# The San Diego AA Coordinator

Published Monthly by the Central Office of the San Diego County Groups of Alcoholics Anonymous

"And let us never flinch from entire forthrightness whenever this is the requirement."

The Best of Bill p. 36

#### SEPTEMBER 2011

VOL. XI NO. 9

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"Carry the AA Message"

Join the fun and submit an article!

**Monthly Themes** 

#### **OCTOBER**

Principle of Perseverance (due 8/25)

#### **NOVEMBER**

Principle of Spiritual Awareness (due 9/22)

#### **DECEMBER**

Principle of Service (due 10/22)

Submit *500* to *1000* word story to Newsletter Chair at:

sdaa.newsletter@gmail.com

For more information, see page 2

# A Valuable Principle with Wide-Ranging Application and Meaning The Principle of Justice by Susie S.

It was a Tuesday evening and I was taking my nine year token at my women's meeting. During the announcements I heard that articles are needed for our Coordinator newsletter. I've been toying with the idea or writing articles for a number of publications, but you know alcoholics – procrastinators. Well, most of us, I think. My sponsor leaned over and whispered to me, "You do it, you do it." I told her I'd give it a try.

When I looked at what the topic was, the principle of justice, I didn't know what to think, really. I had a faint idea of what these principles might be, but they weren't something that I had much information on. I remembered my second sponsor who gave me a list of twelve words that I had written in the front of my first Big Book. I got it out and read the words. I thought, yes, I bet these are "those" principles. After some research online I learned those twelve words were indeed the same principles referred to in the topic suggestion. But guess what? I never got any further than writing them down. They never came up in the book, at a meeting, or anywhere my sobriety journey had yet to take me. I queried old-timers and meetings at group level and nobody seemed to know what the principles are. So, before I go on any further, may I highly suggest that doing a bit of research online will reveal some interesting information! Apparently, each of the twelve steps has a word, or principle, associated with it. I'll leave the history of these concepts up to your investigation.

In my old Big Book, the word I wrote that corresponded to Step Nine was "discipline." In the lists I found online, still other words were used. The lists were extremely similar with only slight variations on some of the steps. When considering the word, "justice," I find that I that I have an immediate and aggressive response. I like the word. Justice is something that I wish I could render with a heavy hammer on some individuals by my own hand, but that of course, is my knee-jerk, human-nature response. We all know that justice ultimately belongs to our Higher Power. Knowing this makes living so much easier for me, I had to learn the hard way.

I got busy with this step a couple of months ago. Receiving good advice from different people in the program and applying it, things worked out well. Like anything else, I learn by doing. Each time I made an amends it was different, as were the outcomes. Nothing happened like I had envisioned in my head. People are just weird; you never know what you're going to get from them. Better to

(Continued on Page 3)

# ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SAN DIEGO CENTRAL OFFICE

24 HOUR PHONE (619) 265-8762 OUR WEB PAGE <u>www.aasandiego.org</u>

E-MAIL: <a href="mailto:sdaaco@aol.com">sdaaco@aol.com</a>
FAX: (619) 265-2954
OFFICE & BOOKSTORE

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Central Office Manager: Connie J. Administrative Assistant: Kathy M.

The San Diego "AA Coordinator" is a monthly newsletter published by the San Diego Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsements by Alcoholics Anonymous or San Diego Central Office, except when Conference approved publications are quoted.

Contributions from A.A. members are welcome and will be printed as space allows and as they are relevant to the upcoming topic(s) (*see page 1, bottom left*).

Submissions may be emailed to the newsletter chair at SDAA.newsletter.com. They may also be typed or neatly handwritten and mailed to Central Office or delivered in person to the committee on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6PM, Central Office. Submissions must include contact information and a name (your name and last initials only). The editors reserve the right to edit contents for length, clarity and their relation to the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. An effort will be made to contact the author regarding content changes.

Phone Volunteers, 12<sup>th</sup> Step Calls, meeting information, group and individual contributions, book and literature sales, Coordinating Council and Intergroup Information can be obtained at the Central Office. For Committee specific information contact the following Committee Chairs:

#### Coordinating Council Officers:

Council Chair Nancy N. Council Assistant Rick W. After Hours Phones Ruben S. **Business Committee** Ray R. **New Coordinators** Carrie **Outreach Committee** Paul H. **Program Committee** Nicki F. Public Info Committee Terry L. Newsletter/Coordinator Linda F.

Area Officers:

Committee

Delegate Joel C.
Alternate Delegate Tom M.
Area Chair Dean B.
Archives Carrie E.
H & I Director Chris S.
Young People's Morgan

**Contributors:** Susie S., Lisa O., Paul H.,

Allison A., and Vivian

**Sept. Theme:** Justice

Fold & Label: Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2011

5:30 pm, at Central Office

Committee Thursday, Aug. 25, 2011
Meeting: 6:00 pm, at Central Office

#### **View from the Chair** *G***-**:

Be vulnerable, take a risk, throw caution to the wind, or just for the heck of it! I triple-dog dare you write an article on the remaining principles for 2011 perseverance, spiritual awareness and service! It's also an excellent way to be of service, not to mention a great sponsee assignment too. If you have any articles that you are not sure fall under any of the principles; submit them anyway. If it's about AA, it's probably about our principles!

Remember you can drop off your article at Central Office or email your submissions to the committee at <a href="mailto:sdaa.newsletter@gmail.com">sdaa.newsletter@gmail.com</a> or to lafetch@yahoo.com.

We are in dire need of groups to adopt a Collating evening on the (formerly known as "Fold-n-Label") 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

Gratefully, Linda F.

# Thank You to Our July 20<sup>th</sup> Fold and Label Volunteers!

Groups Represented	Volunteers
We Group	Wes T.
Newsletter Members	Linda F., Thomas K., Christian W. & Lisa O.
A.A. Members	Sober Tom
The Joy of Living Group	Maureen B.
Visitor Helper	Maria O.

We Need MORE Volunteers

PI. F. A. S. F. !!!

(from page 1)

know this ahead of time and not let the "weirdness" unhinge me and make me question myself in times of vulnerability. This is what I learned; to be true to myself and trust the process of my recovery. I do these things for my, my God and for my spiritual health first.

I suppose justice can be thought of as the correction of mistakes. When justice is served in our legal system, it is the righting of a wrong done to someone else along with a "punishment" of sorts. While we don't get to decide all the particulars about the wrongs we've perpetrated, we do have the power, the ability and the obligation to set things straight as soon as we are aware and able. I have discovered that I am much more able to live with myself and quiet the incessant chatter in my head when I've made an honest effort to humble myself, take my part, and sincerely attempt to correct myself in future behavior.

But I have other problems too! I have the tendency to point out the how your side of the story helped me stumble to my end. I also had a compulsive need to let you know just how badly vou had hurt me! After much personal research, I found out that this does not work. I realized I was attempting to exact some sort of punishment on you while at the same time apologizing! That is not justice. I'm not a Higher Power nor do I care to be. I am a recovering human being who accepts being flawed. It's like the concept of, "Do the footwork and leave the results to God." Justice is His. My part is doing the footwork with an honest effort. I can't exact my own brand of justice; that's not how we live in society and it doesn't work in the spiritual realm either. I can begin the process by doing the simple action of opening the channel and inviting something positive to the situation.

So –discipline, justice, amendment, forgiveness – these are the words that were used to highlight and describe Step Nine. Together these words complete the idea for me. Step Nine is the most freeing step of all twelve, for me.

#### After Hours Phones CRITICAL and URGENT NEED!

Emergency back-up volunteers to answer daytime and after-hour phones!

New groups needed for after-hours phones waiting list!

Call **AA Central** at **619-265-8762** call forwarding is available

# A.A. Birthdays!

Many A.A. members celebrate their birthday by sending a donation of one or two dollars for each year of sobriety to Central Office. If you would like to carry on this tradition, please fill out the form below.

<u> Happy Birthday to All!</u>

**Jack**June 9, 1974 – 37 years

#### Hope M.

Women's Step Study July 18, 2001 – 10 years

#### **Birthday Gratitude**

Name
City/Home Group
Sobriety Date
Amt. Enclosed

Please mail to:

San Diego Central Office 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd San Diego, CA 92120-2454

All birthdays submitted will be published the month following submission. Please contact the newsletter chair if a birthday has not been published for two months following submission.

#### Group and Meeting Changes

#### \*\*NEW MEETINGS\*\*

#### Daily Drinkers Codes: CF \*

Club 938 E Washington St

Mon-Fri @ 3 pm El Cajon

#### What Does The Big Book Say? Code: C

Recv Hm 270 C St

Mon @ 6:30 pm Chula Vista

#### Lake Cuyamaca

Boat House - Gazebo 15027 Hwy 79 Tues @ 7:30 pm Julian

#### The Gift Codes: C M \*

Church 8360 Lemon Ave (on 3<sup>rd</sup> by alley) Wed @ 7 pm La Mesa

#### **Del Mar Friday Lunch Bunch**

Restaurant 621 Valley Ave

Fri @ 12 noon Solana Beach

#### Eastlake Greens 10 on 10 Codes: \*

1227 Eastlake Parkway

Fri @ 7 pm Eastlake Greens

#### \*\*RELOCATE \*\*

#### **Del Mar Tues Lunch Bunch**

Restaurant 141 Lomas Santa Fe

Tue @ 12 noon Solana Beach (was 2650 Via De La Valle Del Mar)

#### **Del Mar Thurs Lunch Bunch**

Restaurant 141 Lomas Santa Fe

Thu @ 12 noon Solana Beach (was 2650 Via De La Valle Del Mar)

#### \*\*CODE CHANGE\*\*

#### Cups Codes: C

Bakery–(rear entrance only) 7857 Girard Ave Wed @ 7 pm La Jolla

(was Code: open)

#### Eastlake Greens Attitude Adjust Code: \*

Church 1227 Eastlake Parkway

Sun @ 7 am Eastlake Greens (was Code: )

#### \*\*NAME CHANGE\*\*

#### North Shores Big Book Study

Club – downstairs 4861 Cass St

Thu @ 8 pm Pacific Beach

(was Thursday Night Discussion)

\*\*CANCELED\*\*

#### Blvd Brown Baggers Codes: CF +

Residence 37820 Oaks Court #10

Daily @ 12 noon Boulevard

#### **North Shores Thurs Night Disc**

Club – upstairs 4861 Cass St

Thu @ 8 pm Pacific Beach

#### **AA By The Freeway**

Charter School 4001 El Cajon Blvd

Thu @ 8 pm City Heights

#### **Step Study Dirty Dozen**

Club 6901 Central Ave

Sun @ 11 am Lemon Grove

#### **Coordinating Council Attendance**

The following 58 groups attended August Coordinating Council There are 760 registered groups in San Diego WAS YOUR GROUP THERE?

#### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING IS: THURSDAY, September 8, 2011

AA By The Bay Big Book & 12 X 12 Study Cedar Street Mens Clairemont Mens Clairemont Womens D.D.G.T.M.

Daily Reflections

Downtown Discussion

**Drunks Only** East Side Group

Easy Does It Riders El Cajon Womens Serenity **Evening Serenity** 

First Mira Mesa Mens Fourth Dimension Group Free On Friday

Fresh Start Beginners Friday Morning Womens

Friday Night Irregulars Great Fact Group

Harmony Group I.B. Up

Imperial Beach Group Kelton Ave Big Book Study

La Mesa Mens La Mesa Mixed

La Mesa Step Study Workshop Mira Mesa Friday Night Mission Bay Speakers

Mission Hills Beginners Mission Hills Late Night Monday At A Time Monday Night Young People Steps

Noon At The Grove North Park Mens

Old Town Speakers Over The Bridge

Pacific Beach Young Peoples Point Loma Mens

Porter Hall Structured S/S Progress Rather Than Perfection Rainbow Group San Carlos Single Purpose

Santee Saturday Night Speakers Santee Thursday Closed Mixed Scripps Ranch Mens Two Smokefree La Mesa Womens

Sober Nooners Sobriety Seekers Step Study

Southern Cal Speakers Straight Shooters The Joy Of Living Group The Other Meeting

Thursday Promises Promises Tues Night Big Book Step Study Two- Bit Speakers

Womans Let Go And Let Go Women In Harmony

#### REMOVING THREATS TO SOBRIETY

...except when to do so would injure them or others.

Alcoholics Anonymous p. 59

Step Nine restores in me a feeling of belonging, not only to the human race but also to the everyday world. First, the step makes me leave the safety of A.A., so that I may deal with non-A.A. people "out there", on their terms, not mine. It is a frightening but necessary action if I am to get back into life. Second, Step Nine allows me to remove threats to my sobriety by healing past relationships. Step Nine points the way to a more serene sobriety by letting me clear away past wreckage, lest it bring me down.

Daily Reflections September 6

### Thank You, Day Time Phone Volunteers For Carrying The Message!

#### \*\*TIME CHANGE\*\*

#### Message, As Bill Sees It

Club 938 E Washington St Sun @ 7:30 pm El Cajon

(was 8 pm)

#### \*\*ROOM CHANGE\*\*

#### La Mesa Mid Morning

Church-Bingo Hall 7710 El Cajon Blvd Wed @ 10 am La Mesa (was Rectory)

#### Minutes of the Coordinating Council Thursday, August 11, 2011

Nancy N. – Council Chair called the 794<sup>th</sup> meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Joan read the 12 Traditions. Council Definition and Purpose read by Wes. There were 8 new Coordinators, 2 visitors and 6 birthdays. 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition was \$86.00. Roll Call: Rick W., Assistant Council Chair reported 58 groups were represented out of 76 registered Coordinators. There was a quorum (35) It was m/s/c to approve the minutes of the July 2011 Council Meeting.

<u>Area Assembly</u> – Butch M. Area 8 Secretary shared:

- 1) Pacific Regional Forum is Aug 19-21 in Woodland Hills. Make a day trip. Representatives from GSO will be giving presentations as to AA as a whole.
- 2) Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> is Area Assembly Big Day and Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> is Area Assembly Elections.
- 3) For more information on Area 08, please visit the website area8aa.org.

H & I Representative: Debbie – Shared purpose of H & I (to establish and maintain AA meetings in facilities where people are confined and to bring Conference General Service literature into those institutions). We have more requests to bring a meeting in than we have volunteers, so we are always looking for new members. Individuals or groups may adopt a meeting. We have two Orientation Meetings each month: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday @ 12:15 pm Hall 5150 Kearney Mesa Rd 92111 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7 pm Central Office 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd 92120. Contact on Release's purpose is to introduce alcoholics being released from confined facilities to AA in When notified of a release in San San Diego. Diego County, volunteers contact the individual and take them to their first few meetings. Go to area8aa.org and click on the H & I tab for more details and 2011 financials.

<u>AFTER HOURS PHONES</u>: Mona, committee member reported:

- 1) OPEN nights are the 7<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of each month by a group.
- 2) Thank you to the current groups for your after-hours phone service.

3) Need groups to sign up to create a waiting list. Also, need of volunteers to be on "emergency fill-in list".

BUSINESS COMMITTEE: Ray R., Chair reported committee met on Tuesday 8/9/11 at 6:03 pm. Present: Ray R., Jerry C., Leonard R., Gary C., Steve E., Nancy N., Council Chair, Rick W., Asst Council Chair and Connie J., Central Office Manager. Absent: Jane G. There was a quorum.

- 1) It was m/s/c to approve July 2011 Minutes.
- 2) It was m/s/c to approve July 2011 Financials. July 2011 Financial Statements' Summary:
  - a) Our July 2011 Net Revenue is \$257.35. Our 2011 YTD Net Revenue is (\$3,245.56). Group and Individual Contributions were \$10,776.98. Literature Sales Revenue and bank interest was \$2,214.51 while total office and committee expenses were \$12,734.14.

Thank you for supporting your Central Office in carrying the message to the suffering alcoholic.

Manager's Penert

#### Manager's Report

- 1) August's Book of the Month: *Daily Reflections* on sale: \$7.50.
- 2) September's Book of the Month: Came to Believe on sale for \$3.75.
- 3) Daytime phone volunteer shift available: Alternate Saturdays: 9 am – 1 pm (need 2)
- 4) Attended So CA Managers Meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup>, heard about a CA Public Utilities Program 50% telephone discount for 501C3 organizations. Filed application.
- 5) Will attend Pacific Regional Forum.
- 6) Went to bank with Ray R. and Jerry C. to change signatory cards.
- 7) aasandiego.org website: on "electronic forms page" added various group docs in pdf format, example: literature price list, contributions pie chart, secretary meeting log and handbook, big book meeting readings ...
- 8) Coordinator Newsletter: free subscription by email. Send an email to sdaaco@aol.com.
- 9) Central Office offers Gift Certificates in amounts from \$10.00 \$25.00 increments.
- 10) Sending contributions receipts, along with current event flyers by email.

Continued on page 6.

#### Continued from page 5.

11) Coordinator Newsletter – Sign up to receive electronically. Hard copies will continue to be available at Central Office. Currently emailing 1,200 newsletters. (Note: Coordinator Newsletter expenses have been reduced by \$2,000 YTD)

#### **Committee Member reports:**

- 1) Ray R. -chaired meeting and went to bank.
- 2) Gary C. –reviewed bank deposits and made reminder calls.
- 3) Jerry C. signed checks, reviewed bank reconciliation and Financial Statements and went to bank for signatory cards.
- 4) Rick W. passed out call reminders.
- 5) Nancy N. Website working properly.
- 6) Leonard checked volunteer meeting books and took minutes.
- 7) Steve E. –meeting schedules available.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: There was none.

COORDINATOR NEWSLETTER: Linda F., Chair reported committee met by email in July. October's Theme: "Perseverance". Submissions of 500-1000 words welcome (October submissions due by August 25<sup>th</sup>).

Send to SDAA.Newsletter@gmail.com or mail to Central Office at 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd San Diego, CA 92120. Come join in the fun. NEED groups to adopt a month to collate the newsletter. COORDINATOR OUTREACH: Paul H., Chair reported committee met tonight. Present: Paul and John. Excused: Raleigh

- 1) Help NEEDED from all current Coordinators in participation and outreach to invite groups to have an Intergroup Coordinator. Notebook with meetings with no Intergroup Coordinator was passed around.
- 2) We have a responsibility to the future of Alcoholics Anonymous with our group's voice and activity in service and unity.

ORIENTATION & GUIDELINES: Carrie Chair reported committee met tonight at 6:30 pm. Present: David, Carrie and Duncan.

- 1) Orientated 3 new Coordinators.
- 2) Discussed duties of the Coordinator and orientation packets and questions. Read the "History of San Diego", Traditions 3 & 4, Robert's rules of order" and a Quorum.

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE: No report given.

- 1) Anniversary Breakfast is being planned to have at Ramada Inn again this year on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) New Years Eve event is being planned to have at Scottish Rite Center again this year.

<u>PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE</u>: Terry Chair reported committee met on Monday, 8/1/11.

He shared the importance of us as a Fellowship communicating to the public "What Alcoholics Anonymous Is and What It is Not". As outlined in the GSO Public Information Workbook and Guidelines there are lots of possibilities for that, but the Public Information Committee needs more active committee members to assist with distributing PSA's to TV and Radio, Big Books to libraries, delivering pamphlet racks to public places, arranging for Speaker presentations at schools and volunteers at Health Fairs. need members to sign up on a Public Information speaker volunteer list to assist with presentations at schools, health fairs... Those interested may attend the next PI Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at Central Office, or

- 1) On Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 11 am, there will be a Public Information Speaker Volunteer Workshop.
- 2) Groups may "Adopt a Literature Rack" to go into places like libraries, hospitals ... call Steven if your group wishes to participate.

<u>OLD BUSINESS:</u> There was none. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>: There was none.

Thanks to Butch M. Area 8 Secretary and Debbie, H & I Co-Director for Special Reports.

Thanks to Wes T. for PA System Set-up and Mike C. for coffee.

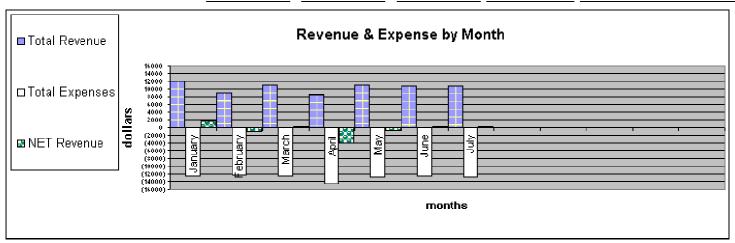
Thanks to those for setup and clean up of the room. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm with Serenity Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Counic J.,

Connie J., Recording Secretary

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-	July '11	July '10	YTD '11	YTD '10	\$ Change	Budget '11
Ordinary Revenue/Expense						
Revenue						
Contributions Group	10,504.32	9,351.96	66,787.66	64,105.61	2,682.05	118,384.00
Contributions Individual	272.66	210.40	4,385.59	6,669.72	(2,284.13)	9,650.00
Contributions SDIAA	-	-	1,240.00	1,030.00	210.00	1,125.00
Interest – Cert of Deposits	48.33	71.35	353.70	559.45	(205.75)	900.00
Total Revenue	10,825.31	9,633.71	72,766.95	72,364.78	402.17	130,059.00
Expense						
Accounting & Legal	-	225.00	2,480.00	5,025.00	(2,545.00)	2,650.00
Auto/Travel/Seminar	105.25	96.00	354.58	436.58	(82.00)	1,300.00
Bank Service Charges	2.00	2.00	66.14	112.54	(46.40)	125.00
Cash (Over) Short	(13.83)	5.73	(40.90)	67.67	(108.57)	(50.00)
Checks Returned – Bad Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment Maint & Repair	35.31	70.00	430.62	70.00	360.62	500.00
Equipment Purchase	135.93	-	716.60	416.53	300.07	500.00
Insurance	50.00	50.50	350.00	353.50	(3.50)	1,100.00
Office Maint. & Repairs	33.00	50.00	33.00	50.00	(17.00)	500.00
Office Supplies	252.43	244.80	1,787.22	2,488.35	(701.13)	3,900.00
Rent	1,697.00	1,648.00	11,683.00	11,344.00	339.00	20,168.00
Taxes	-	-	64.45	83.49	(19.04)	80.00
Telephone	249.31	228.84	1,685.28	1,575.48	109.80	2,900.00
Utilities-Electricity	285.53	281.79	1,745.38	1,934.19	(188.81)	3,600.00
Website	40.85	33.85	218.45	169.45	49.00	500.00
EMPLOYEES			-			
Accrued Payroll Taxes	577.32	614.95	4,435.96	4,542.61	(106.65)	7,400.00
Employee Wages	7,546.86	7,883.76	52,616.02	52,412.14	203.88	89,990.00
Employee 403B Contribution	187.14	175.00	1,303.27	1,225.00	78.27	2,100.00
Employee Health Benefit	817.00	853.04	5,755.04	6,110.22	(355.18)	10,236.00
Insurance-Worker's Comp	66.00	50.00	430.00	386.50	43.50	850.00
Total Expense	12,067.10	12,513.26	86,114.11	88,803.25	(2,689.14)	148,349.00
Net Ordinary Revenue	(1,241.79)	(2,879.55)	(13,347.16)	(16,438.47)	3,091.31	(18,290.00)
Other Revenue/Expense						
Literature Revenue/Expense						
Sales (see schedule)	2,166.18	2,082.29	13,727.03	14,215.20	(488.17)	25,540.00
	2,166.18	2,082.29	13,727.03	14,215.20	(488.17)	25,540.00
Standing Committees Expense						
Committee (see schedule)	667.04	495.86	3,625.43	5,406.96	(1,781.53)	7,250.00
Total Other Expense	667.04	495.86	3,625.43	5,406.96	(1,781.53)	7,250.00
Net Other Revenue	1,499.14	1,586.43	10,101.60	8,808.24	1,293.36	18,290.00
Net Revenue	257.35	(1,293.12)	(3,245.56)	(7,630.23)	4,384.67	-
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Group	July '11	Ytd 11	Group	July '11	Ytd 11
11 <sup>th</sup> Step Journey-2622	-	325.00	Eye Opener Group – 607	60.00	349.50
11 <sup>th</sup> Step Meeting – 2322	-	50.00	Faculty Group – 1645	-	70.20
4077 Mash Step 11(read-meditate-share)	-	41.50	Fletcher Hills Smokeless – 59	-	30.00
A Womens Meeting – 1717	-	232.69	Fourth Dimension Group – 2415	-	501.75
Adams Avenue Big Book Study – 1892	100.00	200.00	Free At Last – 2888	48.77	168.26
Allied Gardens Friday Lunch – 766	-	200.00	Free on Friday – 760	-	67.00
Allied Gardens Step Study – 1629	-	250.00	Free To Be – 935	-	67.35
Annual Grateful Meeting - 2461	-	76.00	Fresh Air Friday – 266	-	500.00
Another New Beginning – 144	-	50.00	Fresh Start Beginners – 2609	-	632.65
Artists in Sobriety – 2459	-	37.00	Fri Noon Living Sober – 2767	-	25.00
As Bill Sees It (University Heights) - 1788	-	50.00	Friday Happy Hour – 2821	-	50.00
As Bill Sees It (Coronado) – 2780	50.00	150.00	Friday Morning Womens – 104	_	288.00
At Home Mens – 215	90.00	90.00	Friday Night Irregulars – 2889	50.00	115.00
B.Y.O.B. – 203	-	200.00	Friday Night Santee – 1754	30.00	360.00
Back to Basics – 1026	_	1,250.00	Friday Nite Weeks End – 1856	-	60.00
Back to Basics for Women – 1675	_	50.00	Gilman Group – Fri 1988	50.87	138.47
Balboa Breakfast – 2721	_	252.55	Golden Hill Sun Discussion – 1706	-	135.00
Battery Chargers – 98	-	400.00	Goldmine Speakers – 2613	<u>-</u>	44.00
Battery Chargers Thanksgiving Alkathon	_	8.00	Good Fortune Hui Group – 491	_	400.00
		100.00		-	73.95
Bayside Big Book Study – 1610	-	60.00	Good Morning AA – 1888	90.00	150.00
Beginners Steps To Sobriety – 1007	-		Great Fact Group – 895		
Big Bon-Fire Meeting – 1894	- 75 00	286.00	Happy, Joyous & Free – 363	-	75.00
Big Book & 12 x 12 Study – 100	75.00	95.00	Harmony Group – 585	183.74	328.95
Bonita Boozers – 2179	-	100.00	Haul Your Hiney Out of Bed – 704	-	50.00
Bonita Womens Big Book – 2734	-	29.31	Hi-Nooners – 673	-	28.00
Breakfast Of Champions – 2818	-	600.00	How It Is – 960	100.00	100.00
Cajon View Open Disc – 471	-	75.00	How It Is Now Speakers – 390	-	140.00
Carrying the Message – 2458	-	216.00	Hwy 80 AA – 2722	-	420.00
Casa De Oro Tradition Five – 503	-	200.00	I. B. Up – 2565	-	100.00
Cedar Street Mens – 1698	150.00	580.92	Imperial Beach Group – 79	-	164.13
Chula Vista 4 Min Speakers – 1568	-	350.00	Jamul Open – 63	-	100.00
Citizens Again – 2658	-	182.50	Judges Big Book – 2736	-	10.00
Clairemont Daytime Step Study – 427	-	120.00	Jump Start – 2174	-	200.00
Clairemont Discussion – 314	-	150.00	Kelton Ave Big Book Study – 2410	-	86.35
Clairemont Mens – 301	300.00	900.00	La Jolla Basic B/B Study – 2154	200.00	380.00
Clairemont Mesa Step Study – 1997	-	50.00	La Jolla Beginners Group – 82	-	400.00
Clairemont Mixed Discussion – 338	-	125.00	La Jolla Beginners Womens – 83	133.00	133.00
Clairemont Wednesday Group – 303	-	115.00	La Jolla Discussion Group – 85	600.00	600.00
Clairemont Womens – 340	-	335.79	La Jolla Lunch Bunch – 622	-	219.00
Clairemont Womens Step Study – 341	164.00	234.00	La Jolla Mens – 692	-	75.00
Class Acts – 1845	160.00	580.00	La Jolla Monday Womens – 87	400.00	1,000.00
Coffee Clutchers – 2332	-	450.00	La Jolla Nonsmokers Disc – 88	-	500.00
Come As You Are - 2661	-	40.00	La Jolla Patio Group – 613	-	260.20
Come Get Recovery – 2630	-	50.00	La Jolla Speakers – 578	-	313.39
Conscious Contact Meditation – 2834	_	25.00	La Mesa Mens – 106	81.57	343.87
Coronado Beginners – 344	_	60.00	La Mesa Mid Morning – 2777	-	60.00
Coronado Big Book – 1644	_	50.00	La Mesa Mixed – 2136	_	300.00
Coronado Nooners – 497	_	1,096.20	La Mesa Step Study Workshop – 1621	_	82.00
Coronado Step Study – 1523	_	60.00	La Mesa Womens Sat. Morning – 416	_	150.00
Courage to Change – 2679	_	100.00	Laguna Mountain Group	_	60.00
Cups – 2938	_	825.00	Lake Morena Sink or Swim – 2830	_	100.00
D.D.G.T.M. – 767	292.00	292.00	Lake Murray Lunch Bunch – 2701	_	120.50
Dawn Patrol – 263	97.68	495.04	Lake Murray Womens – 572	91.78	184.28
Diamond St Mens Step Study – 569	<i>31</i> .00	394.91	Linda Vista Thursday Night – 319	-	215.00
the state of the s	183.25	772.02		-	150.00
Downtown Discussion – 1665			Little Apple Group – 1438	-	
Drunks Only – 1605	569.18	1,189.15	Living Free – 477	-	1,400.00
Each Day A New Beginning – 509	233.62	633.32	Lost & Found – 2907	- 	12.00
Early Morning Recovery – 2688	41.38	573.03	Lunchtime Friends – 964	52.40	209.60
Early Risers(PB) –264	-	250.00	Lushes Lunch Thursday – 2807	-	195.41
East County Mens – 1905	50.00	50.00	Lushes Lunch Tuesday – 2641	-	150.02
East County Young People Rule 62 – 2797	200.00	200.00	Men and Womens Monday Night – 95	-	120.00
East Side Group – 101	41.00	151.00	Mens Structured Step Study – 1469		176.00
Eastlake Greens Attitude Adjust(Su – 2712	-	420.00	Midnight Howlers – 1025	100.00	940.00
Eastlake New Beginnings B/B S/S – 2673	-	90.00	Mira Mesa Friday Night – 379	107.50	107.50
Easy Does It Riders – 21	-	340.10	Mira Mesa Monday Noon Mixed – 542	-	40.00
Easy Does It Speakers – 114	-	150.00	Mira Mesa Womens – 411	-	272.46
El Cajon Daytime – 52	-	720.00	Miracles on Mondays – 565	-	50.00
El Cajon Happy Hour – 61	60.00	60.00	Mission Bay Sat Night Speakers – 271	-	160.00
El Cajon Womens Serenity – 77	100.00	100.00	Mission Hills Late Night - 2773	-	180.00
Evening in Harmony – 2864	-	150.00	Mission Hills Lunch Bunch – 2675	250.00	1,900.00
Evening Serenity – 2305	224.89	224.89	Monday At A Time – 2875	60.00	240.00

### **Group Contributions July 2011**

	Group	Commi	buttons buly 2011		
Group	July '11	Ytd 11	Group	July '11	Ytd 11
Monday Mens Gut Level Group – 677	-	100.00	Step Sisters – 2155	-	196.00
Monday Night Young Book Study – 2345	-	20.00	Straight Shooters – 198	110.00	110.00
Monday Night Young People's StepStudy-2618 Monday Nite Live – 643	-	73.01 150.00	Sunday Beach Sun-Day – 568 Sunday Midday – 161	-	1,000.00 200.00
Morning Attitude Adjustment – 768	-	575.00	Sunday Morning at the Grove – 117	50.00	100.00
Mother Earth Viejas Rez- 2019	-	10.00	Sunday Morning Eleventh Step – 1206	-	270.00
Mt Soledad Mens – 717	350.00	1,050.00	Sunday Morning Spiritual Meeting – 1700	-	150.00
National City Maintenance – 136	85.00	170.00	Sunday Night Discussion – 212	50.00	50.00
OB Womens Step Study – 2730	50.00	50.00	Sunrise Promises – 2166	-	630.00
Ocean Beach Tuesday – 246	-	100.00	Sweet Surrender Speakers – 2254	-	70.00
Old Timers Breakfast – 2828	-	50.00	Thankful Thursdays – 2542	-	75.00
Old Timers Group – 2037	-	100.00	The Campus Meeting – 2911	-	78.44
Old Town Speakers – 321	-	500.00	The Grapevine – 2794	25.00	25.00
On The Corner – 2384	90.00	167.40	The Hole in the Donut – 2737	40.00 -	40.00
One Step Ahead – 715 One Step At A Time Runners – 1664	80.00 -	80.00 159.57	The Joy of Living Group – 2636 Newcomers Rise & Shine – 2702	-	397.50 50.00
Open Minded Mens – 626	-	200.00	Noon at the Grove – 628	-	300.00
Over The Bridge – 2689	127.05	507.76	Nooners Anonymous – 1164	_	229.25
Pacific Beach Weekend Warmup – 725	-	460.80	Noontime on the Patio – 2203	100.00	150.00
Paradise Hills – 392	-	50.00	North Clairemont – 1102	50.00	202.20
Pass It On Big Book Study Group -2860	70.59	644.79	North Clairemont Sat Nooners – 2572	-	50.00
Pass It on Group – 170	-	30.00	North Park Mens – 465	-	460.50
PB Young Womens – 2187	-	175.00	O.B. Friday Night Big Book Study – 1316	-	150.00
Penasquitos 12X12 – 2759	-	70.00	The Other Meeting – 857	-	104.50
Penasquitos Discussion – 871	50.00	100.00	The Womens Room – 450	-	18.12
Poinsettia Group – 2210	-	200.00	Three Legacies Group – 2194	98.00	98.00
Point Loma AA Discussion – 242	-	170.00	Thursday Campus Noon Group – 2387	-	155.00
Point Loma Nooners – 1606 Point Loma Saturday Morning – 1240	-	258.17 90.00	Thursday Promises Promises – 749	-	164.00 125.00
Point Loma Tuesdays Night – 2648	-	271.50	Tierrasanta Big Book Study – 1790 Tierrasanta Friday Night – 2645	105.00	210.00
Porter Hall Structured S/S – 97	_	90.00	Tierrasanta Happy, Joyous & Free – 2659	-	125.00
Practical Solutions – 2398	-	111.00	Tierrasanta Morning Serenity – 2811	40.00	294.00
Progress Rather Then Perfection – 2682	384.00	384.00	Top of the Hill – 41	-	50.00
Pt Loma Fri Afternoon Step Study – 244	-	292.50	Torrey Pines Open Disc – 94	-	200.00
Pt Loma Womens Discussion – 1608	200.00	475.00	Tri-Serenity – 836	-	20.00
Rainbow Group – 570	-	125.00	Tues Night Big Book Step Study – 1813	-	150.00
Ramona Wednesday Step Study – 141	-	20.00	Tuesday Campus Noon Group – 2544	-	155.00
Resentment and a Coffee Pot – 2561	-	100.00	Tuesday Morning Alpine – 440	-	99.60
Right Turn Group – 1900	-	190.00	Tuesday Morning Breakfast Special – 2761	-	120.00
Rise & Shine – 2170 Rocket Riders – 1730	-	545.57 180.00	Tuesday Night Participation – 905 Tuesday Night Primary Purpose – 130	50.00 -	100.00 75.00
Round Table Discussion – 123		142.50	Tuesday Vision 4 U – 2775	-	40.00
Rule 62 Group – 927	_	150.00	Two Bit Speakers – 201	112.93	112.93
S.D. Speakers Meeting – 152	-	269.91	University City Womens – 369	-	250.00
Safe Sane and Sober – 1350	445.00	1,445.00	Valley Girls – 2617	-	222.20
San Diego Doctors Step Study – 194	-	175.00	Wake Up Call – 1932	-	10.00
Santee Thursday Closed Mixed – 145	-	110.00	War Fever – 880	-	136.00
Sat Mens Early Awakening – 2209	250.00	550.00	Water Walkers – 5	50.00	50.00
Sat Night Early Discussion – 336	-	642.51	Water Walkers Too – 1946	-	468.00
Sat Night Live – 2173	-	120.00	Way Up and Out – 415	135.00	185.00
Saturday A.M. Live – 782	-	183.60	We Agnostics – 2096	-	50.00
Saturday Night Candlelight – 1914 Scripps Ranch Men's Two – 2776	-	40.00 150.00	Wed Nite Traditions Study – 2336 Wednesday Discussion Group – 2431	- 150.35	40.00 425.35
Senior Serenity Meeting – 209		100.00	Wednesday Night Closed Topic – 165	50.00	50.00
Singleness of Purpose – 2882	_	70.00	Wednesday Winners Circle – 496	-	502.50
Sky Hi Womens – 1633	50.00	190.00	Weds Rule 62 Lunch Group – 687	108.00	327.00
Smokefree La Mesa Womens – 635	87.72	87.72	White Flag Outdoors – 2788	498.00	498.00
So Bay New Womens – 2325	-	175.00	Wholesale Miracle – 2474	-	83.09
Sober Minded Leather Folk – 1882	-	164.82	Womans Let Go and Let God – 446	-	120.00
Sober Nooners – 196	-	406.44	Women In Harmony – 1807	65.00	215.00
Sober Serenity Seekers – 887	-	378.90	Womens Attitude of Gratitude – 2751	168.13	246.92
Sober Survivors – 2915	-	160.50	Womens Sober Sunday – 731	-	153.00
Sobriety Seekers Step Study – 342	40.00	40.00	Womens Step Study – 296	-	50.40
Sole Purpose Group – 1657	-	95.00	Womens TLC 2814	107.92	210.92
Solutions Not Excuses – 2857	-	100.00 50.00	Womens TLC – 2814 Womens Way To Recovery – 838	-	33.00 104.20
South Bay Mixed Discussion – 36 South Clairemont – 305	-	84.00		_	
Spiritual Awakening - 2275	-	1,024.00	Thank you for supporting you	ır Central	Office
Spiritual Awakenings Step Study -2601	-	100.00	in carrying the message		
Spring Valley Step Study - 125	-	40.00	suffering alcoho		
Stadium Group - 372	-	60.00	Suitering alcono		

2011 I	Holidays - Central Offic	ce Bookstore Closed
HOLIDAY	DAY OF WEEK	DATE
Labor Day	Monday	September 5 <sup>th</sup>
Veterans Day	Friday	November 11 <sup>th</sup>
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 24 <sup>th</sup>
Christmas	Monday	December 26 <sup>th</sup>

#### **BOOK OF THE MONTH**

August: "Daily Reflections" sale: \$7.50 reg. \$8.25
September: "Came to Believe" sale: \$3.75 reg. \$4.25

Revenue and Expense	Summary July 2011
<b>Group Contributions</b>	10,504.32
Individual Contributions	272.66
Literature & Interest	<u>2,214.51</u>
Total Revenue	12,991.49
Central Office Expenses	12,067.10
<b>Committee Expenses</b>	<u>667.04</u>
Total Expenses	12,734.14
July Net Revenue	257.35
2011 YTD Net Revenue	(3,245.56)
· ·	

### **Adopt a Literature Rack!**

Groups may provide information about AA by sponsoring a literature rack for display at hospitals, libraries, or churches...





Your AA Group makes a check payable to San Diego Central Office for \$20.00 and the Public Information Committee delivers the filled rack to the location and refills the racks when necessary.

For more information: contact Central Office at 619-25-8762.

### **CENTRAL OFFICE**

PHONE CALLS FOR July 2011

TOTAL CALLS FOR MONTH 2,102	Meeting Info	General Info	XII Step Calls
From 9 am to 9 pm	1,430	355	18
NIGHT TIME VOLUNTEERS From 9 pm to 9 am	172	114	13

WEB SITE HITS: July = 9,602 Total 957,298

# **September 2011**AFTER-HOURS PHONE GROUPS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
				1	2	3	
				Mission Hills Late Night	Mt Soledad Mens	San Diego Young Peoples	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Adams Ave Big Book The	Over The Bridge	Dawn Patrol	OPEN NIGHT	La Mesa Mens	Water Walkers Too	East Side Group	
We Group	12	13	14	15	16	17	
	12	13	17	13	10	17	
La Mesa Women's Sat Morning	La Jolla	Mission	Imperial	Safe, Sane and	Spiritual	Rule 62	
P. B. Early Risers	Speakers	Possible	Mens	Sober	Awakening		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
South Clairemont  Pacific Beach	Morning Attitude	Rainbow Group	Cedar St Mens	Southern Cal Speakers	Downtown Discussion	Imperial Beach Group	
Young Peoples	Adjustment	•		_		-	
25	26	27	28	29	30		
Clairemont Mens		OPEN	North Park	Harmony	Diamond		
La Jolla Beginners	Drunks Only	NIGHT	Mens	Group	Street Mens		
If your Group wants to answer phones,				Thank			
Call:			Night Time				
	Connie at Co	entral Office (	619) 265-8762		Phone Volunteers For Carrying The Message!		

# September 2011 A.A. SERVICE EVENTS IN SAN DIEGO

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
Every Sunday Comite de Institutiones Oficina Central Hispana 3628 University Ave 6:00 pm Every Sunday Greater San Diego Young People's Coffee Shop 3343 Adams Ave Normal Heights 1:00 pm		Every Tuesday Information Publica Oficina Central Hispana 3628 University Ave 7:00 pm		Archives Committee 6:45 pm Varies  District 9 ARC 298 E. Ross Ave El Centro 7pm  District 12 Church Fireside Rm (alley) 4690 Palm Ave La Mesa 6:30 pm	Every Friday  Distrito 15  Oficina Central Hispana  3628 University Ave 6:30 pm  District 7 Club 1944 30 <sup>th</sup> St Golden Hill 6:30 pm	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Labor Day Holiday Central Office Closed  District 8 Office Bldg 755 Emory St Imperial Beach 8:00pm	Business Committee Central Office 6:00 pm  District 19 Center 3909 Centre St Hillcrest 6:00 pm	Public Information Committee Central Office 6 pm  District 4 Church 7111 La Jolla Blvd La Jolla 6:30 pm	Coordinating Council Church 2111 Camino Del Rio South Mission Valley 92108 Orientation Committee 6:00 pm New Coordinators 6:30 pm Coordinator Outreach 7 pm Council 7:30 pm Area Agenda Committee Central Office 7:00 pm		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Grapevine Committee Varies 1:30 pm	Area Newsletter Committee Keith's Restaurant I-15 & Miramar Rd 6:30 pm Area Finance Committee Central Office 6:30 pm District 6 Denny's Restaurant 901 Camino Del Rio S Mission Valley 6:30 pm	District 10 Church 490 Farragut Circle El Cajon 5:30 pm District 13 Club 9535 Kearny Villa Rd #104 Mira Mesa 7:00 pm	Collate The Coordinator Newsletter Party Central Office 6:00 pm	Area Committee Church 2650 Melbourne Serra Mesa 7:00 pm H&I Committee Orientation Central Office 7:00 pm		San Diego Imperial Area 08 AA Big Day Assembly Church Linder Hall 2111 Camino Del Rio South Orientation 8am Registration 8:30 am Assembly 9 am
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
H&I Committee Union Hall 5150 Kearny Mesa Rd Orientation 12:15pm Business Mtg 1:15pm	Area Literature Committee Central Office 7:00 pm	Contact On Release Committee Central Office 6:45 pm		Coordinator Newsletter Committee Central Office 6:00 pm		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Program Committee Central Office 6:30 pm	C.P.C. Committee Central Office 6:30 pm District 11 Church 8350 Lake Murray Blvd San Carlos 6:30 pm District 5 Church 5050 Milton St Clairemont 7:00 pm	Accessibilities Committee Central Office 7:00 pm	Area Computer Needs Committee Denny's Restaurant 135 Encinitas Blvd, Encinitas 6:00 pm District 14 Church 1475 Catalina Blvd Point Loma 6:30 pm			

#### Things to Do and Places to Go

**Third Weekenders Campout** 

WHERE: Lake Jennings/Helix Water District

**WHEN:** September 16, 17, 18, 2011

**Wagon Masters:** 

San Diego/Imperial Are 8 Assembly

WHERE: First United Methodist, 2111 Camino del

Rio South, San Diego, CA

**WHEN:** Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011, 9:00am,

Orientation 8:00am

**Contact:** 

Woman to Woman San Diego: 37th Conference

**for Recovering Alcoholic Women WHERE:** The Dana on Mission Bay

**WHEN:** Sept. 23-25, 2011

**Contact:** 

60<sup>th</sup> Southern California AA Convention

**Serenity in Motion** 

WHERE: Westin Mission Hills, Rancho Mirage, CA

**WHEN:** Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2011

Contact: socalconventionchris@gmail.com

24<sup>th</sup> Inland Empire Convention

The Courage to Change

WHERE: Hilton Hotel, San Bernardino, CA

**WHEN:** October 14, 15, 16, 2011

Contact: www.ieaac.org

**Local Speaker Meetings** 

Wednesday

Coronado Weds Speakers - 8pm

Fireside Speakers - 8pm

**Thursday** 

Not Alone Speakers - 6:15pm

We Group Speakers - 7:30pm

**Friday** 

Easy Does It Speakers - 8pm

**Saturday** 

Goldmine Speakers - 5pm

La Jolla Speakers - 7:25pm

Southern Cal Speakers - 7:30pm

Saturday Night Speakers - 7:30pm

South Bay Speakers - 7:45pm

Mission Bay Sat. Speakers - 8pm

Two Bit Speakers - 8pm

**Sunday** 

Old Town Speakers - 7pm Sober Camels Speakers - 6pm Sweet Surrender Speakers - 5:30pm

#### **Newsletter Subscription**

Have the San Diego *AA Coordinator* delivered for one year, only \$15.

Name

Mail to: CENTRAL OFFICE
7075-B MISSION GORGE ROAL
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120-2454

The "I AM RESPONSIBLE CLUB" is a reserve fund maintained by the Blood Banks for the use of members of Alcoholics Anonymous and their families in time of need. The strength and availability of this account is directly related to your support. If you need blood please contact Central Office at (619) 265-8762.

If you give blood, be sure to credit the "I AM RESPONSIBLE CLUB" at the time of your donation.



#### From the Coordinator Outreach Chair -

#### **Our Need for Your Group's Conscience**

I am so grateful for our first 100 or so members' participation in the writing of our Big Book. Although Bill was responsible for writing it, the members at that time were responsible for editing it. When it came time to give our book a name, it was the group conscience that decided we didn't want it to be the 13<sup>th</sup> book titled The Way Out. So we settled for Alcoholics Anonymous. Because such a high percentage of the members were involved in that group conscience, I believed we were blessed with a clear vision of God's will – our Big Book and its first 164 pages.

Today we have the same opportunity and responsibility as to the first 100 members did to continue that process by participating in the formation of a group conscience within our Coordinating Council. Our mission is the same as the first 100: to help the alcoholic who still suffers. This is our primary purpose and also the purpose of the Coordinating Council!

To acquire a clearer picture of God's will for the Coordinating Council we *NEED* to hear the voice of your groups' conscience! We can only hear your voice if you have a Coordinator. Currently, *less than 10% of registered groups are participating in the Council meetings!* That might be alright for society at large, but it shouldn't be okay for a program that has saved our lives! Bill W. said that, as individuals, we must hang together or ultimately die we will die alone. Well, I believe that applies to the groups as well.

When your group shares it's conscience with the rest of A.A.; it is providing the strength and unity that insures our fellowship's future.

**Please** participate in the decisions that affect our common welfare and future by sharing your group's conscience with the Coordinating Council.

In Love and Service, Paul H.

### Justice and the A.A. Way by Lisa O.

I heard a speaker the other day confessing some of the experiences he had far down the scale. Reviewing a trail of devastation, bad behavior and broken promises, he said, "When I look back, I see that God has granted me mercy, not justice."

I thought this over. I always believed that justice meant fairness. You know, "an eye for an eye" and all that. Naturally I had to look this up. I discovered there are many kinds of justice. *Karmic justice*; what goes around comes around. There is *distributive justice*: communism in action, equitable allocation of goods.

(continued to next column)

#### Overheard at Meetings...

- I may not be much, but I'm all I think about.
- On anger: I drink the poison and wait for you to die.
- A rich person is the one who knows she has enough.

There are *natural consequences*, for instance if I mistreat others, I'll have no friends and possibly feel guilt. *Retributive justice* is the eye for an eye thing from the Bible: punishment is justly imposed and considered as morally correct and fully deserved, this from Wikipedia. Many people seem to want others to be punished. Perhaps they are driven by fear that if someone doesn't get punished, they'll continue in their bad behavior. Researchers have theorized that fairness is a word wired into our brains: that being treated fairly fulfills a basic need. But then it depends on what your definition of fairness is as to whether justice is achieved.

My favorite concept of justice is *restorative or therapeutic justice*. This is when people get a chance to right their wrongs. Steps 8 and 9 teach us when and how to make amends. For example, if I steal your money and get sentenced to prison, you the victim are still wronged. I haven't paid you back, and even if my sentence is served (my debt paid to society) I might not be able to look you in the eye. In fact, for some of you I'd betters cross the street if I see you coming!

In *therapeutic justice*, the offender (me) gets to take responsibility or my actions. I find a time and a place to meet with the victim (you), and together we outline a plan for reparation of the harm I've caused you.

During my drinking days I went into a place of business and the man behind the counter was with a customer. His electronic day planner was lying on the counter. I easily put it into my purse. When I looked at it later, it said "\$100 reward if returned." I had my co-conspirator return the item for the reward.

When it was time to make amends, I was able to find my victim who was still in business. I phoned him, explained who I was, and asked if I could send him his money back. I explained about A.A.'s program of action and that I wanted to make things right. The man was so excited, he said, "I've known a lot of people to get sober but you're the first to say you're sorry and offer to pay me back!"

I declined. After all, by then I had enough humility to know that an amends was a reward in itself. I could stop looking over my shoulder. I no longer had to fear prosecution. Amends helps to achieve justice, not only externally with material goods and services, but inside us, to repair our conscience and our reputation and build our self-esteem; just another one of the many rewards of working the steps.

#### **And Justice for All**

by Allison Anonymous

I'm a Libra. Justice would be easy f now that I've had the 12 steps. I would know without question what was my responsibility and what your responsibility was when it came to the problems in my life. I would make my amends and too bad for you if you didn't make yours. That was not my problem anymore as long as I cleaned up my side of the street.

As time went by, other people still refused to clean up what I saw as their side of the street. I wondered if I was going in the right direction because I became more and more alone. One of my triggers for drinking used to be when I felt wronged but no one else saw it that way. This feeling made me want to check out. I felt isolated. And now with the program, having distanced myself from all wrongdoers, who still couldn't see they wronged me. I felt isolated again. Then, I realized a powerful statement in the literature that applied to me. "We cannot live alone." I had to let go of my judgment of others and to live and let live if I were to let people back into my life. No one is perfect, least of all me.

I was wrong in my judgment of people and I also realized it was none of my business to deal out justice or judgment. When is it my business to do this? I've thought about this a lot. I have a sober friend who decided to make amends by telling her that her husband had abused kids throughout his life, including her.

Her point was to notify this mom so she could protect her children from this man who had a history of abuse. The way she saw it, if she didn't tell, she'd have to live with knowledge that the kids were at risk and she had never said anything. She saw this as her side of the street to clean up. She didn't want her silence to put the kids in harm's way. And if she had still been drinking she never would have said anything. The result of her amend was that the mom told her she was crazy and forbid her from ever seeing the kids.

There are those whose job it is to judge and enforce public safety. Perhaps my friend should have contacted protective services or some other enforcement agency for advice or help. Who knows?

The courage to change really does take courage. There will never be perfect justice in any situation, just shades of gray.

I also know a man who was extremely violent and abusive. He suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder from his years fighting in a war to defend justice. How do I understand how to judge this man when he breaks the law and becomes a violent offender? I have to rely on our system of justice that I have democratically agreed to use to determine justice.

The point of my article is that I no Longer see the 12 steps as a means to justice. The uncovering of personal defects isn't about judging other people's wrongs; it's about working on myself.

#### The First 1 1/2 Years of My Sobriety...

by Vivian

I carried a notebook with me for the first 1 ½ years of my sobriety and wrote down these quotes from members' sharing. These are the words that were most meaningful to me: alternately telling MY story, giving me hope, terrifying me, teaching me to open up to God and laugh at myself. I read from this list as a 10 minute speaker and have since been asked by many members to provide my manuscript. I am amazed and grateful to provide it.

"I ask God that I may be of service today and that I may stay out of head."

"What is, is."

"Nothing changes if nothing changes."

"I like to self-destruct. I just think it's romantic."

"Anything worth doing is worth over-doing."

"I was fortunate. I didn't kill anyone."

"Some of the things I remember most clearly never even happened."

"I came in here, started drinking coffee, and then I started getting character defects."

"The need to be right is an act of violence."

"Don't come home until I'm right."

"I gave my will and my life over to my ex-wife, and I understood her."

"I have a pause button and I can use it."

"Today's gonna be a nice day since I didn't wake up smellin' dirt."

"Excess is never enough."

"I can't, God can, why don't I just let him – or, I think I'll let him."

"Live my way into better thinking vs. think my way into better living."

"I was mixing my whiskey with Maalox, 'cause it's the only way I could get it down."

"I know this, in a profound way – I don't have another drink in me. I came close to death many times."

"I have to be very careful right now that I don't cross over into another addiction while I'm still getting' over this one."

"If God is your co-pilot, you're in the wrong seat."

# Participate in the San Diego Intergroup Birthday Club.

In grateful celebration of their sobriety birthdays, A.A. members contribute one or more dollars for each year of sobriety.

"Yes, we AAs were once a burden on everybody. We were 'takers'. Now that we are sober, and by the grace of God have become responsible citizens of the world, why shouldn't we now about-face and become 'thankful givers'!

Yes, it is high time we did."

Bill W., *Language of the Heart, p 86*, Originally published in the April 1958 Grapevine Reprinted with permission of The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

Your sobriety is worth celebration!
Name:
Home Group:
Sobriety Date:
Birthday Club Donation:

Mail checks payable to: San Diego Intergroup 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd San Diego, CA 92120

OR you may use your Visa/Mastercard at Central Office.

\* Contributions are limited to \$3,000 per member per year and is tax deductible as we are a 501C3 organization with IRS.

\* F3– Self Support: Where Money And Spirituality Mix Pamphlet Page 9

# 12th Step Workshop

Sponsored by District 8 of San Diego/Imperial Area Assembly

#### Saturday, October 1, 2011

9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

#### Classroom 12

(in School next to church at First & Kearney)

760 First Avenue Chula Vista, CA 91910

### Continental Breakfast

All AA Members Are Welcome and Encouraged to Attend

We will cover the 12<sup>th</sup> Step and what it means to Recovery. Speakers will cover the Traditions, the Concepts, and the 12-Step work of some of our Area's committees.

#### **Driving Directions**

I-5 South to J Street exit. Go east on J Street to First Avenue and turn right. Turn right onto Kearney Street. Turn right into the parking lot that is behind the church at the corner of Kearney Street. Parking at the back of the parking lot and walk to the entrance to the school of the parking lot.

I-805 South to L Street exit. Go west on L Street to First Avenue and turn right. Take First Avenue to Kearney Street and turn left. There will be a church on the corner. Take an immediate left into the first driveway and park at the end of the parking lot.

# A SPEAKER WORKSHOP

Presented by the San Diego Intergroup Coordinating Council's

# Public Information Committee



The purpose of this Speaker Workshop is to sign up and train **SPEAKERS/ATTENDEES** who will present information at non-AA functions, such as military bases, high schools and health/informational fairs throughout San Diego County. You will have a chance to listen to a few experienced speakers and learn if being on the PI speakers list is for you. A short informational session and then open forum for questions.



DATE: Saturday, October 29, 2011

TIME: 11 am – 12:30 noon WHERE: Church – Linder Hall 2111 Camino Del Rio South

(Hwy 8 to Texas St off-ramp, turn right on Camino

**Del Rio South)** 

Mission Valley 92108

For more information call the PI Committee:

# AREA 8 LITERATURE COMMITTEE PRESENTS!

# MOVIE NIGHT

ALLOW US TO BE A PART OF YOUR MEETING OR ON A SEPARATE NIGHT, FOR A SHORT TIME! WE WILL BRING THE MOVIE AND YOU PROVIDE THE PLACE.

ANYTIME, ANYWHERE, ANY MEETING

#### **CONFERENCE APPROVED FILMS:**

YOUNG PEOPLE'S VIDEOS

HOPE: ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

IT SURE BEATS SITTING IN A CELL (17 MINS)

MARKINGS ON THE JOURNEY (35 MINS)

BILL'S OWN STORY (60 MINS)

CARRYING THE MESSAGE BEHIND THESE WALLS

BILL DISCUSSES THE TWELVE TRADITIONS (60 MINS)

AA IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

YOUR A.A. GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE, THE GRAPEVINE, AND THE

GENERAL SERVICE STRUCTURE (22 MINS)

PLEASE CONTACT THE LITERATURE CHAIR, EMAIL TO <a href="mailto:literature@area8aa.org">Literature@area8aa.org</a> TO SET ARRANGEMENTS.

### Twenty-Sixth Annual

# $R_{\rm emember}O_{\rm ur}O_{\rm ld}T_{\rm imers'}S_{\rm tories}$

# Meeting

Five speakers with at least thirty years of sobriety recount what it was like in early A.A. in San Diego

> Sunday, November 20, 2011 1:00 to 3:00 pm

**Torrey Pines Christian Church** 

8320 La Jolla Scenic Drive North La Jolla, CA 92037

Please bring some cookies to share!

Simultaneous English-Spanish-ASL interpretation will be available

For more information:

Email: archives@area8aa.org

Hosted by the Archives Committee of the San Diego-Imperial Area Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous

#### **Directions:**

**From the South** From the I-5 heading north take the west La Jolla Parkway, Exit 26A Turn slightly right onto La Jolla Scenic Drive North Turn left on Via Posada (second left turn) The church campus is on your immediate left.

**From the North:** From the I-5 heading south take La Jolla Village Drive, Exit 28 Turn right (west) onto La Jolla Village Drive Turn left (south) on La Jolla Scenic Drive North Follow La Jolla Scenic Drive to Via Posada and turn



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The San Diego AA Coordinator Newsletter will be available to all AA members. We are sending copies (electronic) through e-mail.

Sign-up for the Coordinator Newsletter email list and mail/or bring to: Central Office 7075-B Mission Gorge Rd San Diego, CA 92120.

(Please include name, contact #, and email)

# Write LEGIBLY.

Hard copies will continue to be available at Central Office.

Name	Telephone #	Email address