



# GRATITUDE GAZETTE

Volume 2020.2  
February 2020

**951-677-1535**  
**24 Hour Hotline**

Temecula Valley Central Office  
41340 Pear Street, Ste. 1  
Murrieta, CA 92562

## Breaking News: Outreach in the Valley

Your Intergroup Outreach Chair, Angie is looking for partners to help with outreach and building meeting unity in the valley. She is organizing an Outreach group with a goal to attend every meeting in this valley and share the importance for each group to have an intergroup rep.

There are many Intergroup commitments available for those to be of service. There are currently over 200 meetings and only 33 reps in the greater Temecula Valley region. This is a lofty goal for only one person so we need YOU! The Intergroup Committee meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month in Murrieta from 6:45 to 8:00 pm. If you would like more information and interested in a commitment please let her know.

Angela's email is [acpagliei@yahoo.com](mailto:acpagliei@yahoo.com)

P.S... An intergroup rep is the liaison between your meeting and the Temecula Valley Central Office.

## Smacking Pancakes for 11 Years

The 11th Annual Pancake Smackdown returns to the Murrieta Community Center on Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 6am to 1 pm. Did you know this is a free event? Yes it is; a full, all you can eat breakfast. The day will be electric with games, prizes, a cash drawing and a huge raffle. There will also be a speaker meeting after the breakfast so best to stick around and make a day of it! See the flyer in the events section for more information. We hope to see you there!



### This Month in History

#### A.A.

1971: At the age of 75, Bill W. dies on January 24, 1971 at the Miami Heart Institute in Miami Beach, Florida. On February 14, AA groups worldwide held a memorial service for Bill Wilson.

#### From our backyard...

2003: The first nationwide Alcoholics Anonymous History Conference was held in Phoenix, Arizona.

#### Around the world...

1945: World War II paper shortage forced reduction in the size of the Big Book.

#### Reference

[https://www.a-1associates.com/aa/HISTORY\\_PAGE/dates.htm](https://www.a-1associates.com/aa/HISTORY_PAGE/dates.htm)

### Inside this issue

Recovery .....	2
Feature Stories .....	3
Spotlight .....	4
Business.....	6
Rewind News.....	8
Events.....	9
Safety.....	12
Leisure.....	13

# Recovery



## Step 2

We came to be aware that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Step Two can be uncomfortable for some people because it seems to encourage alcoholics to believe in God. Alcoholics who don't have religious belief or who aren't comfortable with the concept of God sometimes balk at this step.

Step Two isn't really about God – it's about finding something outside of yourself to inspire you and help you remain sober. Many alcoholics, religious or not, have found this step useful.



## Tradition 2

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Group decisions are just that, group decisions. After a discussion of all aspects of a given situation, including the minority opinion, the group votes on the issue and an agreement is reached with the majority vote. This vote is called a "group conscience."

Each group is a fellowship of equals. No matter what an individual member's background, education, or professional expertise, no member has authority "over" the group. In this way, the fellowship reaches out to all who would seek its comfort and provides the atmosphere of a sense of "belonging" to all members.

## Concept 2

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

We develop discipline in order to serve the group conscience by obeying it as a trusted servant. We do what god delegates to us through the group.

## Principle 2

### Hope

To expect with desire; something on which hopes are centered.

When you look around, you see that people can and do recover from alcoholism, even if you have no idea how.

## Insight

By Jason W., Recovery blog writer - February 2017

*"As part of a recovery process it's really helpful to ask and answer important questions to step two; questions about insanity, coming to believe, a higher power, restored sanity and spiritual principles:"*

- Did you make insane decisions as a result of your addictions?
- Do you have any fears about coming to believe in something greater than yourself?
- What does "we came to believe" mean to you?
- What experiences have you heard other recovering share about their process of coming to believe and have you tried any of them in your recovery/life?
- Do you have a problem accepting that there is a power/powers greater than yourself?
- What evidence do you have a "higher power" is working in your life?
- What are some of the things you consider good examples of sanity?
- What changes in your thinking and behavior are necessary for your restoration to sanity?
- Why is having a closed mind harmful to your personal recovery?
- How are you demonstrating open-mindedness in your life right now?
- What fears do you have that are getting in the way of your trust?
- What do you need to do to help let go of the fears?
- Are you seeking help from your sponsor, going to meetings and reaching out to others recovering? If so what are the results?

# Features



## Our Leaders Do Not Govern

By Crystal B - February 2019  
(edited)

Being one among many was a new concept for me when I got sober. I have struggled with not being the best and not being the worst in every area of my life. It's no different for me in a business meeting in my homegroup. How does Tradition Two apply to my life and relationships both in and out of the rooms?

For me, this is where God has first introduced the opportunity to practice humility. We are taught that we **MUST** have more of this quality than we think we need in order to maintain sobriety.

ty. The unity of our fellowship is hinged on Tradition Two. I see it as waves and waves of "Me's" learning to become a complete ocean of "Us (we)".

Our Group Conscience is what keeps our meeting's integrity intact. The group decides on everything from bylaws and guidelines to who the coffee person is. When an idea is brought to the group, the group's members discuss adopting the idea.

This process can take a few minutes, a few weeks, a few months or even years to become fully decided upon. The bigger the group, the longer the decision may take. Before sobriety, I didn't take this much care in any of my decision making. I made snap judgements based on limited information without even considering how I really felt about the decision. I would often agree or disagree based on

my comfort level at the time of the decision. No wonder I found myself in crisis after crisis!

We are a fellowship of equals. No matter where each of us comes from, no matter how long or short we have been sober, no member has any authority over the group.

For AA to stay all-inclusive, it's important to allow everyone a voice. When I apply this to my daily life, I become open to hearing the other side at work, at home, in traffic and know that I do not govern, I am just part of a bigger whole. One wave in the ocean. How can I best be of service to God and to my fellows? Am I leading or am I preaching? Am I participating in my life as a trusted servant or am I demanding attention and favor? These are questions that I can turn to in moments of frustration when I don't get my way.

## Newcomer Excitement

By Sam - September 2012  
(edited)

My name is Sam and I am an alcoholic. I have been sober for 7 months now and I don't think I have ever felt as good as I do right now. I am just starting to work on the 4th step and couldn't be more excited about this journey.

I have seen incredible results by following exactly what this program says to do. When I stray from it, I wind up having a bad day and do not feel as good. I

lead a meeting last night for the first time and I was pretty nervous. My sponsor told me that I would be helping so many people in that meeting by sharing my story and in turn would help myself. So I bit the bullet and did it and everyone in there appreciated my story and thanked me for sharing. What an incredible feeling.

If the AA tradition stated that I should or should not do something then I would follow it to the absolute best of my ability. That with whatever decision I made then, all I would have to answer to is my higher power. From what I've learned and experienced so far, my main purpose is to keep my higher power happy,

and in turn I have felt incredible and so thankful to be alive and able to experience all the good things in life. Basically what I am trying to say is that I owe my life to the AA program. If AA says something is frowned upon because it goes against a tradition or what AA stands for then I wouldn't think twice about it.

Where I am in the program right now? I am still learning a lot and some situations are harder to deal with than others but all I can do is follow this program exactly as it is designed and know that I can help and serve other alcoholics just by sharing my story and passing AA's message on to others.

I hope this helps

# Spotlight



*Welcome to Spotlight. This section is a dedication of experience, strength and hope working through the steps in an interview format. If you have a story to share but find it difficult to write an article, check in with your groups Intergroup rep for scheduling an interview.*

## A Candid Insight into Step 2

An interview with Bob J by Rob P - January 2020

### **ROB P: What is your sobriety date?**

**BOB J:** May 17, 2007, today (Feb 2, 2020) is 4,644 days.

### **ROB P: Did you do any insane behavior when you were drinking that you would like to share with the readers?**

**BOB J:** Absolutely! Insane behavior, recognizing and coming to believe I need to change that behavior was sleeping with others wives. Even being sober I have had anger outbursts. I have anger outbursts that I need to look at. It happens even in sobriety. As sobriety progresses, the anger subsides; but it is still there as a learned behavior I have inside me. Back when I was an active "chemical engineer" I remember using with my Mom. That was my first moment of clarity back in 1989. I have had quite a few moments of clarity, but that was the first I can recall, "oh my gosh, what am I doing here"; insane behavior.

### **ROB P: How did you recognize that it was insane behavior?**

**BOB J:** Looking back now that I have a God of my understanding; since I came to believe, it was God. I didn't know it at the time, I had no clue but it had to be God (adamant) in my life saying "Wake up and smell the coffee". You know, intuition if you will. This situation isn't right (laugh). Mentally I knew it was but emotionally I didn't.

### **ROB P: As a part of working step two you needed to get to a point where you came to believe in a power greater than yourself could would restore you to sanity. Did you have any fears about that?**

**BOB J:** Absolutely! I had lots of fears. My fears were this time (in 2007) not being able to find a God "of my understanding", because I had failed so many times prior to that (time); 18 years in and out

of the program. I had a long stretch of abstinence but I did it Bob's way and no God. So this time around I got to the end that this is the one thing I never did was to get a God in my life. So I was very scared of not being able to get a God and that it not working...this program not working. My sponsor was a person put in my life and he stepped two me the longest; I got all the other eleven steps faster than step two. Step two was two months at least I think. Then it was just discussions...discussions with my sponsor about the stars, the oceans; things that man did not build. Again, it's a decision; step two is a decision 'coming to believe'. I didn't have to get it all at once. The Book tells me so, my sponsor told me so and so it's a work in progress I believe, this coming to believe as there are times I fall out of belief but I come back because I know it works. I don't always stay in it but I do always come back.

### **ROB P: Do you have any fears today that are getting in the way of trust? Trusting others? Trusting yourself? Fears like this...**

**BOB J:** I have fears in trusting God...start there. For me, I just spoke to my sponsor about that. I fear that I'm not trusting God enough. Again, it's a work in progress. It keeps on evolving and progress but yet again I still fall into that fear I'm going to lose my job, not being able to provide if I fail at my job; I still fear failure big time in my head. I really do (pause). Yes, I'm still successful and people tell me so, but in my mind I still view it as not good enough. You know, I need to feel it for myself because this is an inside job, definitely an inside (the mind) job. I've learned that much over (time). So what I keep on doing I write ten positive things about myself daily, I write a grateful list everyday...what I need to be grateful for. I hope, I hope this is enough for me to stay in positive attitude and out of fear along with praying. I learned recently, I know I'm twelve years into this and I need to meditate on a daily basis and not just on the weekends when I have time. I need to do it more often to clear the mind which then creates less fear for myself.



# Spotlight



## A Candid Insight into Step 2, continued

**ROB P:** How are you expressing open mindedness in your life today?

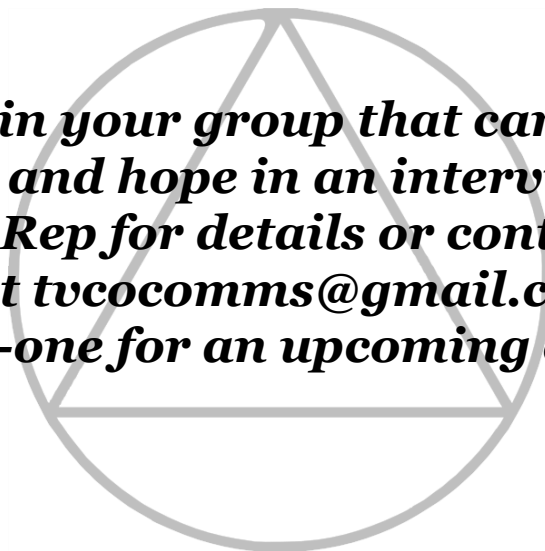
**BOB J:** I catch myself having a closed mind sometimes when just saying an example at work when the boss brings up a project to me. I first want to react 'it cannot be done that way, we need to do it this way'. That's my first thought wrong, if you will. I have to step back and I have to not...I've learned to pause because it keeps me from getting into trouble (chuckle). And when I pause I believe that's me having an open mind for me. Same things in decision making with my wife, I need to pause more than I do because again I don't always have an open mind; I take my will back and I know if I take my will back I am not living in Gods will which is closing my mind. So, its an ongoing process for me, a work in progress and continuous for me to stay teachable and keep learning because it's not perfect. I keep doing the same things but length of sobriety comes wisdom to learn a bit more each year...each day to keep that open mind.

**ROB P:** What evidence do you have that a Higher Power is working in your life today?

**BOB J:** Evidence, hum...well I have to think a little on this. There's a few (examples). Early in sobriety, about a year or so I was on a ski lift up in Mammoth and I had a moment, a very short fleeing moment that every thing was going to be OK. I have felt that feeling once or twice since then. That feeling of 'Oh ya, everything is going to be OK'. And then six years into my sobriety, I got to that point where they say 'your head pops out of your 'behind' and the fogs lifts. The moment came (again) that everything was going to be OK. 'This is it!', I have accepted and it took me that long; a hard head...took me that long. Great things have been happening in my life (since). Material things don't mean a lot ya know, but things came easier...a nice house, a very well paying job which I never thought in my drunken dreams a job that I would ever get, a beautiful wife that's awesome. She is so good to me, accepting and loves coming to A.A. meetings and she's a normie. Two kids that love me, two step kids that really love me. All God, and great friends (laugh); I could go on.

**Thank you very much for your time Bob J. I pray that the readers enjoy your insights into step two as much as I have through the interview session. - Rob P.**

***Is there someone in your group that can share their experience, strength and hope in an interview? Check with your Intergroup Rep for details or contact the Gratitude Gazette Editor at [tvccomms@gmail.com](mailto:tvccomms@gmail.com) to schedule a one-on-one for an upcoming edition.***



# Business



## Central Office Serves the Valley

During the day, your Central Office keeps the doors open to assist recovering and suffering AA members alike and provide the following services:

- 24 Hour Hotline 951-677-1535
- Organizes 12 Step Calls
- Big Books & 12x12's
- Grapevine publications & other assorted literature
- Chips & Newcomer Packets
- [Meeting Schedules](#)
- Information for other Central Offices
- [Gratitude Gazette publication](#)

Your office manager organizes volunteers, makes sure the office is a healthy place for all, keeps your accounting data accurate, and safe guards your inventory. The office manager and volunteers are there to support the groups and the individual members of our fellowship throughout the valley.

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 contributions.

Please ask at your next business meeting if you are contributing monthly to your Central Office. Contributions goes to pay for the convenient services above you receive. If your group has stopped contributing (or never started), please bring it up at your next business meeting and take a group conscious.

Let us know when and how we can help.

- Your Central Office Team

## Service Opportunities

### Central Office Volunteers Needed

Great response last month to fill the open slots. The shifts may be filled but starting an opportunity list! 4 hours, 2, hours, 1 hour, however you can help with your time in the future.

### 12 Step Calls

Add your name to the 12 Step Call list for male & female. Spanish speaking volunteers also needed.

Please contact Ken for more info 951-677-1535.

## Volunteers

- |             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. Bert     | 2. Terri           |
| 3. Debi     | 4. John W          |
| 5. James    | 6. Laura L         |
| 7. Nikki    | 8. Chris           |
| 9. Terry    | 10. Steve          |
| 11. Roxanne | 12. Sarri          |
| 13. Steve   | <b>...and YOU!</b> |

# Business



## Central Office Activity

Phone Calls: 275

Walk-Ins: 160

Purchases: 160

Website Visits: 3,920

## From the Chairman of the Intergroup Board

January brought not only a new year but a new board at Temecula Valley Intergroup. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks for the service and dedication to our outgoing board members; Deanna, Mary, Crystal, and Kelley.

As we move forward into 2020, we would like to remind everyone in the fellowship of how lucky we are to live in a community of Alcoholics Anonymous that thrives in Recovery, Service, and Unity. Continue to challenge yourself by extending your comfort zone and expanding the circle of hope that this program has given us all.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the Pancake Smackdown!  
– Semper Sober - John

Committee	Day of the month	Location
H&I Committee Meeting	1st Monday 7:30 pm	Temecula Valley Alano Club 27470 Commerce Center Dr. Temecula, CA 92590
TVCO Board Meeting	1st Tuesday 6:30pm	Central Office 41340 Pear Street Suite 1 Murrieta, CA 92562
Mid So-Cal Area Meeting	2nd Sunday 9:30am	See the MSCA website <a href="http://msca09aa.org/">http://msca09aa.org/</a>
District 17 GSR Meeting	2nd Tues 6:30pm	Springs Church 41735 Winchester Rd #C Temecula, CA 92590
Intergroup Meeting	3rd Tuesday 6:45pm	United Methodist Church 24652 Adams St, Murrieta, CA

Financial Reports,  
Agendas, Meeting Minutes

# FREE

**Do you need a report for  
your groups business  
meeting?**

Contact the TVCO Board  
Secretary at:  
[secretarytvco@gmail.com](mailto:secretarytvco@gmail.com)

***Comments, article submissions, suggestions about the Gratitude Gazette?***

Please submit email to:  
[tvccomms@gmail.com](mailto:tvccomms@gmail.com)

BUCK A MONTH CLUB



Inquire with your Intergroup Rep  
or follow  
<http://ssl.temeculacentraloffice.org/>

# Rewind News



## Editorial on the 2nd Tradition

By Bill W - January 1948

Sooner or later, every A.A. comes to depend upon a Power greater than himself. He finds that the God of his understanding is not only a source of strength, He is also a source of positive direction. Realizing that some fraction of that infinite resource is now available, his life takes on an entirely different complexion. He experiences a new inner security together with such a sense of destiny and purpose as he had never known before. As each day passes, our A.S. reviews his mistakes and vicissitudes. He learns from daily experience what his remaining character defects are and becomes ever more willing that they be removed.

Every A.A. group follows this same cycle of development. We are coming to realize that each group, as well as each individual, is a special entity, not quite like any other. Though A.A. groups are basically the same, each group does have its own special atmosphere its own peculiar state of development. We believe that every A.A. group has a conscience. It is the collective conscience of its own membership. Daily experience informs and instructs this conscience. The group begins to recognize its own defects of character and, one by one, these are removed or lessened. As this process continues, the group becomes better able to receive right direction for its own affairs. Trail and error produce group experience, an out of corrected experience comes custom. When a customary way of doing things is definitely proved to be best, then that

custom forms into A.A. Tradition. The Greater Power is then working through a clear group conscience. We humbly hope and believe that our growing A.A. Tradition will prove to be the will of God for us.

Many people are coming to think that Alcoholics Anonymous is, to some extent, a new form of human society. In our discussion of the 1st Tradition, it was emphasized that we have, in A.A., no coercive human authority. Because each A.A., of necessity, has a sensitive and responsive conscience, and because alcohol will discipline him severely if he backslides, we are finding we have little need for man-made rules or regulations. Despite the fact that we do veer off at times on tangents, we are becoming more able to depend absolutely on the long-term stability of the A.A. group itself.

With respect to its own affairs, the collective conscience of the group will, given time, almost surely demonstrate its perfect dependability. The group conscience will, in the end, prove a far more infallible guide for group affairs than the decision of any individual member, however good or wise he may be. This is a striking and almost unbelievable fact about Alcoholics Anonymous, hence we can safely dispense, with those exhortations and punishments seemingly so necessary to other societies. And we need not depend overmuch on inspired lenders. Because our active leadership of service can be truly rotating, we enjoy a kind of democracy rarely possible elsewhere. In this respect we may be, to a large degree, unique.

Therefore we of Alcoholics Anonymous are certain that there is but one ultimate authority, "a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience."

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*"Came to believe that a Power greater than myself could restore me to sanity."*

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## Our Hope for the Many

Big Book, There Is A Solution, p. 29

Our hope is that many alcoholic men and women, desperately in need, will see these pages, and we believe that it is only by fully disclosing ourselves and our problems that they will be persuaded to say, "Yes, I am one of them too; I must have this thing."



# Events



## AN OLD FASHION "OLD TIMER'S" MEETING AT

UNITY HALL  
27732 ENCANTO DR., SUN CITY, CA 92586

**Saturday - FEBRUARY 22, 2020**

FOOD - 1:30 - 2:30 PM

MAIN DISH, BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE SIDE DISH

MEETING - 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

ALL "OLD TIMER'S" WITH 20 YEARS OR MORE  
OF CONTINUOUS SOBRIETY

ARE INVITED TO SHARE AT THE PODIUM

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND

AN "OLD FASHION" "OLD TIMER'S" MEETING  
When 20 Years of Sobriety was considered to be  
"An Old Timer"

For More Information call: Ernie B. (951) 213-9503



## **56th International Women's Conference**

Indianapolis  
February 20-23, 2020



JW Marriott Hotel  
10 S West St  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
317.860.5800



[www.internationalwomensconference.org](http://www.internationalwomensconference.org)

# Events



**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**



## **THE 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PANCAKE SMACKDOWN IS BACK!**

**Sunday, March 1, 2020  
Murrieta Community Center  
41810 Juniper St., 6am-1pm**



**HUGE RAFFLE!!**

**THIS IS FULL BREAKFAST !!!**

**PANCAKES, EGGS, BACON, SAUSAGE, FRUIT, MILK, JUICE & COFFEE!!**

**ALL FREE & ALL-YOU-CAN EAT!!**

**THERE WILL BE A SPEAKER MEETING FOLLOWING THE BREAKFAST SO STICK AROUND!**

**EARLY BIRD COFFEE 7:00 - 8:00 AM**

**CASH DRAWING!!**

**BREAKFAST SERVED & RAFFLE BEGINS 8:01 - 10:45**

**SPEAKER MEETING 11:00 AM - 12:00**

**GAMES & PRIZES!!**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DONATING TO THE RAFFLE OR MAKING A DONATION TO  
HELP MAKE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE.**

**PLEASE CONTACT KEN 714-209-9505**

**951-677-1535**


***More events coming; please check back soon or visit***

Temecula Valley Central Office Events page

<http://www.temeculacentraloffice.org/aa-events/>

# Events





## MARCH 6 - 8, 2020

### WESTIN LA PALOMA RESORT

3800 E. SUNRISE DRIVE, TUCSON, ARIZONA 85718

\$195/night + taxes & fees (rate is good March 2 – March 11).  
Reserve by 5pm on February 11, 2020 to guarantee rate.  
TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM VISIT: <https://bit.ly/2H7MCGy>

**53<sup>RD</sup> PACIFIC REGION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SERVICE ASSEMBLY**

The purpose of PRAASA is to:

- Develop greater unity among the members, groups, and Areas of the Pacific Region,
- Encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences,
- Provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Assembly and the PRAASA Committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity and Service legacies of Alcoholics Anonymous.

PLEASE CHECK BOX(ES)	FEE
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Donation	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Dinner – Pasta Buffet	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Lunch (All are welcome) featuring an Al-Anon Speaker	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Banquet Dinner (circle one) Flat Iron Steak OR Salmon	\$55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Ice Cream Social	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Delegates Only Lunch (Saturday)	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Past Delegates Only Lunch (Saturday)	\$35.00
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$</b>	

**Mail in Registration Deadline: February 17.**  
Make Checks Payable to "PRAASA 2020" and Mail to: PRAASA 2020, Box 1414, Green Valley, AZ 85622

PRAASA starts Friday, March 6th at 12:30pm and ends Sunday, March 8th at 12:15pm. Early bird meeting: Thursday, March 5th at 7:30pm (see program for AA & Al-Anon meetings). Young People (YPAA) Program Friday & Saturday nights.

☐ AA  
☐ Al-Anon  
☐ Alateen  
☐ Friend

☐ This is my first PRAASA!  
 AREA # \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICE POSITION (circle one):** AA Member; YPAA; Intergroup; GSR; Alt. GSR; DCM; Alt. DCM; DCMC; Alt. DCMC; District Committee; Area Committee; Delegate; Alt. Delegate; Past Delegate; Trustee; Past Trustee; Other \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Interpretation Provided: Español & ASL**  
*MUST BE RESERVED BY FEBRUARY 7, 2020*

☐ Requiero interpretación Español  
☐ I require ASL    ☐ I require other \_\_\_\_\_

**Accessibility Needs:**  
☐ Hearing Impaired    ☐ Onsite Mobility Assistance  
☐ Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

For online registration, hotel reservations, to volunteer, and for general information visit  
[www.PRAASA.org](http://www.PRAASA.org)

## The 2020 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous

**WHEN: July 2–5, 2020**  
**WHERE: Detroit, Michigan**

*This year's theme*  
**"Love and Tolerance is our Code."**

A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 85th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Ford Field Stadium.

Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the COBO Center in downtown Detroit.

Registration forms will be mailed in August 2019 to all G.S.R.s, central offices, intergroups and international G.S.O.s. Online registration will be available September 9, 2019, on [aa.org](http://aa.org).

Advanced registration for the convention between September 9, 2019 and April 14, 2020 will be \$115.00 (USD) per attendee. Registration after April 15, 2020 will be \$140.00 (USD) per attendee.

For further information please [https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/international-convention-2020](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/international-convention-2020)



# Safety



## SAFETY FOR THE NEWCOMER

We *ALL deserve RESPECT* and the right to get sober in a healthy empowered environment.

Everyone regardless of race, color, gender, age, religion, creed, disability, and sexual orientation, all deserve a chance to get sober **without harassment of any kind.**

Like one old timer in Hawaii used to say “ the good, the bad, and the ugly are in meetings just like on the street.”

### BE AWARE

Trust is earned.

If someone makes you uncomfortable in any way, tell the secretary and a friend and do not give them your contact information.

A sponsor guides you through the steps and shares their experience as to how they have stayed sober.

### FOR PARENTS AND MINORS

Minors should not take rides from members of the opposite sex.

There should always be another person with them, with one being of the same sex and age as the minor.

Minors should not go alone to the house of an older sober member to do step work until trustworthiness is established. It is safer to do this work in a public area like a coffee shop.

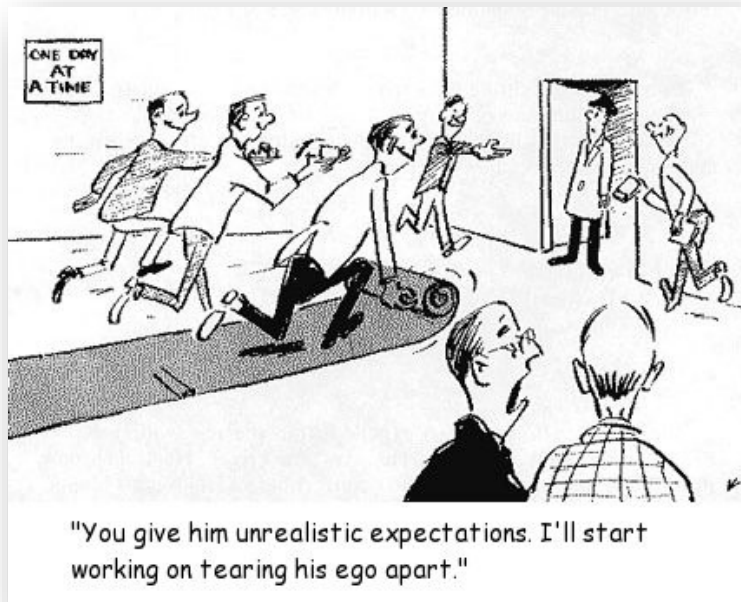
*This literature is part of “**Make meetings safer**”. A grass roots movement in Southern California. Started by a group of concerned group members.*

*Each Group is autonomous and every group can write their own literature.*

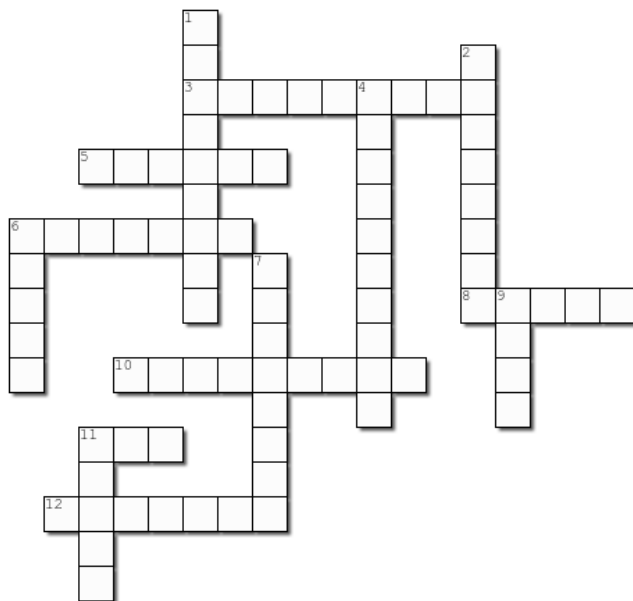
# Leisure



## The Funnies in A.A.



## Crossword Teaser



### Across

- 3. Offers service
- 5. To remove or correct faults
- 6. 1939 Basic text
- 8. A simple plan
- 10. New York publication
- 11. A higher power
- 12. Local publication

### Down

- 1. Searching and fearless list
- 2. A new freedom and happiness
- 4. Beliefs and Customs
- 6. Co-founder
- 7. A list of meetings
- 9. Central Office acronym
- 11. Gratitude and fortune from God

## Anagrams

Can you unscramble the anagrams below?

Hint: A.A. slogans

Seaside Toy

Hollis Pasta Shots

Leno with vine

Pain toss

Drafts out joy

Answer keys in the next edition



# Leisure



## Word Search of the Month

S Q J C X B I S L L I W S D O G S Y H  
 S S U Q T Q E S P O I W M G R J A B U  
 E E A S Y D O E S I T W M D G I N H M  
 L G D Q H A P P I N E S S A N D M S B  
 R V N C A E S H U A P O N N C T I P L  
 E A Z I R E G L N H R L A O O M Y I E  
 W I R G R B F O R R O N D N U Y R R F  
 O O P V J A Q T T O M F Y Y T F E I D  
 P M I I K V C B P I I T A M R Y V T X  
 M C R O S N O P S P S M N O E N O U P  
 E O Q X N V B W I J E T B U A H C A R  
 W S D G S T E P S Y S N I S C C E L O  
 D E R E T N E C F L E S J C H L R C G  
 G N J Q E G N F Z J U F L T A J S Z R  
 A B W O O R I Q R E Y A R P V L H C A  
 W J S U L Q F K H D D J S O B E R A M  
 M Z F H T I A F K H Z F E E L I N G S  
 V U C I E Z R Q V W E C A K V P T I F  
 Y Q U B D W K X P W U T S X X N S K K

Anonymous  
 Caring  
 Easydoesit  
 Egotistical  
 Faith  
 Feelings  
 Freedom  
 Godswill

Happiness  
 Humble  
 Outreach  
 Powerless  
 Prayer  
 Program  
 Promises  
 Recovery

Selfcentered  
 Service  
 Sober  
 Spiritual  
 Sponsor  
 Steps

Answer keys in the next edition

## Classifieds

### Artists Wanted

The Gratitude Gazette is in need of examples of recovery with a dash of flare for the artistic. Do you or someone in your program of recovery draws, sketches, paints? How about a local cartoonist looking for their big break in volunteering?

- Cartoon strips; monthly section
- Art; paintings, sketches, photographs (no faces please)
- Spiritual poetry

Send your nominations or submissions with caption to: [tvcomms@gmail.com](mailto:tvcomms@gmail.com) and you just might see your work in an upcoming edition.

### Intergroup commitments available

Inquire with Angie at [acpagliei@yahoo.com](mailto:acpagliei@yahoo.com)

### Central Office Volunteers Needed

Get on the list for opening notifications! Call Ken at 951-677-1535