

# The Scoop

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## Antelope Valley

## July 2014

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**Please contribute to Central Office**  
Antelope Valley Central Office  
43619 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street West, Suite 106  
Lancaster, CA 93534     **661-945-5757**

**Central Office Web Site:**  
[www.avcentraloffice.org](http://www.avcentraloffice.org)  
**Central Office Email:**  
[avaa@roadrunner.com](mailto:avaa@roadrunner.com)

**Email Scoop contributions to:**  
[christman\\_jess2011@live.com](mailto:christman_jess2011@live.com)  
(Please limit contributions to 500 words or less.)

**This month's Central Office**

**50/50 winner is: Ticket # 369272**

**Name: W E Amount \$ 30.00**

**Mary K. Drew the winning ticket!**

### Sponsorship

Who's really helping who? I've had a few other sponsees, but in the name only. When a gentleman called me and asked if I would be his sponsor I was honored. I was choked up with emotion because I take it extremely serious.

He stated that he wanted me to show him "how this A.A. thing works." Next thing he said was that "he wanted me to take him through the Big Book and do the steps." We have begun the process of highlighting, and write up the margins in the book. This guy's willingness is contagious. He is on fire for the program and seems to be a desperate case.

So, here's the dilemma: I've began to go back to the basics. What does the Big Book say? Refreshing myself on the knowledge of our program which is in the Big Book. Living out each and every step to the best of my ability. Passing on what little I know to another alcoholic.

When presented with a question I don't know I research it out and pray. I make it clear when it's not in the Big Book but is my own opinion or feeling. My experience may be different from others,

therefore I ask God to lead my words to edify. "That is what has worked for me" is a common phrase I use.

Ultimately, my sponsees sobriety is in God's hands. I'm only a humble trusted servant. God could and would "if" he is sought. I cannot seek God for my sponsee, he has to do the work on his own with my guidance.

-Trevor B. A.A.2012

### **Deep Down Inside No Longer Can I Hide**

As the scenery flies by I briefly ask myself  
those questions  
How did I get here and where do I go from  
here?

Sometimes the answer may not seem so  
clear

Perhaps a little blurry of tears  
But it's funny how those questions from my  
Sponsor comes into mind

In what ways have you been selfish, self-  
centered, and self-seeking?

Face your fear and move forward...

I may head to a meeting and the words I  
need are evidently clear

I'm an alcoholic still learning to live life on  
Life's terms

Faith has to be a constant in life

Else my gratitude for the day I forget  
Hence my decision of action could take me  
out the door

I'm reminded I may have another drink, but

I may not have another Recovery

Holding that cold glass

Heart pumping and hurting

I'm reminded I have a purpose in life:

To reach out to another alcoholic...

And yet sometimes that's me...

-Jessica C. A.A. 2011

### **One of Many God-Shots**

Many AA members have little notes or sayings pinned to their mirrors ...in meetings we hear....." You are looking at the problem"... "One day at a Time"... "You are worth the trouble"... "Don't drink today".... "Call my Sponsor TODAY",... "Who can I help today?", ... "Drop the rock"... "Prayer heals".... "Sobriety is an inside job"... "I am POWERLESS" ... ad infinitum!

I got my favorite a long time ago when I was feeling particularly down and depressed. I was desperate for answers and solutions to my suicidal frame of mind and was reading a Bible Pamphlet, I saw "I will be with you: I will not fail or forsake you", (1:5) Joshua!! It has been on my mirror for over 30 years and it ain't goin' away!

Here's the God Shot; about 5 years ago I was sitting in the waiting room of my Dentist. There was a wide choice of all kinds of magazines on a table and also a Bible. Thinking about Bill Wilson and the Bible, I thought to pick it up and flip it open to whatever God wanted me to read, totally random. You guessed it, my favorite quotation was right there looking at me, just seemed to lift right out of the text. Of all the pages, all the verses, all the books in the Good Book, God showed me His Love one more time reassuring me He will not forsake me !!! God Shot or Spiritual awakening? AA works for all who want it!! I am PROOF!!

My journey is from extreme self-centeredness to God-centeredness. Keeps me SOBER!!

-Arne P. AA 1976

*\*AA International Convention will be held July  
2<sup>nd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia.  
Congratulations to Veronica, Raffle winner of  
the Convention trip from the 2014 AV  
Roundup!!*

## **Step 7**

***“Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.”***

Since this Step so specifically concerns itself with humility, we should pause here to consider what humility is and what the practice of it can mean to use.

Indeed, the attainment of greater humility is the foundation principle of each of A.A.’s Twelve Steps. For without some degree of humility, no alcoholic can stay sober at all. Nearly all A.A.’s have found, too, that unless they develop much more of this precious quality than may be required just for sobriety, they still haven’t much chance of becoming truly happy. Without it, they cannot live to much useful purpose, or, in adversity, be able to summon the faith that can meet any emergency.

Humility, as a word and as an ideal, has a very bad time of it in our world. Not only is the idea misunderstood; the word itself is often intensely disliked. Many people haven’t even a nodding acquaintance with humility as a way of life. Much of the everyday talk we hear, and a great deal of what we read, highlights man’s pride in his own achievements.

*Last paragraph on Step 7 in the 12x12:* The Seventh Step is where we make the change in our attitude which permits us, with humility as our guide, to move out from ourselves toward others and toward God. The whole emphasis of Step Seven is on humility. It is really saying to us that we now ought to be willing to try humility in seeking the removal of our others shortcomings just as we did when we admitted that we were powerless over alcohol,, and came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity. If that degree of humility could enable us to find the grace by which such a deadly obsession could be banished, then there must be hope of the same result

respecting any other problem we could possibly have.

## **The 7th Tradition**

***“Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”***

Self-supporting alcoholics? Who ever heard of such a thing? Yet we find that’s what we have to be. This principle is telling evidence of the profound change that A.A. has wrought in all of us. Everybody knows that active alcoholics scream that they have no troubles money can’t cure. Always, we’ve had our hands out. Time out of mind we’ve been dependent upon somebody, usually money-wise. When a society composed entirely of alcoholics says it’s going to pay its bills, that’s really news.

Probably no A.A. Tradition had the labor pains this one did. In early times, we were all broke. When you add to the habitual supposition that people ought to give money to alcoholics trying to stay sober, it can be understood why we thought we deserved a pile of folding money. What great things A.A. would be able to do with it! But oddly enough, people who had money thought otherwise. They figured that it was high time we now—sober—paid our own way. So our Fellowship stayed poor because it had to.

## ***Quotable Quotes***

I fell 3 floors into a dumpster and a security guard asked me, “What’s going on here?” and I said, “I don’t know, I just got here myself.”

I was too drunk to walk, so I had to drive.

A spiritual awakening is really what we’re all here for.

Somehow it all just seems so truthful when you're really drunk.

At the heart of every addiction is a big hurt.

Everything I ever wanted is on the other side of my fears.

Instead of geographics, I did jobographics.

God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

Going slowly in the right direction is better than going fast in the wrong direction.

Did you just say what I thought you said, has a whole new meaning when I learned that I'm out to get me.

"Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be." Abraham Lincoln

If you're not the problem, then you might want to call that guy and invite him to the meeting.

*Thank you to Dano for gathering quotes and sharing them with us.*

## WORD GAME

ACTIVATOR, COMPULSIONS, EXISTANCE,  
HUMILITY, MUST, PERMIT, PRACTICE,  
PROGRESS, PURPOSE, RECOIL

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

## FOUNDERS MONTH

INTER-GROUP MEETING	\$25.00
PEARBLOSSUM GROUP FRI	\$20.24
PEARBLOSSUM GROUP	\$104.00
CROWN VALLEY GROUP	\$58.00
A GATHERING OF WOMEN	\$27.75
MID-DAY MODIFICATION	\$189.29
A.V. H & I	\$21.75
ARBOR COURT TUE	\$35.05
A.V. MEN'S STAG QUARTZ HILL	\$45.00
SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S STAG	\$49.00

\$575.08

TOTAL



**You may want what I have and  
be willing to go to any lengths  
to get it, but I am still going to  
run this past my sponsor.**