

BRACER

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2012

Northern Nevada Intergroup Newsletter

www.nnig.org

436 S. Rock Blvd. Sparks, NV 89431

(775)355-1151



Inside this Issue

Glum Lot.....	2
Upcoming Events.....	3
Member Submissions.....	4
Service Opportunities.....	5
Meeting Minutes.....	6
Financial Statement.....	9



The principle that we will find no enduring strength until we first admit complete defeat is the main taproot from which our whole Society has sprung and flowered.

- *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 22*

Keep It Simple

As long as you derive inner help and comfort from anything, you should keep it. If you were to give it up in a mood of self-sacrifice or out of a stern sense of duty, you would continue to want it back, and that unsatisfied want would make trouble for you. Only give up a thing when you want some other condition so much that the thing no longer has any attraction for you, or when it seems to interfere with that which is more greatly desired. *Mahatma Gandhi*



WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT



An Amarillo Cowboy Named Fred

It was New Year's Eve and a drunken cowboy lay sprawled across three entire seats in a posh Amarillo Theater. When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the cowboy, "sorry sir, but you're only allowed one seat."

The cowboy groaned but didn't budge. The usher became more impatient. "Sir, if you don't get up from there, I'm going to have to call the manager."

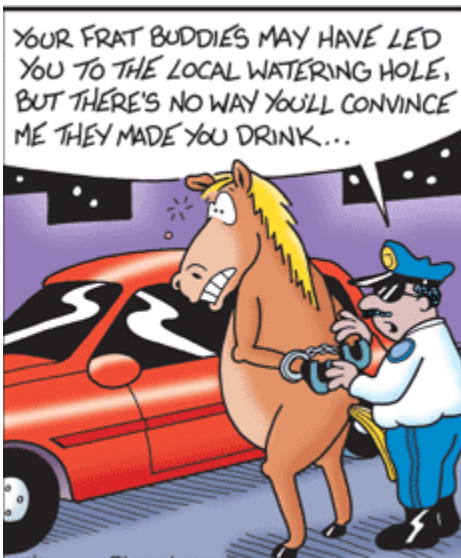
Once again, the cowboy just groaned. The usher marched briskly back up the aisle, and in a moment he returned with the manager. Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move the cowboy, but without success.

Finally, they summoned the police. The Texas Ranger surveyed the situation briefly then asked, "all right buddy what's your name?"

"Fred," the cowboy moaned.

"Where ya from, Fred?" asked the Ranger.

With terrible pain in his voice, and without moving a muscle, Fred replied, "the balcony..."



Rule #62: Don't take yourself too damn seriously!

UPCOMING EVENTS

NNIG MONTHLY SPEAKER MEETING

Grand Sierra Resort 2500 East 2nd St.

Lower Level, Nevada Foyer

Second Saturday of every month at 7:00 P.M.

Raffle Prizes Needed!

"Ain't it Grand"

Reno Spring Festival
April 13, 14 and 15
2012



Please donate raffle prizes for the Reno Spring Festival! Ideas include: gift baskets of any kind, gift cards, artwork, movie tickets, gift certificates, luxury items, trips, vacation rentals etc.

Items can be dropped off at Central Office labeled "Reno Spring Festival" no later than Monday, April 2nd. Call Central Office for more information.

MORE EVENTS

Jan. 26-29 2012 WACYPAA 15. Lorie-(702)769-3620

Feb. 3-6, 2012 Sober Brothers Super Bowl Cruise. Call for more info. (561)702-2312

Feb. 16-19 2012 International Women's Conference. (800)228-9290.

Feb. 26th 12:00 PM. NAGS GSR round table discussion meeting. Grand Sierra Resort.

Mar. 14-17, 2012. Seniors in Sobriety 2012 International Conference in Yuma, AZ. Email: mickey.white@gm.com

Area 42 Spring Conference. Tonopah, NV. Mar. 30, 31 and April 1, 2012.

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

The following are stories submitted by our members

I Get Drunk, We Stay Sober

"The man didn't get sober right away," Pete said, "but he ended up starting the first meeting in Reno." It doesn't really matter whether the story is true or not. It's typical of the "how-I-got-sober" stories most alcoholics tell about themselves and others. Drunkalogs, as we call them, are often embellished (indeed, I've taken liberty with Pete's). They are apocryphal and gospel and profound all at once. They are passed from old-timers, long time sobriety AA's, to newcomers, those newly sober. Drunkalogs are one way we carry the AA message from one generation of alcoholics to the next. Pete heard the story from an old-timer. He couldn't remember who told it to him, but others I've spoken to since have supplied names.

A man did come from San Francisco to Reno, and his name was Ward: "On May 23rd while on a business trip in Reno, Nev., I found that the city had a bad need of an AA group so I got busy and started one...I started a little group of four, with the first meeting on Saturday evening, in the house of Mr. & Mrs. C. J....I have recently found out that the club has increased to ten." (Letter, June 1946). I discovered this excerpted letter in the Nevada AA Archives (four or five boxes of unorganized papers and letters). It was part of a short history written by Ruth J. called "A.A. History in Nevada." Thanks to her, I've been able to piece together the origins of the first AA groups in Reno.

If Ward stayed in the old Overland Hotel when he came to visit, he probably did put an announcement of some sort in the personal column. And Kenny B. may have been the person who passed out beside Ward's door. Kenny is still around Reno. Several AA's have seen him in meetings at Truckee Meadows Hospital and St. Mary's. His name appears in the *1947 A.A. World Directory* as the very first person to contact for Reno AA.

Another person who played an important part in the beginning of the Reno fellowship was John D. John got sober in Salt Lake City in the mid-forties and then moved to Carson City when he was about a year dry. His name shows up in the *A.A. World Directory* under Carson City about the same time as Kenny's. Many of the people I interviewed who sobered up in Reno during the sixties remember John as being active in both Reno and Carson City. "I never heard John tell a drunkalog. When he talked, he talked Steps [the Twelve Steps of A.A.], and he went from One to Twelve. He was one of the first members and he came from Carson City" (Maggie K.). "His AA group in Salt Lake City was worried about him. So four or five of them piled into a car and drove to Carson. This is before I-80. They drove to Carson, checked up on John, and had a meeting with him. Afterwards they got in the car and drove back to Salt Lake. Can you imagine that? That's going to any lengths" (Bob Ho.). John

died five years ago with thirty-eight years of sobriety.

Frank D. was John's sponsor. Today Frank lives in Modesto, California but he still comes back to Reno to visit his AA friends. His sobriety dates back to October of 1946. Kenny B., the first Reno AA, was Frank's sponsor in the old days. AA offers a suggested program of recovery for the alcoholic that consists of twelve steps. The Steps are designed to level the alcoholic's ego and enhance his spiritual awareness. An AA sponsor has already completed the Steps, and he or she acts as a guide and friend for novice members.

I was unable to contact either Kenny or Frank, but I had a long phone conversation with another man Frank sponsored: Ken C. Ken C. used to travel up and down the coast of California so much that his AA moniker became Coastline Whitey. Whitey came into AA in Los Angeles, but had his last drink in Reno on July 7, 1947: "Hell, there weren't any members here then [in the late forties]. There weren't even 12 members at that time." In his travels through California, Whitey was introduced to the founders, Bill Wilson and Bob Smith: "I met them in the forties but I can't remember whether I was drunk or sober. Bob and Bill come to L.A. with some other guy, the third AA, and their wives. Bill came out several times. He got the Lasker Award in San Francisco and I was there."

The above story was written in 1991 by Skip M. and submitted by Mike C. It is the third in a 10 part series that will continue in the coming issues of the Bracer. Stay tuned for more.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

AA Answering Service Numbers

Reno, Sparks, Carson City and all of Northern Nevada: (775) 355-1151

Fallon: (775) 423-6009

Las Vegas and all of Southern Nevada: (702) 598-1888

Minden/Gardnerville Group meeting information only: (775) 265-4460

Mammoth Lake: (760) 934-3434

North Lake Tahoe: (530) 546-1126

South Lake Tahoe: (530) 541-1243

Winnemucca: (775) 625-3771

Susanville, CA: (530) 257-2880

Central Office Volunteers Needed

Our Central Office is always in need of volunteers to help out. Call or come in to be of service.

Help Wanted

Step - Up
to Service:
Do Treatment
With Us



Meeting: Treatment Committee
Where: Triangle Club - Up Stairs
Date: December 3, 2011
Time: 1:30
Point of Contact:
Bruce A. 378-7946
Renee 1-619-721-7549



A.A. Books Wanted
*Needed for Newcomers
in Treatment*

Please call for pick-up:
Bruce - 378-7946
Renee - 1-619-721-7549
Craig - 219-7063
Judy - 379-7136

OR:

Drop off at NNIG Central Office
436 S. Rock Blvd
Sparks, NV.

Now! New Phone Support!

The Sunshine Committee now offers phone support. We visit sober alcoholics in hospitals, rehab, and homes. We will now set up a regular call schedule for those unable to attend meetings. Call Central Office for more information.

Northern Nevada Intergroup Committee Meeting

1st Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm
Reno Triangle Club
635 S. Wells Ave. Reno, NV 89502

Monthly ANNYPAA Committee Meeting

Held the third Sunday of each month
upstairs in the Triangle Club at 3:30 PM

International Women's Conference Meetings

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON SUNDAY @
North Nevada Literacy Council
1400 Wedekind Rd Reno, NV 89512
For more information contact:
Elisa R elisar2013iwc@hotmail.com
Trudy 49th.iwc@gmail.com

*For more info on our monthly committee meetings call
Central Office at (775)355-1151*

NNIG BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

6

NNIG Business Meeting - January 3, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm with the Serenity Prayer

NNIG Preamble was read by Pat, followed by 7th tradition.

Approval of minutes

Group voted on the December meeting minutes. December meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairpersons Report (Van) – NNIG Operating Procedures: The Ad-Hoc committee of AJ and Joe S. completed the OP revision. The basic change was adding the Web Master's duties and responsibilities coupled with some grammatical changes to the document. The revised procedures will be posted to the web-site and e-mailed out to the NNIG Intergroup Representatives for their groups review, comments and acceptance. This will be up for approval at our next business meeting. The next step is to make the same revision to our By-Laws. If you don't have on-line access you may pick up the 46 page hard copy at Central Office.

NNIG exists to support all groups in Northern Nevada and part of the Eastern California. If there is anything we can do to improve the quality of that support please let Central Office know. (775) 355-1151. Thank you!

Vice Chair Report - (Paul E.) – No Report

Secretary - (Mary Pat Z.)- Please have your reports done prior to the meeting. Forms are available at the sign in table and will be sent as an attachment to your next issue of the Bracer. Also there is a new meeting starting on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at 7pm @ the Methodist Church, 200 De Spain Lane.

Treasurer Report (Danny S. & Dod P.) - We were able to transfer money to our savings. We have been able to make some very good buys on supplies (books, chips,) buying in volume. We are improving our cash position month by month. Prudent reserve is getting better. We are putting together an AdHoc committee to address the business procedures of Central Office. This is for the purpose of creating an office with guidelines for procedures to smooth the transfer of volunteers and officers during their rotation.

I.R. Report - (Sean N. & Linda T.) – No Report

Central Office Report - Leslie S. – Executive Director of Central office

221 volunteer hours.

Central Service Committee Reports

Answering Service (Steve M) — Steve, co-chair says, Laura has resigned her position as chair of this committee and we need a replacement. An answering service questionnaire has been handed out. Please take document back to your group for clarification, requests, and suggestions.

Public Information - (Mike C)

Attended "One Day on the Streets" a homeless benefit at Paradise Park, and set up a table and handed out books and pamphlets from 10:30 to 12:30. Also attended a recovery picnic at Cottonwood Park in Sparks, pamphlets and books were handed out.

- ⤴ Took some books, (Big Book, Living Sober, 12 & 12) to the library and social services
- ⤴ Needs volunteers and funding.

There seems to be some confusion regarding who should provide PI with the supplies, Big Books, pamphlets, etc.

CPC (Noel W.) - Not Present

Corrections, Treatment, Bridging The Gap (Steve W.) – Steve W. Contributions were \$206.42 for a balance of \$806.42. We are still looking for volunteer to the Nevada Restitution Center. The commitment is meeting one night per week @ NRC. We are also currently meeting on how to distribute Pink Can contributions. Issue at hand is should money from pink can be used to give Big Books to alcoholics exclusively or is it permissible that the funds be used also to supply institutions with Big Books and literature for alcoholics. The issue is being discussed and we are seeking guidance from New York and we will ultimately get a group conscience regarding this issue. Distributions currently are made based on need to BTG, Corrections, Treatment.

Treatment– (Craig) No Report

Sunshine Committee - (AJ C.) – There were a total of 8 visits during the month of December 2011. all were on-site visits. During 2011 the Sunshine Committee made 72 visits to serve the needs of recovering alcoholics unable to attend regularly scheduled meetings. The Sunshine Committee currently has 71 members listed available for visits. Volunteers are always welcome to participate. Announcements are made at most AA meetings. Flyers are posted in Reno, Carson City and Gardnerville.

Bracer (Ted G.) – The December Bracer issue went out on time. Please make sure that I have your correct e-mail address. Articles, new meetings, events, there is always room in the Bracer. We will begin sending out the NNIG report forms with the Bracer to begin to streamline the monthly NNIG meeting.

E-mail nnigbracer@gmail.com

Speaker Meeting (Pete L.)

December 2011 speaker meeting. Attendance was over 300 we took in \$427.00 for the raffle, 328.08 for the 7th tradition, for a total of \$855.08. Expenses were \$64.16 for speaker's dinner, \$100 rent for meeting room for a total of \$690.90. The speaker was funny and well liked from reports. After Shifters group of Carson City did a great job. Next month's speaker is Diane R. from Sparks. Sunnyside Group is the host group.

Activities Chair (Dan M. co Chair Mike B.) – New Years went well. The event made a profit of \$1,642.45 for NNIG. Looking forward to Corned Beef & Cribbage. The committee needs volunteers for this event to be a success. Please attend the organizational meetings scheduled for January 5 and 19 at the Triangle club. Corned Beef & Cribbage committee meeting is 1/5/12 at the Triangle Club in the waiting area. Committee members are needed. There will also be a meeting on 1/19/12 at the Triangle Club in the waiting area.

Corned Beef & Cribbage is March 17th 2:30 to 9 pm at the California Building, Idlewild Park.

Web Master (Ollie K.) – Ollie New website is online NNIG.org Please e-mail files to NNIGwebmaster@gmail.com. We are still in need of a co-chair.

Northern Nevada Area 42 Liaison (Roger H.) – Round table at Grand Sierra February 26th at noon. NevadaArea42.org is the web site. At the NAGSC I gave a report on the similarities between NAGSC committees and the NNIG committees and why there are similar committees in both. NAGSC serves the conference in New York and NNIG serves the local committees.

ANNYPAA (Greg Stephens) – Annypaa will conduct a group inventory Sunday January 8, 2012 at a member's home. Committee elections are Sunday January 15, 2012 and will begin with at potluck @ 1:00pm.

Old Business (None)

New Business (None)

Motion to adjourn made by Steve.

Meeting closed with the serenity prayer at 8:00pm.



NNIG FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Northern Nevada Intergroup Profit & Loss December 2011

	Dec 11
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Event Revenues	
New Year's Eve Gala	
Revenue	6,425.00
Expenses	-6,814.00
New Year's Eve Gala - Other	40.00
Total New Year's Eve Gala	-349.00
Gratitude Dinner	
Expenses	-81.92
Total Gratitude Dinner	-81.92
Speaker Meeting	
Speaker Meeting Revenue	872.08
Speaker Meeting Expenses	-264.18
Total Speaker Meeting	607.90
Total Event Revenues	176.98
Faithful Fivers	35.00
Group Contributions	2,875.58
Individual Contributions	1,121.20
Interest Income	0.09
Merchandise Sales	4,632.20
Other Uncategorized Income	5.01
Total Income	8,846.06
Cost of Goods Sold	
Cost of Goods Sold	
Physical inventory adjustment	1,075.25
Cost of Goods Sold - Other	3,042.98
Total Cost of Goods Sold	4,118.23
Total COGS	4,118.23
Gross Profit	4,727.83
Expense	
Bank Fees and charges	3.00
Cash Over/Short	-7.10
CC Service Fees	77.00
Storage Unit	106.00
Shipping Charges	45.85
Compensation & Benefits	2,932.65
Copier Lease	187.16
Membership, Dues & Publications	10.50
Office Supplies	371.04
Payroll Tax Expense	224.30
Postage	5.20
Rent	1,342.00
Telephone	777.44
Trash	45.56
Utilities	140.83
Total Expense	6,261.43
Net Ordinary Income	-1,533.60
Net Income	-1,533.60

**Northern Nevada Intergroup
Transaction Detail By Account
December 2011**

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Paid Amount	Balance
Group Contributions					
Sales Receipt	12/1/2011	Happy Hour/Reno 02010	Group Contributions - November 2011	50.00	50.00
Sales Receipt	12/1/2011	Blairsdon Graeagle Group	Group Contributions	20.00	70.00
Sales Receipt	12/1/2011	Chester Saturday Night Group	Group Contributions	89.54	159.54
Sales Receipt	12/5/2011	Dayton Fellowship Hall	Group Contributions	100.00	259.54
Sales Receipt	12/5/2011	Roadside Group	Group Contributions	50.00	309.54
Sales Receipt	12/5/2011	Austin Group	Group Contributions	32.00	341.54
Sales Receipt	12/5/2011	Silver City Group	Group Contributions	260.00	601.54
Sales Receipt	12/6/2011	Big Book Study Triangle Club	Group Contributions	100.00	701.54
Sales Receipt	12/6/2011	Shake em up Group	Group Contributions	25.00	726.54
Sales Receipt	12/6/2011	Mammoth Lakes Group	Group Contributions	69.60	796.14
Sales Receipt	12/6/2011	Grupo Acclon	Group Contributions	10.00	806.14
Sales Receipt	12/7/2011	NNIG Business Meeting	7th Tradition	34.00	840.14
Sales Receipt	12/7/2011	Almost Heaven Triangle Club	Group Contributions	15.00	855.14
Sales Receipt	12/13/2011	Minden/Gardnerville Group	Group Contributions--AA Way of Life ...	100.00	955.14
Sales Receipt	12/16/2011	Serenity Campout	Group Contributions	500.00	1,455.14
Sales Receipt	12/19/2011	Crowley Lake Group	Group Contributions	50.00	1,505.14
Sales Receipt	12/19/2011	Silver Springs	Group Contributions	35.00	1,540.14
Sales Receipt	12/20/2011	Welcome Home Group	welcome home group	20.00	1,560.14
Sales Receipt	12/20/2011	Serenity on Sunday	Group Contributions	141.47	1,701.61
Sales Receipt	12/20/2011	Sunnyside Big Book Study	Group Contributions	100.00	1,801.61
Sales Receipt	12/21/2011	Caring & Sharing In Stead	Group Contributions	25.10	1,826.71
Sales Receipt	12/21/2011	Southside Group	Group Contributions	100.00	1,926.71
Sales Receipt	12/21/2011	Southside Group	Group Contributions	337.87	2,264.58
Sales Receipt	12/21/2011	Little Rascals	Group Contributions	100.00	2,364.58
Sales Receipt	12/22/2011	Cash Sale	Group Contributions Happy Hour (Ren...	50.00	2,414.58
Sales Receipt	12/22/2011	The Real Lunch Bunch	Group Contributions	40.00	2,454.58
Sales Receipt	12/29/2011	Sunnyside Group	Group Contributions	250.00	2,704.58
Sales Receipt	12/29/2011	Sat Night Fever	Group Contributions	50.00	2,754.58
Sales Receipt	12/30/2011	La Nueva Luz	Group Contributions November & Dec...	30.00	2,784.58
Sales Receipt	12/30/2011	Eye Opener	Group Contributions	91.00	2,875.58
Total Group Contributions				2,875.58	2,875.58
TOTAL				2,875.58	2,875.58

NNIG ENDING CASH BALANCES

January 3, 2012

	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Goal Reserve</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Administrative Funds:			
Cash on Hand	150.00	150.00	0.00
General Checking	4,992.60	5250.00	(257.40)
Administrative Balance	<u>5,142.60</u>	A <u>5,400.00</u>	<u>(257.40)</u>
Interest Bearing Accounts (Prudent Reserve)			
Savings	13,035.00	11000.00	2,035.00
CD	5,136.28	10000.00	(4,863.72)
	<u>18,171.28</u>	A <u>21,000.00</u>	<u>(3,343.52)</u>
Balance Over (Short) in Admin			(257.40)
Prudent Reserve Over (Short)			<u>(3,600.92)</u>
Other Checking Balances:			
Events balance	<u>1000</u>	A	
Total Cash on Hand (A)	<u>24,313.88</u>		

Faithful Fiver

We are members of Alcoholics Anonymous who support our local Central Office with separate contributions. These contributions help to serve the Northern Nevada Alcoholics Anonymous community with Central Office services and intergroup activities.

It's easy to join!

We ask for a \$5.00 monthly or \$60.00 yearly contribution, but no amount is too small. Donate whatever you can afford. Many members use their sobriety date as a reminder to send in their contributions. Please send your check today to:

Northern Nevada Intergroup

Attn Faithful Fiver

436 Rock Blvd South

Sparks, NV 89431

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\$5: (suggested) yearly donation, electronic version
\$12: one year, paper version

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date _____
 New _____ Renewal _____
 Donation for electronic version _____
 I can't send a donation at this time but I would still like to receive the BRACER electronically _____

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Return Service Requested