



Pass It On

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albuquerqueaa.org

Albuquerque AA Intergroup Central Office Newsletter

505.266.1900

“But upon entering A.A. we soon take quite another view of this absolute humiliation. We perceive that only through utter defeat are we able to take our first steps toward liberation and strength. Our admissions of personal powerlessness finally turn out to be firm bedrock upon which happy and purposeful lives may be built.”

- Twelve and Twelve, page 21

Step 1 We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.

Tradition 1 (Short Form) Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.

(Long Form) Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.

Concept 1 (Short Form) Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

(Long Form) The final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship.

TRADITION ONE CHECKLIST

Tradition One: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as “just for the sake of discussion,” plunge into argument?
3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?

CENTRAL OFFICE STEERING COMMITTEE POSITIONS VACANT

Elections for the Central Office Steering Committee were held at the last Intergroup Meeting, and there are now 2 new members on the Steering Committee, which is basically the Board of Directors for Albuquerque Central Office. Tom M. was elected Treasurer and Rojo R. stepped up and took the previously vacant Intergroup Liaison position. There, at the time, wasn't anyone willing to stand for Web Chair, but subsequently a replacement for that position was found and is pending approval at the next Intergroup meeting. Unfortunately 2 positions on the steering committee were left unfilled: Special Needs Coordinator (develops and coordinates programs for carrying the message to alcoholics with special needs) and Media Librarian (maintains the media library, adds new material, etc.). A more detailed list of duties for these and other steering committee positions can be found at albuquerqueaa.org or be viewed at Central Office.

Requirements for eligibility for Steering Committee membership: "Any member of Alcoholics Anonymous with previous or current experience with the Central Office having at least 2 years of continuous sobriety shall be eligible for office." (Central Office By-laws, Article V, Section 2). Being on the Steering Committee is a wonderful way to do service work, meet more members of the fellowship you normally wouldn't, get more involved in your (and other's) recovery, and it takes nowhere near as much time or effort as you might think (about 5 hours monthly once you're used to it - plus a monthly Steering Committee meeting and Intergroup Rep meeting). If you're interested, please e-mail Steering Committee Chair Mike W. at chair@albuquerqueaa.org or call Central Office (266-1900) during normal business hours.

Ben A. Obituary

by Diana O.

The passing of a dear friend: On December 13, Ben A., originally from Boston, died. He had forty one years sobriety. Ben's home group was How It Works however he was in regular attendance at other groups including Basement Steps, Lunch Bunch and High Noon. Highly intelligent and well read Ben had a quick wit and wonderful sense of humor. Even more than that was Ben's kind heart and gentle spirit that endeared people to him. Ben absolutely loved Alcoholics Anonymous. He often commented that AA's are just too hard on themselves. "Basically we're all pretty good people!" He believed it is the identification and connection we make with one another that bring about our recovery. Ben touched many hearts and helped countless people trudge this road of happy destiny.

Good bye, Ben....

FROM THE EDITOR

Pass It On is in dire need of sobriety-oriented articles written by locals to publish. In addition, sobriety birthday submissions have dropped of considerably. For more info. email PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org

Central Office Intergroup Steering Committee

Mike W. - **Chair**
Chair@albuquerqueaa.org

Carolyn - **Secretary**
Secretary@albuquerqueaa.org

Tom M. - **Treasurer**
Treasurer@albuquerqueaa.org

Linda - **Schedule Editor**
Schedule@albuquerqueaa.org

Elizabeth E. - **Member-at-Large**
MemberAtLarge@albuquerqueaa.org

Steve R. - **Pass It On Editor**
PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org

VACANT - **Special Needs Coordinator**
SpecialNeeds@albuquerqueaa.org

PENDING - **Web Site Chair**
Web@albuquerqueaa.org

VACANT - **Media Librarian**
Media@albuquerqueaa.org

David G. - **Community Outreach**
CommunityOutreach@albuquerqueaa.org

Michael W. - **CO Coordinator**
Coordinator@albuquerqueaa.org

Debra - **Alternate CO Coordinator**
AltCoordinator@albuquerqueaa.org

Rojo R - **Intergroup Liaison**

Albuquerque Area Business Meetings

Intergroup Rep. Meeting
2 pm, 2nd Sunday, Brownbaggers

District 3 - 2 pm, 2nd Saturday
Call the DCM for location

District 11 - 9 am, 2nd Saturday
Harwood Methodist Church
420 San Lorenzo NW (at 4th)

District 12 - 10:15 am, 2nd Saturday,
Heights Club, 8520 Marble NE in Rm
#3

District 13 - 10 am, 2nd Saturday, St
Thomas of Canterbury (2nd floor)
425 University Blvd NE (1 blk N of
MLK Blvd)

District 18 - 10:30am, 2nd Saturday,
United Methodist Church, 136 West
Calle Don Andres, Bernalillo

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29TH ANNUAL INTERGROUP/CENTRAL OFFICE AAWS/AAGV SEMINAR REPORT (continued from last month)

by Debra K.

Friday night's sharing session was with AAWS, and principally about the increase of the literature prices and the reason behind it. Class B AAWS Board Chair Bill N. started the share by saying he was very aware of what CO does, and that we are the one who are called by people in need of AA. We (CO) are the one who stand on the firing line. So a little background of the AAWS budget: In 2001-2002, the reserve fund was full, and at times over-full, so AAWS decreased the cost of the new 4th Edition by \$1 from the cost of the 3rd Edition, and budgeted to lose \$600K. The annual pension cost of the AAWS and the Grapevine at that time was \$302,311, or 6% of the budget. From 2002-2006, the pension cost lose 100%, to \$702,107, or 17% of the budget. In 2006, the 'pension guarantee act of 2006', which targeted higher premiums for pension insurance and targeted funding levels was proposed, and then passed in 2008. Lieberman Bros. announced their bankruptcy, and the recession began. 2009, 401K contributions declined. In 2012, the reserve fund was still ¾ full, pensions had risen to 31% of the budget, or \$1.8M. A feasibility study was made and it was decided that AAWS needed to play catch-up w/pension funding and change the retirement system. In 2013 new employees went into a defined contribution system. This was done to help protect the board 20 years from now. It was decided that, although the reserve was still full, the pension fund was now \$2.2M, and therefore it was voted to move \$1.5M from the reserve to provide more funding for the pensions, and to keep insurance premiums down. This actually resulted in saving AAWS and GV \$600-700K. All this was done to be in compliance with the 2006 act, and would lower cost to pension funds to \$1.6M, and would put the reserve at 8 mo. or less. The decision to raise literature prices was painful, but looking 3 years out, the need was there. The figures for e-book sales being sold by Amazon, Apple, and Barnes & Noble have been staggering over those sales made by the AAWS platform, and have made a difference in literature sales. Overall, it is found that people still want a 'hard copy' of the Big Book, even after the purchase of an e-book. GSO offices in foreign countries all have a license to print AAWS literature, and AAWS is now struggling with the decision to keep that practice in force, do to the world conflicts now happening. Removal of permission to print will have what affect on the future of AA world wide in carrying the message?

The Public Information Committee has a comprehensive media plan, and is currently wrestling with technology and how to preserve the message. The GSO office is undergoing renovation to bring AAWS and GV onto the same floor. This will show unity between the two, and it's critical that we support each other in the vital services that each provides. Greg T., GSO Publications Director – GSO is bringing several new publications to the literature front: 1) revised 'Circle of Love' pamphlet, 2) 'Markings On A Journey' video is now on DVD. (It has been a favorite in 3 languages since coming out in 2003), and the brand new pamphlet, 'Many Paths to Spirituality'. One of the busiest parts of the department is responding to requests for translations and licenses around the world. The BB is now available in 69 languages, including a translation into Navajo, which should be completed next year. AAWS now has 1379 total copyrights that this department oversees. A new catalog is being printed as we were in Chicago. The new web site is now 120 days old, and is still being tweaked. Any suggestions for improvement and how it does or does not work are appreciated. Andrea Brennan, Literature Order Director – her department consists of 3 other people besides herself, with 2 of them being bilingual. They process over 35,000 orders/year. Online sales account for 45% on income, not of amount of orders. That includes the intergroup only site. Andrea plans to retire next October, after starting at GSO in 1978.

Saturday was the Central Office staff meeting in the first part of the morning. This was a non-recorded meeting, and I won't report what was said. The next workshop was AA Phones – 12 step calls, chronic callers, The Judge said..., dealing with active drunks, suicide calls, and after hour/answering service phones. I found that most of what was shared is already implemented by this office, but I did hear several things of interest. One was sponsoring a night phone workshop for persons interested in taking the phones at night, and to give the night phone people a list of "important numbers" as a part of the package the office supplies. Also to have a night phone orientation every 6 months. In recruiting volunteers, make a help wanted poster. There was the suggestion that when forwarding to the night phone volunteer's personal phone, ask that person to take their personal message off the phone for the duration of their shift. Have an acknowledgement in office manual for volunteers that they may receive suicide calls, and to ask the caller if they had a plan for killing themselves. If so, call 911.

(to be continued next month...)

“We know that little good can come to any alcoholic who joins A.A. unless he has first accepted his devastating weakness and all its consequences. Until he so humbles himself, his sobriety -- if any -- will be precarious.”

- Twelve and Twelve, page 21

Central Office encourages all groups to elect an Intergroup representative. Join us at the next Intergroup meeting the second Sunday of every month, at 2 pm, at the Brownbaggers.

Intergroup Rep. Meeting Minutes December 14, 2014

Open: 14:05

Attending Aaron C., Too Much For Us, Treasurer; David G., Good Fellas, Community Outreach; Tom M., Dawn Patrol, Treasurer; Michael W., Coordinator; Rojo R., Sunrise Catchers, Intergroup Liaison; Alli, Singleness of Purpose, Website Coordinator; Michal C., Happy Hour; Steve R., Saturday Night Alive, PIO Editor; Sebastian E., Sunday Night Youth; Ann B., GSR, Zia Group; Bruce B., GSR, Lone Rangers; Joseph S., Cosmopolitan Group; Mark K., Estancia Valley; Rick W., Promises; Christy O., Promises; Linda E., Any Lengths, Schedule Editor; Debra K., In The Book, Alternate Coordinator; Arthur M., Westside; Steve A., Downtown Lunch Bunch; Becky S., Women in Progress; Nance C., Any Lengths Women's Group; Paula B., High Noon; Eddie B., High Noon; Mike, Westside, Intergroup Chair; Carolyn R., Back to Basics, Secretary.

Minutes Referring to quarterly report printed in the PIO, referenced in the PIO Editor's Report – This report is for Group Donations. Under Old Business: Third word typed as offed vs. the correct word: offered. Motion to accept as amended: David Seconded: Mike. So moved.

Treasurer's Report Total Revenues: 8,298.26; Cost of Sales: 2,700.50; Gross Income: 5,597.76; Total Expenses: 5,296.20; Net Income: 301.5699. Motion to approve Treasurer's minutes: David, Seconded: Debra. So moved.

Central Office Coordinator Elizabeth and I met with ASL interpreter discussing men's meeting which newly has begun to provide an interpreter, making for two ASL interpreted meetings. \$200 budgeted monthly historically for interpreters. The interpreter seemed to have some goals in mind for the future of AA deaf members. She had some ideas how we might raise such funds. We have never exceeded \$200 for interpreters. If we increase the number of ASL interpreted meeting we'll need more funds. Low on deskworkers not in urgent need, in constant need. Working at Central Office you can learn a lot doing it. Requirements: Six mos. of sobriety and a sponsor to serve as deskworker. There are five two hour shifts 8-10 a.m. M-F. The rest of the shifts are 3 hours long.

Alternate Central Office Coordinator Calls down. Number of purchases down, but purchases themselves were larger in sum. 16 shifts not covered by volunteer. Meeting schedules 5 for \$1, available for reps here at Intergroup today.

Member at Large No report.

Pass it On Editor Birthday and article submissions down. Could use article submissions regarding sobriety of persons here in town. Personally, I prefer local articles vs. reprints from Grapevine, etc. Size of articles? Generally 300-500 words, but I can be flexible. Question regarding whether we ought to continue listing birthdays since there were so few last month. It is really inconsistent how often birthdays are submitted. Sometimes there are quite a few.

Media Librarian 325 CD's and 1 DVD in our media library in Central Office. \$2 to borrow CD. Upon return you can get your \$2 back, some people opt to leave the money as a donation. Bento software to track the library to be given to incoming media librarian. Easy position, you just copy CD's and get in touch with people who haven't returned CD's in a while.

Web Guardian Events up to date. 233 electronic versions of the PIO went out to subscribers. This job is not time intensive once you get used to it. About an hour a

SOBRIETY BIRTHDAYS

EL CENTRO December: Christine L. 20 years

PROMISES December: Jennifer R. 9 months; Christy O. 13 years

REBELLION DOGS November: Arthur M. 17 months; Joan B. 7 years

SEEKING SERENITY November: Megan 30 days; Steve V. 2 years; Lydia, Ray 4 years; Barry 25 years

WOMEN IN PROGRESS November: Meredith 2 years; Nancy T. 42 years; December: Becky S. 9 years; Myra 24 years

Please submit your sobriety birthday(s) (including homegroup, name, sobriety date & length of continuous sobriety) to PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org.
Failure to properly submit s-b days may result in non-publication.

week is all. I have some free software to help. HTML language knowledge helpful for this position.

Schedule Editor We probably won't be reprinting in January as we still have a large surplus. The meeting, It's 5:00 Somewhere, printed on our most recent schedule no longer exists. You can always look online for the most up to date info. Email Linda at scheduleeditor@albuquerque.aa.org

Community Outreach No activity this month.

Special Needs Coordinator POSITION VACANT

Group Liaison POSITION VACANT

OLD BUSINESS Motion to provide ASL interpreter for the 10 a.m. speaker meeting at the Alcothon on Jan. 1, and one at the 8 p.m. speaker meeting on Dec. 31 for both speakers. Moved by Steve, seconded by Eddie B.

Discussion: Can we afford it? Will it interfere with funding needed for January interpreting? Mike explained that these funds would not come from the intergroup budget for interpreters. That is not what it's for. It would have to come from some other funding spot. It would come out of the intergroup Alcothon funds raised, this is how we would pay for said interpreters. If Central Office needs to pay for it, i.e. if there is no profit from the Alcothon Central Office will come up with the funds. Vote taken. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS Elections: Running for Treasurer: Tom M., homegroup, Dawn Patrol. Voted in. Website Chair: No one volunteered to run. Media Librarian: No one volunteered to run. Special Needs Coordinator: No one volunteered to run. Intergroup Liaison: Standing for the position Rojo R. Voted in.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS Central Office/Intergroup New Years Eve Alcothon at the Heights Club. Wednesday Noon 12/31/14 thru Noon on 1/1/15. Dance starting at 9 p.m., suggested donation. Marathon meetings every 90 minutes. Potluck at 7 p.m. on 12/31. Speakers at 8 p.m. 12/31 and 10 a.m. 12/31. ASL interpreters will be available to interpret both speaker meetings! **New meeting** starting 1/20/15 at 8:00 a.m. Studying the History of AA at the Isleta Club

Motion to close David, Christy seconded. So moved.

Meeting Adjourned 15:40



Central Office

Always Needs Regular
and Substitute Desk
Workers

Requirements for this service opportunity are six months of sobriety, a sponsor and a home group. A desk shift at Central Office can enhance your sobriety. It can broaden your view of the service structure of your group, your district and your area. And it's fun!

Call Central Office today
at 266-1900.

AA EVENTS CALENDAR

THIS MONTH

Saturday January 17 - Movie/Documentary Screening: "The Anonymous People" 7:30pm, Sponsored by the Saturday Night Alive Group, no admission. donations accepted. Desert Club, 4305 Mesa Grande SE, Albuquerque

Saturday January 24 - Area 46 Young People's AA Workshop Hosted by District 11. "The Three Legacies: Unity, Service, Recovery". 9am-2pm. Nativity Church, 9502 4th Street NW, Albuquerque

Saturday January 24 - Movie Night: "Gravity" 7pm. Hosted by the Spark of Light Group. No charge, free popcorn. Heights Club, 8520 Marble NE, Albuquerque

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday February 13 - Sunday February 15 - 53rd Annual El Paso Jamboree "We Are But Trusted Servants" Radisson Suite Hotel, 1770 Airway Blvd., El Paso, TX. More info: <http://www.aelpaso.org/Events%20&%20Information.html>

Saturday March 7 - Sunday March 8 - Area 46 Assembly Hosted by District 11, Albuquerque. Details to be revealed

June 5-7 - Area 46 Convention Hobbs, NM. No further info at this time.

July 2-5 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous Atlanta, GA - More info: http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/2015-international-convention-of-alcoholics-anonymous

For more and/or updated information on

Albuquerque and New Mexico AA Events go to:

<http://albuquerqueaa.org> and <http://www.newmexicoaa.org/>

For other AA events nationally and worldwide visit www.aa.org.

November 2014

Monthly Service Activities Report

| PHONE CALLS | NOV14 | OCT14 | NOV13 |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Information | 405 | 400 | 529 |
| 12-Step | 16 | 18 | 30 |
| Al-Anon | 1 | 13 | 10 |
| Message | 40 | 34 | 51 |
| Other | 86 | 86 | 87 |
| TOTAL | 548 | 551 | 707 |

WALK INS

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Information | 13 | 16 | 8 |
| 12-Step | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Al-Anon | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Get Schedule | 8 | 16 | 6 |
| Purchase | 138 | 162 | 163 |
| Media | 0 | 4 | 3 |
| Message | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| Casual | 25 | 26 | 34 |
| Other | 21 | 25 | 24 |
| TOTAL | 207 | 260 | 242 |

ALBUQUERQUEAA.ORG WEB STATS

| | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Unique Visitors | 4240 | 4387 | 3728 |
| Number of Visits | 7724 | 7973 | 6641 |
| Pages | 26066 | 29166 | 26811 |

DESK WORKERS*

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Regulars | 43 | 45 | 47 |
| Substitutes | 32 | 35 | 33 |
| TOTAL | 75 | 80 | 80 |

DESK SHIFTS*

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Weekdays | 120 | 138 | 126 |
| Weekends | 50 | 40 | 45 |
| TOTAL | 170 | 178 | 171 |

WEEKDAY SHIFTS*

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Worked by Regulars | 96(80%) | 107(77.5%) | 108(86.5%) |
| Worked by Substitutes | 24(20%) | 29(21%) | 17(18%) |
| TOTAL | 120(100%) | 136(98.5%) | 125 |

WEEKEND SHIFTS*

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Worked by Regulars | 42(84%) | 32(80%) | 36(82%) |
| Worked by Substitutes | 8(16%) | 8(20%) | 8(18%) |
| TOTAL | 50(100%) | 40(100%) | 44 |

NIGHT SHIFTS NOT COVERED 0 2 2

SHIFTS NOT WORKED
BY A VOLUNTEER 16 10 9.5
HOURS 48 30 28.5

NIGHT SHIFTS NOT COVERED 3

*INCLUDES NIGHT PHONE

To think bad thoughts is really the easiest thing in the world. If you leave your mind to itself it will spiral down into ever increasing unhappiness. To think good thoughts, however, requires effort. This is one of the things that discipline - training - is about. - James Clavell, in his novel Shogun



SATURDAY NIGHT ALIVE GROUP MOVIE NIGHT

SATURDAY JANUARY 17, 2015 7:30 PM

THE ANONYMOUS



RECOVERY IS OUT - TO CHANGE THE ADDICTION CONVERSATION FROM - PROBLEMS TO SOLUTIONS

***The Anonymous People* is a feature documentary film about the more than 23 million Americans living in long-term recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs.**

Deeply entrenched social stigma have kept recovery voices silent and faces hidden for decades. The vacuum has been filled with sensational mass media depictions of people with addiction that perpetuate a lurid fascination with the dysfunctional side of what is a preventable and treatable health condition.

The moving story of *The Anonymous People* is told through the faces and voices of citizens, leaders, volunteers, corporate executives, public figures, and celebrities who are laying it all on the line to save the lives of others just like them. This passionate new public recovery movement aims to transform public opinion, engage communities and elected officials, and finally shift problematic policy toward lasting solutions.

NO ADMISSION CHARGE (DONATIONS ACCEPTED), LOW PRICED POPCORN

DESERT CLUB, 4305 Mesa Grande SE, Albuquerque, NM

NO CHARGE. DONATIONS ACCEPTED.

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT GO DIRECTLY TO THE DESERT CLUB PRUDENT RESERVE.

Albuquerque Central Office
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(505) 266-1900
www.AlbuquerqueAA.org
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Albuquerque Intergroup Central Office

1921 Alvarado NE
2 blocks north of Constitution and
4 blocks east of San Mateo

(505) 266-1900

www.AlbuquerqueAA.org

Hours:
Monday through Friday
8 am to 10 pm
Saturday and Sunday
9 am to 9 pm