

# Anonymous Times

Published by North Orange County Central Office, 1661 E. Chapman Ave., Suite 1H, Fullerton, CA 92831

Volume 12 Issue 3

Alcoholics Anonymous

September/October 2014

## Chattin With Cathy

# Happening at Central Office

**THANK YOU:** We would like to give a big shout out to the 2013 & 2014 Orange County (AA) Convention for their very generous donation to North Orange County Central Office of \$3,800.00

### PRICE INCREASE:

AA World Services has announced that they are increasing the costs of all books, effective October 1, 2014. Once we are advised of their increase amounts we will be adjusting our prices accordingly.

**OLD TIMER/LONGTIMER Dinner/Meeting: What an awesome night we had,** North Orange County has the best old-timers/longtimers in the world!!! Great food, great fellowship, great experi-

ence, strength and hope shared by our members with 25+ years.

### VOLUNTEERS:

If you have 6 months of sobriety, and would like to volunteer at Central Office, please call us at 714.773.HELP (714.773.4357) or email me at [officemanager@aanoc.com](mailto:officemanager@aanoc.com) or visit our website @ [aanoc.com](http://aanoc.com) and fill out a volunteer form.

### MEETING/GROUP DONATIONS:

Your group contributions help to ensure that our phones are answered 24 Hours A Day, seven Days A Week. Be sure to include the meeting name

*Continued on Page 3*

## Where Did the 12 Steps Come From?

### Part 2 (From July 1953 AA Grapevine)

By Bill W.

### Something Missing

After some six months of violent exertion with scores of alcoholics which I found at a nearby mission and Towns Hospital, it began to look like the Groupers were right. I hadn't sobered up anybody. In Brooklyn we always had a houseful of drinkers living with us, sometimes as many as five. My valiant wife, Lois, once arrived home from work to find three of them fairly tight. They were whaling each other with two-by-fours. Though events like these slowed me down somewhat, the persistent conviction that a way to sobriety could be found never seemed to leave me. There was, though, one bright spot. My sponsor, Ebbie, still clung precariously to his new-found sobriety.

What was the reason for all these fiascoes? If Ebbie and I could

*Continued on Page 3*



### North Orange County Central Office

1661 E. Chapman Ave., Suite 1H  
Fullerton, CA 92831

Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

PHONE: (714) 773-4357 (24 hrs.)

FAX: (714) 773-0179

WEBSITE: [www.aanoc.com](http://www.aanoc.com)

[OfficeManager@aanoc.com](mailto:OfficeManager@aanoc.com)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NOCCO Financials	2
Chattin With Cathy	3
Events	4
Calendar	4
Birthdays	5
Bulletin Board	6
Meeting Donations	7
Avoiding Outside Issues	8
Speaker Meetings	9
The AA Group	10
California Jack	11
AA Humor	12

# NORTH ORANGE COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS GROUPS, INC.

Statement of Revenue and Expenses - Tax Basis

For the One Month and Six Months Ended

**June 30, 2014 and 2013**

Jun-14	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
	Current Period	Current Period	Year To Date	Year To Date
	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
<b>Revenue</b>				
Sales	\$ 4,353.71	\$ 4,441.51	\$ 31,863.46	\$ 28,634.11
Donations - meetings	4,063.43	3,792.40	22,360.04	21,595.86
Donations - B-day / other	13.08	286.00	989.28	1,341.07
Donations - Faithful Five	275.00	75.00	1,005.00	425.00
Fundraisers - Events	1,462.00	1,120.40	1,462.00	3,158.12
Donations - Soberfest	0.00	0.00	4,820.00	0.00
- Women's Banquet	0.00	0.00	800.00	2,000.00
Misc. Income	0.57	0.49	3.91	3.91
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 10,167.79</b>	<b>\$ 9,715.80</b>	<b>\$ 63,303.69</b>	<b>\$ 57,158.07</b>
<b>Cost of Sales and Direct Costs</b>				
Total Cost of Sales and Direct Costs	\$ 3,317.02	\$ 3,115.31	\$ 19,398.84	\$ 18,942.56
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ 6,850.77</b>	<b>\$ 6,600.49</b>	<b>\$ 43,904.85</b>	<b>\$ 38,215.51</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Total Operating Expenses	6,668.05	6,796.62	40,693.14	39,440.02
Income From Operations	182.72	(196.13)	3,211.71	(1,224.51)
<b>NET INCOME(LOSS)</b>	<b>182.72</b>	<b>(196.13)</b>	<b>3,211.71</b>	<b>(1,224.51)</b>

Opinions, letters and stories printed by the Anonymous Times are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication constitute an endorsement by Alcoholics Anonymous, the North Orange County Central Office, Intergroup or any group within Alcoholics Anonymous. All reprinted articles are printed with permission.

Editor/Layout: Paul H.  
Regular contributors: Nick M., Jack H.  
NOCCO Board Oversight Committee: Steve.  
Chief Proofreader: 86 proof

## Chattin with Cathy ... From Page 1

(as listed in the directory), City, Day and Time so that proper credit can be given to your meeting donation. We have pre-printed donation coupons with self-addressed envelopes for your convenience. If your group donation is not posted, email me at [officemanager@aanoc.com](mailto:officemanager@aanoc.com). All monthly donation spreadsheets are uploaded to our website at [aanoc.com](http://aanoc.com), as well as posted in our AA Times Newsletters.

### FAITHFUL 5'ER/BIRTHDAY/INDIVIDUAL/IN MEMORY OF CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to join our Faithful 5'er Club, please fill out a coupon and mail it to us in the self-addressed envelope. If you would like to make a Birthday, individual or "in memory of" contribution, please note what the contribution is for when you send the contribution.

### INTERGROUP REP:

There are over 400 meetings a week in North Orange County; we currently have approximately 45 intergroup representatives. If your meeting does not have a rep and you have at least one year of sobriety, consider being of

service and volunteer to be a meeting rep. Cookies and coffee are served at the monthly Intergroup meetings!!

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

→ 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gratitude Dinner: November 8<sup>th</sup> @ the Union Hall, Buena Park, CA

→ tickets sales commencement, October 1<sup>st</sup> at NOCCO.

→ 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION OF THE BIG BOOK in our office now. They are \$12.00 each plus tax, these books will only be published until July 2015, time is a tickin'.

→ Celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Alcoholics Anonymous in Atlanta, Georgia, July 2 – 5, 2015, information available on G.S.O.'s A.A. website @ [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org), click on the 2015 International Convention logo

May God Bless You and Keep You as we trudge this Road Of Happy Destiny!

In gratitude,  
Cathy

## Origin of 12 steps ... From Page 1

achieve sobriety, why couldn't all the rest find it too? Some of those we'd worked on certainly wanted to get well. We speculated day and night why nothing much had happened to them. Maybe they couldn't stand the spiritual pace of the Oxford Group's four absolutes of honesty, purity, unselfishness, and love. In fact some of the alcoholics declared that this was the trouble. The aggressive pressure upon them to get good overnight would make them fly high as geese for a few weeks and then flop dismally. They complained, too, about another form of coercion -- something the Oxford Groupers called "guidance for others." A "team" composed of non-alcoholic Groupers would sit down with an alcoholic and after a "quiet time" would come up with precise instructions as to how the alcoholic should run his own life. As grateful as we were to our O.G. friends, this was sometimes tough to take. It obviously had something to do with the wholesale skidding that went on.

But this wasn't the entire reason for failure. After months I saw the trouble was mainly in me. I had become very aggressive, very cocksure. I talked a lot about my sudden spiritual experience, as though it was something very special. I had been playing the double role of teacher and preacher. In my exhortations I'd forgotten all about the medical side of our malady, and that need for deflation at depth so emphasized by William James had been neglected. We weren't using that medical sledgehammer that Dr. Silk-

*Continued on Page 8*

## Anaheim Happy Hour Meeting

Book study meetings should be an essential part of everyone's program. They're a great way to study the program in-depth and for newcomers to ask questions.

The Happy Hour Book Study in Anaheim on Fridays from 5:30 – 6:30 is one such meeting. It's located at Vineyard Church, Room #103, 5340 E. La Palma Ave. Anaheim.



## What is A.A.?

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.

AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Reprinted with permission of A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

# UPCOMING EVENTS!

## Women's Retreat will be Sept. 12-14

Save the date for the the 2014 Woman to Woman Spritual Retreat, to be held September 12-14 at Camp Buckhorn, 24641 Highway 243 in Idyllwild, CA.

The event costs \$120 and includes lodging in rustic cabins, all meals, workshops, workshop materials and much more.

Contact chairwoman Olivia P. at (909) 641-8275 (operea58@verizon.net) or co-chair Michelle D. at (310) 508-1957 (mdev-aler@msn.com) to register, or for more information.

## 63rd SoCal Convention Will Be Held Sept. 26-28

Sunlight of the Spirit is the theme of the 63rd Annual Southern California AA Convention, to be held September 26-28 in San Diego.

Aside from food, fun and fellowship, the event will feature a 10 k walk/run, golf tournament, dinners, dances and speaker meetings galore.

The convention will be held at the Town and Country Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle North San Diego, California 92108. More information, including a comprehensive list of events and times, can be found at [www.aasocal.com](http://www.aasocal.com).

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to our readers, not as an endorsement by North Orange County Central Office.

## CHECK IT OUT – DUDE! YOUNG PEOPLE'S A.A. MEETINGS!

### Sunday

Anaheim	12+12 Young People 8 p.m.	202 W. Broadway (@ Lemon)
Fountain Valley	Youth in Recovery 1 p.m.	16581 Brookhurst St. Fountain Valley, CA
Orange	Young People's Dis- cussion 7 p.m.	820 W. Town & Country Rd. (Mariposa Women's Center),

### Monday

Costa Mesa	New Lease on Life 12:15 p.m.	2144 Thurin St @ Vic- toria St (Grange Hall)
	Women's Monday FUNDAY 8 p.m.	420 W. 19th St. (1st Methodist Church near Triangle Square),
Irvine	Wild Bunch Men's Step Study 7:30 p.m.	5001 Newport Coast Dr c/s Bonita Cyn (Mariners Church-Port Kid Zone room)

### Tuesday

Costa Mesa	New Lease on Life 12:15 p.m.	2144 Thurin St @ Vic- toria St (Grange Hall)
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### Wednesday

Yorba Linda	Topic Discussion 8 p.m.	18372 Lemon Drive @ imperial Hwy (1st Baptist Church)
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### Thursday

Costa Mesa	We are Not Saints 3 p.m.	2701 Fairview Rd. (Stu- dent Health Center Rm. 108)
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### Friday

Anaheim Hills	Discussion 8 p.m.	411 Lakeview Ave. (@91 Freeway Medical Office building in base- ment)
Huntington Beach	Seacliff 7 p.m.	225 7th St. Garage #1
Tustin	Turning the Corner 7:30 p.m.	1221 Wass St, 92780

### Saturday

Newport Beach	Hoag Hut Speaker	201 Newport Blvd.
Long Beach	Nite Owls 10:30 p.m.	4019 E. 4th St.

# Calendar of Events

September 13

## Inland Empire 18th Annual Women's AA Banquet

Orange Show-Valencia Room, San Bernardino

Info: Caroline P. (714) 269-8335

September 26-28

## 63rd Southern California AA Convention

2014 Town & Country Resort & Convention Center

San Diego, CA; [www.aasocal.com](http://www.aasocal.com)

October 3 - 5

## 40th Anniversary Woman To Woman San Diego

The Dana on Mission Bay

[www.womantowomansandiego.com](http://www.womantowomansandiego.com)

October 17 - 19

## 27th Annual Inland Empire Convention

Hotel San Bernardino, CA

[www.ieaac.org](http://www.ieaac.org)

October 25-27

## 29th Annual Santa Barbara Convention

[www.sbaaconvention.org](http://www.sbaaconvention.org)

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## AA's 12 Concepts

The Twelve Concepts for World Service were written by A.A.'s co-founder Bill W., and were adopted by the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1962. The Concepts are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure as it emerged through A.A.'s early history and experience. Last issue we printed concepts 5 and 6.

7. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purpose for final effectiveness.

8. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

*The text of the complete Concepts is printed in The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service (BM-31).*

## BIRTHDAY DONATIONS

Fred ↔ 40 Years

Dave C ↔ 35 years



### **PUBLISH YOUR BIRTHDAY or SOBRIETY STORY TODAY!**

Shall we put another candle on your birthday cake too? To publish your birthday, send us your name, sobriety date and your contribution check (DO NOT SEND CASH) in the mail to: North Orange County Central Office, 1661 E. Chapman Ave., Suite 1H; Fullerton, CA, 92831. Email: [officemanager@aanoc.com](mailto:officemanager@aanoc.com).

## Central Office News

### **Annual Gratitude Dinner to be Nov. 8**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gratitude Dinner will be held on November 8 at the Union Hall, 8530 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, CA 90622. Tickets go on sale at NOCCO October 1. Speaker for the event will be Johnny H., who has more than 50 years of sobriety.

All proceeds for the event will go to support North Orange County Central Office. Your generous pledge helps NOCCO to carry the A.A. Message of hope and recovery to alcoholics still suffering in the North Orange County area.

### **Call for Volunteers!**

Central Office took 689 calls in June-July

362 were from men

327 were from women



Keep up the great work — YOU make a difference!



## NOC Central Office BULLETIN BOARD

**H&I**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY**

September 14 and October 12

**NOCPIC**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY**

September 10 and October 8

**INTERGROUP**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY**

September 10 and October 8

**Orange County Hospitals and  
Institutions Committee**

2nd Sunday of each month.  
Institutions Committee: 4-5 pm  
(Orientation at 3:15 pm)

Hospitals Committee: 6-7 pm  
(Orientation at 5:15 pm)  
Garden Grove Alano Club  
9845 Belfast, Garden Grove  
Call (949) 278-5173

**North Orange County Public  
Information Committee**

Learn about sharing the message with  
Non-A.A. people like high school and  
college students.

Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd Wednes-  
day of every month at NOCCO  
1661 E. Chapman Ave., Suite 1H,  
Fullerton. If you have questions, call  
Brian K. 714-658-4581

**North Orange County  
Intergroup Association  
Intergroup**

Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the  
2nd Wednesday of every month at  
109 E. Wilshire, Fullerton  
(First Christian Church)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL CENTRAL OFFICE AT (714) 773-4357

### Much AA Information at [www.aanoc.com](http://www.aanoc.com)

Visit [www.aanoc.com](http://www.aanoc.com) for the latest events, meetings and other information.

The site is chock full of information, including a sobriety clock, links to meetings in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and San Diego counties, as well as links to Alcoholics Anonymous World Services Organization, Southern California GSR Service Area 9 and the AA Grapevine. Current and past issues of the Anonymous Times newsletter are also available for download from the site.

Send Us Your Story

Online! Anonymous Times

articles can be submitted to

[officemanager@aanoc.com](mailto:officemanager@aanoc.com)



## Faithful Fivers

Amy H. • Pamela C. • "Just Ken" • Cindy Z. • Margaret J. • Ruth T. • Chris D. •  
Rachel A. • Carol G. • Karen M. Cliff M. • Julie S. • Paul P. • Sherry L. • Jan. W  
• Joe P. • Kent M. • Laurel Mc. • Steve D. • Tammy D. • Michele M. • Linda C. •  
Michael V. • Mike Cate. C. • William G. • Jeanne L. • Nathan J. • Jill L.

Faithful Fivers are A.A. Members who graciously contribute \$5.00 or more\* each month to support their local Central Office in its efforts to carry the A.A. message of hope and recovery to those alcoholics still suffering in our area. As a Faithful Fiver, your personal contribution will help make these vital services possible. The Faithful Fiver idea came about when we remembered that we wasted much more than \$5.00 a month during our drinking days.

YES! I wish to participate as a Faithful Fiver

Here is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ months.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: NOCCO ~ 1661 E. Chapman Ave. #1H, Fullerton, CA 92831

\*Contributions are limited to \$5,000.00 per year, per member and are tax deductible under IRS Code 501(c)3

# June-July 2014 Meeting Contributions

City	Day/Time	Meeting	Jun-14	Jul-14	YTD Total
Anaheim	Sunday 10:30 am	24 Hr. Group Speaker		15.00	65.00
Anaheim	Sunday 8 pm	Fireside Speaker			180.00
Anaheim	Monday 12 pm	Nooner's BB Step Study		102.90	317.10
Anaheim	Monday 5:30 pm	Primary Purpose	70.00		70.00
Anaheim	Tuesday 7:30 pm	Big Book Women's Part.			60.00
Anaheim	Tuesday 8 pm	TNT&T		40.00	75.00
Anaheim	Thursday 7:30 pm	We Got A Coffee Pot Men's	35.00	70.00	210.00
Anaheim	Friday 12 pm	Women's Big Book Study	140.00		241.85
Anaheim	Friday 6:30 pm	Gratitude Is An Action	70.00		134.32
Anaheim	Saturday 7:30 am	Eye Opener Table Pounding			71.44
Anaheim	Saturday 8:30 am	It's In the Book			199.03
Brea	Monday 10 am	Women's Discussion	28.00		145.00
Brea	Monday 5:30 pm	12 & 12		210.00	340.00
Brea	Tuesday 10:30 am	Daily Reflections Womens	50.00		50.00
Brea	Tuesday 5:30 pm	Men's Topic Discussion		90.00	140.00
Brea	Tuesday 5:30 pm	Women's 10 Step HH			130.00
Brea	Tuesday 7 pm	Step Study Workshop		30.00	50.00
Brea	Wednesday 5:30 pm	As Bill See's It	87.00	84.00	432.00
Brea	Wednesday 6:45pm	Daily Reflections/Women's	40.00		113.00
Brea	Thursday 10:30 am	Step Sisters Step Study			160.00
Brea	Thursday 5:30 pm	Living In The Solution	100.00		180.00
Brea	Thursday 5:30 pm	Women's BB Study			69.37
Brea	Friday 5:30 pm	Big Book Study			159.00
Brea	Friday 8 pm	Men's	50.00	50.00	300.00
Brea	Saturday 10:30 am	Saturday Morn Womens AA Step		97.50	248.50
Buena Park	Monday 7:30 pm	Monday Nite BP Topic Disc	100.00		200.00
Buena Park	Friday 8 pm	Fridayday Nite Discussion	50.00		227.57
Cypress	Sunday 6 pm	11th Step Spiritual GrowThursday	160.00		160.00
Cypress	Tuesday 6 pm	Happy Hour			100.00
Cypress	Tuesday 7:30 pm	Big Book Study		70.00	154.00
Cypress	Friday 8 pm	Friday Night Lunatic Fringe	100.00		200.00
Cypress	Saturday 7:30 pm	Open Topic			125.00
Fullerton	Daily 6 am	Attitude Modification	180.00	90.00	1,080.00
Fullerton	Sunday 10:30 am	Sunday Morning Speaker	104.00		104.00
Fullerton	Sunday 5:30 pm	Women's Step Study	32.20		49.20
Fullerton	Sunday 6 pm	How It Works	25.00		44.00
Fullerton	Monday 10:30 am	Morning Glories	91.00	60.00	291.00
Fullerton	Monday 11:30 am	Discussion			24.50
Fullerton	Monday 6 pm	Fullerton Big Book			10.00
Fullerton	Monday 6 pm	Cat's On Thursday Roof		44.23	79.77
Fullerton	Monday 6 pm	Monday Nite Men's @ FAC			210.00
Fullerton	Monday 8 pm	Big Book Study		70.00	70.00
Fullerton	Tuesday 7 pm	Men's AA Study		105.00	105.00
Fullerton	Wednesday 2 pm	Women's Coffee Talk			120.00
Fullerton	Wednesday 6 pm	Show Up & Grow Up		60.00	65.00
Fullerton	Thursday 5:30 pm	Women's BB Study			5.02
Fullerton	Thursday 7:30 pm	Kitchen Table Meeting			40.00
Fullerton	Thursday 8 pm	Men's Participation (Mo's)		433.00	788.00
Fullerton	Friday 11:30 am	Participation	35.00		35.00
Fullerton	Friday 6 pm	Singles For Sobriety	56.33		56.33

City	Day/Time	Meeting	June-14	July-14	YTD Total
Fullerton	Friday 6:30 pm	Women's Hit & Run		35.00	140.00
Fullerton	Friday 8 pm	Downtown Fullerton Speaker	60.00	30.00	300.00
Fullerton	Saturday 9:30 am	Feelings			56.00
Fullerton	Saturday 2 pm	Hot Topic			60.00
Fullerton	Saturday 4:30 pm	Here & Now	70.00		70.00
Fullerton	Saturday 6 pm	Saturday Night Live			20.00
Garden Gr	Sunday	Sunday Night Disaster			224.93
Garden Gr	Sunday 12 pm	Participation	10.00		80.00
Garden Gr	Monday 7 pm	Primary Purpose Book St			21.00
Garden Gr	Tuesday 12 pm	No Whinning Group			100.00
Hunt Bch	Daily 7 pm	Triangle Group			80.00
La Habra	Sunday 10:30 am	Participation		45.00	193.75
La Habra	Sunday 7:30 pm	Sober Sunday			40.00
La Habra	Sunday 7:30 pm	Sunday Night Book Study	40.00		40.00
La Habra	Tuesday 8 pm	Participation	70.00		170.00
La Habra	Wednesday 7:30 pm	La Habra Men's Stag	125.00		550.00
La Habra	Thursday 8 pm	Participation			180.00
La Habra	Friday 8 pm	Friday Night Beginners			300.00
La Habra	Friday 8 pm	Friday Night Speakers	50.00		230.00
La Mirada	Sunday 8 pm	Men's Big Book Study			113.00
La Mirada	Tuesday 8 pm	Winner's Circle	30.00		30.00
Los Alamitos	Daily 7 am	Surrender Is Freedom	110.00	160.00	1,115.00
Los Alamitos	Sunday 6 pm	Big Book Study			60.00
Los Alamitos	Wednesday 8 pm	Sobriety 1st			75.00
Los Alamitos	Saturday 6 pm	Saturdayday Night Lite			150.00
Orange	Sunday 8:30 am	Attitude Adjustment			100.00
Orange	Sunday 11 am	Book Study			105.00
Orange	Monday 5:30 pm	Rush Hour			200.00
Orange	M-F 5:30 pm	Tustin Rush Hour			60.00
Orange	Monday 7 pm	Women's E/S/H	50.00		193.00
Orange	Tuesday 7 pm	Orange - Tustin Group			126.43
Orange	Tuesday 7 pm	Old School History		25.00	25.00
Orange	Wednesday 7 pm	Easy Does It			100.00
Orange	Wednesday 7 pm	Name In Thursdays Hat	25.00		100.00
Orange	Thursday 6:30 am	Early Bird Discussion			100.00
Orange	Thursday 7 pm	Men's	70.00		130.00
Orange	Thursday 7:30 pm	All About Me Men's Stag			350.00
Orange	Friday 12 pm	Quality Serenity			255.00
Orange	Friday 8 pm	No Puffers Speakers	45.00		273.96
Orange	Friday 7 pm	OC Friday Nite Roaming Couples		210.00	510.00
Orange	Saturday 6 pm	Winner's Circle			120.00
Placentia	Sunday 8:30 am	Right Start	100.00	100.00	600.00
Placentia	Sunday 7:30 pm	Placentia Sunday Night	100.00		100.00
Placentia	Monday 6:30 pm	Beginners Sober Start		80.00	240.00
Placentia	Monday 7 pm	Men's SRSTO			166.00
Placentia	Monday 8:00 pm	Unmanagables	80.00		200.00
Placentia	Thursday 10:30 am	Women's Stepping Stones		100.00	300.00
Santa Ana	Wednesday 8 pm	Cooper Discussion		30.00	30.00
Santa Ana	Saturday 8 pm	Cooper Speaker		15.00	15.00

## Tradition 10

# Avoiding Outside Issues

### From the Oct. 2008 Lifeline

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Tradition 10, P. 562, Alcoholics Anonymous

What, exactly, is an outside issue in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous?

Since those who assembled our Traditions were aware there might be some confusion on this subject, they took the time and put forth the effort to simplify it. In the long form of this Tradition, on Page 565 of the Big Book, we are told "No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion."

Because many A.A. groups are structured, arguments on the three specified subjects are few and far between. Most Big Book study groups stick to the text. So do many of the Twelve and Twelve groups. But that leaves a lot of open participation groups and open discussion groups as particularly vulnerable to those with an ax to grind.

In recent years we have seen groups torn asunder by disputes over religious affiliation. A.A. members, disenchanted with out-spoken political views in group meetings, have abandoned one meeting and sought haven elsewhere. A member's joke about Mothers Against Drunk Drivers created havoc in yet another group.

### Origin of 12 steps ... From page 3

worth had so providentially given us.

Finally, one day, Dr. Silkworth took me back down to my right size. Said he, "Bill, why don't you quit talking so much about that bright light experience of yours, it sounds too crazy. Though I'm convinced that nothing but better morals will make alcoholics really well, I do think you have got the cart before the horse. The point is that alcoholics won't

buy all this moral exhortation until they convince themselves that they must. If I were you I'd go after them on the medical basis first. While it has never done any good for me to tell them how fatal their malady is, it might be a very different story if you, a formerly hopeless alcoholic, gave them the bad news. Because of this identification you naturally have with alcoholics, you might be able to penetrate where I can't. Give them

There are other areas where A.A. members should use caution. Some meetings read a little card that asks members to "confine their remarks to their problems with alcohol" but that doesn't register with members who wish to make their use of heroin or cocaine a part of their story in meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous.

In the early 1980s, this member was at a meeting where a man said he wasn't drinking but was using "a little bit of pot." He barely got the words out when a member shouted he couldn't talk about drug use. "This is Alcoholics Anonymous," he was told.

These little essays usually see some review by my sponsor, a sponsee or two or by someone whose counsel I trust. The piece you're reading drew a negative reaction from a long-time member who said that the reprimand directed to the marijuana user was ill-advised and demonstrated a lack of tolerance. So he was asked if his concern was just for marijuana users or would he extend the same allowances for cocaine users? For pill addicts? For heroin users? For methamphetamine addicts? He said he wouldn't favor silencing anyone in an A.A. meeting.

My sponsor told me that it was less offensive to tell the offender after the meeting that such comments would be appropriate in Narcotics Anonymous meetings. There are also Pills Anonymous and Marijuana Anonymous meetings in Orange County. Phone numbers are available in the phone book or by calling directory assistance.

Back in the 1840s, the Washingtonian Society had a short but explosive impact on the society of its day. But it met a painful and fatal ending as a result of its efforts to deal with matters not connected with their problem with alcohol. Check it out in the library. The story of the short and unhappy life of the Washingtonian Society is the best reason for Tradition Ten.

*George L., Westminster*

the medical business first, and give it to them hard. This might soften them up so they will accept the principles that will really get them well."

Then Came Akron

Shortly after this history-making conversation, I found myself in Akron, Ohio, on a business venture which promptly collapsed. Alone in the town, I was scared to death of getting drunk. I was no longer a teacher or a preacher, I

*Continued on Page 10*



# SPEAKER MEETINGS: September/October 2014

Anonymous Times would like to publish your list of speakers for November/December 2014.

Deadline for publication is October 15, 2014. Email: [OfficeManager@aanoc.com](mailto:OfficeManager@aanoc.com)

Friday  
8 p.m. Downtown Speakers (1 Hour)  
109 E. Wilshire, Fullerton 92632 (1st  
Christian Church)  
September 5 Linda P., Lake Balboa  
September 12 TBD  
September 19 TBD  
September 26 Fran T., Cypress

Friday  
8 p.m. La Habra Speaker  
631 North Euclid St., La Habra, CA 90631  
September 5 Josh S., Lawndale  
September 12 Tina W., Glendora  
September 19 Brad W., Anaheim Hills  
September 26 Jim S., Beach  
October 3 Don L., Simi Valley  
October 10 Daryl J., La Habra  
October 17 Charlotte B., Huntington Beach  
October 24 Gloria V., El Monte  
October 31 Joe D., Lakewood  
November 7 Lyn W., Irvine  
November 14 Dr Hector E., Hollywood  
November 21 Tracy H P, Brea  
November 28 Jeannie, Playa del Ray

Friday  
8 p.m. Friday Night No Puffers  
Community of Christ Church  
395 S. Tustin, Tustin  
September 5 Ryan P., Orange  
September 12 Jim G., Newport Beach  
September 19 Pamela E., Orange  
September 26 Chris W., Orange  
October 3 Roger Mc. Huntington Beach  
October 10 Ty H., Villa Park  
October 17 Jim S., Cypress  
October 24 Mary O., Laguna Niguel  
October 31 Glenn H. (Bigfoot/Pickle), Tustin  
November 7 Ryan B., Tustin  
November 14 Jim C., Huntington Beach  
November 21 Carol M., Orange  
November 28 Johnny M., Anaheim

Saturday  
8 p.m. Liverpool Speaker  
4861 Liverpool @ Yorba Linda Blvd  
*Hear a great speaker share about sobriety every Saturday.*

Saturday  
8 p.m. Oddfellows Speaker  
109 E. Wilshire, Fullerton 92632  
*Hear a great speaker share about sobriety every Saturday.*

Sunday  
**10:30 a.m.** Fullerton Alano Center  
530 W. Commonwealth, Fullerton  
September 1 ALCOTHON SPEAKER  
September 7 Darren P., Santa Barbara  
September 14 Patt O., Mission Viejo  
September 21 Gabrielle C., Long Beach  
October 5 Melisa B., Long Beach  
**October 12 Dodie G., Seal Beach**  
**October 19 Hiro, Long Beach**  
**October 26 BIRTHDAY SUNDAY**  
November 2 Tara F., Dana Point  
November 9 TBA  
November 16 Elaine L., Long Beach  
November 23 Jesse C, Covina  
**November 30 BIRTHDAY SUNDAY**

Sunday  
8 p.m. Fireside Speaker Meeting  
641 S. Western Ave. Anaheim CA 92804  
*Hear a great speaker share about sobriety every Sunday.*

Wednesday Fullerton Alano Center  
8 p.m. 530 W. Commonwealth, Fullerton  
*Hear a great speaker share about sobriety every Wednesday.*

Thursday Pioneer Speaker  
8 p.m. 202 W. Broadway, Anaheim  
*Hear a great speaker share about sobriety every Thursday.*



To include meetings, we need your  
speaker lists by October 15, 2014.

# The AA Group

## ... Where it All Begins

(From AA Pamphlet of the same name)

### Introduction

As it says in Concept I:

The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

### The A.A. Group—the Final Voice of the Fellowship

“Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside down organization because “the ultimate responsibility and final authority for world services resides with the groups—rather than with the trustees, the General Service Board or the General Service Office in New York.”

“Twelve Concepts For World Service Illustrated” The entire structure of A.A. depends upon the participation and con-

science of the individual groups, and how each of these groups conducts its affairs has a ripple effect on A.A. everywhere. Thus, we are ever individually conscious of our responsibility for our own sobriety and, as a group, for carrying the A.A. message to the suffering alcoholic who reaches out to us for help.

A.A. has no central authority, minimal organization, and a handful of Traditions instead of laws. As co-founder Bill W. noted in 1960, “We obey [the Twelve Traditions] willingly because we ought to and because we want to. Perhaps the secret of their power lies in the fact that these life-giving communications spring out of living experience and are rooted in love.”

A.A. is shaped by the collective voice of its local groups and their representatives to the General Service Conference, which works toward unanimity on matters vital to the Fellowship.



## Origin of 12 Steps ... From Page 8

was an alcoholic who knew that he needed another alcoholic as much as that one could possibly need me. Driven by that urge, I was soon face to face with Dr. Bob. It was at once evident that Dr. Bob knew more of the spiritual things than I did. He also had been in touch with the Oxford Groupers at Akron. But somehow he simply couldn't get sober. Following Dr. Silkworth's advice, I used the medical sledgehammer. I told him what alcoholism was and just how fatal it could be. Apparently this did something to Dr. Bob. On June 10, 1935, he sobered up, never to drink again. When, in 1939, Dr. Bob's story first appeared in the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, he put one paragraph of it in italics. Speaking of me, he said: “Of far more importance was the fact that he was the first living human with whom I had ever talked, who knew what he was talking about in regard to alcoholism from actual experience.”

### The Missing Link

Dr. Silkworth had indeed supplied us the

missing link without which the chain of principles now forged into our Twelve Steps could never have been complete. Then and there, the spark that was to become Alcoholics Anonymous had been struck.

During the next three years after Dr. Bob's recovery our growing groups at Akron, New York and Cleveland evolved the so-called word-of-mouth program of our pioneering time. As we commenced to form a society separate from the Oxford Group, we began to state our principles something like this:

1. We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol.
2. We got honest with ourselves.
3. We got honest with another person, in confidence.
4. We made amends for harms done others.
5. We worked with other alcoholics without demand for prestige or money.

6. We prayed to God to help us to do these things as best we could.

Though these principles were advocated according to the whim or liking of each of us, and though in Akron and Cleveland they still stuck by the O.G. absolutes of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love, this was the gist of our message to incoming alcoholics up to 1939, when our present Twelve Steps were put to paper.

I well remember the evening on which the Twelve Steps was written. I was lying in bed quite dejected and suffering from one of my imaginary ulcer attacks. Four chapters of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, had been roughed out and read in meetings at Akron and New York. We quickly found that everybody wanted to be an author. The hassles as to what should go into our new book were terrific. For example, some wanted a purely psychological book which would draw in alcoholics without scaring them. We could tell them about the “God business” afterwards. A few, led by our wonderful southern friend, Fitz M., wanted a fairly religious book infused with some of the dogma we had picked up from the churches

See page 12

# Captured Quips from California Jack

The wit and wisdom of Bill and Bob's friends.

*From the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, pg 124; "We grow by our willingness to face and rectify errors and convert them into assets."*

"I went to anger management and they all got mad at me." Dan J.

"If you want to be heard, speak up. If you want to be seen, stand up. If you want to be appreciated, shut up." Dr. Charlie.

"It's easier to kiss your wife goodbye when you leave your house than it is to kiss your house goodbye when you leave your wife." Tripp

"The more I accept people for what they are, the more peace I find within myself." Reggie P.

"Act as if God was sitting next to you." Big Dave

"I don't know why I'm here but I know how it feels to be there; and I know that I don't want to be there." Roger B.

"Sometimes you have to take a few steps back to keep moving forward." Tyler

"I got out of the darkness of my past and into the light of

my future." Steve

"I remember two drinks. My first drink with what it did for me and my last drink and what it did to me." Ray N.

"Many wise things are indelibly written in my memory. Unfortunately, when I need them most, I forget how to read." Drawn from Alexis

"Each of us has only one past but we have many futures." Tim L.

"I find that the voices in my head are the whispers of my past." Scott

"If God was small and simple enough to follow you, he wouldn't be God now, would he?" Cap'n Crunch.

"If you do the right thing for the right reasons, there's a good chance that the right thing will happen." Reggie P.

**And just for fun: - - -**

Boy: "I love you so much, I could never live without you."

Girl: "Is that you or the beer talking?"

Boy: "It's me talking to the beer."

If you can't drink and drive, why do you need a driver's license to buy alcohol?

Do you have a quote that you think should be added to the list? Send it to California Jack at [Golden.Buckeye@yahoo.com](mailto:Golden.Buckeye@yahoo.com)

## Meeting Contributions ... From Page 7

City	Day/Time	Meeting	June-14	July-14	YTD Total
Seal Beach	Tuesday 7 pm	Drunks R Us		28.00	28.00
Tustin	Monday 9:00 am	Women's Utility Group			60.00
Villa Park	Daily 7:30 am	24 Hr. Group		97.88	374.43
Whittier	Sunday 8 pm	Sunday Night Step Study	15.00	15.00	60.00
Whittier	Tuesday 7 pm	No Nonsense 12 x 12		25.00	35.00
Whittier	Wednesday 7 pm	As Bill See's It			50.00
Whittier	Wednesday 7 pm	Women's Winners			50.00
Whittier	Thursday 6:30 pm	Happy Hour Big Book		171.00	171.00
Whittier	Thursday 8 pm	Thursday Den Book Study			50.00
Whittier	Friday 7 pm	Big Book Study			80.00
Whittier	Saturday 10:30 am	Women's Acceptance		50.00	232.50
Whittier	Saturday 7:30 pm	Saturday Night Speaker	30.00		130.00
Yorba Linda	Daily 6 am	Attitude Modification	723.90	728.32	4,449.32
Yorba Linda	Monday 7 pm	Men's			25.00
Yorba Linda	Tuesday 7:30 pm	Y.L. Closed Women's	60.00		120.00
Yorba Linda	Tuesday 8 pm	Ohio Street Winners	140.00		240.00

City	Day/Time	Meeting	June-14	July-14	YTD Total
Yorba Linda	Wednesday 12 pm	Noontimers	196.00		534.00
Yorba Linda	Wednesday 7 pm	Women's Big Book Study		150.00	330.00
Yorba Linda	Wednesday 7:30 pm	Wednesday Night Book		60.00	240.00
Yorba Linda	Thursday 7 pm	Solutions - Women's			245.00
Yorba Linda	Thursday 7:30 pm	Y.L. Thursday'sday Participation	140.00		252.00
Yorba Linda	Friday 12 pm	Daily Reflections	50.00	50.00	275.00
Yorba Linda	Friday 8 pm	Friday Nite Ohio Winners Circle	70.00	70.00	360.00
???		162661			150.00
???		711332		75.00	187.50
**no info**		**no info**			70.00
**no info**		**no info**			225.05
???		Not A Glum Lot			60.00
???		Sunshine Pumpers			60.00
<b>TOTAL GROUPS:</b>			<b>4,063.43</b>	<b>4,071.83</b>	<b>26,425.87</b>

## A Drunk Gets a Haircut

(From AA Grapevine)

The speaker was going on and on. A man in the fifth row stood up and walked out. As the speaker was winding up, the man returned. After the meeting, the speaker asked the man where he went. "I went for a haircut," he said. "A haircut? Why didn't you get a haircut before the meeting started?" The man replied, "I didn't need a haircut before the meeting started."

## A Drunk Visits a Shrink and ...

(<http://www.aalondon.org/Humour1.html>)

A fellow who had a drinking problem which also lead to seeing weird animals under his bed each night after

retiring went to seek help.

The shrink assured him that he could cure the malady, and stated that the fee would be \$1,000. Needless to say, the drunk never went back.

Several weeks later, they met on the street and the shrink asked him if he was still troubled. .... and the conversation went like this;

Drunk - "Hell No ..... and the professional cure I got only cost me a case of beer"

Shrink - "What professional would work for a case of beer?"

Drunk - "My brother-in-law"

Shrink - "What branch of the professional field is he associated with?"

Drunk - "He's a carpenter, he sawed the legs off my bed"

## Origin of 12 Steps ... From Page 8

and missions which had tried to help us. The louder the arguments, the more I felt in the middle. It appeared that I wasn't going to be the author at all. I was only going to be an umpire who would decide the contents of the book. This didn't mean, though, that there wasn't terrific enthusiasm for the undertaking. Every one of us was wildly excited at the possibility of getting our message before all those countless alcoholics who still didn't know.

Having arrived at Chapter Five, it seemed high time to state what our program really was. I remember running over in my mind the word-of-mouth phrases then in current use. Jotting these down, they added up to the six named above. Then came the idea that our program ought to be more accurately and clearly stated. Distant readers would have to have precise set of principles. Knowing the alcoholic's ability to rationalize, something airtight would have to be written. We couldn't let the reader wiggle out anywhere. Besides, a more complete statement would help in the chapters to come where we would need to show

exactly how the recovery program ought to be worked.

### 12 Steps in 30 Minutes

At length I began to write on a cheap yellow tablet. I split the word-of-mouth program up into smaller pieces, meanwhile enlarging its scope considerably. Uninspired as I felt, I was surprised that in a short time, perhaps half an hour, I had set down certain principles which, on being counted, turned out to be twelve in number. And for some unaccountable reason, I had moved the idea of God into the Second Step, right up front. Besides, I had named God very liberally throughout the other steps. In one of the steps I had even suggested that the newcomer get down on his knees.

When this document was shown to our New York meeting the protests were many and loud. Our agnostic friends didn't go at all for the idea of kneeling. Others said we were talking altogether too much about God. And anyhow, why should there be twelve steps when we

had done fine on six? Let's keep it simple, they said.

This sort of heated discussion went on for days and nights. But out of it all there came a ten-strike for Alcoholics Anonymous. Our agnostic contingent, spearheaded by Hank P. and Jim B., finally convinced us that we must make it easier for people like themselves by using such terms as "a Higher Power" or "God as we understand Him!" Those expressions, as we so well know today, have proved lifesavers for many an alcoholic. They have enabled thousands of us to make a beginning where none could have been made had we left the steps just as I originally wrote them. Happily for us there were no other changes in the original draft and the number of steps stood at twelve. Little did we then guess that our Twelve Steps would soon be widely approved by clergymen of all denominations and even by our latter-day friends, the psychiatrists.

This little fragment of history ought to convince the most skeptical that nobody invented Alcoholics Anonymous.

It just grew...by the grace of God.