

Pass It On...

Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

Website: www.albuquerqueaa.org

Intergroup Committee Meeting Minutes

8/2/07

Submitted By Brian H. – Secretary

David C – Chair

David opened the meeting at 2:04.

Brian – Secretary –

Review of July meeting Minutes as published in August *Pass It On*. Minutes accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer’s Report – Steve H.

July brought the month into the black, for the first time in some time. We are still in the Red for the year. Group contributions for the month really came in; thanks for all Group and Individual contributions. Your generosity keeps Central Office open!

Michael W – Coordinator’s Report

Desk Activity report for the month of July: pretty standard.

Night Phones are back up to strength, for the most part, largely because several deskworkers have taken on night shifts, effectively doubling up their service commitments. One group has stepped forward to volunteer to take responsibility for one night phone shift per month – this is the model that Michael thinks advisable for the future. Despite this respite, we are still seeking Night Phone volunteers. Call Central Office for details on Night Phone volunteer opportunities, as well as for other service opportunities at Central Office. A new literature order forth-coming shortly. We are told that an InterGroup Benefit is in the planning stages, involving all the Districts, to benefit Central Office, in thanks for all the support that Central Office provided the recent Area 46 assembly.

Kathy – Alt. Coordinator’s Report --

Working on getting more shelves up in Central Office. Also at work updating the Referral Rolodex. Thanks!

Melissa – Activities Coordinator

To all who contributed to and participated in the success of the recent annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic: THANKS!!! Old-Timer’s Meeting – Saturday, August 18 – 1:30-5:00 pm at The Heights Club. Fall InterGroup Speaker Meeting (sponsored by Central Office) – Saturday, September 15 – potluck at 6 pm, speaker at 7:30 pm. Winter InterGroup Speaker Meeting (sponsored by District 13) – December 15th – potluck at 6 pm, speaker at 7:30 pm. ALKATHON has a location! At Monte Vista Christian Church!!! New Year’s Eve!!! We will have dinner, dance and speaker meeting on December 31 – and, if groups are interested in supporting/sponsoring individual meetings, we will have a marathon meeting. Will be looking for subcommittee members to help with Raffle, Dinner/Dance, Security, Housekeeping, Marathon Meeting, Butt Patrol, Outreach, etcetera. Contact Melissa C. if you want to become involved.

Martha G. – Member at Large

Nothing to report. Helped at CNM mental health fair on one of the four days that John had a table arranged.

Sally – *Pass It On* editor

Enjoy the “Mix & Match” quote game in the August *Pass It On*, as well as an excerpt article about meetings, a big list of birthdays, and a dynamic Corrections

cont. on page 3

Volume 69, Issue 9

September 2007

Essence of Growth

Let us never fear needed change. Certainly we have to discriminate between changes for worse and changes for better. But once a need becomes clearly apparent in an individual, in a group, or in A.A. as a whole, it has long since been found out that we cannot stand still and look the other way.

The essence of all growth is a willingness to change for the better and then an unremitting willingness to shoulder whatever responsibility this entails.

page 115 As Bill Sees It

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Corrections Corner

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.

There is the potential for a new service opportunity in Albuquerque. Periodically, male offenders at the RCC (DWI prison in Roswell) travel by bus to Farmington with a layover in Albuquerque. They arrive at the downtown bus station with \$50 in their pocket and **22 hours** of time before the Farmington bus departs.

If these men could attend a meeting or two during their layover, it would improve their chances of arriving in Farmington clean and sober. There is usually one bus each week arriving on any day, Monday through Sunday. Each bus will typically have 1-3 men traveling to Farmington. They arrive in Albuquerque at 8:30 am and depart for Farmington at 6:30 am *the next day*.

Before the men leave Roswell, they will be given a meeting schedule tailored for the hours of their layover and proximity to the bus station. Should they choose to contact A.A., we'd like to have a list of men volunteers who would be willing to extend the hand of the fellowship. It would then be a question of volunteer availability during the layover on the day of arrival.

If you have interest in being on the list of potential volunteers for this service work, please call or e-mail me at 505-263-2459 or r_trigg@msn.com. If there is sufficient volunteer interest, we will begin addressing the specifics of making this happen.

It is always such a rewarding experience to work with another alcoholic; you'll help them and yourself in the process. Service is the gift we can give ourselves.

Yours in service,
Ralph T.

Corrections Correspondence Service

The GSO staff member on the corrections assignment receives about fifty letters a day from inmates who wish to receive AA literature, make pre-release AA contacts, and correspond with AA's on the outside. Sometimes, it is the only opportunity an inmate who cannot attend regular meetings has to share experience, strength and hope with another alcoholic. If you are an AA member and would like to carry the message by writing to alcoholics in a facility, or if you are an inmate in AA who would like to correspond with an AA member on the outside, write to:

**Correctional Facilities Desk
General Service Office
Box 459
Grand Central Station, NY, NY 10163
or www.aa.org**

Central Office Steering Committee E-mail addresses:

Michael W. - CO Coordinator
Coordinator@albuquerqueaa.org

Kathy - Alt. CO Coordinator
AltCoordinator@albuquerqueaa.org

Dave C. - Chair@albuquerqueaa.org

Al J. - Schedule@albuquerqueaa.org

Brian H.
Secretary@albuquerqueaa.org

Melissa C.
Activities@albuquerqueaa.org

Martha G.
Memberatlarge@albuquerqueaa.org

Sally - PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org

Peggy-
Specialneeds@albuquerqueaa.org

Tom C. - Website Chair
anonymous@albuquerqueaa.org

Grace L. - Media Librarian
media@albuquerqueaa.org

John -
publicinfo@albuquerqueaa.org

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
9:30 am, 2nd Saturday
Heights Club

District 13
10:00 am, 2nd Sunday
Desert Club

Central Office Meeting Minutes *cont.*

Corner. Thanks to all contributors. Contributions are always welcome.

Al J. – Schedule Editor

We are between schedules – new schedule will probably be published shortly after the new month. Mesa Club has been reopened recently, which will likely impact the next schedule – please remember to send official notification of schedule changes to the Schedule Editor and Central Office!!!

The 7th Tradition basket was passed.

John – Community Outreach

Not present.

Peggy –Special Needs

Received one call and also received interest in starting a meeting in a Retirement Community.

Grace – Media Librarian

Made up a form to assist volunteers willing to review audiotapes for content and quality. We really welcome folks to volunteer to review audio cassette tapes in preparation for digital transfer! Service work you can do in your pajamas! Contact Grace or Central Office for details! Recordings of speakers from the recent NMCYPAA convention will likely soon be in the Central Office media library.

Tom C. – Web Chairperson

Not present.

Remember to check the exciting resources available at the InterGroup website:

<www.albuquerqueaa.org>.

Please send flyers of Group or District Events to publish on site.

Old Business –

Night Phones process is moving

forward. Steering Committee Position Descriptions will be available at September's meeting as well as on the web. The elections will take place at December's InterGroup meeting.

New Business –

Next InterGroup Meeting will occur as scheduled (9/9). Please note that this coincides/conflicts with Area 46 meeting.

Special Announcements –

Live and Let Live PICNIC – Saturday, September 18 – Doc Long's Annual District 3 PICNIC – Saturday, September 15 – 8 am-3 pm – Daniel Fernandez Park.

Central Office thanks the Live and Let Live Group for their creative "Thank You Card" following the recent picnic!

David closed the meeting at 2:47 pm with the Third Step prayer.

ATTENDEES:

Dave C (Dawn Patrol/Chair)
Dennis M (Isleta Group)
Melissa C. (Early Birds/Activities Chair)
Beverly (Cosmopolitan)
Al J (District 13/Schedule Editor)
Margaret L (Women In Progress)
Jim O (Live and Let Live)
Steve H (Treasurer/Alameda Stag)
Michael W (Mountainside AA/Coordinator)
Martha G (Cosmopolitan/Member At Large)
Peggy A (Women On Wednesday/Special Needs)
Janis B (Seeking Serenity)
Kathy H (Metropolitan/Alternate Coordinator)
Sally (PIO Editor/How It Works)
Peg (Seniors Seeking Serenity)

Bill B (Goodfellows)
Jason (Young People's Sunday Nights)
Greta (Ladies Room)
Dan (Sunrise Sobriety)
Tom (High Noon)
Eric B (Tuesday Knights)
Grace L (Media Librarian/)
Brian H. (Dawn Patrol/Secretary)

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!

Are you Unappreciated?

If you are an especially active and hard working member of Alcoholics Anonymous, and you are going along, day after day, un-honored, unrecognized and unsung -- may I congratulate you? No higher mark of appreciation could be paid you than to be taken for granted. That means that you are accounted as an inner member of the inner circle, your service naturally expected, no problem about you suspected which might require solicitude or special attention. Of course, such a regard is not very thrilling. The person doesn't live who doesn't like to be appreciated. But this is the way it usually is an Alcoholics Anonymous. The most genuine, the sincerest mark of appreciation is to be taken for granted.

Beware of lavish attention, constant expressions of your value, and overflow of thank-you's.

It may be that you are an exception to the above rule and are just lucky. But it is more probable that people are either not quite sure about your staying the line, or that your reputation for sensitiveness is well known and its demand simply being met.

There are few places where just being ignored is such an honest tribute as in Alcoholics Anonymous.

The following contributed to Central Office.....

July Desk Activity

This data is from July 1 to July 31 and is inclusive for the entire calendar month!

<p>Groups: Beginners Group Cosmopolitan Group Dawn Patrol Dawning Promises Experience, Strength and Hope 4th Dimension Foothills Group Free Spirits Freedom From Bondage Happy Hour Group Lone Rangers Lunch Box Group Old 66 Group One Day at a Time Queer Ideas of Fun Seniors Seeking Serenity Sponsorship and Growth Sunday Night Step Study Westside Noon</p>	<p>Faithful Fivers: Al J. Beverly D. Catherine A. Cecelia D. Dave N. Dan O'. Don C. Emma D. Geraldine C. Jim F. John K. Karen R. Mike D. Nance C. Phil & Barbara C. Ralph T. Sarah F.</p>
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Thank you all for supporting your Central Office!!!!

	July '07	Jun '07	July '06
	This month	Last month	Last yr.
Phone calls	1287	1364	1161
Information	1044	1109	942
12 step request	21	23	24
AI-Anon Info	31	29	26
Message	56	36	46
Other	135	171	123
Walk Ins	279	330	309
Information	17	19	27
12 step	4	0	5
AI-Anon	4	1	1
Schedules	29	30	18
Purchases	165	177	190
Tapes	3	3	2
Message	0	1	2
Casual	29	42	40
Other	28	57	24
Desk Workers*	90	86	
Regulars	51	51	
Substitutes	39	35	
Desk Shifts*	177	171	
Weekdays	132	126	
Weekends	45	45	
Weekday Shifts*	132	126	
Regulars	84% 111	76% 114	
Substitutes	16% 21	17% 24	
Weekend Shifts*	45	40	
Regulars	73% 27	67.5% 27	
Substitutes	27% 12	32.5% 13	
Shifts by Michael*	11/57 hrs	7/31 hrs	
Shifts by Kathy*	5/22 hrs	5/31 hrs	

Thanks to all who participated this month.

* includes night phone

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!**

Paying a Low Rent Is Not Always a Bargain

from Box 459 Vol. 53, No. 1/ February-March 2007

Where but Alcoholics Anonymous would anyone worry about paying *too little* rent? Our Twelve Traditions often fly in the face of everyday behavior, and letters to the General Service Office frequently seek advice on problems that would seldom exist outside the Fellowship. Living up to the Tradition of self-support, for example, has some interesting ramifications.

One group recently wrote with a problem that is not unusual: "For the last ten years the group has been meeting in one of the local churches. We pay very little rent-- much less than what other places charge--and the rent has not changed in the time we have been there. Some people say if it ain't broke, don't fix it, but the flip side is that we should be self-supporting. We have discussed this subject for two business meetings, and have written a letter to the church. The group feels that we need some guidance."

Another group had this dilemma: "We hold our meetings at the American Legion. We have been meeting there a long time, and they will not allow us to pay rent. We have gone so far as to make anonymous donations, but once they figured out what we were doing, they asked us to stop. How can we handle this situation?"

The majority of A.A. groups meet in churches; others rent space from nonprofit and other

organizations, or in clubs organized by A.A. members (clubs are not A.A. entities). For the most part, organizations that rent space to the Fellowship are very much aware of our purpose, and are often predisposed to charge somewhat less than they might for others.

Clear communication is vital. Group members need to explain to the landlord from the beginning that self-support is a cornerstone of A.A. Tradition, and to make clear the reason for not wanting to take advantage of what appears to be a bargain. If the landlord is adamant, many groups have found other ways to contribute, by providing services or donating something the facility needs for the meeting space.

A group that wanted to relocate was presented with an unusual twist: "A facility in town has space available. However, they will not take a donation (rent) directly; they want to draw up a written agreement regarding our possible use of the space, and wants our group to give our donation to a third party they support. We are confused. And we're determined to stick to our singleness of purpose and stay within the A.A. guidelines, no matter how uncomfortable they may be."

The reply from G.S.O. pointed out that many groups in their situation are able to give something back to the landlord -- replacing an air conditioner, repainting the room, providing new chairs. It also raised some related questions. Might the

group, by contributing to a third party, appear to be allied with an outside entity? "Would this rent option create disunity in the group? Could it affect your group's ability to carry the A.A.'s message to the still-suffering alcoholic? What if the landlord wants you to contribute to a charity that some group members personally disagree with?"

Co-founder Bill W. called the group collection basket the place where money and spirituality mix, and it's clear that the mixture is not free of complications. Our Traditions were created to ensure our future -- but observing them often means dealing honestly in the present with questions that are not always easy or comfortable.

"Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

The joy of living is the theme of A.A. Twelfth Step, and action is its key. Here we turn outward toward our fellow alcoholics who are still in distress. Here we experience the kind of giving that asks no rewards. Here we begin to practice all Twelve Steps of the program in our daily lives so that we and those about us may find emotional sobriety. When the Twelfth Step is seen in its full implication, it is really talking about the kind of love that has no price tag on it.

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Announcements, Reminders, Birthdays, etc.

Seniors Seeking Serenity Group

Peg H. 9/10/74 33 years

Seeking Serenity Group

Joseph S. 3 years
 Nancy M. 15 years
 Marv F. 16 years

Isleta Group

Glory 6 months
 Matt 9 months
 Randall 9 months
 Linda 1 year
 Terry F 18 months
 Heather 2 years
 Dennis 3 years
 Pamela 3 years
 Sherry A 5 years
 Eloy 12 years
 Bellina 21 years
 Pat 25 years
 Sharron 33 years

El Centro Group

Ernest V. 8 years
 Jeanie L. 17 years
 Tommy 7 years
 Francis 7 years
 Roberta 3 months
 Sally F. 23 years
 Jesse 9 months



“In the Book”

New Meeting in Rio Rancho!!!

Thursday Evenings 6:00-7:00PM
Beginning Thursday August 2, 2007

Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
 4848 Huron Drive
 Rio Rancho, NM 87144

(Corner of Northern and Huron, North side Northern,
 between Rockaway and 528)

For more information, call Jakki (505) 228-5827
 or Alan (505) 892-0144

Because of the September Assembly, the September meeting of District 13 will be on September 16th at the usual time and place - 10:00AM at the Desert Club

I would be happy to print just about anything in the *Pass It On*....(sources need to be verified.) A deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month. Remember, the *Pass It On* is distributed to groups on the second Sunday of every month at the intergroup meeting. So, if you want your information published, submit early. Thanks!
 Sally G., PIO editor

Answers to 12 x 12 Mix and Match

- A.) Tradition 9 __3
- B.) Step 10 ____7
- C.) Tradition 2 __1
- D.) Step 12 ____6
- E.) Step 3 ____2
- F.) Tradition 4 ____4
- G.) Step 7 ____5

Grace L., the *Central Office Media Librarian* could use your help!

Volunteers are needed to listen to old Speaker tapes to determine which tapes ought to be burned onto a CD for the media library. Call Grace at 315-0333 if you might be interested. (or leave a message at Central Office, 266-1900)

20th Annual
New Mexico Alcoholics Anonymous
Women's Sobriety Fest

Saturday September 29, 2007
8 am to 9 pm

UNM Continuing Ed. Bldg.
1634 University Blvd. NE

\$15.00 registration (includes lunch)

for more information www.nmaawsf.com

Intergroup Speaker Meeting

Hosted by Central Office

When: Saturday September 15th

Where: St. Timothy's
corner of Jefferson and Copper

What Time: 6:00 Potluck (good food)
7:30 Speaker

Speaker: Lisa S.

Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

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

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The Central Office of
Albuquerque is open:

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.