the
website at

www.temeculacentraloffice.org

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Alcoholics Anonymous

I AM RESPONSIBLE

Whenever anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help, I want the
hand of AA always to be there
and for that

I AM RESPONSIBLE -

Declaration of 30th Anniversary Inter-
national Convention, 1965

ARE WE BEING RESPONSIBLE?

(Article from 2003)

I am responsible. When anyone – anywhere reaches for help, I want the hand of A.A. to always be there and for that I am responsible.

BOX 459 provides a report every year on the estimated number of members in the U.S., Canada, Correctional facilities and Outside U.S. & Canada. Regretfully, for the first time in the history of Alcoholics Anonymous, BOX 459 is reporting a decline in the number of members in our Country. It has happened within the last decade. Here are the facts:

YEAR	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	% CHANGE
1987	727,145	
1988	778,045	7.0% increase
1989	835,489	7.4% increase
1990	896,033	7.2% increase
1991	1,012,623	13.0% increase
1992	1,079,719	6.6% increase
For the 5 year period from 1992 to 1997 - only a 7.3% increase or, less than 1.5% per year.		
1997	1,158,850	
1998	1,166,079	0.6% increase
1999	1,166,927	nil
2000	1,161,436	(0.5%) DECREASE
2002	1,160,651	(0.1%) DECREASE
2003	1,168,990	0.7% increase
2010	2,103,003	13.3% per year ave increase

When we could say, "Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path", those who spoke in meetings were those who could honestly say, "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and practice these principles in all our affairs". Are you trying to carry this message or are you using our meetings as a place to air your issues, complain, talk about "my day," "my way" or express your ideas and opinions? If you haven't recovered, what do you have to say that could help a newcomer?

Gratitude is what we do to show our Heavenly Father how much we appreciate what He has and is doing for us by trying to pass our miracle on to the ones who still suffer.

WE RECOVER BY THE STEPS WE TAKE, NOT THE MEETINGS WE MAKE.

(Reprinted from www.ppgaadallas.org.—Are We Being Responsible?)



AA Birthdays: Who's Taking a Cake in August ?



Happy Birthday

Lockdown Bob 8/29/09

Ray R. 8/9/89

Gene W. 8/21/85

Lee M 8/99

Mike B 9/7/08

Bob G. 8/22/85

Nichole 8/20/08

Robby F. 8/6/19

Richard L. 7/25/92



Want your sobriety date published? Submit your name and sobriety date to gazette@temeculacentraloffice.org

Contribute to Central Office for your Sponsor's Birthday

Celebrate your birthday or your sponsor's birthday by donating \$1 per year of sobriety to Central Office. What a great way to give back! (Address for Central Office is on the bottom of page 3.)

Hotline














LOOKING FOR A WAY TO BE OF SERVICE?



Our "HOTLINE" is a great way to be of service. When Central Office is closed a member of Alcoholics Anonymous answers the phone EVERY time. The phone call may be as simple as "where is a meeting?" It may be an alcoholic needs to talk, be visiting from out of town, etc. For more information on the Hotline visit our website and click on the "HOTLINE" link. At TVCO.com (Also see pg 11!)



To all AA members Email list



Get on the List!



Be notified of meeting changes, new events and other important AA information. Join our mailing list. Send email to webservant@temeculacentraloffice.org and be added to the list.






























 Barbara S.
 

 October 8, 1950—August 9, 2010
 

 Our sobriety sister Barbara S. passed away.
 

 We are all going to miss her. Please keep her
 

 family in your thoughts and prayers.
 

Temecula Valley Alano Club

Doors are now open.

Accepting meeting schedule reservations

27470 Commerce Center Dr., Suite C

Temecula, CA 92590-2522

(951)693-1212

Big Book Prayers

"I EARNESTLY ADVISE EVERY ALCOHOLIC TO READ THIS BOOK THROUGH, AND THOUGH PERHAPS HE CAME TO SCOFF, HE MAY REMAIN TO PRAY."

William D. Silkworth, MD - Pg. xxx

"GOD IS EVERYTHING OR HE IS NOTHING. GOD EITHER IS OR HE ISN'T. WHAT WAS OUR CHOICE TO BE?" Pg. 53

Pg. 59 We asked His protection and care with complete abandon.

THIRD STEP

Pg. 63 - God, I offer myself to Thee - to build with me and do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love and Thy Way of Life. May I do Thy will always!

FOURTH STEP

PG 67 RESENTMENT - We asked God to help us show them the same tolerance, pity, and patience that we would cheerfully grant a sick friend. When a person offended we said to ourselves, "This is a sick man. How can I be helpful to him? God save me from being angry. Thy will be done".

Pg. 68 FEAR - We ask Him to remove our fear and direct our attention to what He would have us be.

Pg. 69 SEX - We asked God to mold our ideals and help us live up to them.

Pg. 69 SEX - In meditation, we ask God what we do about each specific matter.

Pg. 70 SEX - To sum up about sex: We pray for the right ideal, for guidance in each questionable situation, for sanity and for strength to do the right thing.
(continued on page 8)

Central Office Service

Please call **(951) 695-1535** if you can be of service at Central Office by volunteering for time slots to answer phones and help walk-ins. Volunteers are always appreciated, and of course you get the grand reward...

Sobriety for another day!

CENTRAL OFFICE NEWS

Special thanks to those who helped with the newsletter this month!

Darcie and Laura

We would love to print your submissions for the Newsletter. All profanity will be edited out of the final copy. The primary theme of any article content must pertain to; alcoholism and recovery, the Twelve Steps, The Twelve Traditions, or The Concepts. Poems, inspiring materials, AA trivia, jokes and cartoons are welcome also. Proper credit must be given to each articles source. If taken from previously printed materials include its copyright so that we can acknowledge it. The committee reserves the right to edit or refuse any articles submitted. Submissions accepted via email at:

gazette@temeculacentraloffice.org

Mailing Address @ Temecula Valley Central Office, 28636 Old Front Street, #106, Temecula CA 92590

Email: temeculaaa@verizon.net

AA Service Meetings

What	When	Where
H&I Committee Meeting	1st Monday - 7:30pm	28765 Single Oak Drive Temecula, CA 92590
TVCO Board Meeting	1st Tuesday - 6:30pm	Central Office - All are welcome, but only board members may participate.
Mid So-Cal Area Meeting	2nd Sunday - 9:30am	Meets at various locations. Call Central Office for meeting location
Cooperating with Prof Community (CPC)	2nd Tuesday - 5:45pm	Boston Billies - 26850 Cherry Hills Blvd. Sun City
GSR Meeting - District 17	2nd Tuesday - 6:30pm	Boston Billies - 26850 Cherry Hills Blvd. Sun City
Intergroup Meeting	3rd Tuesday - 6:45pm	United Methodist Church, Murrieta 24652 Adams at Kalmia & Adams
GSR Meeting - District 14	3rd Wednesday - 7pm	Good Shepherd Episcopal Church 308 E Acacia Ave, Hemet, CA 92543

What you get from Central Office!

During the day, **your Central Office keeps the doors open to assist recovering and suffering AA members alike**. We provide (at cost) the Big Book. We also provide the 12x12, assorted literature, chips, and newcomer packets. **Your office manager organizes volunteers, makes bank deposits, keeps your accounting data accurate, and safe guards your inventory. We make and distribute your meeting schedules and the Gratitude Gazette. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, volunteers take calls from suffering alcoholics and organize 12 step calls. The phone line and special call-forwarding are paid for by your central office donations.**

Please ask at your next business meeting if you are donating monthly to your Central Office. It doesn't have to be a lot. Being self-supporting. means not only paying for your rent and coffee, but also paying for the services you receive through Central Office.

If your group has stopped donating (or never started), please bring it up at your next business meeting and take a group conscious. There have been a lot of changes made. The board has had a new influx of members, and oversight is strong. **Traditions are always the first thought for any changes being considered.**

We invite anyone to call, email, and/or attend the monthly board meeting. We value your input and want to make sure we understand your opinion.

Still Skeptical?



Focus on Tradition Nine



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

"Each A.A. Group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large Metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office in New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, "The A.A. Grapevine." All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness."

The least possible organization, that's our universal ideal. No fees, no dues, no rules imposed on anybody, one alcoholic bringing recovery to the next; that's the substance of what we most desire, isn't it?

But how shall this simple ideal best be realized? Often a question, that.

We have, for example, the kind of A.A. who is for simplicity. Terrified of anything organized, he tells us that A.A. is getting too complicated. He thinks money only makes trouble, committees only make dissension, elections only make politics, paid workers only make professionals and that clubs only coddle slipees. Says he, let's get back to coffee and cakes by cozy firesides. If any alcoholics stray our way, let's look after them. But that's enough. Simplicity is our answer.

Quite opposed to such halcyon simplicity is the A.A. promoter. Left to himself he would "bang the cannon and twang the lyre" at every crossroad of the world. Millions for drunks, great A.A. hospitals, batteries of paid organizers and publicity experts wielding all the latest paraphernalia of sound and script; such would be our promoters dream. "Yes sir," he would bark "My two year plan calls for one million A.A. members by 1950!"

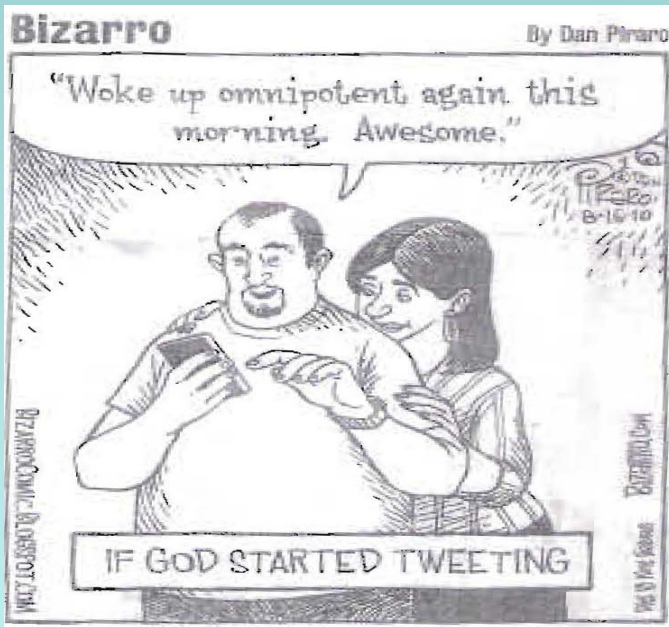
For one, I'm glad we have both conservatives and enthusiasts. They teach us much. The conservative will surely see to it that the A.A. movement never gets over organized. But the promoter will continue to remind us of our terrific obligation to the newcomer and to those hundreds of thousands of alcoholics still waiting all over the world to hear of A.A.

We shall, naturally, take the firm and safe middle course. A.A. has always violently resisted the idea of any general organization. Yet, paradoxically, we have ever stoutly insisted upon organizing certain special service; mostly those absolutely necessary to effective and plentiful 12th Step work.

Continued on page 7

AA Humor

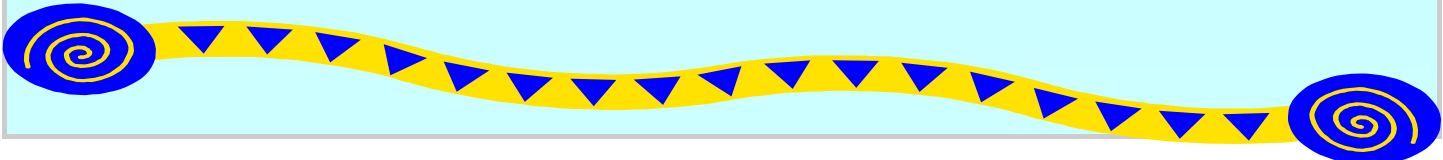
Send AA related humor to
gazette@temeculacentraloffice.org



On May 6, 1998 an old man stood up in a meeting and said that he hadn't FOUND IT NECESSARY to take a drink since July 1, 1956. Another man stood up and said you old liar, I saw you last night and you were drunk as Cooter Brown. The first old man said you're right. I was drunk last night. But IT WASN'T NECESSARY.

The car sped off the highway, went through the guard rail, rolled down a cliff, bounced off a tree and finally shuddered to a stop. A passing motorist, who had witnessed the entire accident, helped the miraculously unharmed driver out of the wreck. "Good lord, mister," he gasped, "Are you drunk?" "Of course," said the man, brushing the dirt from his suit. "What the hell do you think I am ... a stunt driver?"

A guy walked into a bar and sat down next to an extremely gorgeous woman. The first thing he noticed about her though, was her pants. They were skin-tight, high-waisted and had no obvious mechanism (zipper, buttons or velcro) for opening them. After several minutes of puzzling over how she got the pants up over her hips, he finally worked up the nerve to ask her. "Excuse me miss, but how do you get into your pants?" he asks. "Well," she replied, "You can start by buying me a drink."



Continued from page 5

If, for instance, an A.A. group elects a secretary or rotating committee, if an area forms an intergroup committee, if we set up a Foundation, a General Office or a Grapevine, then we are organized for service. The A.A. book and pamphlets, our meeting places and clubs, our dinners and regional assemblies -- these are services too. Nor can we secure good hospital connections, properly sponsor new prospects and obtain good public relations just by chance. People have to be appointed to look after these things, sometimes paid people. Special services are performed.

But by none of these special services, has our spiritual or social activity, the great current of A.A. ever been really organized or professionalized. Yet our recovery program has been enormously aided. While important, these service activities, are very small by contrast with our main effort.

As such facts and distinctions become clear, we shall easily lay aside our fears of blighting organization or hazardous wealth. As a movement, we shall remain comfortably poor; for our service expenses are trifling.

With such assurances, we shall without doubt, continue to improve and extend our vital lifelines of special service; to better carry out our A.A. message to others; to make for ourselves a finer greater society, and, God willing, to assure Alcoholics Anonymous a long life and perfect unity.

Bill W.

The A.A. Grapevine, August, 1948

What is an Intergroup?

Each group is encouraged to have an Intergroup Representative. This person is the liaison between Intergroup and their home group. Any decisions for changes to the way Central Office runs must be voted on. Any questions or concerns or compliments may be put on the agenda for discussion. By having an Intergroup representative your group will be able to bring a vote to the intergroup meeting. No vote can take place without a quorum. Your group must be a registered meeting in order to vote. Any A.A. member is welcome to attend the Rep. or board meeting as a guest. If your group is interested in joining Intergroup, send a member to the meeting, and we will gladly give you all the information you need to get started. Intergroup meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month on the corner of Kalmia & Adams in Murrieta at the church. Hope to see you there.

Our friend Lloyd W. born January 18, 1934 passed away August 15, 2010. His sobriety date was October 30, 1984. Lloyd loved Alcoholics Anonymous. He will be missed by many. Please keep his family in your prayers.

EIGHTH STEP

Pg. 76 If we haven't the will to do this, we ask until it comes.

NINETH STEP

Pg. 79 LEGAL MATTERS - We ask that we be given strength and direction to do the right thing, no matter what the personal consequences might be.

Pg. 80 OTHERS EFFECTED - If we have obtained permission, have consulted with others, *asked God to help*.

Pg. 82 INFIDELITY - Each might pray about it, having the other one's happiness uppermost in mind.

Pg. 83 FAMILY - So we clean house with the family, *asking each morning in meditation that our Creator show us the way of patience, tolerance, kindness and love*.

TENTH STEP

Pg. 84 Continue to watch for selfishness, dishonesty, resentment and fear. When these crop up, *we ask God at once to remove them*.

Pg. 85 Everyday is a day when we must carry the vision of God's will into all our activities. *"How can I best serve Thee—Thy will (not mine) be done"*.

ELEVENTH STEP

Pg. 86 NIGHT After mediation on the day just completed, *"We ask God's forgiveness and inquire what corrective measures should be taken"*.

Pg. 86 MORNING Before we begin our day, *"we ask god to direct our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity,,, dishonest or self-seeking motives"*.

Pg. 86 MORNING In thinking about our day, *"We ask God for inspiration, an intuitive thought or decision"*.

Pg. 87 MORNING We usually conclude the period of mediation with a prayer that we be shown all through the day what our next step is to be, that we be given whatever we need to take care of such problems. We especially ask for freedom from self-will, and are careful to make no requests for ourselves only We may ask for ourselves, however, if others will be helped. We are careful never to pray for our own selfish ends.

Pg. 87 - 88 ALL DAY As we go through the day we pause, when agitated or doubtful, and *ask for the right thought or action*.

TWELFTH STEP

Pg. 164 Ask Him in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick. The answers will come IF your own house is in order.

Your job now is to be at the place where you may be of maximum helpfulness to others,, so never hesitate to go anywhere if you can be helpful. You should not hesitate to visit the most sordid spot on earth on such an errand. Keep on the firing line of life with these motives and God will keep you unharmed. Pg. 102

It works, if we work it – We will die, if we don't.

SO WORK IT!!!

(But that is only a suggestion)

Woman To Woman Spiritual Retreat

In Idyllwild

Sept. 17th, 18th, 19th 2010

\$115.00 for all meals, rustic cabins w/



Bunk bed lodging and workshop materials

for more information call

Sheila Gibson 760-481-9491

or

Dawn Kerr 951-809-5135

**DID YOU KNOW RED?**

My name is Jeff S. I am trying to find "Red". Willam H. W., my stepfather. I have not seen him in about 12 years. He was the campground host at Oak grove campground. He is not there now. I have known him since 1967 and he retired at Oak Grove with a motor home, pick-up and small motorcycle. He always smoked a pipe. Red hair mostly gray now I'm sure. I'm not sure what year he moved there and how many years he stayed there. His last known address was Anza.

I know that he was going to dances on Fridays and I think it was AA related. He did not like people when they drank. I have known of him to go to AA events for 40 years. Could you find out if anyone has had contact or might have an idea where I could find him. I am in Phoenix. My phone is 480-251-2605 and now you have my e-mail. Thanks so much for your time. Jeff S.

AA Ladies Luncheon

The proceeds of this luncheon benefit:
Temecula Valley Central Office, District 17, H & I, Mid So Cal and GSO

2nd Annual
Temecula Valley
AA Women's Luncheon
 Sunday, September 26th

at
Embassy Suites
 29345 Rancho California Road
 Temecula, CA 92591

11:00—12:00 Registration / Greet & Meet
 12:00—1:00 Lunch (LIMITED, 140 tickets)
 1:00—2:00 Speaker & Raffle

Speaker, Shirley M. from Escondido

Registration Information—
 Theresa B. 951-217-8936
 Kimberly F. 909-841-7935

Tradition 2 Courtesy

Make checks payable: TVAAWA Mail to: TVAAWA Temecula Valley AA Women's Association c/o Kimberly Funk 31500 Grape Street Box 316. Lake Elsinore, CA 92532	Name	Name on Badge	
	Address		Luncheon \$30.00
	City	zip	Luncheon Donation for Scholarship Lunch Fund
	Phone	email	\$
	Lunch (circle one) Fettuccini Alfredo or Spinach Salad		Total

Payment must be received by September 1st. One registration per person. 10 ladies per table.
 Ladies send in your registration forms and payment together with the ladies you wish to sit with.



TEMECULA VALLEY 12 STEP HOTLINE.....

IS LIVE ON THE WEB – VISIT

www.temeculacentraloffice.org

THEN CLICK ON “HOTLINE”

Each group has but one primary purpose....to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffer

The primary purpose of the Temecula Valley Hotline is to receive and handle all Alcoholics Anonymous phone calls outside of the normal business hours of the Temecula Valley Central office. The Hotline insures that that the hand of A.A. is always there to anyone who needs Alcoholics Anonymous' critical help, meeting information or to speak with another alcoholic.

MORE GROUP COMMITMENTS ARE VITAL TO THE HOTLINE

A Hotline Commitment is easy. Take a group conscience, vote in a Hotline Representative and once a month, your group will answer phone lines from 5:30 PM to 10:00 AM the next morning. Usually in shifts of three (5:30pm-10:00pm, 10:00pm-7:00am and 7:00am-10:00am) then Central Office takes the lines back.

It is easy to transfer phone lines. A member from the Hotline Committee will come to your meeting to explain all the details to your group and will be available to support your group.

The Hotline Committee would like to thank each and every one of the groups and individuals that make this Hotline work. It runs smoothly day after day, night after night, weekend after weekend and holiday after holiday. What a blessing!

Yours in service,

John, Julie, Lorilie & Pauline temeculahotline@yahoo.com

TVCO HOTLINE GROUP DAYS

UPDATED: 9/7/10

- 1st Monday **MONDAY 7:00 AM AS BILL SEES IT (Murrieta)**
- 1st Tuesday **TUESDAY 10 AM WOMEN'S 12x12 (Murrieta)**
- 1st Wednesday **O P E N**
- 1st Thursday **O P E N (covered temporarily by Jackie)**
- 1st Friday **MEN'S STAG 7:00 PM WEDNESDAY (Murrieta)**
- 1st Weekend **LIBERTY BELLS (Lake Elsinore)**

- 2nd Monday **SATURDAY EARLY RISERS (Temecula)**
- 2nd Tuesday **UNITY HALL 7 AM (Sun City)**
- 2nd Wednesday **THE FUNKS**
- 2nd Thursday **CROSS TALK 10:00 AM (Temecula)**
- 2nd Friday **SUN CITY SWINGERS (Sun City)**
- 2nd Weekend **RULE 62 - Friday Men's (Temecula)**

- 3rd Monday **OPEN ARMS 10:00 AM (Temecula)**
- 3rd Tuesday **SUNDAY SPEAKER MEETING @ THE MEETING PLACE (Lake Elsinore)**
- 3rd Wednesday **WOMEN'S ACCEPTANCE WEDNESDAY (Lake Elsinore)**
- 3rd Thursday **THURSDAY WOMEN'S BB STUDY L.E. (Lake Elsinore)**
- 3rd Friday **BACK TO BASICS (Sun City)**
- 3rd Weekend **SERENITY CIRCLE NOON (Temecula)**

- 4th Monday **SUNDAY 7 AM ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT (Lake Elsinore)**
- 4th Tuesday **GEEK SQUAD SUNDY NIGHT 12 X 12 (Murrieta)**
- 4th Wednesday **LITTLE BIG BOOK MONDAY (Murrieta)**
- 4th Thursday **O P E N**
- 4th Friday **I CAN'T SLEEP – SATURDAY 10:00 (Murrieta)**
- 4th Weekend **WILD ONES GRAPE STREET (Wildomar)**

- 5th Monday **WOMEN'S CLOSED AS BILL SEES IT - MONDAY 12:00 (Murrieta)**
- 5th Tuesday **SUNDAY SPEAKER MEETING @ THE MEETING PLACE (Lake Elsinore)**
- 5th Wednesday **BOBBI AND RICHARD**
- 5th Thursday **CHARLENE AND JEFF (Murrieta)**
- 5th Friday **BRENDA & JOHN WALTER (Wildomar)**
- 5th Weekend **CINDY & PAUL**