



November 2021

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Please limit submissions to 500

# The Scoop

## AA in the AV

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

H & I (Hospitals and Institutions) is an important part of AA here in the AV. I remember my first sponsor, Whitey, talking about how he and Ernie M and Link H and others would take meetings to the prison in Tehachapi (more than 40 years ago now). Here is Part I of how H & I got started.



Poster created by San Quentin prisoners

“In 1942 Warden Duffey at the San Quentin prison noticed that 80% of the prisoners released ended up back in prison, and that alcohol was usually a contributing factor. Another factor was inmates were going blind and dying from prison-made hooch.

“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.”

(by Anonymous, to be continued)

By: David Staller, A.A. 2009

**It is always a great pleasure** to be asked to do anything in Alcoholics Anonymous. To think that I have value in any way shape or form, coming where I came from, is nothing short of a miracle! Why do I say that? On December 16, 2009 my life was of so little value, and I felt so useless because I couldn't stop drinking, that I decided to take things into my own hands and pulled my car across the center line on Francisquito Canyon head on into another car. Lo and behold, I came out of a coma on New Year's day of 2010, none too happy about being alive. One more time I had failed. I was a failure as a husband, father, son, worker, friend, and citizen. I couldn't even succeed at killing myself. What a loser! I was not grateful to be alive.

You see, I had been a member of AA since 1986. In that time, I had many long periods of sobriety, gone to tons of meetings, taken the steps, sponsored people and was active in service. Yet after 9+ years of sobriety, I drank again. AA was not the answer for me, and I had no other solutions. When I came out of that coma, I was hopeless, but the hand of AA was there, even though I knew it wouldn't work again. AV AA showed up huge to a stranger's house in Lake Elizabeth because one of you knew Catherine and asked her if I wanted to be the crash test dummy for the Red Cross group. I was busted up, lonely, homebound, helpless and angry. There was not a grateful bone in my body. You all came anyway. When I could go out, the men of the Hot Dog meeting in Lake Elizabeth, armed with patience and a smile, put up with my hostility for 3+ years. God bless them!

We moved to the big city in Quartz Hill in 2013. I was still not happy to be sober, only hoping to give my wife as much sober time as I had given her hell. That all changed when I walked into the 630 am meeting at the Grange a half hour late willing to listen to your drivel for 30 minutes so I could get a free smoke after the meeting. In those 30 minutes, thank God the lights turned back on, and I wanted more than anything to be sober and a part of AA. It never ceases to amaze me that life can change in an instant.

Since that time, life has had its up and downs, but my

family and I have been covered by the love that only comes from being in the middle of the heard through all of it. We had 8 great years in AV AA and made so many wonderful relationships that I could fill up a book speaking about. As I write this my heart is about to burst and my eyes are flooded with tears of gratitude for all that you have given us. I miss you terribly here in Georgia. God and AA gave us the courage to move across the country and start life in a new place. It was scary to imagine it, but I have another AA family here already. Not to replace you, just to add to. Where else can you walk into a room and say I am David, an alcoholic, and I am new, and instantly have a host of friends to trudge this road of happy destiny with? Today I am so grateful to be the hand of AA, in the way that you have been for me. Who would have thunk? Not me, or anyone who saw me come back. God really can do anything!

## **Step 11**

***“Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood God, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out.”***

Prayer and meditation are the principal means of conscious contact with God.

We A.A.'s are active folk, enjoying the satisfaction of dealing with the realities of life, usually for the first time in our lives, and strenuously trying to help the next alcoholic who comes along. So it isn't surprising that we often feel it is something that might help us to meet an occasional emergency, but at first many of us are apt to regard it as a somewhat mysterious skill of clergymen, from which we may hope to get a secondhand benefit. Or perhaps we don't believe in these things at all.

To certain newcomers and to those one-time agnostics who still cling to the A.A. group as their higher power claims for the power of prayer may, despite all the logic and experience in proof of it, still be in convincing or quite objectionable. Those of us who once felt this way can certainly understand and sympathize. We well remember how something deep inside us kept rebelling against the idea of bowing before any God. Many of us had strong logic, too, which proved there was no God whatever. What about the accidents, sickness, cruelty, and injustice in the world? What about all those unhappy lives which were the direct result of unfortunate birth and uncontrollable circumstances? Surely there could be no justice in this scheme of things, and therefore no God at all.

## The 11th Tradition

**“Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.”**

WITHOUT its legions of well-wishers, A.A. could never have grown as it has. Throughout the world, immense and favorable publicity of every description has been the principal means of bringing alcoholics into our Fellowship. In A.A. offices, clubs, and homes, telephones ring constantly. One voice says, “I read a piece in the newspapers . . .”; another, “We heard a radio program . . .”; and still another, “We saw a moving picture . . .”

or “We saw something about A.A. on television. . . .” It is no exaggeration to say that half of A.A.'s membership has been led to us through channels like these.

The inquiring voices are not all alcoholics or their families. Doctors read medical papers about Alcoholics Anonymous and call for more information. Clergymen see articles in their church journals and also make inquiries. Employers learn that great corporations have set their approval upon us, and wish to discover what can be done about alcoholism in their own firms. Therefore, a great responsibility fell upon us to develop the best possible public relations policy for Alcoholics Anonymous. Through many painful experiences, we think we have arrived at what that policy ought to be. It is the opposite in

many ways of usual promotional practice. We found that we had to rely upon the principle of attraction rather than of promotion. political and economic wars often spurred by religious and racial difference. We live in the imminent possibility of a fresh holocaust to determine how men shall be governed, and how the products of nature and toil shall be divided among them. That is the spiritual climate in which A.A. was born, and by God's grace has nevertheless flourished.”

*In Loving Memory of Denise H.*



*Sober since December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013*

*Denise's infectious smile and loving heart will be fondly remembered. RIP*

## Word Game

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

SUFFOCATING  
MYSTERIOUS  
PEACE  
WRINGER  
SCOFF  
FLOWER  
REALITIES  
DEPTH  
FORGETTING  
AWAKEN  
OBSTINATELY  
PRAYER

*In Loving Memory of Misty T.*



*Sober since May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

*Misty was a kind soul and truly one of our local miracles and will be missed. RIP*

"There are several paths to the top of the mountain, but the view is the same."

"Sponsorship: Help someone up the hill, and you'll get to the top yourself."

# November 2021 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Sep '21	Oct '21	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$22,791.92	\$2,792.51	\$25,584.43
Expenses	(\$15,604.40)	(\$6,613.55)	(\$22,217.95)
Cost of Goods	(\$14,935.74)	(\$723.22)	(\$15,658.96)
Contributions	\$30,725.49	\$3,315.57	\$34,041.06

<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$22,977.27</b>	<b>(\$1,228.69)</b>	<b>\$21,748.58</b>
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## Contributions

Group	Jan - Sep '21	Oct '21	2021 Total
A Gathering of Women	\$0.00		\$0.00
AM/Mid-Day Mod	\$6,340.12	\$816.26	\$7,156.38
Anonymous	\$4,097.27	\$642.40	\$4,739.67
Any Lengths Group	\$60.00	\$25.00	\$85.00
AV Men's Stag	\$2,634.00	\$725.00	\$3,359.00
Birthday	\$177.00		\$177.00
Crown Valley Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
Faithful Fiver	\$185.00	\$25.00	\$210.00
Friday Noon - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
High Desert BB Grp	\$2,664.00		\$2,664.00
Intergroup Fundraisers	\$40.00		\$40.00
Into Action	\$662.09	\$100.00	\$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
Palmdale Grp	\$1,622.97	\$209.03	\$1,832.00
Pearlblossom Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
PM Mod	\$0.00		\$0.00
Quartz Hill Unity Grp	\$738.50	\$150.00	\$888.50
Rainbow Grp	\$236.00		\$236.00
Recovery @ The Ranch	\$1,143.61		\$1,143.61
Rosamond Sun Night	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rule 62 Grp	\$0.00	\$160.00	\$160.00
Sat Spkr Mtg - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Tuesday Topic Mtg - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Westside Grp	\$80.00		\$80.00
Women in Recovery	\$0.00	\$107.00	\$107.00
Women Seeking Serenity	\$90.00		\$90.00
Sober Sisters	\$72.00		\$72.00
<b>Digital Contributions</b>	<b>\$4,600.02</b>	<b>\$355.88</b>	<b>\$4,955.90</b>
TOTALS	\$26,946.16	\$3,315.57	\$30,261.73



Belinda T.	11/27/2015	6	Elizabeth M.	11/14/2003	18
Sarah F.	11/11/2014	7	Jim B.	11/7/2003	18
John R.	11/1/2012	9	John B.	11/25/2003	18
Kevin M.	11/13/2012	9	Michelle T.	11/15/2003	18
Shea G.	11/8/2012	9	Perry L.	11/6/2003	18
Stephen B.	11/21/2012	9	Sharon B.	11/11/2003	18
Christine F.	11/1/2011	10	Willy S.	11/27/2003	18
Britta S.	11/29/2010	11	Fidel V.	11/27/2002	19
Misty T.	11/20/2010	11	Joe B.	11/1/2002	19
Chris W.	11/17/2009	12	Julie B.	11/8/2002	19
Katherine R.	11/9/2009	12	Ralph S.	11/12/2002	19
Larry B.	11/7/2009	12	Sharon B.	11/17/2002	19
Lisa B.	11/24/2009	12	Art D.	11/30/2001	20
Louie U.	11/19/2009	12	Dana F.	11/5/2001	20
Max R.	11/7/2009	12	Darren F.	11/4/2001	20
Mike P.	11/18/2009	12	Jeff G.	11/14/2001	20
Shane K.	11/2/2009	12	Maggie V.	11/7/2001	20
Cholee M.	11/15/2008	13	David	11/22/2000	21
Connie P.	11/27/2008	13	John	11/27/1999	22
Cowboy Dave	11/30/2008	13	Colleen S.	11/22/1998	23
Frank P.	11/27/2008	13	Connie S.	11/1/1996	25
John W.	11/7/2008	13	Bob M.	11/12/1995	26
Richard M.	11/22/2008	13	Carmen S.	11/10/1995	26
Lauren S.	11/15/2007	14	Corey W.	11/22/1995	26
Lyle B.	11/21/2007	14	Mark H.	11/2/1995	26
Paul H.	11/22/2007	14	Edwin M.	11/24/1994	27
Dan Y.	11/28/2006	15	Frank D.	11/8/1992	29
Joe A.	11/1/2006	15	D. J.	11/6/1990	31
Julius G.	11/17/2006	15	Robert V.	11/1/1990	31
Ken M.	11/28/2006	15	Dan C.	11/7/1989	32
Laura M.	11/28/2006	15	Dave M.	11/28/1989	32
Melinda W.	11/19/2006	15	Joe K.	11/30/1989	32
Chris C.	11/4/2005	16	John M.	11/16/1988	33
David W.	11/14/2005	16	Dale W.	11/5/1987	34
Deanna R.	11/7/2005	16	Robert Holt	11/8/1987	34
Debbie W.	11/18/2005	16	Denise J.	11/25/1986	35
Donna M.	11/28/2005	16	Donna A.	11/7/1985	36
Gavland D.	11/15/2005	16	Dolores S.	11/27/1984	37
Hanny H.	11/28/2005	16	Ed B.	11/1/1983	38
Jackie B.	11/26/2005	16	Larry Mc.	11/25/1982	39
James S.	11/10/2005	16	Mike H.	11/13/1982	39
Mark L.	11/27/2005	16	Virginia G.	11/25/1982	39
Mark W.	11/3/2005	16	David F.	11/4/1981	40
Tammy R.	11/24/2005	16	John S.	11/21/1981	40
Terry T.	11/1/2005	16	Don P.	11/11/1978	43
Doug H.	11/8/2004	17	Brian	11/13/1977	44
Eloy C.	11/17/2004	17	Marge M.	11/7/1977	44
Jose A.	11/2/2004	17	Arne P.	11/10/1976	45
Kevin E.	11/13/2004	17	Al H.	11/6/1972	49
Kim S.	11/22/2004	17	John C.	11/17/1973	50
Mvrel	11/6/2004	17	Don R.	11/15/1967	54
Anna C.	11/10/2003	18			

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

Total Years = 2,218

## Managers Corner

Do you have an AA birthday this month? Come in to the office and receive a free raffle ticket . . . You could be our next winner!

***This is Gratitude Month ~ if you are grateful to your sobriety and what AA has done for you, it is time to give back! Either participate at your group when they pass the second basket or come by Central Office and make your donation.***

## 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!

