

# The Scoop

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**Antelope Valley**

**April 2014**



**This month's Central Office  
50/50 winner is: Ticket # 369041  
Name: Rowdy J. Amount \$ 30.00  
Frankie H. Drew the winning ticket!**

## **Election of Officers of the Intergroup Steering Committee**

At the March Intergroup Steering Committee Meetings, the following AA members were elected and voted into office:

Chairman: Dave S.  
Co-Chairman: Bill G.  
Secretary: Melanie

We look forward to our upcoming year and the growth of the Central Office productivity.

Please stop by the office to buy your winning **50/50 ticket for \$1**. Also the office will have an **Open House April 12<sup>th</sup>** with all products 20% off and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition Big Book should be in to buy at \$16.35 with tax. Share with your sponsee where the Central Office is and what we do.

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

## God's Will Is:

That no matter what I don't drink today  
That my own house is in order,  
And I keep my side of the street clean.  
That I accept the things I cannot change.  
That I help others as much as possible.  
That I practice these principles in all my  
affairs.

That I surrender self on a moment by  
moment basis throughout the day.  
That I say constantly "Thy will be done."  
That I continue to walk Step Ten the rest of  
my life.

That I carry His will into all my activities;  
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And last of all, most importantly is that I  
listen

For the answers God wants to tell me.

-Trevor B. 2012

## Learning to be Responsible

This past year I have learned so much about me: sometimes I just need to smile, perhaps just breathe and let go and let God. I spend time with my family and with their smiles I begin to learn a part of my laughter. With their tears I learn a sense of humility. I remember to stay open in heart and willing in spirit to become more sensible in faith. I learn that little coincidences may be special, but not lean into it full-hearted without some guidance from my Higher Power. I balance my meditation and serenity of AA within my life giving support to the community. I must remain some integrity and accountability to balance my spirituality. Even when the world goes upside down I open the Big Book and let go with a sigh; there is an answer, Faith is the key.

No matter what I am doing I am part of a whole. As long as I remain open to learning; I must remember I have a responsibility: I want the hand of AA always to be there and for that I am responsible.

-Jessica C. 2011

## Commonality of Oldtimers

At the time I got sober, in late 1976, there were Oldtimers around who had started their AA life when AA was a very new idea. The oldest one I met got sober with Bill Wilson in New York in 1937 and had the opportunity to review the AA Book original manuscript. I was fortunate to meet many folks who got sober in the late 1940's also, both men and women. Some were more special to me than others, my first Sponsor got sober in 1946 and another gentleman got sober in 1948 in the Akron Hospital where Sister Ignatia worked. A fellow from Boston got sober in 1947 and his picture with Bill Wilson is still in a So Cal Alano Club; I have his picture in my home with a special note to me. The folks from the 1950's who strike my memory are many, one particular was a lady who helped start Central office in Orange County; she passed away while in an AA meeting. I was told by some who were there that she had a cute little smile as she went to her Maker. There were many others also who made a strong impression on me. They were unflinching in their patience and dedication to helping others.

So,.....what did they all have in common?? From my observation;

1. Big Book Dedication
2. Service
3. Gratitude

It's simple; If I do what the Oldtimers did, it will be possible to enjoy a long positive productive life by the Grace of a Loving God!!

Let's do it together!!

-Arne P. AA 1976

## Step 4

***“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”***

Creation gave us instincts for a purpose. Without them we wouldn't be complete human beings. If men and women didn't exert themselves to be secure in their persons, made no effort to harvest food or construct shelter, there would be no survival. If they didn't reproduce, the earth wouldn't be populated. If there were no social instinct, if men cared nothing for the society of one another, there would be no society. So these desires—for the sex relation, for material and emotional security, and for companionship—are perfectly necessary and right, and surely God-given.

Yet these instincts, so necessary for our existence, often far exceed their proper functions. Powerfully, blindly, many times subtly, they drive us, dominate us, and insist upon ruling our lives. Our desires for sex, for material and emotional security, and for an important place in society often tyrannize us. When thus out of joint, man's natural desires cause him great trouble, practically all the trouble there is. No human being, however good, is exempt from these troubles. Nearly every serious emotional problem can be seen as a case of misdirected instinct. When that happens, our great natural assets, the instincts, have turned into physical and mental liabilities.

Step Four is our vigorous and painstaking effort to discover what these liabilities in each of us have been, and are. We want to find exactly how, when and where our natural desires have warped us. We wish to look squarely at the unhappiness this has caused others and ourselves. By discovering what our emotional deformities

are, we can move toward their correction. Without a willing and persistent effort to do this, there can be little sobriety or contentment for us. Without a searching and fearless moral inventory, most of us have found that the faith which really works in daily living is still out of reach.

Good Orderly Direction

## The 4th Tradition

***“Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.”***

Autonomy is a ten-dollar word. But in relation to us, it means very simply that every A.A. group can manage its affairs exactly as it pleases, except when A.A. as a whole is threatened. Comes now the same question raised in Tradition One. Isn't such liberty foolishly dangerous?

Over the years, every conceivable deviation from our Twelve Steps and Traditions has been tried. That was sure to be, since we are so largely a band of ego-driven individualists. Children of chaos, we have defiantly played with every brand of fire, only to emerge unharmed and, we think, wiser. These very deviations created a vast process of trial and error which, under the grace of God, has brought us to where we stand today.

When A.A.'s Traditions were first published, in 1946, we had become sure that an A.A. group could stand almost any amount of battering. We saw that the group, exactly like the individual, must eventually conform to whatever tested principles would guarantee survival. We had discovered that there was perfect safety in the process of

trial and error. So confident of this had we become that the original statement of A.A. tradition carried this significant sentence: "Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group provided that as a group they have no other affiliation."

This meant, of course, that we had been given the courage to declare each A.A. group an individual entity, strictly reliant on its own conscience as a guide to action. In charting this enormous expanse of freedom, we found it necessary to post only two storm signals: A group ought not do anything which would greatly injure A.A. as a whole, nor ought it affiliate itself with anything or anybody else. There would be real danger should we commence to call some groups "wet," others "dry," still others "Republican" or Communist," and yet others "Catholic" or "Protestant." The A.A. group would have to stick to its course or be hopelessly lost. Sobriety had to be its sole objective. In all other respects there was perfect freedom of will and action. Every group had the right to be wrong.



"I told him another drink will kill you.

I didn't mention how."

# Quotable Quotes

Always do sober what you said you'd do drunk. That will teach you to keep your mouth shut.

Problems cannot be solved at the same level of awareness that created them. Albert Einstein

The Twelve Steps are a steep, hard climb. But as we make the climb we can make it easier by remembering there are two handrails—God and Fellowship. Akron Group pamphlet #132

Reality is an illusion brought on by the absence of alcohol.

A hug is a great gift... one size fits all, and it's easy to return.

## WORD GAME

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

ASSETS, CHARACTER, FEARLESS, LIST  
 HONESTY, LIABILITIES, PERCEPTION  
 SPONSOR, VIGOROUS, WILLING