

Pass It On...

Albuquerque Intergroup Central Office Newsletter www.albuquerqueaa.org

“I’ll never forget the first time I met Bill Wilson. I was a couple months sober and so excited, so thrilled to actually meet the cofounder that I gushed all over him with what my sobriety meant to me and my undying gratitude for his starting A.A. When I ran down, he took my hand in his and said simply, ‘Pass it on.’” —FROM A LETTER TO THE A.A. GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

Step 9: “Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”

Good judgment, a careful sense of timing, courage, and prudence—these are the qualities we shall need when we take Step Nine. *-Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions p83*

Above all, we should try to be absolutely sure that we are not delaying because we are afraid. For the readiness to take the full consequences of our past acts, and to take responsibility for the well-being of others at the same time, is the very spirit of Step Nine. *-Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions p88*

This is the perfect way, for me, to remember what amends are really all about. When I have finally become willing to grow up, I realize that amends aren’t about buying my peace of mind at the expense of others. I don’t go dump my trash at my neighbor’s doorstep under the guise of “cleaning my own side of the street.” Rather, I have realized how my actions have affected others and I set out to clean up *their* side of the street. Being responsible for the well-being of others isn’t the unhealthy people-pleasing that I had at first suspected; rather it is the realization of God’s will for me. There I find the peace of mind and sense of belonging I’ve sought.

Tradition 9: “A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

Unless each A.A. member follows to the best of his ability our suggested Twelve Steps to recovery, he almost certainly signs his own death warrant. His drunkenness and dissolution are not penalties inflicted by people in authority; they result from his personal disobedience to spiritual principles. The same stern threat applies to the group itself. Unless there is approximate conformity to A.A.’s Twelve Traditions, the group, too, can deteriorate and die. So we of A.A. do obey spiritual principles, first because we must, and ultimately because we love the kind of life such obedience brings. Great suffering and great love are A.A.’s disciplinarians; we need no others.

It is clear now that we ought never to name boards to govern us, but it is equally clear that we shall always need to authorize workers to serve us. It is the difference between the spirit of vested authority and the spirit of service, two concepts which are sometimes poles apart. It is in this spirit of service that we elect the A.A. group’s informal rotating committee, the intergroup association for the area, and the General Service Conferences of Alcoholics Anonymous for A.A. as a whole. *-Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions p174-175*

Concept 9: “Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

A leader in A.A. service is therefore a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him and help him with his job. Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Consequently, good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better, and it will give credit to the source. Good leadership never passes the buck. Once assured that it has, or can, obtain sufficient general backing, it freely takes decisions and puts them into action forthwith, provided of course that such actions be within the framework of its defined authority and responsibility. Our leaders do not drive by mandate, they lead by example. We say to them, ‘Act for us, but do not boss us.’

-The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated

★ ★ ★ WINTERBASH! ★ ★ ★
INTERGROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP!

WE NEED YOUR IDEAS, INPUT AND LEADERSHIP TO HEAD UP THE COMMITTEE TO PRESENT NEXT YEARS WINTER BASH. TIME IS RUNNING SHORT, SO PLEASE JOIN US AT THE NEXT INTERGROUP REP MEETING (2PM ON THE 2ND SUNDAY AT BROWNBAGGERS). SEE YOU THERE! ALSO THERE ARE TWO VACANT SERVICE POSITIONS ON THE INTERGROUP STEERING COMMITTEE: WEB SITE CHAIR AND ACTIVITIES CHAIR.

WHAT IS SWRAASA?

What is SWRAASA? It is the Southwest Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. What is the Southwest Region? The Southwest Region is made up of 11 Areas that reside in 7 states that are Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri (2 Areas) New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas (4 Areas).

What is SWRAASA About? It is a Service Assembly about carrying the A.A. message at the Group, District, and Area level. We also hear how the General Service Conference (GSC), attended by our Delegate, General Service Board (GSB), made up of Alcoholic and non-alcoholic Trustees who oversee our two corporations the Grapevine and Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (A. A. W. S.) serves to support A.A. as a whole. A condensed schedule follows on the next page with all the roundtable and full Assembly meetings. There are 36 roundtable discussions to choose from which include all of Area 46's standing committees, plus roundtables for service position from GSR down to Trustees. Presentations from Delegates, our Trustee, past Trustees, 12 Concepts, plenty of opportunities to ask questions, fellowship and an ice cream social Friday and Saturday evening

Who can attend? Every member of A.A. can attend. You do not have to be a GSR, DCM, District or Area Committee Chair, Area Trusted Servants or a current or past delegate. SWRAASA is open to all A.A. members who are interested in service and carrying the message inside and outside the rooms of A.A.

Why attend SWRAASA? It is like everything in life until it is experienced—it really isn't known. There is an unbelievable amount of energy and excitement. A.A. from across the region are overflowing with gratitude and joy for being sober, getting the opportunity to carry the A.A. message and being part of SWRAASA. Hearing people from Groups, Districts and Area's across the Southwest talk about problems they have carrying the message, and then hearing others with similar problems talk about the solutions they found to help them improve carrying the message is just one more reminder we are not alone in this journey and we certainly are not unique. It is also interesting to hear other places doing things a little or a lot differently and getting great results, which is a good lesson for me that there is often more than one way to do this effectively.

Reason two for attending SWRAASA this October: we are going to be hosting SWRAASA in 2012. SWRAASA only happens every even year and the last time New Mexico hosted was 22 years ago in 1990. We are going to need lots of volunteers, probably in the neighborhood of 150 to 200 people to make this thing happen. Hosting means we are not going to be able to experience the event the same way we would when just attending. This is our opportunity as an Area to go and enjoy SWRAASA while having the opportunity to really pay attention to how a

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Central Office Intergroup Steering Committee

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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 am, 2nd Saturday, Heights Club

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

District 18
1:30 pm, 2nd Sunday
Rio West Church, 6751 Pasilla Rd, Rio Rancho

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SWRAASA is done, to ask questions, gather some ideas of how we may want or may not want to do things, to talk with people about their volunteer experience and to start thinking about where you may want to volunteer when it is our turn at the Big Party in 2012.

SWRAASA is just really a great A.A. time. Come to the kick off party Saturday afternoon at the September 11-12 Area Assembly in Las Vegas, NM at Highlands University. We are going to talk about ride and room shares. So if you are even thinking a little bit about attending come to the meeting. If you haven't ever been to SWRAASA or an A. A. road trip, come along!

—Alan “Smells like Service” S.

**SWRAASA 2010 SCHEDULE
DENVER, COLORADO
OCTOBER 8-10, 2010**

Friday

12:00 pm Registration Opens
2:00 pm Hospitality Suite Opens
6:45 pm SWRAASA 2010 Welcome and Opening
7:00 pm Delegates Sharing Session
7:45 pm Trustee Report
9:00 pm Delegate Sharing Session
9:45 pm Ice Cream Social

Saturday

8:00 am Traditions 1 & 2, AA History-1939, Corrections, Treasurer, Area/Central Service Office, Intergroup Representative
9:30 am Traditions 3 & 4, Area Assemblies, General Service Structure, Secretary, Grapevine & La Vina, Bridge the Gap
11:00 am Traditions 5 & 6, AA History 1939-1950, CPC, Registrar, Literature, Workshops
1:30 pm Traditions 7 & 8, Service Sponsorship, Treatment, Area Chair, Special Needs, DCM
3:00 pm Traditions 9 & 10, AA History 1950-Present, AA Group, Delegate/Alt Delegate, Linguistics, Website
4:30 pm Traditions 11 & 12, GSR, PI, Newsletters, Conventions, Archives
8:00 pm The 12 Concepts Presentations
10:15 pm Ice Cream Social

Sunday

8:00 am Trustees, Conference Committees, Regional Forums, Traditions Summary
9:30 am Trustee's Sharing Session
10:15 am SWRAASA Business Meeting

Editor's note: Unfortunately I received no submission for either the Y.E.S. or the V.S.O.P. sections this month. That's two months in a row. :(Will they return again? Who knows. I have only a room filled with a seemingly finite number of monkeys with a finite number of computers upon which to type. Perhaps my young monkeys and my old monkeys took a vacation together. Perhaps they are in Vegas now, at some roadside chapel. Would young and old monkeys somehow breed middle-aged monkeys? Who knows!

IT WORKS, IT REALLY DOES!

EI Centro: Rosa-60 days! Frank M.-6 months! Mike H.-24 years! Mike F.-8 years!
Ray S.-9 years! Emil J.-9 months! Tom S.-34 years! **Seniors Seeking Serenity:**
Peg H.-36 years! Paula S.-27 years! **Seeking Serenity:** Stacy-18 months!
Anthony S.-2 years! Brett H.-5 years! Ray P.-21 years!
Please submit your sobriety birthdays to passiton@albuquerqueaa.org

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- The Activities Coordinator resigned for personal reasons. This position is now open. The four main activities are setting up the Intergroup Speakers meeting, the alcathon, winter bash and the picnic.
- Steve P. volunteered to coordinate for the picnic. He is going to need 3-4 people to coordinate grills and ice chests, assist in buying food and creating flyers. If interested contact Steve at 301-8476.
- The outgoing Activities Chair set up the Speaker's for the rest of the year.
- Alcathon is still stalled without a location. There is an ongoing discussion with the Heights Club as a location and partner.
- The web guardian has not been keeping up with the website. The chairman has called him and asked if he is still interested in the position. He has not responded.
- MOTION: Move to remove web guardian from position and look for a new volunteer. Passed unanimously

- "The Blackouts" are a sober variety show that has been revived. Auditions will be held September 26, 2010 at 2:00 pm at the Heights Club. Shows will be at the North Fourth Arts Center in November and December. For more information contact Kevin 962-1864 or Becky 203-3581
- Descriptions of the vacant Activities and Web Guardian positions are posted on the web site.

XV. GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Straight Pepper Diet's third anniversary is September 10, 2010 there will be a potluck and speaker at 8:00 pm at the Desert Club
- "Court Papers" workshop August 28, 2010 at 10:00 am at St. Thomas of Canterbury church. See Pass It On for more information.
- Seeking Serenity step study on Wednesday night is being moved to Tuesday starting in September.

XVI. MEETING CLOSED

- With the 3rd Step prayer.



Central Office Urgently Needs Deskworkers

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.

Annual Central Office/Intergroup Picnic!

Saturday, September 18,
11 am to 4 pm, Alvarado Park

**Hot dogs and hamburgers supplied.
Bring side dishes and beverages!
Bring games and entertainment!
Bring friends and family!**

Call Central Office to help: 266-1900

★★★TALES FROM THE DESK★★★

I HAVE FOUND NO MORE EVIDENT VALIDATION OF MY TIME THAN WHEN I ANSWER THE PHONE TO FIND A CRYING, BROKEN DRUNK ON THE OTHER END; AND NO GREATER HAPPINESS THAN WELCOMING HIM/HER AT A MEETING THE NEXT DAY. —Jason K.

Thrills and chills! An exciting time is to be had volunteering at Central Office!

STRAIGHT PEPPER DIET

The Greatest Meeting On The Planet

Come celebrate our 3yr anniversary with us!

September 10th at the desert club
Beginning at 8pm.

We will be having a speaker
Meeting and a potluck.

BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER!!

ANNOUNCING...

The Blackouts 2010!

"The Blackouts Get The Blues!"

VOCAL/DANCE

AUDITIONS



One Day Only...!

"AMERICAN IDOL" VOCAL
AUDITIONS... PICK UP
AUDITION LYRICS AHEAD
OF TIME AT THE HEIGHTS
CLUB TODAY!!



We are looking for
dedicated people to put
on the New Blackouts!

Bring your talent and
bring your friends!

Join Us on Sunday, Sept. 26, 2010 at 2:00 pm

in the Main Room at the Heights Club

8520 Marble NE

Albuquerque, NM 87112

or call Kevin K - 967-1864



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN!

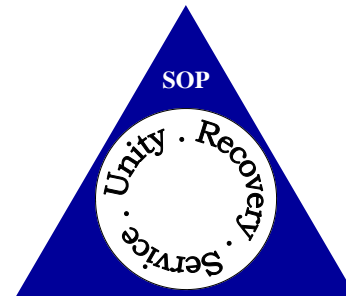
DOG ON THE ROOF GROUP

NEW MEETING STARTING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

Hope in the Desert
Episcopal Church
8700 Alameda Blvd NE
between Barstow and Ventura

A Wednesday Night 12 & 12
Step Study meeting
7:30 to 8:30 PM

NEW SATURDAY MEETING!



"SINGLENESS OF PURPOSE GROUP"

When?

August 7th at 7:00 pm.

Where?

Rio Vista Church of the Nazarene
8701 Golf Course Rd. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114
(just north of Paseo Del Norte & Carl's Junior)

Closed topic/discussion

Based on AA conference approved literature

Anyone with a desire to stop drinking is welcome.

Albuquerque Central Office

1921 Alvarado NE

Albuquerque, NM 87110

{505} 266-1900

www.AlbuquerqueAA.org

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**Albuquerque
Intergroup
Central Office**

Hours:

Monday through Friday

8 am to 10 pm

Saturday and Sunday

9 am to 9 pm



The Office is at
1921 Alvarado NE,
two blocks north
of Constitution and
four blocks east
of San Mateo.

www.AlbuquerqueAA.org