

PASS IT ON

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albuquerqueaa.org

Albuquerque AA Intergroup Central Office Newsletter

505-266-1900

Keeping Sobriety the Priority

There are times when I take exception to what I hear in some of the AA Meetings that I usually attend. I hear a lot of pro-this and pro-that, some of these I find weird, while some actually make sense. I remember the AA admonition that we are "to utilize what we can and put the rest on the back burner;" I may find something useful later on, that I once found distasteful. In areas that I think really important I believe what I believe—I just don't have to shout it from the rooftops for emphasis. Our 1st and 2nd Traditions come to mind.

It is wise for us to remember that we are at an AA meeting to stay sober and help others to achieve sobriety. It is also good to remember that most of us are at different points in our recovery journey; we do not see all things the same as we did in the beginning and we may not view them the same way later on. God and the AA Program are constants; all else is subject to review/change over time. Basic safety considerations are things that all of us should keep in mind and do our utmost to uphold; AA is a safe-haven for many of us and it needs to remain so.

If we find some speakers, or what they say objectionable, then we do not have to go to that particular meeting. If we are that concerned, we can bring the matter before the Group Conscience, or we can simply vote with our feet! We have a lot of AA meetings; we can find an alternative meeting if we really want to. Or, perhaps this is little more than another use for our Serenity Prayer.

"The farther away we get from our last drink the closer we get to our next drink." This old AA saying holds true. Sobriety is the single most important quality we will ever have as alcoholics. Thankfully, our 12 Steps help to guide us to better living and our 12 Traditions help guide our society's functioning. We may have to rearrange our busy schedules to attend other meetings but, we do whatever is necessary to keep sobriety the priority.

Lee D., Foothills Group of AA, Albuquerque, NM

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi—

Eleventh Step Prayer

"Lord, make me a channel of thy peace - that where there is hatred, I may bring love - that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness - that where there is discord, I may bring harmony - that where there is error, I may bring truth - that where there is doubt, I may bring faith - that where there is despair, I may bring hope - that where there are shadows, I may bring light - that where there is sadness, I may bring joy.

Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted - to understand, than to be understood - to love, than to be loved. For it is by self-forgetting that one finds. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life. Amen."

Reprinted from Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions pg 99 with permission of A.A. World services, Inc

Step Eleven

Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

Tradition Eleven

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

Concept Eleven

The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

First Things First

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
Grace United 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 *Calle* Alameda, Bernalillo

The Singleness of Purpose's New Meeting

The Singleness of Purpose group is starting a new closed step study meeting.

Bring your Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book and join us.

Mondays
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM



Rio Vista Church of the Nazarene
8701 Golf Course Road NW, Albuquerque

New Meeting starts Sept. 14

Healing as One Nation
Open Meeting for Native Americans
(All are Welcome!)

2nd Wednesday of every month at 9:00AM
Foothills Group
11607 Menaul NE
(E of Juan Tabo at Algodones)



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Happy Thanksgiving to all our groups!

We did not have notice of any Thanksgiving celebrations before we went to print so there are none listed. We want to be able to print as much as we can about upcoming events because we know there is a lot going on. Please remember we need notice by the 15th of the month prior to the month of the activity. All we need is the group's name, the name of the event, date and time, place of event and a point of contact for questions. Have a wonderful holiday!

Susan W., Pass It On Editor

September Birthdays



If you would like information about your event or group here, you can send it to passiton@albuquerqueaa.org; send it with your Intergroup Representative to the monthly Intergroup Meeting; or take it to Central Office no later than the 15th of the month. Thanks!

Albuquerque Area and New Mexico AA Events Calendar



Saturday, November 5

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

AA Newcomers Workshop Hosted by Seeking Serenity

Come Hungry—Breakfast will be served

6 panelists in "young Sobriety" Will be
Sharing on these topics:

What is Alcoholism	Spirituality
The 12 Steps	AA Literature & Lingo
Sponsorship -	Service & Fellowship

Also Enjoy-

- Ask It Basket
- Fellowship
- AA Count
- Passing of The Big Book

Everyone Welcome

Come with questions and Leave with answers!

You don't want miss this event! Bring Newcomers!

Nativity Church Pastoral Center 9502 4th Street (4th & Alameda)

Happy

Thanksgiving!



Speakers Needed

Every Thursday 1pm – 2pm

To carry the message of hope and recovery

UNM Mental Health Clinic]
2600 Marble N.E., Albuquerque

This is a one- hour meeting with 2 speakers. A chair- man will open the meeting and introduce the speak- ers. Ten minutes at the end of the meeting will be set aside for questions.

It is highly recommended that you have 6 months so- ber. Actively involved with a sponsor and working the steps.

Must sign a HIPAA Privacy Compliance form.
HIPAA, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

Please contact Central Office at 266-1900.

This meeting is for UNMH Mental Health Clinic patients and is not open to the public.

Saturday, JAN 14, 2017

1:30PM - 3:30PM

Any Length's Women's Group Presents :

"The AA Waltz" - Steps 4-5

Speakers:

Our speakers will share their experience, strength and hope as a sponsor or



Barb C. – 4th step sponsor
Henry – 4th step sponsee
Angela – 5th step sponsor
John S. - 5th step sponsee

Sweet & savory baked items, plants, and handcrafted items for sale.

Fundraiser will be held at:

Monte Vista Church

3501 Campus Blvd. Albuquerque

For more information on these and other Albuquerque Area and New Mexico AA events go to :

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

When an Amend Doesn't

I've been through this many different times when my wife misplaces her phone and the search goes something like this.

"Honey, I can't find my phone."

"Where did you leave it?"

"I don't know. It's not where I usually put it"

So, we search the house, her purse, the cars, and then its: "I'll call your phone, and we can find it by its ring." I've done this drill many time and sure enough somewhere in its hiding place, we find it. This time, after much dialing, and listening, we cannot hear the phone and therefore, we cannot find the phone. Looking and dialing, dialing and listening, hoping to hear that tiny tune that says "Here I am." but to no avail is there a give-away tone.

This is where the decisions are made about whether or not we need to have the service turned off and get a new phone, or wait until next day and try again, backtracking our steps and see if someone might have found it.

Now, after making up our minds on the next step, my phone rings and things get interesting. It's my step-son, "I just got a call from (Name withheld); tell mom that she has her phone.

"What? Why didn't she just answer the phone when I was calling it?" I gave my phone to my wife, and she listened to her son's story on how someone found her phone, called daughter, and made an exchange. My wife then used one of our friend's phone to call her, because she wouldn't answer it if my name was on the caller ID, and set off to get her phone. When we married, her youngest daughter and me were at ends with each other from the very start. That edgy relationship got more and more ragged as the years went on. It seemed that there wasn't anything that I could do or say that brought us any closer. As long as I performed to her advantage, I could get along with her, but any criticism, or suggesting of a different way of doing something, I was tolerated. I stood by, watching and drinking and more drinking, as she went from bad situations to worse situations, being there when called, and bailing her out more times than I could count. I lived in a bottle, and she lived in my wallet. Not a bad relationship for a drunk. When my disease took over my life and I could not contain it, and my wife left me, she went to live with her daughter, things got really edgy then.

I was about 30 days sober when I tried to make an amends to the step children. daughter, even listened, I was informed that

this time "I would pay a price for my actions." At that time, all I was interested in was making an amends, cleaning up my side of the street. To hell with what they did with it. I just wanted to be free of this emotional hangover. (I didn't even know what that was at this time of my sobriety.) I told my sponsor what I did, and he wasn't too happy with me. He told me I wasn't ready to do that, I wasn't ready for their reaction, and I shouldn't have done it. What did I care, I was sober, somewhere between 30 and 60 days, I knew what I had to do, and I did it anyway.

I finished my 12 steps with him, and due to circumstances, we went our own way. I soon realized that this first time through the 12 steps wasn't my best effort, and I found another sponsor and went through them again in a very different style. One that lead me get to know him and myself while working the steps. When we came to step 9, he had already known about my first attempt, and made suggestions on how to try again. I told him they wouldn't even see to me, let alone talk to me. He told me it was time to send them a letter, an amends letter, and let it go from there.

I did what I was told to do, and sent the letters. The daughter never responded and I was still in the same situation as before. After I got the phone call telling me who had the phone, and she wouldn't even text me back, I felt the old resentments building up. I needed to find a meeting, and I did. After the meeting, I pulled a friend over and asked him to give me a couple of minutes. After telling him about my resentments, he put it into a different place.

He told me "She's been hurt and she doesn't want to be hurt again, so she shuts you out, for fear of being hurt again." Bam, that old 2X4 learning. Here I was thinking it's all about me, how it's what I have to do and have done, my whole world was wrapped up in my people pleasing lifestyle. It wasn't me, it is her, and I can totally understand what is going through her thoughts. My resentments unwound, I could take a breath, and relax.

Because of AA, the 12 Steps, and sponsors and friends with more years than me, more insight and wisdom. I can breathe easier, worry less about "things I cannot change, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Artemus M."



Draft Intergroup Meeting October 9, 2016

(IGR=Intergroup Representative)

(IG=Intergroup)

In attendance: Lindsey C., Straight Pepper/IG Chair; Laura S., Straight Pepper IGR; Marisa C., New Frontier IGR.; Tom M., Dawn Patrol, Treasurer; Nance C. Any Lengths IGR; Karen R., Still Seeking Serenity IGR; Alaina G., Ladies Room, Special Needs chair; Lisa M., Sunrise Catcher/District 3; Paige T., IGR for SMBS; Debra K., Alt. Coordinator, Ctrl. Office Bruce B., Lone Rangers GSR; Graham R., IGR, Brown Baggers; Doug C., At Large, Brown Baggers; Jeff C., Commie Out Stud.; Joseph B., Sunrise Sobriety; Diane G.C., Early Birds IGR; Susan W., Foothills IGR, PIO Editor; Leanna S. 4:30 Isleta Group, Web Chair; Jared B., Children of Chaos IGR alt.; Henry L., Seeking Serenity Group, Dist. 11; Bill G., Promises; Sh. B., Candlelight

Meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer at 2:00 p.m. Introductions around the room.

Reports

Treasurer: Tom gave his report. Income from Special events and individual and group donations significantly higher than last year. Tom thinks that's because it's easier to give through credit cards, online, on the website, on the Paypal.

The prudent reserve, around \$10m, needs to be brought up to \$18m. A motion made and seconded to accept the report.

Coordinator: Michael is absent. Debra K. gave the report. We have 4 new Grapevine books, in stock @ \$11.50 apiece. Chips are up to date; we are mostly up to date on books.

There are now only 3 open shifts:

Sundays, 2x month, 9 a.m. = 12 noon

Every Monday, 8 – 10 a.m.

Every other Sat., 12 – 3, 2x a month

Alternate Coordinator: Debra K. said they'd like more desk worker subs. Daytime and evening. Otherwise, the office is running smoothly

Member at Large: Doug C., said nothing to report. He asked for details on the upcoming Traditions Workshop and someone offered him a flyer

Pass-It-On Editor: Susan W, states that items need to be in by the 15th of the month. You can send them directly to Susan, or bring to office.

7th Tradition basket was passed.

Jeff, Community Outreach: There was a good response from the public for the Nat'l Day of Recovery. Also,

Jeff spoke to a group of 15 – 21 – yr olds transitioning into society from CYFD. They may invite him again on a regular basis. Jeff and the P.I. person attended the Ethicon Health Fair. There was a good response there also. On the 28 October, the City of Albuquerque Health Fair will take place, and he will go.

Special Needs: Alaina reported that the fundraiser brought in \$300. The interpreter was videotaped and that will be available to deaf members. She said that arrangements are being made for an interpreter for the Traditions Workshop. Also, they are now transporting a member to meetings and planning to take a regular meeting into a Physical Rehab. (Not sure where)

Website Coordinator: Leanna gave her report. She urged us to explore the website, and to encourage our group members to use it. She said there's lot to read on the resource page, old archives and so on. Re: flyers, the simpler, the better. Get the facts to her and she will get them right up on the events page. The Support page shows how you can donate to A.A.

Central Office serves a large area – 5 districts in the Albuquerque area – and basically the whole state. Most used pages are the meeting schedules, price lists for literature, and meeting changes info.

Intergroup Liaison: Johnny goes to lots of meetings, introduces the work of Central Office, talks about faithful 5's and 10'ers.

Old Business – no Old Business.

New Business – Debra requested that the group consider sending her to Kansas City for the annual Intergroup Seminar, Nov. 3 – 6, cost \$810. She will gain ideas on how to attract new people to the work of C.O., and other ideas. A motion was made, and seconded to send her. A suggestion was made that this (trip to the seminar) be written into the budget, so that it doesn't come as a surprise each time.

Rick W., from S.S.S. was there, and he will apprentice himself to Leanna, Website, so he can learn the ropes, in preparation for the elections. No, he's not the Sorcerer's Apprentice, he's Leanna's apprentice!

The meeting closed with the 3rd Step Prayer, at 3:15, after announcements.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen R., substitute note taker

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in Pass It On are solely those of the individual author and do not necessarily represent those of the Editor, Central Office, Area 46, any specific group or AA entity, or of AA itself and in no way does publication imply endorsement of such opinions.

Third Quarter 2016 Group Contributions

Group or District	JUL.	AUG.	SEP.	3 rd QTR.	2016 YTD
AA WAY OF LIFE	\$10.00			\$10.00	\$60.00
ABC GROUP		\$40.00		\$40.00	\$90.00
ANY LENGTHS WOMEN'S GROUP		\$600.00		\$600.00	\$1000.00
BACK TO BASICS		\$200.00		\$200.00	\$250.00
BROWNBAGGERS GROUP	\$125.26		\$288.00	\$413.26	\$1108.13
CANDLELIGHT GROUP	\$50.83			\$50.83	\$126.83
CHILDREN OF CHAOS	\$23.09			\$23.09	\$39.22
CONSCIOUS CONTACT			\$80.00	\$80.00	\$200.00
COTTONMOUTH GROUP		\$468.51		\$468.51	\$468.51
DAWN PATROL	\$259.45	\$344.69	\$196.25	\$800.39	\$2151.81
DIRECT AMENDS GROUP		\$100.00		\$100.00	\$100.00
DISTRICT 13		\$50.00		\$50.00	\$50.00
DISTRICT 18			\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
DOG ON THE ROOF GROUP			\$40.00	\$40.00	\$64.00
DOWNTOWN LUNCH BUNCH	\$78.46			\$78.46	\$249.13
DRUNKIN' DONUTS	\$271.05		\$103.77	\$374.82	\$374.82
DRY NOONERS	\$110.02		\$20.00	\$130.02	\$321.47
EAST MOUNTAIN GROUP			\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
FOOTHILLS GROUP		\$118.24	\$125.29	\$243.53	\$1081.26
FREEDOM FIRST			\$50.00	\$50.00	\$150.00
FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE	\$300.00			\$300.00	\$300.00
GRATEFUL GIRLS		\$16.84		\$16.84	\$77.07
GROUP 164 AND MORE	\$131.98			\$131.98	\$131.98
HAPPY HOUR			\$36.96	\$36.96	\$156.77
HIGH COUNTRY GROUP	\$50.00			\$50.00	\$50.00
HIGH NOON GROUP	\$600.00			\$600.00	\$600.00
HOW IT WORKS	\$50.00			\$50.00	\$130.00
IN THE BOOK	\$24.01	\$132.20		\$156.21	\$275.96
ISLETA GROUP		\$65.87		\$65.87	\$120.61
KEEP IT SIMPLE	\$30.47		\$26.00	\$56.47	\$159.97
LIVE AND LET LIVE	\$16.00			\$16.00	\$54.00
LONE RANGERS		\$238.00		\$238.00	\$476.00
LOS LUNAS LADIES' MEETING			\$20.00	\$20.00	\$32.90
LUNCHBOX GROUP			\$100.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
METROPOLITAN GROUP	\$20.00			\$20.00	\$60.00
MIRACLES GROUP	\$400.00			\$400.00	\$409.00
NEW FRONTIER		\$67.50		\$67.50	\$180.00
NORTH VALLEY GROUP	\$52.27			\$52.27	\$95.53
ONE STEP AT A TIME	\$111.41			\$111.41	\$111.41
PROMISES GROUP	\$60.00	\$62.22		\$122.22	\$202.22
QUEER IDEAS OF FUN	\$120.75			\$120.75	\$270.75
RAYMAC GROUP	\$8.75			\$8.75	\$8.75
RIGHT SIZE GROUP		\$10.00	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$70.00
RIO AMIGOS			\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
RIO RANCHO BEGINNERS		\$41.45		\$41.45	\$137.55
ROUNDUP GROUP	\$33.35	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$73.35	\$93.35
SEEKING SERENITY	\$326.80		\$326.00	\$652.80	\$1755.33
SERENDIPITY GROUP	\$152.37			\$152.37	\$266.17
SERENITY GROUP		\$74.16		\$74.16	\$400.00
SPIRITUAL AWAKENING	\$.10			\$.10	\$.10
STRAIGHT PEPPER DIET		\$160.02		\$160.02	\$160.02
SURVIVORS GROUP	\$121.60			\$121.60	\$155.20
THREE LEGACIES	\$30.00			\$30.00	\$130.00
TOO MUCH FOR US	\$36.00			\$36.00	\$36.00
WAKE UP CALL	\$10.00	\$101.83	\$114.89	\$226.72	\$1388.58
WESTSIDE GROUP		\$194.18		\$194.18	\$461.29
WHO HAS THE KEYS			\$50.00	\$50.00	\$150.00
WOMEN'S GROUP-RIO RANCHO	\$71.50		\$71.39	\$142.89	\$212.89
WOMEN'S NOON GRATITUDE	\$23.00	\$25.00	\$23.00	\$71.00	\$174.77
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY NIGHT			\$31.00	\$31.00	\$31.00
THIRD QUARTER TOTALS	\$3708.52	\$3130.71	\$1962.55	\$8801.78	\$17830.35

**Central Office Intergroup
Steering Committee**

Chair Lindsey C - *albuquerqueaa.org*
Chair@albuquerqueaa.org

Secretary Ginger B. - *albuquerqueaa.org*
Secretary@albuquerqueaa.org

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

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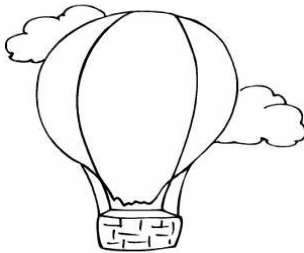
Intergroup Liaison: Johnny W.
Contact Central Office
266-1900

CO Coordinator: Michael W.
Coordinator@albuquerqueaa.org

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

Responsibility Declaration

I am responsible.
When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help,
I want the hand of AA
always to be there.
And for that:
I am responsible.



**Central Office Financial Snapshot
September, 2016**

	Sept., 2016	YTD 2016
Total Revenues	\$8108.85	\$75348.57
Total Cost of Sales	\$3146.25	\$25907.19
Gross Income	\$4962.60	\$49441.38
Total Expenses	\$5495.34	\$50976.61
Net Profit (Loss)	(\$532.740)	(\$1535.23)

**Central Office Monthly Service Activities Report
September 2016**

	September 2016	August 2016	September 2015
Phone Calls:			
Information	396	389	399
12-Step	11	18	23
Al-Anon	9	13	2
Message	35	8	62
Other	<u>65</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>87</u>
Total:	516	500	573
Walk-ins:			
Information	12	11	13
12-Step	0	0	3
Al-Anon	1	2	1
Schedule	8	9	11
Purchase	150	175	146
Media	1	2	2
Message	1	5	4
Casual	24	30	44
Other	<u>24</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>40</u>
Total:	221	272	264
Web Visits:			
		4898	
Deskworkers:*			
Regulars	43	39	42
Substitutes	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>35</u>
Total:	61	53	77
Deskshifts:*			
Weekdays	132	138	132
Weekends	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>
Total:	172	178	172
Weekday Shifts:*			
Worked by regulars:	113 (85.6%)	111(80%)	109 (82.6%)
Worked by Subs:	<u>17 (12.9%)</u>	<u>27(20%)</u>	<u>21 (15.9%)</u>
Total:	130 (97.5%)	138(100%)	130 (98.5%)
Weekend Shifts:*			
Worked by Regulars	32 (80%)	31(77.5%)	29 (72.5%)
Worked by Subs:	<u>8 (20%)</u>	<u>9(22.5%)</u>	<u>11 (21.5%)</u>
Total:	40 (100%)	40 (100%)	40 (100%)
*Night shifts not covered	2 weeknight	1 weeknight	2 weekday
Shifts not worked by a volunteer:			
	13	13	14
	3 - 2 hr. shifts		
Total:	36 hrs.	39 hrs.	42 hrs.

Albuquerque Central Office
1921 Alvarado NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
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**Albuquerque Intergroup
Central Office
(505) 266-1900**

1921 Alvarado NE
Albuquerque, NM

2 blocks north of Constitution and
4 blocks east of San Mateo

Hours:

Monday through Friday
8 am to 10 pm

Saturday and Sunday
9 am to 9 pm
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