



December 2016

Inside this Issue

- 1 Ode to the Holidays/
Step 12
- 2 Calendar of Events/ Step
12th Tradition
- 3 Daily Reflections/ 12th
Concept/ Quotable
Quotes/Word Game

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Please limit submissions to 500

The Scoop

Ode to the Holidays--2016

By: Sandra B., A.A 2012.

T'was the night before Christmas, when all through the room, there was plenty of laughter and nothing of gloom. The twelve steps and traditions were hung on the wall, as a great inspiration and a reminder to all. With friends all around, everyone settled right in...for this was like a family, sometimes closer than kin. When outside the room, there arose such a clatter, some got up from their seats, to see what was the matter. The moon was so full and shining so bright. It was a delight to see such a gorgeous desert night. Now what exactly was out there? Some claim that his story is true...a shining red pick-up, sparkling like new. With a little old driver, so bright an alert. He was wearing blue jeans and a red flannel shirt. He was carrying a bundle as he walked toward the door. We all went to greet him...there's always room for one more! "Hi! My name is Nick." Then someone exclaimed, "You have a nice ride" and another one said, "We're sorry man, but you can't smoke inside." His smile grew big and he laughed right out loud! He put out his smoke and joined the crowd. First he passed out some gifts, 'cause he knew we'd been good. Someone found him a seat and coffee, but eventually he stood. Then laying a finger alongside of his nose, he stifled a sneeze, and said he must go..."Merry Christmas to all," the

crowd heard him say, as he started out the door to go on his way. Nick thought of one more thing, so he stopped in his tracks, "Take one day at a time...and just keep coming back!"

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.

Calendar Events

Christmas Day

There are events at many halls in the Antelope Valley! Stay connected!

New Year's Eve

Annual Round-Up hosts a Masquerade Ball & Speaker event. Begins at 8pm – Dance at 10:30 at the Grange Hall ~ Only \$10

January 21st 2017

2nd Annual Intergroup Comedy Show

Fundraiser . . . this one will sell out!! Begins at 7pm at the Grange Hall

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.

Daily Reflections excerpt on the 12th Step

Page 349: When the Chips are down When we developed still more, we discovered the best possible source of emotional

stability to be God Himself. We found that dependence upon His perfect justice, forgiveness, and love was healthy, and that it would work where nothing else would. If we really depended upon God, we couldn't very well play God to our fellows nor would we feel the urge wholly to rely on human protection and care.

-Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 116

It has been my experience that, when all human resources appear to have failed, there is always One who will never desert me. Moreover, He is always there to share my joy, to steer me down the right path, and to confide in when no one else will do. While my well-being and happiness can be added to, or diminished, by human efforts, only God can provide the loving nourishment upon which I depend for my daily spiritual health.

Daily Reflections excerpt on the 12th Tradition

Page 354: A Genuine Humility

...we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This is to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

- Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 192

Experience has taught me that my alcoholic personality tends to be grandiose. While having seemingly good intentions, I can go off on tangents in pursuit of my "causes." My ego takes over and I lose sight of my

primary purpose I may even take credit for God's handiwork in my life. Such an overstated feeling of my own importance is dangerous to my sobriety and could cause great harm to A.A. as a whole.

My safeguard, the Twelfth Tradition, serves to keep me humble. I realize, both as an individual and as a member of the Fellowship, that I cannot boast of my accomplishments, and that "God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves."



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; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

Quotable Quotes

There is an easy way and a hard way to recover from alcoholism; the hard way

is by just going to meetings. —Dr. Bob

When a man is intoxicated by alcohol, he can recover; but when he is intoxicated by power, he seldom recovers.

We do the steps to get connected to what's already keeping us sober.

After a spirit of discernment, the next rarest things in the world are diamonds and pearls.

Making amends by letter might be a good idea if I offended them by letter.

Notice the word action is in attraction.

AA is the only program you can come to for a dollar and get change. —Eddie W. 1961

Empathy is your pain in my heart.

Although the tongue weighs very little, few people are able to hold it.

Success comes in cans; failure comes in cant's.

The best way to get the last word is to apologize.

The longer I live, the more confidence I have in the sermons preached when one man is the minister and one man is the congregation.— Henry Drummond 1874

I'm in a custody battle; My wife doesn't want me and my mother won't take me back.

Happy Holidays and may all your families be safe. —Jessica Christman

Word Game

MEDITATE, SERENITY, SURRENDER, AWAKENING, PRINCIPLE, PERSONALITY, BRIDGE, FAITH, SMILE, TODAY, STRENGTH, HOPE

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

December 2016 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Oct '16	Nov '16	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$41,409.76	\$2,720.13	\$44,129.89
Expenses	(\$31,599.22)	(\$2,463.11)	(\$34,062.33)
Cost of Goods	(\$31,002.26)	(\$80.36)	(\$31,082.62)
Contributions	\$23,021.93	\$972.05	\$23,993.98

Net Income **\$1,830.21** **\$1,148.71** **\$2,978.92**

Contributions

Group	Jan - Oct '16	Nov '16	2016 Total
A Gathering of Women	\$0.00		\$0.00
A.M. Attitude Modification	\$3,880.53		\$3,880.53
A.V. Hospital ~ 2 West	\$100.00		\$100.00
A.V. Men's Stag Quartz Hill	\$891.10	\$53.40	\$944.50
A.V. H & I	\$0.00		\$0.00
Alano Club Thursday Night	\$88.00		\$88.00
Alano Club Wednesday Dare to be Different	\$0.00		\$0.00
Anonymous Donations	\$1,600.65	\$64.54	\$1,665.19
Any Lengths Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
Arbor Court Tuesday	\$30.00		\$30.00
A Women's Story	\$150.00		\$150.00
Birthday Celebrants	\$220.00	\$5.00	\$225.00
B.Y.O.C. A.V. Y.P.	\$39.00		\$39.00
Big Book Ladies Women	\$0.00		\$0.00
California City Clubhouse	\$958.73	\$239.70	\$1,198.43
Crown Valley Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
Founders Month	\$0.00		\$0.00
Friday Night Non-Smoker Sneaker Mtg	\$407.37		\$407.37
Fund Raiser Monthly 50/50	\$0.00		\$0.00
High Desert Big Book	\$1,667.02		\$1,667.02
High Desert Hospital Friday	\$90.00		\$90.00
High Desert Medical Group	\$59.12		\$59.12
Intergroup Meeting	\$142.13	\$14.80	\$156.93
Into Action	\$100.00		\$100.00
Lake Hughes Friday Night	\$0.00		\$0.00
Lake Hughes Men's Stag	\$282.00		\$282.00
Lake Hughes Monday Night	\$100.00		\$100.00
Mid-Day Modification	\$2,587.20	\$234.12	\$2,821.32
Mojave Big Book Awakening	\$10.00		\$10.00
Mojave Group New Beginnings	\$10.00		\$10.00
Open Door	\$0.00	\$148.20	\$148.20
P.M. Modification	\$1,292.69	\$111.29	\$1,403.98
Palmdale Group	\$1,763.63		\$1,763.63
Pearlblossom Group	\$360.00		\$360.00
Rosamond Thursday 7 Minutes to Sobriety	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rosamond Sunday Night	\$100.00		\$100.00
Rule 62 Grp	\$150.00		\$150.00
Saturday Morning Men's Stag	\$78.00		\$78.00
Stepping Stones	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sunday Night B.B.S. 7th Day Advent	\$57.72		\$57.72
The 10,11,12 Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
We Care	\$120.00		\$120.00
Wednesday Night BBS @ The Grange	\$1,013.00		\$1,013.00
Westside Group	\$38.20		\$38.20
Women in Progress	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women in Recovery	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women Seeking Serenity Monday	\$307.20		\$307.20

Gratitude Month

Intergroup	\$7.00
Arbor Court	\$5.00
AV Men's Stag	\$89.00

TOTALS **\$18,693.29** **\$972.05** **\$19,564.34**



BIRTHDAYS

Chelsea N.	12/30/2015	1	Debbie C.	12/19/2004	12
Keith H.	12/27/2015	1	James K.	12/25/2004	12
Judy	12/26/2015	1	John H.	12/25/2004	12
Jim M.	12/13/2015	1	Sheryl L.	12/18/2004	12
Ross	12/14/2014	2	Arnold S.	12/17/2003	13
Steve S.	12/29/2014	2	Carl W.	12/22/2003	13
Derrick	12/1/2013	3	Faith V.	12/8/2002	14
Janie G.	12/3/2013	3	Leroy P.	12/2/2002	14
Regina B.	12/9/2013	3	Mike Z.	12/24/2002	14
Denise H.	12/14/2013	3	Adrienne R.	12/17/2001	15
Angelina	12/15/2013	3	Donna H.	12/21/2000	16
Geno	12/17/2013	3	MaryAnn	12/28/2000	16
Margie H.	12/24/2013	3	Anthony H.	12/8/1999	17
Don C.	12/24/2013	3	Jerry M.	12/2/1999	17
Eddie A.	12/18/2012	4	Brenda D.	12/17/1998	18
Jennifer M.	12/29/2012	4	J.J. F.	12/10/1998	18
Sarah M.	12/31/2012	4	Latovia H.	12/31/1998	18
Stewart L.	12/23/2012	4	Gerry K.	12/16/1997	19
Alex W.	12/13/2011	5	Tim A.	12/1/1997	19
Anita H.	12/31/2011	5	Dawn N.	12/1/1995	21
Brandon E.	12/7/2011	5	Jim B.	12/22/1995	21
Cindy	12/30/2011	5	Anthony L.	12/13/1994	22
Jackie C.	12/6/2011	5	Jim M.	12/10/1994	22
Mark N.	12/12/2011	5	Mark B.	12/28/1994	22
Robert	12/26/2011	5	Shawn L.	12/21/1994	22
Sevasti	12/27/2011	5	Arisah M.	12/1/1993	23
Warren F.	12/14/2011	5	Jay W.	12/15/1993	23
Andy K.	12/22/2010	6	Jeff F.	12/2/1993	23
Cathy G.	12/17/2010	6	Yvette B.	12/1/1993	23
Rusty M.	12/2/2010	6	Keith B.	12/7/1992	24
Trevor B.	12/20/2010	6	Tauri B.	12/24/1992	24
Diane R.	12/9/2009	7	Alan H.	12/15/1991	25
David S.	12/16/2009	7	Marv K.	12/5/1991	25
Keri S.	12/17/2009	7	Ronny D.	12/11/1991	25
Paul	12/13/2009	7	Augie A.	12/16/1990	26
Luis H.	12/7/2009	7	Ellen H.	12/28/1990	26
Michael A.	12/29/2009	7	Carol R.	12/19/1989	27
Aaron S.	12/24/2008	8	Sherman B.	12/29/1988	28
David H.	12/6/2008	8	Suzie K.	12/14/1988	28
Jeff C.	12/25/2008	8	Tim W.	12/31/1987	29
Christy W.	12/26/2008	8	Bob S.	12/16/1986	30
Jeff P.	12/26/2008	8	Dave A.	12/19/1986	30
Jennifer V.	12/7/2008	8	Jay W.	12/2/1986	30
John S.	12/7/2008	8	Nancy	12/9/1986	30
Luis C.	12/13/2008	8	Phil G.	12/4/1986	30
Nicole D.	12/10/2008	8	Keith-Scott D.	12/15/1985	31
Kelli T.	12/10/2007	9	Susie G.	12/13/1985	31
Rita W.	12/12/2007	9	Mike C.	12/31/1984	32
Sandy W.	12/18/2007	9	Nancy S.	12/31/1984	32
Tiffany D.	12/15/2007	9	Billv D.	12/12/1983	33
Josh R.	6/19/2006	10	Ann H.	12/8/1982	34
Mario V.	12/29/2006	10	John	12/31/1982	34
Don R.	12/13/2005	11	Kathy H.	12/8/1981	35
Maricela M.	12/19/2005	11	Carol C.	12/28/1980	36
Marv O.	12/7/2005	11	Jeanne B.	12/31/1978	38
Michelle R.	12/25/2005	11	Sandy N.	12/26/1978	38
Scott C.	12/7/2005	11	Phyllis C.	12/25/1976	40
Will S.	12/23/2005	11	Ed H.	12/1/1973	43
Barbara J.	12/9/2004	12	Fred B.	12/7/1967	49
Big J. West	12/26/2004	12			

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

Total Years = 1,831

Managers Corner

Many things to be grateful for this year! Our office continues to operate in the black thanks to our membership contributions! We have incredible volunteers that help us keep our office clean and running smoothly six days per week; with another group of dedicated volunteers that maintain our 24-hour Hotline!!

Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

- 1st ~ Larry W. & Barbie Q.
- 2nd ~ Stephanie S. & Alonna T.
- 3rd ~ Merredith F., Darin F. & Vacant
- 4th ~ Matt C. & Erica B.
- 5th ~ Christine F. & Wendy W.

Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

