

Pass It On...

Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

Website: www.albuquerqueaa.org

Intergroup Committee Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2006

Dave C. (CO-Chair) called meeting to order with Serenity Prayer. Introductions all around.

Secretary – Brian H. –
Review of the minutes for the November Intergroup Committee Meeting as published in November's *Pass It On*. Minutes accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report – Steve H –
Balances statement – good shape. Income statement – Pretty standard month.
Contributions – A little down but generally strong. Expenses – A little higher than income for the month. In the red very slightly for the month; in the black for the year. Thanks so much for the generous contributions by groups and by conventions and other special events. These contributions really do keep Central Office's doors open.
Treasurer's Report accepted as read, by acclamation.

CO Coordinator – Michael W –
Activities Report – A recent upsurge of desk volunteers allowed Michael and Kathy to "cover" fewer than normal shifts. Nearly 90% of regular weekday shifts covered by volunteers (which is excellent – THANKS!). A handful of regular shifts do remain open for volunteers; contact Central Office for details. Trained substitutes are always needed; contact Central Office to sign up for a desk-worker training session. Lots of copies of *Came To Believe* are available; more copies of *Living Sober* are on their way.

Alt. CO Coordinator – Kathy –
The Office is warm, dry and comfortable. Seasonally appropriate decorations currently festoon the Office; stop by, see the décor,

and become acquainted with how your Central Office works!

Activities Coordinator – Melissa –
Thanks to all groups for all the interest and support in this year's Alkathon! The Alkathon has a great tradition behind it and offers ongoing opportunities for essential service for the newcomer at an especially rough time of year. Your support, participation, energy and ideas for the New Year's Alkathon are what will make it a success.

Central Office Alkathon: 12 noon, December 31, through 12 noon, January 1. At the Heights Club. InterGroup Speaker Meeting at St. Timothy's on February 10 (speaker Ralph T.) Potluck at 6 pm; meeting at 7:30 pm. Please donate items suitable for raffle at Central Office. This meeting will benefit the 2007 Area Convention.

Member At Large – Martha –
Alkathon Raffle Tickets are be available at Central Office. Raffle tickets (\$1 each, 6 for \$5).

Pass It On editor – Sally –
With the Alkathon insert, the postage rates were a little higher for December. *PIO* always welcomes submissions (articles, columns, games, etc.); please submit items for inclusion no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Schedule Editor – Al J. –
New schedules out; only about 9 changes this month. We are now publishing Schedules approximately every 2 months. Please submit schedule changes to Central Office as soon as you are aware of the changes, so as to not miss the rolling publication deadline.

cont. on page 3

Volume 69, Issue 1

January 2007

Coffee, Tea and Fellowship

Many A.A. members report that their circle of A.A. friends has widened greatly as the result of coffee and conversation before and after meetings. Most groups depend upon their members to prepare for each meeting, serve the refreshments, and clean up afterward. You often hear A.A. members say that they first felt "like members" when they began making coffee, helping with the chairs, or cleaning the coffeepot. Some newcomers find that such activity relieves their shyness and makes it easier to meet and talk to other members.

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<h2 style="text-align: center;">Corrections Corner</h2>	<p>Central Office Steering Committee E-mail addresses:</p>
<p><i>This space is dedicated to the corrections community — and to be used as a message board to anyone interested in this type of service work.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Men's and Women's Meetings in Albuquerque Need Volunteers</p> <p>Two (2) women's meetings have been established. One is at the Camino Nueva Women's Prison on Edith Blvd., and the other is at the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) west of Albuquerque.</p> <p>A new men's meeting at MDC has also been started on Monday night at 7:00 pm.</p> <p>For 2007, give yourself the gift of service work. Get involved. You'll gain an incredible benefit to your own recovery in the process.</p> <p>For more information and to obtain the paperwork for admittance, contact:</p> <p>Women's Meetings : Carol M. at 615-9494 Men's Meeting : Ralph T. at 263-2459</p> <p>Don't forget the District 11 Corrections Workshop, January 20, 2007 at Harwood Methodist Church from 9 am to 2 pm. It will be a great opportunity to learn more about correction service work. For more information on the workshop call: John K at 890-1490 or Alan S. at 892-0144</p>	<p>Michael W. - CO Coordinator Coordinator@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Dave C. - Chair@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Al J. - Schedule@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Brian H. Secretary@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Melissa C. Activities@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Martha G. Memberatlarge@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Sally - PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Peggy- Specialneeds@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Tom C. - Website Chair anonymous@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>Grace L. - Media Librarian media@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p>John - publicinfo@albuquerqueaa.org</p>

Proceeds from these two upcoming events will go to the 2007 Area 46 Convention

Intergroup Speaker Meeting
Sponsored by Central Office

Saturday, February 10th, 2007
St. Timothy's Church
211 Jefferson St. NE

Speaker -- Ralph T.
Potluck begins at 6:00 pm
Speaker begins at 7:30 pm
Raffle to follow

Please send raffle items to Central Office or call Central Office 266-1900 or Melissa 553-3039

Emotional Sobriety Workshop

Led by Polly P. (Stanwood, WA)
Saturday, February 17th, 2007
9 am - 4 pm
Sombra Del Monte Church
2525 Vermont Street NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

This event is registration free. However, all proceeds will go to support the 2007 Area 46 Convention. Please donate generously when the basket is passed. We will take a long lunch, so friends, new and old, can go hang out. If you want to bring some snacks to share - that would be great.

Contact: Steve T. (505) 888-9786

Central Office Meeting Minutes *cont.*

Al is working to centralize the process of making changes to and maintaining the timely accuracy of the various on-line schedules, especially at the District level. InterGroup Meetings "Special" pricing for Schedules: 6 for \$1.00.

Web Guardian – Tom C – Improvements to searchable, map-linked online schedule of meetings is nearly ready for full launch (currently available through a link at the website). *Pass It On* is always available through the website; a digital archive of 2006 *Pass It Ons* are also available. The website address <albuquerqueaa.org> is published in *Pass It On*.

OLD BUSINESS –

Office Phones: still in process of identifying price/service quotes; will likely keep seeking quotes until early in the new year.

Open Positions on Central Office Steering Committee:

Community Outreach Coordinator (merging responsibilities of Public Information/Non-AA Speaker Requests positions)

Special Needs Chair

John S. (Brownbaggers) stood for Community Outreach position.

John elected by acclamation.

Peggy A. (Women on Wednesday) stood for Special Needs position.

Peggy elected by acclamation.

Members of the InterGroup Central Office Steering Committee must be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous with previous or current experience with the Central Office and having at least two (2) years of continuous sobriety. In addition to the responsibilities of the position, service on the Steering Committee obliges regular attendance at monthly InterGroup Meetings (2 pm on the 2nd Sunday of each

month; at the Desert Club) as well as at Steering Committee meetings (7 pm on the Monday before the 2nd Sunday of each month; at the Desert Club). If a member of the Steering Committee misses two (2) consecutive meetings, without prior notice, the position is automatically vacated and open for re-election.

NEW BUSINESS –

Carol (Sunrise Catchers) – A Women's Meeting will be taken into new Thursday meeting at Camino Nueva (new minimum security facility); women volunteers requested. Orientation for new Camino Nueva meeting will be February 17, noon to 5 pm. Call Ralph T (263-2459) for details.

New meetings needing male and female volunteers will be introduced at West Side facility.

Sally (How It Works) – If we do wish to switch venues for the Alkathon, we will need to identify alternate venues as soon as possible. A discussion about the future role of Central Office in sponsoring and organizing the Alkathon to be picked up at the January.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

BrownBaggers will be seeking a new meeting space, suitable for occupancy no later than August 2008.

ATTENDEES:

David C. (InterGroup Chair/Dawn Patrol)

Melissa C. (CO Activities/Early Birds)

John S. (Brownbaggers)

Michael S. (Serendipity)

Dennis M. (Isleta)

Larry M. (High Noon)

Arlynn Collard (Happy Hour)

Al J. (Schedule Editor/District 13)

Kathy H. (CO Alternate Coordinator)

Michael W. (Coordinator)

Steve H. (CO Treasurer/Tuesday Knights)

Peggy A. (Women on Wednesday)

Sally G. (*Pass It On* editor/How It Works)

Martha G. (CO Member-At-Large/Cosmopolitan)

Beverly D. (Cosmopolitan)

Eric B. (Tuesday Knights)

Tom C. (CO Web Guardian/New Frontier)

Paul M. (Foothills)

Maggie H. (Ladies Room)

Dixie B. (Del Norte Group)

Stacy N. (Native American Group)

Brian H. (CO Secretary/Dawn Patrol)

Please send a representative from your home group to the next Intergroup meeting. We meet the second Sunday of every month, at 2:00 pm, at the Desert Club.

See you there!

Albuquerque Area Business Meetings

Intergroup Rep Meeting

2:00 pm, 2nd Sunday
Desert Club

District 3

2:00 pm, 2nd Saturday
call the DCM for location

District 11

9:00 am, 2nd Saturday
Harwood Methodist Church
420 San Lorenzo NW (at 4th)

District 12

9:00 am, 4th Saturday
Heights Club

District 13

10:00 am, 2nd Sunday
Desert Club

The following contributed to Central Office.....

This data is from October 26 to December 25 and is not inclusive for the entire calendar month!

Groups:	Individuals:
Basement Steps	Anonymous
Brownbaggers	David C.
Cosmopolitan Group	Jackson
Dawning Promises	JD R.
Dawn Patrol	Michael W.
District 3	
Downtown Lunch Bunch	
Foothills Group	Faithful Fivers:
Free Spirits	Al J.
Friday Night Smokeless	Beverly D.
Happy Hour Group	Catherine A.
Happy Valley	Cecelia D.
How It Works	Dan O'.
Jemez Valley Group	Dave N.
Live and Let Live	Emma D.
Lone Rangers	Ilse G.
Old 66 Group	Jim F.
Promises Group	John K.
Seeking Serenity	Karen R.
Serendipity Group	Melissa C.
Serenity Group	Merle P.
Sponsorship and Growth	Nance C.
Sunday Night Serenity	Partha B.
Sunrise Sobriety	Phil & Barbara C.
Taylor Ranch Fellowship	Ralph T.
TGIF (T or C)	Rojo R.
Westside Group	Sarah F.
Westside Noon	Trudy H.
Women's Group	
Women's Sobriety Fest	

Thank you all for supporting your Central Office!!!!

Become a Faithful Fiver

Just pledge
\$ 5.00 a month
 to the support of
 helping alcoholics
 who still suffer.
 It's tax deductible and
 you'll get the Pass It On
 newsletter delivered to your door.
**Checks payable to Albuquerque
 Central Office.**



Thanks for your support!

November Desk Activity

	Nov '06	Oct '06	Nov '05
	This month	Last month	Last yr.
Phone calls	1061	1154	1073
Information	834	921	832
12 step request	27	22	27
Al-Anon Info	26	31	22
Message	47	46	29
Other	127	134	163
Walk Ins	257	226	245
Information	19	18	28
12 step	1	2	2
Al-Anon	1	0	2
Schedules	16	20	9
Purchases	161	133	144
Tapes	3	3	5
Message	0	4	1
Casual	29	24	36
Other	27	22	18
Desk Workers*	86	80	
Regulars	53	52	
Substitutes	33	28	
Desk Shifts*	172	178	
Weekdays	132	138	
Weekends	40	40	
Weekday Shifts*	132	138	
Regulars	89% 117	83% 115	
Substitutes	11% 15	17% 23	
Weekend Shifts*	40	40	
Regulars	77.5% 31	62.5% 25	
Substitutes	22.5% 9	38.5% 15	
Shifts by Michael*	8/39 hrs	3/18 hrs	
Shifts by Kathy*	3/9 hrs	8/32 hrs	

Thanks to all who participated this month.

* includes night phone

Media Library News!

submitted by Grace L. - Media Librarian

The Media Library now has additional compact discs available for check-out from the Albuquerque Central Office. In case you are not familiar with the procedure, for a two dollar deposit per CD you can borrow recordings of speaker tapes. (Cassettes are also available.)

Two of the new CD's are duplications of recordings produced by the General Service Office. First, Bill W. discusses the Twelve Traditions with as much character as he wrote about them in the "12 x 12." We have another CD of readings from the AA Grapevine. These stories examine character defects. For people who like to rip CD's to their computer hard drives, each

track has the name of the character defect highlighted in the article being read. Both discs are stored in the general/historical case.

In the CD binder labeled "Women," we now have June G.. She talks about how she was a "tough broad from Venice Beach," though she got sober when she was thirteen years old. The story of her recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous is touching and humorous.

Mickey B., from London, is now in the "Men" CD case. He introduces himself as a "Limey, lush and a loady." He is funny and popular on the Young People's circuit. Besides, his story includes a generous helping of "outside issues."

In another CD, Bob B. also talks about outside issues--insofar as he has achieved recovery from them through the application of the principles in the steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Two other additions to the library include recordings of so-called icons in A.A. Norm A., from a talk in 1983 joins the CD collection, as well as a particularly funny 1987 talk by Clancy L.

Please consider borrowing recordings from the Albuquerque Central Office. Many people find listening to speakers a great way to augment their program of recovery.

The AA Group

pamphlet P-16 pages 28 and 29

A.A. Business Meetings

In most groups, the chairperson or another officer calls the business meeting, which ordinarily is held on a monthly or quarterly basis.

While some groups may occasionally permit nonmembers to attend, the group may request that only home group members participate or vote. The order of business may include: electing new officers; scheduling meetings; receiving and discussing the treasurer's periodic financial reports; hearing progress reports from the general service representative and other group servants; and apportioning excess funds among the local intergroup, G.S.O. and the area and district treasuries.

Before a vote is taken, it is essential that the members be given all the facts relevant to the subject at hand. In many cases, a few members may be asked to look into the pros and cons of the issue and present them at the meeting. Arriving at an informed group conscience in big matters or small is a process that may

take some time. But it is important that the minority, or dissenting, views be heard along with those of the majority. In some instances, they may even turn the tide. Business meetings generally are scheduled before or after the group's regular meeting. They tend to be informal, but custom varies from group to group. Some groups have tried observing Robert's Rules of Order, a parliamentary procedure for running smooth meetings, only to find that many members are inexperienced in the procedures and feel too intimidated to speak up. Besides, there is the spiritual nature of our Fellowship, embodied in our Traditions and Concepts, which give ample guidance.

About Those A.A. Group Problems...

Group problems are often evidence of a healthy, desirable diversity of opinion among the group members. They give us a chance, in the words of Step Twelve, to "practice these principles in all our affairs." Group problems may include such common A.A. questions as: What should the group

do about members who return to drinking? How can we boost lagging attendance at meetings? How can we get more people to help with group chores? What can we do about one member's anonymity break, or another's attempts to attract the romantic interest of newcomers? How can we get out from under those old-timers who insist they know what's best for the group? And how can we get more of the old-timers to share their experience in resolving group dilemmas?

Almost every group problem can be solved through the process of an informed group conscience, A.A. principles, and our Twelve Traditions. Some groups find that their G.S.R. or D.C.M. can be helpful. For all involved, a good sense of humor, cooling off periods, patience, courtesy, willingness to listen and to wait--plus a sense of fairness and trust in a "Power greater than ourselves"-- have been found far more effective than legalistic

Announcements, reminders, Birthdays, etc.....

Effective Immediately

Native American

7:00 pm Thursday Evening

AA Meeting

has moved to 509 Cardenas SE

Meeting held in the upstairs meeting room
at the Endorphin Power Company

509 Cardenas SE is located on the South side
of Zuni between San Mateo and San Pedro.
See you there!

Seniors Seeking Serenity

Herb B. 1/8/93 14 years

Seeking Serenity Group

December

Kate M. (correction) 18 years
Janis B. 18 months

January

Diane R. 2 years
Dotty N. 7 years

Isleta Group

Frank S. 9 months
Martin 18 months
Raymond H. 18 months
Vanessa T. 18 months

The Fellowship Group

Welcomes you to attend
our
"Bigbook Study"

Every Thursday
At 8:00 pm
Desert Club

Come Join Us
We could use your support!

*Have an idea for a special event
or activity that would promote
Unity, Fellowship, and Recovery
for all alcoholics, in and out of the
program?*

Contact Melissa C., the Central
Office Activities Chair, at 553-3039
and share your ideas with her.

Attention!!!

Spark of Light has moved to
the Desert Club from the Heights
Club. The hours and days are the
same. This meeting meets
everyday from
10:00 pm to 11:30 pm.

See You There!

2007 Area 46 State Convention

contributions can be mailed to:

2007 Area 46 State Convention
c/o Dave Tod
216 Richmond SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Is Your Group Linked to A.A. as a Whole?

General Service Office publication number F-104

Most groups in the United States and Canada choose to be linked to A.A. as a whole by listing the group with the General Service Office (GSO), as well as with the Area Assembly, district and local central/intergroup office (1). Groups listed with GSO have either General Service Representatives (GSR'S), or "group contacts," who act as channels for two way information and shared experience. Once a group is listed with GSO, the group information is shared with the Area Assembly via the delegate. Group information may be first received by the Area, which then shares the information with GSO.

What's the point? Each group linked to the local general service structure is automatically a part of the "group conscience" of A.A. in Canada and in the U.S. through their G.S.R.'s participation in district meetings and Area Assembly. Each G.S.R. communicates his or her group's "conscience" on important matters of policy considered by the district and Area Assembly. During the Annual General Service Conference, the Area's groups are represented by their elected delegate. Groups in our listings are included in the *confidential* domestic directories (2) published annually, which provide contact information for traveling A.A. members. New groups listed with the General Service Office are assigned an identifying service number (ID)(3), receive a "Group Handbook" (through their G.S.R. or group contact), and are included in mailings sent to all listed A.A. groups. For instance, groups receive our bimonthly newsletter Box 4-5-9 that keeps them informed on policies being considered by the Conference, changes to A.A. literature, and when and where their Regional Forum will be held. (Forums are weekend gatherings where current experience is shared). Additionally, G.S.R.'s or group contacts for listed groups receive registration details for each International Convention, held every five (5) years.

How? To participate in services provided by G.S.O. to A.A. groups, it is vital to furnish simple information to G.S.O. through the *Alcoholics Anonymous New Group Form*. To notify G.S.O. when a group information changes, when there is a change in the group's location or meeting day(s) and time, please use the *Alcoholics Anonymous Group Information Change Form*. Group changes should also be given to the Area registration/secretary, and to the District Committee Member (D.C.M).

A New Group: When a new group forms, the members usually take time to decide on the name of the new group, (4) elect trusted servants, plan the time and format of meeting(s), and obtain A.A. literature from the nearby central/intergroup office. A new group may first ask to be listed with the local district and Area, or through direct contact with G.S.O.. Either way works well. When G.S.O. receives an *Alcoholics Anonymous New Group Form*, a copy is forwarded to the delegate of the Area where the group is located, so that the delegate may communicate the good news to the D.C.M. and Area registrar/secretary. Thirty (30) days after group information is sent to the delegate, the group is assigned an ID number for G.S.O.'s records, and a "Group Handbook" is mailed to the G.S.R. or group contact.

Your District: Regardless of how new group information is received, the D.C.M. will make contact and welcome the group to "general service."

Whether the group is "new" or has existed for years, the D.C.M. is the primary contact through the G.S.R. or group contact. Group representatives attend district meetings where they are kept up-to-date on A.A. activities and topics of interest. G.S.R.'s attending district meetings are an excellent resource for addressing group problems and concerns. In matters affecting A.A. as a whole, a group's "conscience" is communicated to the Area Assembly by their G.S.R.

If you do not know how to contact your group's D.C.M., Area registrar/secretary, and delegate, staff members in the General Service Office can often provide that information.

Mailing Address:
General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, New York 10163
(212) 870-3400

Location:
475 Riverside Drive
11th floor
New York, N.Y. 10115

G.S.O. staff members are always happy to hear from A.A. members and groups. G.S.O. has two primary purposes: 1) to serve as a resource to better enable group to carry the A.A. message of experience, strength and hope to the still-suffering alcoholic; and, 2) to provide services to A.A. as a whole which individual groups cannot usually manage, such as the publication of A.A. literature. The A.A. group is the fundamental unit supporting A.A. recovery.

1. To participate fully, a group lists itself 1) with the general service structure (G.S.O., Area and District); and, 2) with the local intergroup/central office.
2. Domestic directories are: Eastern U.S., Western U.S. and Canada. Each group is identified by city or town, Area and district, group name, meeting day(s), and G.S.R.'s or contact's name and phone number. Alternate G.S.R.'s or contacts are also listed. *Directories are widely used by traveling members, so only groups that provide a G.S.R. or contact's telephone number are listed.*
3. Once an ID number is assigned and becomes part of a group's record, the number remains with the group and is not usable by any other group.
4. Guidelines for naming an A.A. group are based on "group conscience" as expressed through the Annual General Service Conference. "The A.A. Group" pamphlet, the basic guide for all groups in Canada and the U.S., suggests that a group avoid choosing a name that might suggest affiliation with any organization, club, political or religious institution. New groups are also advised to avoid names that refer to "family," "double trouble", "alcohol and pills" or the name of any actual person, living or dead" ("The A.A. Group" pamphlet is available at central or intergroup offices or through G.S.O.

Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

1921 Alvarado NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 266-1900

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Monday through Friday

8:00 am to 10:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday

9:00 am to 9:00 pm

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The Central Office is
located two blocks
north of
Constitution and four
blocks east of San
Mateo.