#### GRATITUDE GAZETTE

Phone (951) 695-1535 MARCH 2013



A Color Copy of this newsletter is available on the website at

www.temeculacentraloffice.org Editor: <u>Charlene W</u>

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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

-Declaration of 30th Anniversary International Convention, 1965 Remember we are waiting to read your story. **Email** it to us.

#### Feature Article

## Can anyone tell me about their experiences with AA?

My friend went to his first and second AA meetings the last night and hated both. The groups were predominantly 50+ and most members are coming 5/6 nights a week for between 20 and 30 years. Is this typical?

Glad You Asked. I've been a friend of Bill W. for 17 years and AA saved my life - No Kidding!!! Read On...

It's not unusual to "hate" AA meetings in the beginning. Perhaps we have not yet accepted what we are, or we're not done experimenting and partying. It's not how much you drink that's the problem - it's what happens when you drink. A whole new world will unveil itself if you're friend "keeps coming back." There are a million catch phrases used in the program, one of which I'll never forget. I was told in my first three months to

keep going to meetings until I WANTED to go to meetings.

Getting sober is for those who WANT it. not those who need it. This is a hard core fact of life. It took me a long time to make that distinction. Trust me, I didn't have a life until I got sober. This is how I ended up working in a health food store for the past 17 vears. Tell your friend to go to different meetings, but also to stick with the winners. Those "old timers" saved my butt. It used to be so frustrating in the days when they would laugh at what I'd say. They weren't being unkind. They were relating to the insanity of disease. Alcohol and drugs are never the "problem." They are the solution we choose to deal with life. I was 34 when I got sober and I've experienced a lot of pain in my life. In meetings I found my clan - folks who were like me that I could

It's work getting sober and many people DO NOT follow the simple program that AA outlines. Millions can't be wrong, you'll hear it said. I was resistant in the beginning. It took me three months of going to meetings every day, before I could say my name is..., I'm an alcoholic. It was one of the most defining moments of my life.

Let me explain why people go to AA meetings for 20 - 30 years. It's for people like you're friend. They carry the message. They come to those meetings to stay sober and to give back to the alcoholic who STILL SUFFERS. what was so FREELY given to them. There are women's meetings. men's meetings, co-ed meetings, big book study meetings, and much more.

It's strongly recommended that a new-comer attend 90 meetings in 90 days. If your friend doesn't WANT what we have, then we will gladly

gazette@temeculacentraloffice.org If your meeting needs help Email us.

relate to - for the very

first time.

#### Feature Article ~ continued

I was - the next step was dying. I came very close to it. After 17 years I can't imagine taking a drink, but there are those who have done just that after longterm sobriety. I don't know what it would take to make me drink again, but I know what to do if my head gets screwed up and I lose sight if what's important. I have a wonderful sponsor and I don't just talk to her when things are nuts. I share the good, the bad and the ugly with her. Sponsors are our "tour guide," leading us through the shark infested waters of life. Trust me, this program works if you work it. How does our program work? H.O.W. = Honesty - Openmindedness - Willingness.

Tell your friend to listen at meetings and see if he can relate to someone there who has AT LEAST one year of sobriety under his belt and is working the steps actively. If we are not working the program, we have nothing to give to others and have NO business trying. I was told in early sobriety to shut up and listen. All I had to talk about was the problem and how well I drank and suffered. They were right because I needed to listen to those who were working the program and the Steps, and that's where my

spiritual nourishment comes from to this day. I could go on and on. Tell your friend to get a quality sponsor and do what that sponsor tells him to do. I guarantee the day will come when the big light bulb in the head goes on and all will be revealed. It will all make sense. The gratitude will flow. Then and only then will we will happy, joyous and free!

This is only the BEGINNING. The wonderful and amazing beginning of an incredible journey. Only then can it be understood why people go to meetings for 20 - 30 years. It's not a death sentence - it's the breath of life itself. No matter where I go in the world, there are people like me - family - and all I have to know about them is that they are a recovering alcoholics. That's all I need to know.

~Celtdancer~

Sources: 17 years of personal experience - hard work, and trusting a power greater than myself.

http://askville.amazon.com/experiences-AA/ AnswerViewer.do?requestId=3524382



Interesting Blog websites to visit.

Send us your suggestions. Be sure they follow AA Traditions.

Alcoholics Anonymous as a spiritual experience

Spiritual Awakening vs. Spiritual Experience

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

Please <u>email</u> your story as a document or text file to:

temeculaaa@verizon.net

### AA Birthdays: Look Who Took A Cake In February?



#### To all AA members, join our Email list

Be notified of meeting changes, new events and other important AA information.

Send email to DLServant@TemeculaCentralOffice.Org and be added to the list.

## **Get on the List!**

#### What is the Intergroup?

Each group is encouraged to have an Intergroup Representative. This person is the liaison between Intergroup and represented group. The Intergroup Central Office depends on local members and groups for the support necessary to carry out its responsibilities. This support comes in the form of volunteer help and financial contributions. Our efficiency and the continuation of offered services are related to the level of support from the groups. Please register your group at Central Office. Any A.A. member is welcome to attend the Intergroup 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.

"The Intergroup associations are the best insurance we can have that our life lines to the hundreds of thousands yet to come will never break or tangle. Let us always be generous. Let us warmly support Intergroup." AA co-founder Bill W. 1949

What	When	Where
H&I Committee Meeting	1st Monday - 7:30pm	TVAC-27470 Commerce Center Dr.
		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
	Visitors Welcome	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 and provide the following services:

We provide the Big Book.

We provide the 12x12, assorted literature, chips, and newcomer packets.

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 is there to support the groups and the individual members of our fellowship.

We make and distribute your meeting schedules and we publish 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 contributions.

Please ask at your next business meeting if you are contributing 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 contributing (or never started), please bring it up at your next business meeting and take a group conscious.

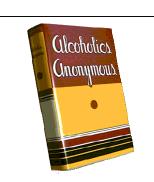
We value your input and want to make sure we understand your opinion.

Come and join us!

# Step Turce

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God





The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

#### **Step Three Guidelines**

#### **How It Works**

We were now at *Step Three*. Many of us said to our Maker, *as we understood Him*: "God, I offer myself to Thee-to build with me and to 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!" We thought well before taking this step making sure we were ready; that we could at last abandon ourselves utterly to Him

- A.A. Big Book p.63

More about Step 3 in the Big Book

#### 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 who 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 www.temeculacentraloffice.org

#### **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!** 

# Cantral Office News

## Volunteers

- 1 Amber
- 2 Annie
- 3 Betsy
- 4 Chris K
- 5 Debi G
- 6 Debbie R
- 7 Gary
- 8 Gay
- 9 Jackie
- 10 Jill
- 11 Jim F
- 12 Julie G
- 13 Kim C
- 14 Kristen P
- 15 Launa R
- 16 Laurie S
- 17 Melinda
- 18 Michael S
- 19 Nancy W
- 20 Rich
- 21 Shawn
- 22 Sheila
- 23 Stuart
- 24 Tami
- 25 Tyrone

### Daily Activity for February

Phoned in 187
Walk ins 65
AA Meeting 75
Al-Anon 17
12 Step 36
Donations/Purchases 79
Misc/Other Business 52

Email: temeculaaa@verizon.net

#### **BRIDGING THE GAP**

Bridging the Gap is designed to help an alcoholic between a treatment program or prison make the transition. One of the more slippery places in the journey to sobriety is between the door of a facility and the nearest AA group or meeting. AA experience suggests that attending meetings regularly is critical. In order to Bridge the Gap, AA members have volunteered to be temporary contacts & introduce newcomers to AA. It is suggested that the temporary contact take the newcomer to a variety of AA meetings; introduce him or her to other AA's; ensure that he or she has the phone numbers of several AA members ,and share the experience of sponsorship and a home group.

Temecula Valley is in the process of coordinating this committee. Volunteers are needed.

Please call Central Office for more information (951) 695-1535

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 article's 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 that are submitted. Let it be known here that any article that does get printed is not to be taken as the sole opinion of The Temecula Valley Central Office or to be attributed to the AA organization as a whole. The publication of information in the Gratitude Gazette does not imply any endorsement of that information by either TVCO or AA.

Submissions accepted via email at: <a href="mailto:gazette@temeculacentraloffice.org">gazette@temeculacentraloffice.org</a>

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



Date	Name	Amount
2/4/13	Shayne	2.00
2/4/13	Gene W	5.00
2/4/13	Joe S	2.00
2/4/13	Linda	12.00
2/4/13	Rose	2.00
2/4/13	Karen K	1.00
2/4/13	Мо	10.00
2/4/13	Georgia	1.00
2/4/13	Edna E	3.00
2/4/13	Kenny	14.00
2/4/13	Tim	1.00
2/4/13	Marcos	25.00
2/4/13	Cheryl	7.00
2/4/13	Clean Dean	1.00
2/4/13	Paul S	6.00
2/4/13	Ryan	1.00
2/4/13	Suzie	3.00
2/4/13	Lori	1.00
2/4/13	Bryan	4.00
2/4/13	Linda	5.00
2/4/13	Anonymous	1.00
2/4/13	Mike	5.00
2/4/13	Mary	2.00
2/4/13	Rick	2.00
2/4/13	Bob C	1.00
2/4/13	Martha	1.00
2/25/13	Monday Night Madness	40.00
2/27/13	Cody	2.00
2/27/13	Anonymous	82.00
		242.00

Join the "Buck-A-Month" Club. Contributions can be made to Central Office by mailing this form with your donation.

NAME

DONATION

Mail Your Donation to:
Temecula Valley Central Office
Old Town Temecula
28636 Old Town Front Street, Suite 106
Temecula, CA 92590 Temecula, CA 92591

I	Contribute to Central Office for your Sponsor's
I	Birthday
Ī	

NAME

YEARS OF SOBRIETY/DONATION

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!

Mail Your Donation to: Temecula Valley Central Office Old Town Temecula 28636 Old Town Front Street, Suite 106 Temecula, CA 92590

## 

Feb 13 Jan - Feb 13 Wildomar MV Comm Church/M-S 7am/Wild Ones 450.00 450.00 SC Unity Hall/Umbrella #164257 250.00 250.00 Tem Water District/Sat 8pm/World Famous 180.00 480.00 Mur Community House/Mon-Sat 7am/ABSI 161.25 442.50 Tem Del Rio/M-F 7am/Survivors 150.00 270.00 Tem Lyndie Ln/Sat 8am/Early Risers 100.00 225.00 Tem Lyndie Ln/Sun 9am/Came to Believe 90.00 90.00 Tem Mon Night Men 90.00 185.00 Serenity Cup 60.00 60.00 Tem Pech Sr Ctr/Fri 7pm/Bats Belfry 60.00 60.00 Tem Pech Sr Ctr/Mon 6pm/Mon Madness 60.00 60.00 LE AOG Church/Wed Noon/Acceptance 60.00 60.00 Mur/TVCO Intergroup/#179377 59.00 96.70 Tem Roving Meeting/Fri 10pm/Young Sobies 50.00 50.00 Tem St Catherine's/Fri Noon/Step Study 50.00 100.00 LE 1st Lutheran/M,Tue,Th,Sat 730pm/Bells 40.58 113.77 LE Meeting Place/M-F Noon/#171639 36.00 96.00 LE AOG Church/Thur Noon/Womens BB 35.00 59.00 Hemet Valley Wide/Wed 6pm/Meat & Potato 30.00 30.00 Tem Recovery Road Crew 28.01 28.01 Mur United Methodist/Tue 10am/Womens 26.00 65.50 Tem The Meeting Place/Wed 5pm/Just Us 25.00 25.00 Tem The Meeting Place/Thurs 630pm/Solutio 7.00 15.45 Tem/The Meeting Place/Fri 6pm ABSI 3.00 3.00 Tem Ser Cir/Tue Noon/Living Sober 60.00 0.00 Tem Pech Sr Ctr/Wed 7pm/Step Sisters 0.00 90.00 Sun City/Mon 645/We Ladies 0.00 42.00 SC Boston Billies/Wed 7am/Mens Breakfast 0.00 104.00 Mur United Methodist/Mon Noon/Womens ABSI 0.00 40.00 Mur United Methodist/Mon 7pm/Lil Big Book 0.00 60.00 LE Meeting Place/Sun 7am/Att Mod 0.00 3.45 Hemet Unity Church/Wed Noon/Lucky Ladies 0.00 40.00

Great Work Everyone

## Personal Donations

Date	Name	Amount
2/4/13	John and Brenda	10.00
2/4/13	Jim H	1.00
2/14/13	Anonymous	500.00
2/14/13	Ralph S	25.00
2/18/13	Anonymous	6.00
2/19/13	Darcie D	20.00
2/27/13	Mary S	60.00
2/27/13	Anonymous	198.00
	_	820.00



TOTAL 2,100.84

3,754.38



#### Temecula Valley Intergroup

1st Monday	Monday 7:00 Am - As Bill Sees It & Saturday Am Reflections (Murrieta)
1st Tuesday	Tuesday 10 Am - Women's 12x12 (Murrieta)
1st Wednesday	Monday 12:00 - Women's Closed As Bill Sees It (Murrieta)
1st Thursday	Thur. 10:00am - Women's -Lyndie Lane (Temecula)
1st Friday	Friday 7:00 Pm - Men's Stag Wednesday (Murrieta)
1st Weekend	Liberty Bell (Lake Elsinore)
2nd Monday	Saturday Early Risers (Temecula)
2nd Tuesday	Tuesday 7 Am—Unity Hall (Sun City)
2nd Wednesday	The Funks
2nd Thursday	Patrick B
2nd Friday	Sun City Swingers (Sun City)
2nd Weekend	Mosh Pit
3rd Monday	Patrick B
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	The Searching Party
4th Wednesday	Sandy S
4th Thursday	The Step Sisters – Wednesday (Temecula)
4th Friday	Women's Candlelight –Thursday (Temecula)
4th Weekend	Wild Ones Grape Street (Wildomar)
5th Monday	Came to Believe
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	Tuesday 7:30pm "Men's Stag" (Temecula)

Www.acypaa.org

http://2013.acypaa.org/



41st Annual all California Young People in Alcoholics anonymous (acypaa) round up

MARCH 14TH-17TH

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center Fresno 2233 Ventura St. Fresno, CA 93721

Speaker is Jim H from

#### WORKSHOPS

WAYNE B. - "THE BIG BOOK LIVES ON" - FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH @ 2:00 PM PATTI O. - "THE STEPS COME ALIVE"- SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH @ 2:00 PM

#### MAIN MEETINGS

MARCH 15th FRIDAY

MARCH 14th THURSDAY 8:00 PM WARM-UP: KRISTIN K. AUBURN, CA

8:00 PM WARM-UP: ALEX S.

LOS ANGELES, CA MAIN: SASHA H. MARIN COUNTY, CA

MAIN: MATT G. FRESNO, CA

MARCH 16th SATURDAY 8:00 PM WARM-UP: DREW B. MARTINEZ, CA MARCH 17th SUNDAY 10:00 AM WARM-UP: STACEY B. SACRAMENTO, CA MAIN: KANSAS C. OCEANSIDE, CA

MAIN: ASTRID H. LOS ANGELES, CA

#### PANEL MEETINGS (30)

FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH @ 8:00 AM THROUGH

SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH @ 4:00 AM

#### MARATHON MEETINGS

THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH @10:00 PM

THROUGH

SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH @ 10:00 AM

#### EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ROUND-UP KICK OFF EVENT: BIG BOOK TRIVIA - THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH @ 6:00 PM

DANCES

KARA-ACY (OKE)

MIDNIGHT MOVIE MANIA

SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE RE-ENACTMENT

iomedy Ohow

YNGA

SIESTA IN THE SIERRA

GUIDED MEDITATION Drag Show

MOTORCYCLE POKER RUN JOUST MECHANICAL BULL

ALCOHOLIC NINJA WARRIOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION: HTTP://2013.ACYPAA.ORG
TO PRE-REGISTER ONLINE BEFORE MARCH 3RD: HTTPS://REGISTER.ACYPAA.ORG
?'S OR INFO: CONTACT ROB S. (559) 577-9228 OR HEATHER S. (559)304-2516

## UP AND COMING EVENTS



www.SanDiegoSpringRoundUp.com

## San Diego Spring Round Up

March 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> 2013 Town & Country Resort Hotel

### **Hotel Rooms \$109**

(up to 4 per room)

24 Hour Meetings | Speakers | Alanon | Alateen Spanish Meetings | Golf | Fishing | Ping Pong Ice Cream Social | and MUCH MORE

## MR. LORIS SAYS:



Do your best and God does the rest, a Step at a time.



#### WANT TO BE OF SERVICE?



#### JOIN THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE!

#### WHAT DO YOU DO?

- 1. Leave newsletters, pamphlets, and flyers at meetings
- 2. Announce Intergroup activities
- 3. Gather info to update the meeting schedule

#### WHAT WILL YOU GET?

- 1. Recovery and spiritual growth: carrying the message
- 2. A suggested script of topics to cover
- 3. Time, day, and place of several meetings to attend during the month and all necessary materials

#### COMMITTEE MEMBER GUIDELINES

- 1. One year of sobriety
- 2. Agree with the purpose of the committee
- 3. Willing to meet new folks in recovery
- 4. Make every attempt to carry out your commitment

OUR PURPOSE: TO PROMOTE FELLOWSHIP AND UNITY

call SHEILA: 760.481.9491 or email: magib5k@gmail.com