



# Pass It On...

Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

Website: [www.albuquerqueaa.org](http://www.albuquerqueaa.org)

## Intergroup Committee Meeting Minutes

*SUBMITTED BY BRIAN H.*

In the absence of Dave C. (CO Chair), Brian H. (CO Secretary) opened the meeting with Serenity Prayer.

Review of the minutes from the August meeting as published in September's *Pass It On*. Brian H. noted that several names (Michael W, Tom C, & Dondo) were inadvertently left off August's attendance roster. Apologies. Minutes accepted.

Treasurer's Report – Steve H – Checking account and prudent reserve in good shape. Income statement: group contributions and sales strong. The month's expenses ran a little high, due to a backlog of newsletter invoices and move-related Qwest expenses. For the month, slightly in the red; for the year, still in the black. Group Contributions really do keep the doors to Central Office open. Thanks for your support.

CO Coordinator – Michael W – Kathy & Michael back up above 100+ desk hours for the month. Total number of regular deskworkers are down slightly. 2 out of 3 desk shifts covered by scheduled deskworkers; the rest by substitutes (mostly regular deskworkers). Still finding space in the new office. Central Office passed gas inspection (whew). New furnace installed and ready to go; roof issues remain unresolved but being assessed. New, fairly large literature order to go out soon. Desktop photocopier will be purchased and installed once space is identified. Old-Timer's Meeting on Saturday (9/9): great time & great stories shared. CO looking into re-contracting Long Distance phone service and replacing

antiquated telephones. Anticipate additional expenses for telephone equipment & service arrangements. Several phone shifts need regular coverage. (Desk worker requirements: minimum 6 months sobriety, membership in a home group, and a training session. Call Central Office for details.)

- 2 Night Shifts open: Every Thurs night; E/O Friday night
- EO Sat 3-6 pm shift
- EO Mon 8-10 am opening shift

Alternate CO Coordinator – Kathy H – Still settling in & adjusting to the new space. It's a welcome change working with the new landlord, who is very responsive. Thanks to all who, in their service, support Central Office.

Schedule Editor – Al J. – not present (Kathy H. reporting as Al's proxy). New schedule to be printed by mid-October. Get your changes to Central Office no later than the end of the September. Schedule forms available from Central Office or for download on-line; groups can also phone Central Office and give changes to the desk worker on duty. New schedules are typically published about every 2.5 months.

Activities Coordinator – Melissa C. – Intergroup Speaker Meeting (hosted by District 13) happened Saturday (9/2) – a great job, lots of food & a great speaker. Intergroup Speaker hosted quarterly, usually hosted by the different districts, as a benefit for Central Office.

The option of hosting an additional  
*continued on page 3*

Volume 68, Issue 10

October 2006

Sponsorship in A.A. is basically the same, whether helping another individual's recovery or service to a group. It can be defined as one alcoholic who has made some progress in recovery and/or performance in service, sharing this experience with another alcoholic who is just starting the journey. Both types of service spring from the spiritual aspects of the program.

*From "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship" page 28*

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<h2 style="text-align: center;">Corrections Corner</h2>	<p><b>Central Office Steering Committee</b> 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;"><b>La Pasada Halfway House</b> 2206 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW Albuquerque, NM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Needs Men to Help Facilitate its weekly A.A. meeting on Fridays at 7:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For more information, please call:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Janis B. 898-8414 Ralph T. 263-2459</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This may be the most personally rewarding service work you will ever do.</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>No man who has not served time in prison can understand or appreciate the problems that face inmates. A conducted tour of the penitentiary, talks with the men, and even letters to them cannot give one the insight necessary to be of much help. There is always a barrier between: one man has freedom, the other does not. Though friendship can develop, it is a friendship of strangers, and it takes something more than that to bind these two opposites together. This is where A.A. can fill the gap. <i>From A.A. in Prison Inmate to Inmate page 28</i></p>	<p><b>Michael W.</b> - CO Coordinator Coordinator@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Al J.</b> - Schdedule@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Keith</b> - PublicInfo@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Dave C.</b> - Chair@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Don S.</b> NonAAspeaker@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Martha G.</b> Memberatlarge@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Brian H.</b> Secretary@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Melissa C.</b> Activities@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Sally</b> - PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org SpecialNeeds@albuquerqueaa.org</p> <p><b>Tom C.</b> - Website and Media Library - anonymous@albuquerqueaa.org</p>

<h2>Traditions Checklist</h2>	from the AA Grapevine
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**Tradition Ten: Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.**

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really *is* an “AA opinion” on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijauna? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the “AA opinion”?
3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
4. Have I had a similar experience in my won AA life?
5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?
7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?



# Intergroup Committee Meeting Minutes

cont. from page 1

Intergroup Speaker meeting before the end of the year as a benefit for the 2007 State Convention had been discussed. As the calendar is becoming crowded, this meeting may be pushed off until early in 2007.

Alkathon: By the October Intergroup meeting, all sorts of materials will be available for the Alkathon (raffle tickets, meeting slots, service positions, etc). This year's Alkathon will be at the Heights Club, from noon on New Year's Eve through noon on New Year's Day. Old-Timer's Meeting (9/9): A nice event; 19 signatures in the guest book; about \$76 (divided equally between Central Office & Heights Club).

Member-At Large – Martha – Five AA groups participated in the Al-Anon convention over the last weekend in August; everything went really well. Thanks to all who contributed.

Pass It On – Sally G. – Sally is developing a 2-sided calendar page to insert in each issue of *Pass It On*; the calendar will list events happening around town for the forthcoming 2 months. Also, "The Correction Corner" continues to evolve; Sally especially welcomes content from those who are taking meetings to correctional facilities. Thanks to all those who submitted articles for this issue of *Pass It On*.

Public Information – Keith – not present; no report.  
 Non-AA Speakers – Don S – not present; no report.  
 Special Needs – – no report.

Media Librarian/Web Guardian – Tom C. – not present; no report.

Old Business – "Media Library Chair" position: Position available for service, one year of term left and election will take place as soon as possible.

New Business – "Special Needs" Chairman Position also available for service. Any member of Alcoholics Anonymous with previous or current experience with the Central Office and having at least 2 years of continuous sobriety are eligible to serve as Special Needs Coordinator or Media Librarian. If you are interesting in serving in either position, please contact any member of the Central Office Steering Committee or a Central Office Coordinator for details.

NOTE: Beginning on Monday, October 2, the Central Office Steering Committee will meet at 7pm at the Desert Club on the Monday before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month. The regular meeting time for InterGroup meetings (2pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Desert Club) remains unchanged.

Group Announcements – Dondo (Spark of Light/Old 66) – Heights Club hosting another campout at Cedro Peak Campground (off South 14) on the weekend of Sept 29-Oct 1. Contact Heights Club for details. Nominal donation required to sign-up. John (Brownbaggers) – Beginning on Monday (9/11), Brownbaggers will be running a new meeting at 5:30 am, M-W-F. 6200 Seagull Street. Flyers will be available.

Janis (Seeking Serenity/Seeking Freedom Within) – Meeting on Friday night at 7 pm at La Posada Halfway House, 2206 4<sup>th</sup> Street, just north of I-40. The meeting welcomes general support, especially attendance and speakers. Nance (At Any Lengths) – Women's Sobriety Fest on 9/30.

The meeting was closed with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Step Prayer.

- ATTENDEES: Welcome to new Group Representatives; thank you for your service!
- Brian H. (CO Secretary/Dawn Patrol)
  - Kathy H. (CO Alternate Coordinator)
  - Michael W. (CO Coordinator)
  - Larry M. (High Noon)
  - Steve H. (CO Treasurer)
  - Lee B. (Sunrise Sobriety-alternate)
  - John S. (Brownbaggers)
  - Beverly D. (Cosmopolitan)
  - Melissa C. (CO Activities Chair/ Early Birds/Humble Beginnings)
  - Peg H. (Seniors Seeking Serenity)
  - Janis B. (Seeking Serenity/Seeking Freedom Within)
  - Dondo (Old 66/Spark of Light)
  - Nance C. (Any Lengths)
  - Sally G. (Pass It On/How It Works)
  - Martha A. (CO Member-At-Large/Cosmopolitan)
  - Eric B. (Tuesday Knights)

**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!*

Excerpts from Alcoholics Anonymous, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Questions & Answers on Sponsorship, A.A. in Prison –Inmate to Inmate, are printed with permission of AAWS, Inc. Excerpts from The Grapevine are printed with permission of the AA Grapevine, Inc.



The following contributed to Central Office.....

*This data is from August 23 to September 25 and is not inclusive for the entire calendar month!*

**Groups:**

- Brownbaggers Group
- Came to Believe
- Corrales Men's Stag
- Dawn Patrol
- Dawning Promises
- Downtown Bikers Smokeless
- Earlybirds
- Foothills
- Freedom from Bondage
- Group 164
- High Noon
- Lone Rangers
- New Frontiers
- Placitas Group
- Share the Legacy
- Spark of Light
- Sunrise Sobriety
- Westside Noon
- Women in Progress

**Individuals:**

- Anonymous      Emma D.
- Gary                Tom

**Faithful Fivers:**

- Al J.
- Catherine A.
- Cecelia D.
- Dan O'.
- Dave N.
- Emma D.
- Ilse G.
- Jim F.
- John K.
- Karen R.
- Merle P.
- Nance C.
- Partha B.
- Phil & Barbara C.
- Ralph T.
- Rojo R.
- Sarah F.
- Trudy H.

*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!*

**August Desk Activity**

	Aug '06 This month	Jul '06 Last month	Aug'05 Last yr
<b>Phone calls</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>1419</b>
Information	1008	942	1118
12 step request	20	24	47
Al-Anon Info	35	26	42
Message	55	46	52
Other	125	123	160
<b>Walk Ins</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>264</b>
Information	25	27	30
12 step	2	5	3
Al-Anon	0	1	1
Schedules	21	18	11
Purchases	177	190	171
Tapes	4	2	2
Message	2	2	1
Casual	37	40	22
Other	41	24	23
<b>Desk Workers*</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>83</b>	
Regulars	52	56	
Substitutes	28	27	
<b>Desk Shifts*</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>176</b>	
Weekdays	138	126	
Weekends	40	50	
<b>Weekday Shifts*</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>126</b>	
Regulars	83% 115	86 % 108	
Substitutes	17 % 23	14 % 18	
<b>Weekend Shifts*</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>50</b>	
Regulars	62.5 % 25	72 % 36	
Substitutes	38.5 % 15	28% 14	
<b>Shifts by Michael*</b>	<b>16/70 hrs</b>	<b>6/25 hrs</b>	
<b>Shifts by Kathy*</b>	<b>12/64 hrs</b>	<b>10/58 hrs</b>	

Thanks to all who participated this month.

\* includes night phone



# Birthdays!!!!

Seniors Seeking Serenity	Isleta Group	Isleta Group
	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>
Vance C.    10/14/63    43 years Beto C.     10/16/97     9 years	Jerry                      6 months Heather                  1 year Dennis                    2 years Sherry                    4 years Terry                      5 years David                     14 years Bellina L.                20 years Sharron                  32 years	Steve                      1 year Tommy                    6 years Frances                  6 years Steven                    6 years Dave F                    7 years Sally F                    22 years
<b>High Noon Group</b>		
Joe J.                    6 years Trish R.                 8 years		

## The Young People's Step Study... Respectfully submitted, Grace L., chairperson

The Young People's Step Study on Wednesday nights is extremely grateful for our recent guest speakers.

Every Wednesday, from 7 to 8 p.m., we read one chapter from the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Next, we pass the hat and make announcements. Then we listen, for 10 or 15 minutes, to an experienced member of A.A. share his or her experience and understanding of the topic. After that, we ask questions and share.

Cheryl L., from the Heights Club, shared with us her experiences of taking the Second Step. Her sober daughter was also at the meeting August 9, 2006, that was unique and cool too.

Bob M. attended the following week and shared his insight on the value of the Second Tradition, particularly his own experiences in early sobriety. His home group, Free Spirits also meets at

Sombra del Monte Christian Church.

Ben A. joined us from the Desert Club to talk about Step Three. His talk was light-hearted and humorous, adding levity to a grave subject.

Nancy T., of Free Spirits, volunteered to attend on August 30th. She told us some of the history of the account given in the "12x12". And her experiences related to the Third Tradition.

Sean F., of Serendipity Group, shared his story in an abbreviated, bullet-point timeline before telling us his experience with Step Four. We are grateful for his effort to squeeze in the meeting after his long commute from work.

Mary V., from the High Noon and/or the Dry Nooner Groups, attended on September 13th to share about Tradition Four. Her experience with the Desert Club helped inform us.

All of our guests have taught us about the steps and traditions in a way that is impossible just reading from a book. We appreciate the time and effort they devoted to our meeting.

Our upcoming speakers are also anticipated:

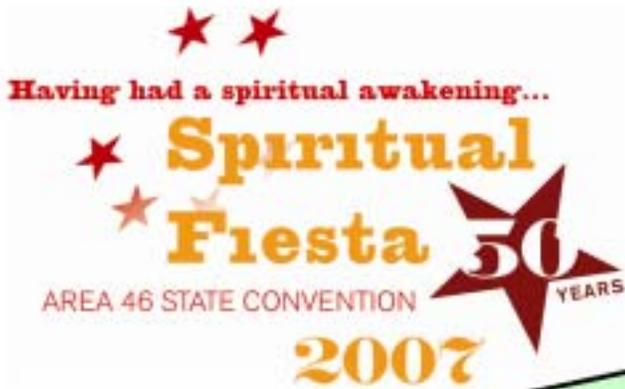
- Step One, Oct. 4, Laura R., Down Under Group
- Tradition One, Oct. 11, Mike McC., Arid Group
- Step Two, Oct. 18, Bobby L., of the Desert Club
- Tradition Two, Oct. 25, Beverly D., Cosmopolitan

We are currently listed as the "12x12 Beginner's Meeting" but have been also listed as the "Young People's Step Study" in the meeting directory. We hope you join us soon!

Sombra Del Monte Church  
2528 Utah NE  
Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm



# Announcements, reminders, etc.....



Come one and all Celebrate in our spiritual fiesta June 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> at the Albuquerque Hilton. We want all alcoholics to be able to attend, so this will be a **FREE** registration convention!

- Agenda Includes**
- Friday Night Happy Hour
  - National Speakers
  - Workshops
  - Banquet (dinner and a show!)
  - Dance, Live Music
  - Marathon meetings (English and Spanish)

- Speakers**
- Bob D. (Las Vegas, NV)
  - Karen G. (Los Angeles, CA)
  - Barbara C. (Rockville, MD)
  - NM Local (to be announced)
  - Spanish speaker also

- Accommodations**
- Hilton \$79 per night  
1-800-274-6835  
[www.hilton.com/newmexico](http://www.hilton.com/newmexico)  
Group/Convention Code: A50
- Fairfield \$69 per night  
505-889-4000
- State you're with the Area 46 convention to get these rates.

For more/updated information send email to: [2007convention@newmexicoaa.org](mailto:2007convention@newmexicoaa.org)

Please help us defray the costs by staying at the Hilton/airfield and/or participating in the banquet.

## 16th Annual District 11 Traditions Conference Saturday October 28, 2006

On the anvils of experience, the structure of our society was hammered out.....

Registration	8:00 - 9:00 AM (free)
Conference	9:00 - 3:00 PM
Potluck	12:00 - 1:00 PM

Main Dishes Provided  
Please bring a side dish to share

Panel of 12 Speakers  
Special Guest Speaker—TBA

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church  
1860 Griegos Rd. NW

For Information:  
Ray S. 573-6989  
Alan S. 892-0144

**Rio Amigos** group of Alcoholics Anonymous in Belen has issued the following challenge:  
  
We have contributed \$100 to the 2007 Area 46 State Convention, and we challenge every group in Districts 3, 11, 12, 13, and 17 to match it!  
  
*Bring it On!*

## Wanted:

Central Office Deskworkers  
**Service Reward**  
Call: 266-1900

**JOIN US NOW!!!**

The Area 46 2007 Convention Planning Committee needs **VOLUNTEERS** for assorted tasks before & during the convention. Please call to offer your support.

**Chris A. 306-5343**

2007 Area 46 Planning Committee meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at St. Timothy's at 1:30 pm

**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



## Just a Comment

by Joe P.

I went on a trip recently and wanted to go to a few A.A. meetings in the cities I visited. I checked the area schedule and noticed they had some new codes. In my area we only have nineteen (19) now. These describe the difference in meetings so we don't feel uncomfortable and it meets our individual needs. I have wondered at times what has changed since I came in 1975 and I believe this is one of

the changes. I am so old now that in some meetings I can go to but I am over forty so I am not allowed to share. One meeting didn't want anyone with fragrances on. I wondered if my after shave was too strong to go. And when I came in I know I sweat a lot and I am not sure of my body odor offended anyone. Another meeting said I shouldn't Philosophy when sharing. I looked up that word : thinking,

reasoning, principles, ideas. Maybe I am stretching a point. What happened to a common problem and a common solution and tradition one that says I have the right to think, say and believe anything I want Maybe I am a old grouch but I think AA will grow only through unity and split into little fractions. So think carefully before adding any more restrictions please.

Thank You, Joe P.

## The Beauty of Tradition Ten

page 118 *The Home Group: The Heartbeat of AA*

Sobriety in AA is the first thing in my life that has really worked. I'm grateful to fellow AAs who've shown me how not to drink on a daily basis, and to alcoholics I've never met who established our Steps, Traditions, and Concepts for World Service. When I live these principles to the best of my ability, they keep me sober and in touch with the God of my understanding.

I'm especially grateful for Tradition Ten, where it is suggested that AA groups never get involved in the messy business of debating outside issues. The wonderful "extra" implied by this Tradition is that I, as an individual recovering alcoholic, am free to simply enjoy sobriety in AA, without having to defend my position on *any* outside issue.

You see, I grew up in the sixties. I lived with my parents (one alcoholic, one social drinker) who were closely associated with a small, left-wing private college in the Northeast. It was a school where expressing your

opinions was very important. On campus, where I hung out as a thirteen-year-old, I heard lots of angry rhetoric about Vietnam, civil rights, and a lot else. My parents brought the same kind of political anger home with them, and challenged me to come up with informed positions on the same issues. I was only an eighth grader, but I was expected to engage in adult-style discussions. If I didn't have an opinion on the issue at hand, I was considered a failure or a nonthinker.

Looking back, it was probably great training for a future alcoholic. I got very good at hiding the things I was truly ashamed of (especially the amount I drank), using a smoke screen of vaguely directed political opinion.

As my disease progressed, I was often broke, unemployed, hungover, and in need of a place to stay. Usually my parents would take me in, and for months at a time I'd live at home, trying to get my act together. Deep down inside I knew I was sick and crazy from booze. But at the time, dealing with it was too

frightening. It was easier to engage my parents in a petty debate over some global issue beyond our control than to draw attention to the real reason I was out of work.

Today, I'm sober and grateful for what it was like, what happened, and what it's like now. I'm even grateful to my parents, who put up with me as an active alcoholic while also living with their own illnesses. But I'm especially grateful to the alcoholics who founded this Fellowship and gave us the guidelines by which we run our groups. Tradition Ten frees AAs to concentrate on what we have in common—recovery, unity, service—rather than waste time debating outside issues. Angry debate of things over which we have no power can only serve to split us.

Matt F., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Tradition Ten  
"Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy."

Other Numbers: Al-Anon 262-2177 Oficina Intergrupala Hispana 266-3688

# Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

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

Address Correction Requested

Please make a note:  
We've moved!

<b>Pass It On Subscription Only \$7.00 Annually</b>			<p>The Central Office of Albuquerque is open:</p> <p><i>Monday through Friday</i></p> <p><b>8:00 am to 10:00 pm</b></p> <p><i>Saturday and Sunday</i></p> <p><b>9:00 am to 9:00 pm</b></p> <p>• • • • •</p> <p>The Central Office is located two blocks north of Constitution and four blocks east of San Mateo.</p>
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City	State	Zip	
This is a gift, Please sign my name on the card			
Name			
Please make checks payable to Central Office of Albuquerque <i>Mail or drop by!</i>			
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