

The Scoop

Published by the Antelope Valley Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Antelope Valley

June 2015



This month's Central Office

50/50 winner is: Ticket # 628451

Name: R. K. Amount \$ 3.00
W E Drew the winning ticket!

The AA TRUTH versus Pamphlet: " WHY WE WERE CHOSEN"

The pamphlet looks into the mind of God and tells us that not the 'famous' or 'the brilliant', neither 'mothers' or housewives', not even 'priests or ministers' nor physicians and scientists, or the eloquent and scholarly are to be given the gift of sobriety.

AA TRUTH is that AA has number of very famous people, including two business tycoons who passed away in the last century many years sober. Additionally, we all know of a number of entertainment figures who have been sober many years. We also have some very famous sports figures, one quarterback in the Hall of Fame and one Olympic swimmer with 18 medals. As to Wives and Mothers; the number is great including the wife of an ex-President. I personally know of many wives/mothers who are sober well over 30 years. Bill Wilson had a very special friend he called 'the little alcoholic priest', Many of us are familiar with Father Martin a man who

WHAT'S INSIDE

FEATURES

Central Office 50/50 Winner	P. 1
The A.A. Truth vs. Pamphlet..	P. 1
Step 6/ Sixth Tradition	P. 2
Daily Reflections	P. 3
Quotable Quotes/Word Game--	P. 4
Office Manager's Report	P. 5
Calendar of Events; Birthdays	P. 6

Please contribute to Central Office

Antelope Valley Central Office
43619 N. 17th Street West, Suite 106
Lancaster, CA 93534 **661-945-5757**

Central Office Web Site:

www.avcentraloffice.org

Central Office Email:

avcentral@roadrunner.com

Email Scoop contributions to:

christman_jess2011@live.com

*(Please limit contributions to 500 words
or less.)*

dedicated his life to helping alcoholics for many years, a brilliant inspirational speaker, we also know that So Cal is blessed by several speakers from the clergy as well as a Catholic nun who sponsors retreats for Fellowship members. As to physicians and scientists, it is well to recall that Dr Bob was a physician. As to scientists, the second man who landed on the Moon had a Doctors degree in a related field. As to eloquent men, Chuck C. was probably about as good as it gets with Dr Paul not far behind. As to scholarly; my home group has one Doctors degree and two engineers, combined sobriety about 90 years.

Bottom line: THE TRUTH is always GREATER than an OPINION !!

By: Arne A.A., 1976

Step 6

“Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.”

“This is the Step that separates the men from the boys.” So declares a well-loved clergyman who happens to be one of A.A.’s greatest friends. He goes on to explain that any person capable of enough willingness and honesty to try repeatedly Step Six on all his faults—*without any reservations whatever*—has indeed come a long way spiritually, and is therefore entitled to be called a man who is sincerely trying to grow in the image and likeness of his own creator.

Of course, the often disputed question of whether God can—and will,

under certain conditions—remove defects of character will be answered with a prompt affirmative by almost any A.A. member. To him, this proposition will be no theory at all; it will be just about the largest fact in his life. He will usually offer his proof in a statement like this:

“Sure, I was beaten, absolutely licked. My own willpower just wouldn’t work on alcohol. Change of scene, the best efforts of family, friends, doctors, and clergymen got no place with my alcoholism. I simply couldn’t stop drinking, and no human being could seem to do the job for me. But when I became willing to clean house and asked a Higher Power, God as I understood Him, to give me release, my obsession to drink vanished. It was lifted right out of me.”

In A.A. meetings all over the world, statements just like this are heard daily. It is plain for everybody to see that each sober A.A. member has been granted a release from this very obstinate and potentially fatal obsession. So in a very complete and literal way, all A.A.’s have “become entirely ready” to have God remove the mania for alcohol from their lives. And God has proceeded to do exactly that.

The 6th Tradition

“An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”

The moment we saw that we had an answer for alcoholism, it was reasonable (or so it seemed at the time) for us to feel that

we might have the answer to a lot of other things. The A.A. groups, many thought, could go into business, might finance any enterprise whatever in the total field of alcoholism. In fact, we felt duty-bound to throw the whole weight of the A.A. name behind any meritorious cause.

Here are some of the things we dreamed. Hospitals didn't like alcoholics, so we thought we'd build a hospital chain of our own. People needed to be told what alcoholism was, so we'd educate the public, even rewrite school and medical textbooks. We'd gather up derelicts from skid rows, sort out those who could get well, and make it possible for the rest to earn their livelihood in a kind of quarantined confinement. Maybe these places would make large sums of money to carry on our other good works. We seriously thought of rewriting the laws of the land, and having it declared that alcoholics are sick people. No more would they be jailed; judges would parole them in our custody. We'd spill A.A. into the dark regions of dope addiction and criminality. We'd form groups of depressive and paranoid folks; the deeper the neurosis, the better we'd like it. It stood to reason that if alcoholism could be licked, so could any problem.

***Daily Reflections* excerpt on the**

6th Step

Page 138: *If we still cling to something we will not let go, we ask God to help us be willing.*

Alcoholics Anonymous p. 76

When I had taken my Fifth Step, I became aware that all my defects of character stemmed from my need to feel secure and loved. To use *my* will alone to work on them would have been trying obsessively to solve the problem. In the Sixth Step I intensified the action I had taken in the first three Steps—meditating on the Step by saying it over and over, going to meetings, following my sponsor's suggestions, reading and searching within myself. During the first three years of sobriety I had a fear of entering an elevator alone. One day I decided I must walk through this fear. I asked for God's help, entered the elevator, and there in the corner was a lady crying. She said that since her husband had died she was deathly afraid of elevators. I forgot my fear and comforted her. This spiritual experience helped me to see how willingness was the key to working the rest of the Twelve Steps to recovery. God helps those who help themselves.

***Daily Reflections* excerpt on the**

6th Tradition

Page 189: *Having learned to live so happily, we'd show everyone else how. . . . Yes, we of A.A. did dream those dreams. How natural that was, since most alcoholics are bankrupt idealists. . . . So why shouldn't we share our way of life with everyone?*

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 156

The real discovery of sobriety led me to feel the need to spread the "good news" to the world around me. The grandiose thoughts of my drinking days returned. Labor, I learned that concentrating on my

own recovery was a full-time process. As I became a sober citizen in this world, I observed a rippling effect which, without any conscious effort on my part, reached any “related facility or outside enterprise,” without diverting me from my primary purpose of staying sober and helping other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Quotable Quotes

I had the right to remain silent, but not
the ability.

I don’t consume the drink, the drink
consumes me.

Being of service consists of giving of
yourself and requires effort and time. –Dr.
Bob

“A’n ‘A’rsenal of friends”

I sought my soul, but could not see. I sought
my God but my God eluded me. I sought my
brother and found all three. - Came to
Believe pg. 97

“We are sure that humility expressed by
anonymity, is the greatest safeguard that
Alcoholics Anonymous can ever have.” –
Bill W.

If I hear, I forget...If I see, I remember...If I
do, I understand.

Made a decision to turn our will and our
lives over to the care of God as we
understood Him., and here’s how I would
like you to handle it!

May I have a quart of rum, a pint of
schnapps, two packs of Marlboros, and put
\$1.34 on pump number 4 please!

I have trouble remembering little
things...like 2004!

Don’t ask me any complicated
questions...like- “How are you doing?”

Take the leap of faith (Make a decision) and
grow the wings on the way down.

WORD GAME

CERTAINLY, COMMIT, CONSUME
ENTIRELY, FATAL, HEALTH
IMPROVEMENT, NATURAL,
PERFECTION, READY, RESERVATION
WILLING

G I A S L R I H Y U R A N
E R F Q G A C A L A T A F
K S E N T I R E L Y E V X
D R N S X W H U T I L H F
H T L A E H D Y T Y M C V
C Y D A E R I D N A V J B
T I M P R O V E M E N T E
I I T F L Y M A C A W I M
J C M N O N J D T L H W U
X F S M G N I L L I W N S
X S S H O I R F E H O N N
U N O I T C E F R E P N O
K N L R Y L N I A T R E C

