



December 2021

Inside this Issue

- 1 AA in the AV/ Step 12
- 2 12th Tradition/ As Bill Sees It
- 3 12th Concept/ Word Game
- 4 Manager's Report

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Please limit submissions to 500

The Scoop

AA in the AV

By: Bruce L., A.A 2012,
 District 7 Archivist



Poster created by San Quentin prisoners

“He was aware of a group called Alcoholics Anonymous who claimed recovery from this terrible disease, and invited them into San Quentin to hold meetings with the inmates.

“After Warden Duffy invited the first AA members into San Quentin in 1942, it was very successful and a few years later an inmate was transferred to Folsom Prison to start AA meetings there.”

“We started to organize because of a problem that occurred with the meetings we were taking out to San Quentin. The story is that two groups showed up to take a meeting into the prison but

the guard informed them they only had one meeting scheduled. The groups went out into the parking lot and had a fist fight!! They were informed by the guard that their behavior was not acceptable and if it ever happened again they would not be allowed to bring meetings into San Quentin. THIS IS WHY WE FORMED H & I COMMITTEE, to schedule our meetings, it was/is to be sure we didn't duplicate meetings or miss meetings.

Thus, H &I was born and San Quentin Group #1 became the first group in the Hospitals and Institutions Committee.

Step 12

“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.'s Twelfth Step, and action is its key word. 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.

Our Twelfth Step also says that as a result of practicing all the Steps, we have each found something called a spiritual awakening. To new A.A.'s, this often seems like a very dubious and improbable state of affairs. "What do you mean when you talk about a 'spiritual awakening'?" they ask.

Maybe there are as many definitions of spiritual awakening as there are people who have had them. But certainly each genuine one has something in common with all the others. And these things which they have in common are not too hard to understand. When a man or a woman has a spiritual awakening, the most important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel, and believe that which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone. He has been granted a gift which amounts to a new state of consciousness and being. He has been set on a path which tells him he is really going somewhere, that life is not a dead end, not something to be endured or mastered. In a very real sense

he has been transformed, because he has laid hold of a source of strength which, in one way or another, he had hitherto denied himself. He finds himself in possession of a degree of honesty, tolerance, unselfishness, peace of mind, and love of which he had thought himself quite incapable. What he has received is a free gift, and yet usually, at least in some small part, he has made himself ready to receive it.

The 12th Tradition
"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

The spiritual substance of anonymity is sacrifice. Because A.A.'s Twelve Traditions repeatedly ask us to give up personal desires for the common good, we realize that the sacrificial spirit—well symbolized by anonymity—is the foundation of them all. It is A.A.'s proved willingness to make these sacrifices that gives people their high confidence in our future.

When the Big Book appeared in 1939, we called it "Alcoholics Anonymous." Its foreword made this revealing statement: "It is important that we remain anonymous because we are too few, at present, to

handle the overwhelming number of personal appeals which may result from this publication. Being mostly business or professional folk, we could not well carry on our occupations in such an event." Between these lines, it is easy to read our fear that large numbers of incoming people might break our anonymity wide open.

As the A.A. groups multiplied, so did anonymity problems. Enthusiastic over the spectacular recovery of a brother alcoholic, we'd sometimes discuss those intimate and harrowing aspects of his case meant for his sponsor's ear alone. The aggrieved victim would then rightly declare his trust had been broken. When such stories got into circulation outside or A.A. the loss of confidence in our anonymity promise was severe. It frequently turned people from us. Clearly, every A.A. member's name—and story, too—had to be confidential, if he wished. This was our first lesson in the practical application of anonymity.

As Bill Sees It (Letters from Bill W.)

Page 252 – Alone No More

Alcoholism was a lonely business, even though we were surrounded by people who loved us. But when our self-will had driven everyone away and our

isolation became complete, we commenced to play the big shot in cheap barrooms. Failing in this, we had to fare forth alone on the street to depend upon the charity of passers-by.

We were trying to find emotional security by dominating or by dependant on others. Even when our fortunes had not totally ebbed, we nevertheless found ourselves alone in the world. We still vainly tried to be secure by some unhealthy sort of domination or dependence.

For those of us who were like that, A.A. has a very special

meaning. In this Fellowship we begin to learn right relations with people who understand us; we don't have to be alone anymore.

-TWELVE AND TWELVE, PP. 116-117

As Bill Sees It (Letters from Bill W.)

Page 79 – *Who's Responsibility?*

“An A.A. group, as such, cannot take on all the personal problems of its members, let alone those of non-alcoholics in the world around us. The A.A. group is not, for example, a mediator of domestic relations,

nor does it furnish personal financial aid to anyone.

“Though a member may sometimes be helped in such matters by his friends in A.A., the primary responsibility for the solutions of all his problems of living and growing rests squarely upon the individual himself. Should an A.A. group attempt this sort of help, its effectiveness and energies would be hopelessly dissipated.

“This is why sobriety—freedom from alcohol—through the reaching and practice of A.A.'s Twelve Steps, is the sole purpose of the group. If we don't stick to this cardinal principle, we shall almost certainly collapse. And if we collapse we cannot help anyone.”

-Letter, 1966

Twelfth Concept:

The conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth and power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

Word Game

12th step

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

IMPRESSION
ALTRUISTIC
PROOF
SPIRITUAL
OVERWHELMING
PROFOUND
SACRIFICE
ESSENTIALS
EXPERIENCE
EMPHATICALLY
FELLOWSHIP
COMMON

December 2021 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Oct '21	Nov '21	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$25,584.43	\$4,004.39	\$29,588.82
Expenses	(\$22,217.95)	(\$3,644.06)	(\$25,862.01)
Cost of Goods	(\$15,658.96)	(\$4,498.90)	(\$20,157.86)
Contributions	\$34,041.06	\$2,022.77	\$36,063.83
Net Income	\$21,748.58	(\$2,115.80)	\$19,632.78



Contributions

Group	Jan - Oct '21	Nov '21	2021 Total
A Gathering of Women	\$0.00		\$0.00
AM/Mid-Day Mod	\$7,156.38		\$7,156.38
Anonymous	\$4,739.67	\$271.40	\$5,011.07
Any Lengths Group	\$85.00		\$85.00
AV Men's Stag Birthday	\$3,359.00		\$3,359.00
Came to Believe - Alano Club	\$0.00	\$4.00	\$4.00
Crown Valley Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
Daily Reflections	\$0.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Dare to be Different - Alano Club	\$0.00	\$17.00	\$17.00
Faithful Fiver	\$210.00	\$270.00	\$480.00
Friday Noon - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
High Desert BB Grp	\$2,664.00	\$969.34	\$3,633.34
Intergroup Fundraisers	\$40.00		\$40.00
Into Action	\$762.09		\$762.09
Joe & Charlie Book Study - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Lake Hughes Group	\$503.58		\$503.58
New Beginnings	\$0.00		\$0.00
Open Door	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Open Participation	\$0.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Palmdale Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Pearblossom Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
PM Mod	\$888.50		\$888.50
Quartz Hill Unity Grp	\$236.00		\$236.00
Rainbow Grp	\$1,143.61		\$1,143.61
Recovery @ The Ranch	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rosamond Sun Night	\$160.00		\$160.00
Rule 62 Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sat Spkr Mtg - Alano	\$0.00	\$39.00	\$39.00
Sun Night BBS	\$0.00	\$16.00	\$16.00
The Promises - Alano Club	\$0.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Tuesday Topic Mtg - Alano	\$0.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Westside Grp	\$80.00		\$80.00
Women in Recovery	\$107.00		\$107.00
Women Seeking Serenity	\$90.00	\$103.00	\$193.00
Sober Sisters	\$72.00		\$72.00
Digital Contributions	\$4,955.90	\$300.03	\$0.00

Cathy C.	12/26/2020	1	Debbie C.	12/19/2004	17
Chelsea N.	12/30/2015	6	James K.	12/25/2004	17
Keith H.	12/27/2015	6	John H.	12/25/2004	17
Judy	12/26/2015	6	Sheryl L.	12/18/2004	17
Jim M.	12/13/2015	6	Arnold S.	12/17/2003	18
Ross	12/14/2014	7	Carvl W.	12/22/2003	18
Steve S.	12/29/2014	7	Faith V.	12/8/2002	19
Derrick	12/1/2013	8	Lerov P.	12/2/2002	19
Janie G.	12/3/2013	8	Mike Z.	12/24/2002	19
Regina B.	12/9/2013	8	Adrienne R.	12/17/2001	20
Denise H.	12/14/2013	8	Donna H.	12/21/2000	21
Angelina	12/15/2013	8	MarvAnn	12/28/2000	21
Geno	12/17/2013	8	Anthony H.	12/8/1999	22
Margie H.	12/24/2013	8	Jerrv M.	12/2/1999	22
Don C.	12/24/2013	8	Brenda D.	12/17/1998	23
Eddie A.	12/18/2012	9	J.J. F.	12/10/1998	23
Jennifer M.	12/29/2012	9	Latovia H.	12/31/1998	23
Sarah M.	12/31/2012	9	Gerrv K.	12/16/1997	24
Stewart L.	12/23/2012	9	Tim A.	12/1/1997	24
Alex W.	12/13/2011	10	Dawn N.	12/1/1995	26
Anita H.	12/31/2011	10	Jim B.	12/22/1995	26
Brandon E.	12/7/2011	10	Anthony L.	12/13/1994	27
Cindy	12/30/2011	10	Jim M.	12/10/1994	27
Jackie C.	12/6/2011	10	Mark B.	12/28/1994	27
Mark N.	12/12/2011	10	Shawn L.	12/21/1994	27
Robert	12/26/2011	10	Arisah M.	12/1/1993	28
Sevasti	12/27/2011	10	Jay W.	12/15/1993	28
Warren F.	12/14/2011	10	Jeff F.	12/2/1993	28
Andy K.	12/22/2010	11	Yvette B.	12/1/1993	28
Cathy G.	12/17/2010	11	Keith B.	12/7/1992	29
Rusty M.	12/2/2010	11	Tauri B.	12/24/1992	29
Diane R.	12/9/2009	12	Alan H.	12/15/1991	30
David S.	12/16/2009	12	Marv K.	12/5/1991	30
Keri S.	12/17/2009	12	Ronny D.	12/11/1991	30
Paul	12/13/2009	12	Augie A.	12/16/1990	31
Luis H.	12/7/2009	12	Ellen H.	12/28/1990	31
Michael A.	12/29/2009	12	Carol R.	12/19/1989	32
Aaron S.	12/24/2008	13	Sherman B.	12/29/1988	33
David H.	12/6/2008	13	Suzie K.	12/14/1988	33
Jeff C.	12/25/2008	13	Randy S.	12/9/1988	33
Christy W.	12/26/2008	13	Tim W.	12/31/1987	34
Jeff P.	12/26/2008	13	Bob S.	12/16/1986	35
Jennifer V.	12/7/2008	13	Dave A.	12/19/1986	35
John S.	12/7/2008	13	Jay W.	12/2/1986	35
Luis C.	12/13/2008	13	Nancy	12/9/1986	35
Nicole D.	12/10/2008	13	Phil G.	12/4/1986	35
Kelli T.	12/10/2007	14	Keith-Scott D.	12/15/1985	36
Rita W.	12/12/2007	14	Susie G.	12/13/1985	36
Sandy W.	12/18/2007	14	Mike C.	12/31/1984	37
Tiffany D.	12/15/2007	14	Nancy S.	12/31/1984	37
Josh R.	6/19/2006	15	Billy D.	12/12/1983	38
Mario V.	12/29/2006	15	Ann H.	12/8/1982	39
Don R.	12/13/2005	16	John	12/31/1982	39
Maricela M.	12/19/2005	16	Kathy H.	12/8/1981	40
Marv O.	12/7/2005	16	Carol C.	12/28/1980	41
Michelle R.	12/25/2005	16	Jeanne B.	12/31/1978	43
Scott C.	12/7/2005	16	Sandy N.	12/26/1978	43
Will S.	12/23/2005	16	Phyllis C.	12/25/1976	45
Barbara J.	12/9/2004	17	Ed H.	12/1/1973	48
Big L West	12/26/2004	17			

Get your groups birthday list to Central Office ... That's how they appear here!

TOTALS | \$28,429.73 | \$2,022.77 | \$25,124.57

Total Years = 2,395

Managers Corner

Have you signed up for the Faithful Fiver program? This is a simple way to show your gratitude for what Alcoholics Anonymous is doing for you and to support our Central Office. Our office is the front line of our assistance to those who still suffer; please sign up!

Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

- 1st ~ Larry W. & Esmeralda P.
- 2nd ~ Wendy W. & Alonna T.
- 3rd ~ Carmen R. & Reggie J.
- 4th ~ Katie H. & Art H.
- 5th ~ Stephanie S. & Chante D.



Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

