# GRATITUDE GAZETTE

Phone (951) 695-1535

**JULY 2013** 



A Color Copy of this newsletter 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 International** Convention, 1965

Remember we are waiting to read your story. Email it to us.

### Feature Article

#### WHAT WE FOUND AT FOUNDER'S DAY

On June 10, 1939, Dr. Bob had a beer outside an Akron, Ohio hospital to steady his hands before surgery. He was unable to stay sober no matter how many times he had tried. He couldn't have known it at the time, but that night fate would intervene. And that beer would turn out to be his last drink.

Bill Wilson had struggled to finally stay sober but still had no luck helping another alcoholic do the same. He was on business in Akron and spotted his hotel's lobby bar. Selfdoubt and frustration led to temptation. But instead of going to the bar he went to the lobby phone and called a church directory. That call led him to Dr. Bob and the meeting that followed was a profound experience for both men. Bill explained to Dr. Bob how he was able to become sober and in doing so helped himself remain sober. This was the nucleus of the AA program: sponsorship and fellowship.

Founders' Day is celebrated in Akron and by district AA groups worldwide each year on June 10. This year marked the 78th anniversary of Bill and Dr. Bob's fateful meeting. Valley AA members and their families in the Valley came together to celebrate our Founders Day on Saturday, June 8, at the Murrieta Community Center and attendance was high. Event and raffle tickets were sold to the dinner and speaker meeting to raise funds for the continuing operation of Temecula Central Office.

Things got off to a start at 5pm. I arrived early, again donning a reporter's hat and prepared for more 'man (woman?) on the street' interviews. I was accompanied by my friend, Monica J. We thought about a question that would tie in to the occasion. What was it that Bill and Dr. Bob had found all those years ago besides sobriety and the key of working with others? We knew laying a foundation is only a beginning. There would be levels of personal growth built upon it and inevitable surprises found

along the way.

So the question we arrived at went like this: "This being Founders' Day, what have you found in AA that you didn't even know you were missing?"

First at bat was Lou M. As if she were ready for it she answered, "A relationship with God, sanity, (I didn't know I was crazy!), peace, serenity and faith."..... Homerun!

Playing the infield we got these responses: Ted W. told us, "Peace and serenity". Both Tamara and Dana said simply, "Serenity". "Peace" was the word from Marcos, Leslie S., Bob E., and Beth. "Calm", offered Cami. Geoff F. shared he'd found, "Ease and comfort, and a host of real friends."

Back to our players, we asked: What have you found in AA that you didn't know you were missing?

"Everything", said John H. "Everything, honesty", Mal told us. "Acceptance", said Terry. "The ability to trust

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

### Feature Article continued

people", shared Shelley ('grasshoppa').

"Honesty", Sheila G. put succinctly.

"Sobriety", said Kim C.

"Reality", Mike said.

"Freedom", said Gary and Ernie B.
"God", both Michelle L. and Keith K.
shared.

Around the bases we went:
"What have you found in AA that you didn't know you were missing?"

"I found everything I was looking for. The beauty is I know I'll find even more I won't know I was looking for!" said Tom.

Bill C. from CODA surmised, "I found out I wasn't the only one walking the streets with issues. Until I talked to and found out from other people who have the same, I thought I was alone."........... That's what you call 'swinging for the fences'!

More choice responses followed:

Dan mused, "I found more insanity!" ........Way off base?
Walt S. found, "A new concept of God."

Mike J. said, "Life, new".

Jill A. offered, "I found my true intuitive self. I didn't even know that I was capable of tapping into it anymore!"

While Kim said she found, "the uncovering of a relationship, like peeling back the layers".

Tracy V. found, "myself, being of service."

And Levi E. found, "The real me."

"What have you found in AA that you didn't even know you were missing?" A lot of you said you'd found friends-of all kinds:

"I found true girlfriends", Christine C. told us.

"Friends!" Judy M said.

"Friends - I never had them", admit-

ted June.
"A new way of life - and a husband!"

Maureen said proudly.

"Friends, fun and peace", Sheri provided.

"A girlfriend", said Ray.

"Friends! Lots of those", smiled Justine C."

"I found a husband again. The same one but SOBER, joked Bobbi L.

Dan told us what he'd found: "A wife. Recovery from esophageal cancer for 19 months now. I am blessed. I don't have to sleep outside. And I've found a very powerful God. Now I have awesome family relationships."

......Finally, a Grand Slam!

Interviews and mingling aside, we filled our plates with Rosa's Cantina catering then settled in for our meeting at 8pm featuring Nancy N. from Tujunga. She was the raspy-voiced lead singer for Sweetwater, the L.A. band that opened for Janis Joplin with Big Brother and The Holding Company at the Whiskey A Go Go and also performed at Woodstock in 1969. Years of rock band life ("Ouaaludes, wine, and pot") led to memory loss. "I couldn't remember how to write songs", she admitted. "I lived in tomorrow... ("Tomorrow I'll get a job. Tomorrow I'll write a song, etc....")

Nancy recalled her first AA meeting in 1976: "Everyone talked in complete sentences. Sentences are so painful!" She saw "happy people with hairdos and matching socks"....."I really felt the meeting. One person talked to me, as if we were equals!"

"Working with others", said Nancy, is the key. "Our emotions are buried alive. When we do the steps in AA we unbury them when we share them with another alcoholic. Then we give them a proper burial."..... "There is no waste in God's economy".

Nancy told us, "This principled way of life". The fact that it has helped so many of us, is it mere coincidence? No, says Nancy, "Coincidence is just another miracle for which God chooses to remain anonymous".

Wrapping up her speech and our wellplayed evening, Nancy proposed, "If you think you're having trouble with God, just think how much trouble he's having with you!"

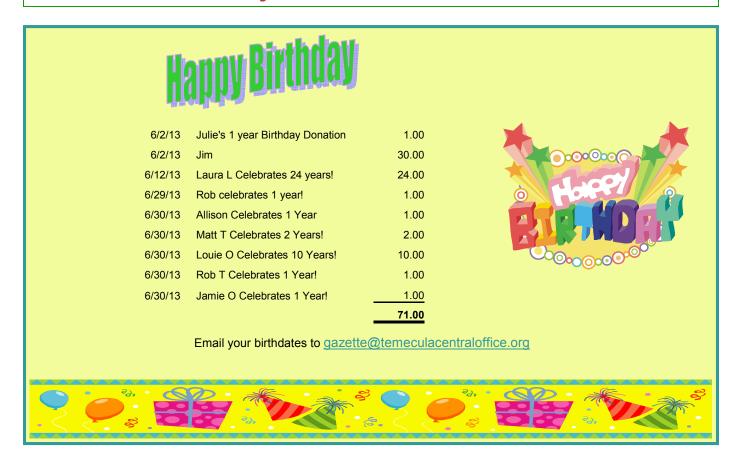
Back to that question we posed,
"What have you found in AA that you
didn't even know you were looking
for?"....Maybe it's not up to us to find,
but to be found.

Nancy left us with this thought: "God will find YOU in AA. He already has.

Gaeney W. with Monica J.



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



# To all AA members, join our Email list

Be notified of meeting changes, new events and other important AA information. Get on the List! Send email to DLServant@TemeculaCentralOffice.Org and be added to the list.

#### What is the Intergroup?

Each group is encouraged to have an Intergroup Representative. This person is the liaison between Intergroup and their home group. The Intergroup Central Office depends upon the local members and groups for the necessary support to carry out its responsibilities. This support comes in the form of volunteer help and financial contributions. Our efficiency and the continuation of services offered 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	n 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 Come and join us!

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

Central Office is in need of volunteers. Give us a call (951) 695-1535



Humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings





7. Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

# **Step Seven Guidelines**

#### **How It Works**

When ready, we say something like this: "My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding. Amen." We have then completed *Step Seven*.

-A.A. Big Book p.76

More about Step 7 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!** 

# Central Office News

## **Volunteers**

- 1 Amanda
- 2 Amber
- 3 Annie
- 4 Beth
- 5 Chris Ke
- 6 Debi G
- 7 Debbie R
- 8 Gary
- 9 Gay
- 10 Jackie
- 11 James
- 12 Jill
- 13 John W
- 14 Kim C
- 15 Kristen P
- 16 Leslie
- 17 Melinda
- 18 Michael S
- 19 Rich
- 20 Sharon
- 21 Shawn
- 22 Stuart
- 23 Tyrone

# **Daily Activity for June**

1	Phoned in	249
2	Walk ins	127
3	AA Meeting	53
4	Al-anon	20
5	12 Step	17
6	Donations/Purchases	103
7	Misc/Other Business	25

Central Office is in need of volunteers. Give us a call (951) 695-1535

#### **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; insure that he or she has some 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 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



Anonymous	1.00
Gene W	5.00
Georgia	1.00
Edna E	2.00
Marcos	5.00
Ron	2.00
Shayne	2.00
Lori	1.00
Tim	2.00
Rene	2.00
Tom	2.00
Sandy	5.00
Mary	5.00
Paul	10.00
AI	1.00
Kirk	3.00
Joe S	1.00
Linda	8.00
Brian	1.00
Cheryl	2.00
Suzie	15.00
Bryan	5.00
Nicki	2.00
Lauro	1.00
Donut Dave	3.00
Monday Night Madness	19.50
Anonymous	100.00
Total	206.50
	Gene W Georgia Edna E Marcos Ron Shayne Lori Tim Rene Tom Sandy Mary Paul Al Kirk Joe S Linda Brian Cheryl Suzie Bryan Nicki Lauro Donut Dave Monday Night Madness Anonymous

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

# Contribute to Central Office for your Sponsor's Birthday

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

# GROUP DONATIONS

	Jun 2013	Jun 2012
SC Unity Hall/Umbrella #164257	250.00	600.00
Tem Lyndie Ln/Sat 8am/Early Risers	200.00	250.00
Mur Community House/Mon-Sat 7am/ABSI	183.00	268.80
Tem Water District/Sat 8pm/World Famous	180.00	179.26
Tem Del Rio/M-F 7am/Survivors	160.00	60.00
Wildomar MV Comm Church/M-S 7am/Wild Ones	150.00	400.00
Tem RC Church Office/Tue 6pm/Mosh Pit	120.00	0.00
Tem Mon Night Men	100.00	0.00
Tem Pech Sr Ctr/Wed 7pm/Step Sisters	84.00	102.18
Tem Ser Mon 6pm Serenity Hour	81.50	0.00
Tem Lyndie Ln/Thur 10am/Sisters Sharing	75.00	65.00
Serenity Cup Tournament	70.00	50.00
LE AOG Church/Thur Noon/Womens BB	60.00	0.00
Tem Ser Cir/Fri 10am/ Womens	57.00	0.00
Tem St Catherine's/Fri Noon/Step Study	50.00	50.00
Mur/TVCO Intergroup/#179377	31.00	55.64
Tem The Meeting Place/Wed 5pm/Just Us	30.50	25.00
Tem Lyndie Ln/Mon 10am/Open Arms	30.00	0.00
Mur United Methodist/Tue 10am/Womens	30.00	50.00
Mur Community House/Sun 730pm/The Geek	11.00	0.00
Mur Community House/Wed 7pm/Mens Stag	10.00	0.00
Tem The Meeting Place/Thurs 630pm/Solutio	0.00	34.70
Tem Pech Sr Ctr/Mon 6pm/Mon Madness	0.00	100.00
Tem Pech Sr Ctr/Fri 7pm/Bats Belfry	0.00	80.00
Tem Lyndie Ln/Sun 6pm/Twilight	0.00	70.00
Mur Wed 630 Descendants	0.00	50.00
Mur United Methodist/Mon Noon/Womens ABSI	0.00	40.00
Mur United Methodist/Mon 7pm/Lil Big Book	0.00	75.00
LE AOG Church/Wed Noon/Acceptance	0.00	18.35
LE 1st Lutheran/M,Tue,Th,Sat 730pm/Bells	0.00	75.53
Hemet Provident/Tue Noon/Sober Seniors	0.00	50.00
Hemet Provident/Mon 1pm/Share the Legacy	0.00	15.00
TOTA	1,963.00	2,764.46



# Personal Donations

Date	Name	Amount
6/5/13	Truax Development	100.00
6/14/13	John and Brenda	10.00
6/29/13	Anonymous	250.00
6/29/13	Chris and Thalia	250.00
		610.00

Great Work Everyone



#### 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 Women's Closed As Bill Sees It - Monday 12:00 (Murrieta)

1st Thursday Thur. Women's 10:00am-Lyndie Lane (Temecula)

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 Julie P

2nd Friday Sun City Swingers

2nd Weekend Mosh Pit

3rd Monday Paul R

3rd Tuesday Gregg or Paul R

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 Paul R

4th Monday Sunday 7 Am Attitude Adjustment (Lake Elsinore)

4th Tuesday Searching Party

4th Wednesday Jo H

4th Thursday The Step Sisters – Wednesday (Temecula)
4th Friday Women's Candlelight –Thursday (Temecula)

4th Weekend Wild Ones Grape Street (Wildomar)

5th Monday Sunday Came To Believe Lyndie Lane, Temecula

5th Tuesday Gregg Paul R 5th Wednesday Bobbi And Richard

5th Thursday Charlene And Jeff (Murrieta)
5th Friday Brenda and John W (Wildomar)

5th Weekend Men's Stag – Tuesday 7:30 pm (Temecula)





In the morning Joe's wife said, "Joe, you have to do something about that cuckoo clock."

Instantly alert (sort of), Joe demanded, "What's the matter with it?" Well, I don't know," his wife answered, "Last night when you came home, it cuckooed three times, then it burped, then said @#\$%!!, and then cuckooed eleven more times."

Applications are being offered to the Bitch, Piss, & Moan club just outside the meetings doors.

Light travels faster than sound. That is why some people appear to be bright until you hear them speak.





Relationships are like adding "Miracle-Gro" to my character defects.

Heard at a 12 step meeting - Want to hear God laugh? Tell Him your plans.

