



Pass It On

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albuquerqueaa.org

Albuquerque AA Intergroup Central Office Newsletter

505.266.1900

“No one is too discredited or has sunk too low to be welcomed cordially—if he means business. Social distinctions, petty rivalries and jealousies—these are laughed out of countenance.”

- Alcoholics Anonymous (The Big Book), page 161

Step 3 Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

Tradition 3 (Short Form) The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

(Long Form) Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.

Concept 3 (Short Form) To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. -- the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives -- with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

(Long Form) As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional “Right of Decision”.

On Tradition Three

“The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.”

Editorial by Bill W. A.A. Grapevine, February, 1948

“Our membership ought to include all who suffer alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.”

This is a sweeping statement indeed; it takes in a lot of territory. Some people might think it too idealistic to be practical. It tells every alcoholic in the world that he may become, and remain, a member of Alcoholics Anonymous so long as he says so. In short, Alcoholics Anonymous has no membership rule.

Why is this so? Our answer is simple and practical. Even in self protection, we do not wish to erect the slightest barrier between ourselves and the brother alcoholic who still suffers. We know that society has been demanding that he conform to its laws and conventions. But the essence of his alcoholic malady is the fact that he has been unable or unwilling to conform either to the laws of man or God. If he is

(continued on page 3)

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Finally - **an article submission from a local fellowship member - see "Help Wanted" on page 3.** Thank you Kathy G. Pass It On could sure use some more submissions: an article on the Spanish Central Office here in Albuquerque, another on conventions and what they are like and mean to you and any other appropriate subject.

Speaking of conventions - there are at least 4 that I know of coming up in the next few months (Red Road, Area 46, NM LGBT Roundup and NMCYPAA) - see the **AA Events Calendar on page 6.**

Thanks to all people & groups that are submitting sobriety birthdays for our **Sobriety Birthday List on page 5.** PLEASE talk to your home group and see if it's OK to submit sobriety birthdays each month - years ago, the listing used to take up a whole page. now it's not even a sixth of a page... and you can't tell me Albuquerque or the local fellowship has shrunk in the last dozen or so years...

If your group or district is sponsoring an **AA Event**, please submit full information (event, date, time, group/district sponsoring, details and yes the location - believe it or not, some recent submissions have left out this crucial detail).

SUBMISSIONS for PIO publication (articles, stories, announcements, flyers, sobriety birthdays, etc.), letters to the editor, questions, comments, suggestions and criticism are always welcomed at PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org and will receive a prompt reply and appropriate consideration for publication.

The Third Step Prayer

from page 63 of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous

God, I offer myself to Thee-
To build with me
and to do with me as Thou wilt.
Relieve me of the bondage of self,
that I may better do Thy will.
Take away my difficulties,
that victory over them may bear witness
to those I would help of Thy Power,
Thy Love, and Thy Way of life.
May I do Thy will always!

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Albuquerque Area
Business Meetings

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

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

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

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

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

District 18 - 9am, 2nd Saturday,
St. Paul's United Church of Christ,
2701 The American Rd. SE, Rio
Rancho

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On Tradition Three

(continued from page 1)

anything, the sick alcoholic is a rebellious nonconformist. How well we understand that; every member of Alcoholics Anonymous was once a rebel himself. Hence we cannot offer to meet him at any half-way mark. We must enter the dark cave where he is and show him that we understand. We realize that he is altogether too weak and confused to jump hurdles. If we raise obstacles, he might stay away and perish. He might be denied his priceless opportunity.

So when he asks, "Are there any conditions?" we joyfully reply, "No, not a one." When skeptically he comes back saying, "But certainly there must be things that I have to do and believe," we quickly answer, "In Alcoholics Anonymous there are no musts." Cynically, perhaps, he then inquires, "What is this all going to cost me?" We are able to laugh and say, "Nothing at all, there are no fees and dues." Thus, in a brief hour, is our friend disarmed of his suspicion and rebellion. His eyes begin to open on a new world of friendship and understanding. Bankrupt idealist that he has been, his ideal is no longer a dream. After years of lonely search it now stands revealed. The reality of Alcoholics Anonymous bursts upon him. For Alcoholics Anonymous is saying, "We have something priceless to give, if only you will receive." That is all. But to our new friend, it is everything. Without more ado, he becomes one of us.

Our membership tradition does contain, however, one vitally important qualification. That qualification relates to the use of our name, Alcoholics Anonymous. We believe that any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation. Here our purpose is clear and unequivocal. For obvious reasons we wish the name Alcoholics Anonymous to be used only in connection with straight A.A. activities. One can think of no A.A. member who would like, for example, to see the formation of "dry" A.A. groups, "wet" A.A. groups, Republican A.A. groups, Communist A.A. groups. Few, if any, would wish our groups to be designated by religious denominations. We cannot lend the A.A. name, even indirectly to other activities, however worthy. If we do so we shall become hopelessly compromised and divided. We think that A.A. should offer its experience to the whole world for whatever use can be made of it. But not its name. Nothing could be more certain.

Let us of A.A. therefore resolve that we shall always be inclusive, and never exclusive, offering all we have to all men save our title. May all barriers be thus leveled, may our unity thus be preserved. And may God grant us a long life --and a useful one!

Bill W., The A.A. Grapevine, February, 1948

HELP WANTED

By Kathy G. (local submission)

Early in my sobriety, my sponsor assigned me the task of writing down what I wanted in a Higher Power. She said put down anything and everything I wanted in a Higher Power. She said it was it was important to have a clear idea of what I expected of a Higher Power, before I could start believing in one. I had no idea where to begin, so I finally decided to do the assignment as a job posting and I wrote down what I wanted my Higher Power to do in the form of a help wanted ad. This is what I wrote:

Help wanted. Job description:

This position requires an abundance of patience and tolerance. Need to be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week (no vacations, sick leave, or retirement). Must be totally reliable and dependable. Easy availability a plus. Must be an all-knowing guide, who will always lead me down the right path if asked to do so. Will help me to choose the next right thing and be patient if I make the wrong choice. Must be easy to talk to and comfortable to be around in all situations. Should have a good sense of humor and a positive attitude. Must be thoroughly well-versed in the right values and how to apply them in all situations (and be willing to share this information). Protection services for me and my loved ones will be requested often.

At the time that I did the assignment, I had no idea that my request would be fulfilled ten-fold. My Higher Power has done all of these things and so much more. What a blessing this program has been. Thank God for AA, my sponsor, my home group, and my Higher Power. Today I have a wonderful life that is so much richer that I ever imagined possible when I originally posted my help want ad.

- A grateful friend of Bill W., Kathy G.

"The achievement of freedom from fear is a lifetime undertaking, one that can never be wholly completed. When under heavy attack, acute illness, or in other conditions of serious insecurity, we shall all react to this emotion - well or badly, as the case may be. Only the self-deceived will claim perfect freedom from fear."

-- Alcoholics Anonymous (The Big Book), page 55

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

Intergroup Rep. Meeting Minutes February 10, 2013

Open @ 14:00

Open/ Attendees Michael W.- Too Much for Us, Morgan D.- Straight Pepper Diet, Pam B.- There is a Solution, Colin M.- Candlelight, Alli- Singleness of Purpose, Alan M.- Blackouts Group, Martha M.- Promises, Art L.- El Centro, Michael C.- Happy Hour, Aaron C.- Too Much for Us, Mike W.- Westside, Tomas C.- Cosmo, Melissa C.- Sunrise Catchers, Steven D.- Rebellion Dogs, Tom R.- Seeking Serenity, Henry L.- Seeking Serenity, Susan A.- Woman's Room, Debra K.- Brown Baggers/ District 12, Heather G.- QIOF, Kristen E.- Grateful Girls

Minutes accepted with amendment to change the meeting name "Woman in Progress" to "Women in Progress".

Treasurer's Report - Group contributions were outstanding this month. - Made adjustments after inventory to get the chips properly entered into our system. Past treasurer Dennis has come in to help a lot. - Total revenues: \$10,214.81 - Cost of Sales: \$3,224.66 - Gross Income: \$6,990.15 - Total Expenses: \$5,478.28 - Net Income: \$1,511.87 - Ralph contacted me about supplying a balance sheet. He was also questioning why we put our full financials on the internet. His opinion was that they should not be there. We discussed this at the steering committee and decided to no longer put them on the web, but a more general summary of the treasury is in the pass it on. - I am very grateful for this position. It does take a lot of time, and I never knew how much work it takes for all of us to make central office run. I am happy to be a part of it. - New computer is working great.

Central Office Coordinator - We did a re-stocking order after the 1st of the year. Have a good supply of literature. - Thank you to the groups for the record setting amount of group contributions. - I received a report from intergroup seminar. I did not attend, but have a report if you are interested in it please email me. - Received a call from a Doctor at UNM that takes care of Vietnamese patients that could benefit from AA. I ordered some literature that I will pass onto our community outreach chair to give to him.

Alternate Central Office Coordinator - January's phone calls and walk-ins decreased. But web hits increased. - Phone calls: 829, Walk-ins: 255, Web Hits: 3440 - This month we have been busier.

Member at Large - I have been going into the office on Saturdays to learn the treasurer's duties. I am amazed how organized we are. - This has been an eye opener to see how much support it takes to run the central office.

Pass it On Editor - Absent

Media Librarian - (No report)

Web Guardian - I added the Spanish central office contact info to our web site. - Events are updated. - Resource page contains past Pass It On issues.

Schedule Editor - Absent

SOBRIETY BIRTHDAYS

EL CENTRO *February* - Sean 5 years; Terry P. 21 years; Richard 25 years; Steve 33 years

ISLETA *January* - Diane 6 months; Mark 9 months; Tom 1 year; Tino 18 months; Richard 2 years; Francisco 5 years; Terry 7 years; John 11 years; Jesus 15 years; James 17 years; Lee 25 years; Peter 28 years; Sarbot 29 years; Mike 37 years; Roger 40 years

SEEKING SERENITY *January* - PJ 5 years, Lorenzo C. 7 years; Bruce M. 34 years. *February* - John H. 9 months; Kelly K. 1 year; Linda N. 31 years

SINGLENESS OF PURPOSE *January* - Paul L. 1 year; Jennifer A. 6 years; Kevin L. 9 years; Julie D. 28 Years

Please submit your sobriety birthday(s) (including homegroup, name, sobriety date & length of continuous sobriety) to PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org.

Failure to properly submit s-b days may result in non-publication.

Community Outreach - Request from a juvenile woman's re-integration center who wants us to provide sponsors. I informed her that we don't really work like that, but I will ask for volunteers to take in a meeting and could potentially be sponsors for some of the women. People going will have to undergo a background check. If you have something that has not been taken care of legally, they will arrest you on the spot. After that, there will be some type training. Please go back to your groups and ask for volunteers for this meeting.

Special Needs Coordinator - (No report)

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS - Steering committee was wondering what the groups thought about putting the group contributions list in the Pass It On. Go back to your groups and ask. - It used to be done quarterly. We could go back to that if you want. - Yes, I think quarterly would be nice. - Debra- When your groups submit your group birthdays, Steve will not post them until the next month. - Thomas- District 3 is volunteering to host an intergroup speaker meeting at Cosmo. I will bring flyers and a set date next month.

GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

PI & Cooperation with Professional Community committee meeting February 23rd at 9:30am. Will be at Isleta club after Sunrise catchers meeting. We are working with some people to try to integrate A.A. more into the community. Will be starting with providing meeting schedules and pamphlets at hotels and clinics. **District 13 hosting a service workshop** on Saturday March 23rd called "WTF... What's the fuss?" at St. Marks on the Mesa. Starting at 9am with workshops, panels and potluck. **Sunrise Catchers** having their 17th anniversary at the Islets club. March 16th at 7:30 am Potluck Breakfast. Speaker Gary C. will be at 8. **Queer Ideas of Fun (Q.I.O.F.)** hosting Valentine's Day dance with raffle starting at 7pm at Tech Love.

Close @ 1452.

"Serenity is not the absence of conflict, but the ability to cope with it."



Central Office Urgently Needs Desk Workers

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

Call Central Office today
at 266-1900.

AA EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday March 9, 2013 - District 3 Business Meeting Potluck 1:30pm, Meeting 2pm. Hosted by the Sunrise Catchers Group, 1829 Isleta SW, Albuquerque

Saturday March 9, 2013 - Red Road AA Convention St. Patrick's Day Dance 9pm-midnight. Music, Cake Walks, 50/50 Raffle, Snacks. Adults \$3, Couples \$5, Children 12 and under free. Heights Club 8520 Marble Ave NE, Albuquerque

Saturday March 16, 2013 - Sunrise Catchers 17th Anniversary 7:30 am breakfast potluck, 8:00 speaker meeting (Speaker: Gary C.). The Isleta Club, 1829 Isleta Rd. SW, Albuquerque

Saturday March 23, 2013 - WTF: What's The Fuss? (Service Workshop) 9am - 1pm. Ever wonder what service really means in AA? Panelists, Breakout Sessions, Potluck. Presented by District 13. St. Mark's on the Mesa Episcopal Church, 431 Richmond Place NE, Albuquerque

Saturday April 13, 2013 - District 3 Intergroup Speaker Meeting & Potluck

6:30pm Potluck; 7:30pm Speaker Ray R.; Raffle after the meeting. St John's Episcopal Church, 318 Silver NW, Albuquerque

Friday May 3 - Sunday May 5, 2013 - 20th Annual NM Red Road AA Convention All AA and AI-ANON Members Welcome! Opening Ceremony Friday Morning, AA Marathon Meetings, DJ Dance, Saturday Potluck Dinner, Pow Wow, Ribbon Ceremony, Raffles. No registration fee this year, and you can register online (at <http://www.nm-redroad.org/>). Ramada Inn, 10300 Hotel Ave NE, Albuquerque

Friday May 10 - Saturday May 11, 2013 - 1st Annual NM LBGT Round-up 2013 "Unity in Diversity" - St. Thomas of Canterbury Church, 425 University NE, Albuquerque. For more info go to: www.nmroundup.com

Saturday April 13, 2013 - Corrections Mini-Conference 8am - 3pm, Daniel Fernandez Park, Los Lunas

Friday June 7 - Sunday June 9, 2013 - Area 46 New Mexico State Convention Events & Activities: Speaker Meetings, Young Peoples Meetings & Speaker, Area 46 Talent Show, Art Raffle, Workshops, Saturday Evening Banquet & Dancing, Meditation & Alcahion Meetings, AI-anon Meetings, Hospitality Room. Full program is available at www.nmaastateconvention2013.org - Sagebrush Conference Center 1508 Paseo Del Pueblo Sur, Taos, NM. Hosted by District 14

Friday August 7 - Sunday August 9, 2013 - New Mexico Conference of Young People in AA (NMCYPAA) 2013 Convention Warehouse 21, 1614 Paseo De Peralta, Santa Fe. For more info: www.nmcpaa.com

For more and/or updated information on Albuquerque and New Mexico AA Events go to:

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

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

January 2013

Monthly Service Activities Report

PHONE CALLS	JAN13	DEC12	JAN12
Information	661	706	792
12-Step	14	12	16
AI-Anon	15	16	10
Message	27	38	35
Other	112	126	93
TOTAL	829	898	946

WALK INS

Information	13	25	30
12-Step	1	0	3
AI-Anon	0	1	0
Get Schedule	11	14	13
Purchase	154	160	181
Media	1	2	3
Message	17	1	2
Casual	16	30	43
Other	42	31	23
TOTAL	255	264	293

ALBUQUERQUEAA.ORG WEB STATS

Unique Visitors	3440	3303	2993
Number of Visits	6115		
Pages	23,509		

DESK WORKERS*

Regulars	44	47	49
Substitutes	37	32	50
TOTAL	81	79	99

DESK SHIFTS*

Weekdays	138	126	132
Weekends	40	50	45
TOTAL	178	176	177

WEEKDAY SHIFTS*

Worked by Regulars	128(93%)	161(91%)	113(79%)
Worked by Substitutes	10(7%)	15(9%)	19(21%)
TOTAL	138	176	132

WEEKEND SHIFTS*

Worked by Regulars	34(85%)	42(84%)	38(87%)
Worked by Substitutes	6(15%)	8(16%)	7(13%)
TOTAL	40	50	45

SHIFTS WORKED BY MICHAEL

3 - 3 hr (9)	6hrs	18hrs
2 - 2hr (4)	4	0
Night - 0	0	0

SHIFTS WORKED BY PAM

2 - 3 hr (6)	6hrs	12hrs
1 - 2hr (2)	4	0
Night - 0	0	0

TOTAL	19 hours	16 hours	30 hours
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NIGHT SHIFTS NOT COVERED	1	0	0
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*INCLUDES NIGHT PHONE

Advice is like snow; the softer it falls the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind.

- Samuel T. Coleridge



20th Annual NM Red Road AA Convention

May 3-5, 2013

Your generous support has allowed us to have no registration fee again this year!



Registration donations can be sent to our mailing address or you can make a donation when you pick up your name badge.

All AA and AI-ANON Members Welcome!
Opening Ceremony Friday Morning, AA Marathon Meetings,
DJ Dance, Saturday Potluck Dinner, Pow Wow,
Ribbon Ceremony, Raffles

Ramada Inn 10300 Hotel Ave NE Albuquerque, NM 87123 (Eubank & I-40)
Hotel Reservations 1-(800) 877-4852 or (505) 296-4852
Discounted Room Rates Available, mention the Red Road Convention

Contacts: Chair: David K..
Registration: Cecil R.

chair@nm-redroad.org
registration@nm-redroad.org

2013 Mailing address: Red Road Convention, PO Box 20292, Albuquerque, NM 87154
First Name Last Name

Name on Name Badge (if blank, we'll use First Name & Last Initial)

Email (Give us your email & we'll send you updates)

Address *

City

State

Zip Code

Program (Check all that apply) *

AA

AI-Anon

Alateen

Other

HELP REDUCE PAPER, POSTAGE AND NAME BADGE PICKUP TIME - REGISTER ONLINE

www.nm-redroad.org

Let us know you're coming. There is no registration fee this year.

Albuquerque Central Office
1921 Alvarado NE
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www.AlbuquerqueAA.org
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Albuquerque Intergroup Central Office

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

(505) 266-1900

www.AlbuquerqueAA.org

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