

NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



May 11th - 7:00 pm
Group: District 2
Webb F., Reno, NV

Silver Legacy - 407 North Virginia St., Reno - Doors open at 6:30

March, 2019

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GENERAL WARRANTIES OF THE NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

In all its proceedings, the Intergroup Association observes the spirit of AA Traditions, taking great care that the Intergroup Association never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus a reserve be its prudent financial principal; that none of the Intergroup Association members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decision be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that no Intergroup Association action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Intergroup Association may act for the service of AA Groups in the Northern Nevada area and parts of Northern California, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Intergroup Association itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

(The above is adapted and modified from "The AA Service Manual", and AA Co-Founder Bill W.'s Twelve Concepts for World Service; Concept XII, as adopted by the General Service Conference on April 26, 1962. This adaptation of copyrighted AA material has been approved by the General Service Board)

CENTRAL OFFICE

436 S. Rock Blvd.,
Sparks, NV 89431
Monday thru Friday
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

24 Hour Answering Service:

(775) 355-1151 Fax: (775) 355-1560

EMAIL: officemanager@nnig.org

Web Site/Meeting Schedule: nnig.org

The Bracer: nnigbracer@gmail.com



NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP

Fan the Flames

In the mountains of Idaho, a woman gets a warm Thanksgiving reminder of the fire that came back in her life

I'm sitting by a campfire at the base of Idaho's Sawtooth Mountains. It's fall, and Thanksgiving will be here soon. As I sit and watch the flames, I contemplate this sobriety I have, AA, and the happiness and gratitude I feel. There's contentment in the air. The flames remind me of what it takes to build a solid, sober life.

First, there's the cold ground: burn-out, death, total defeat, desolation ... and for some of us, the shivers of the DTs. Then, when we walk into the rooms of AA, we ask for help and say, "Please, can someone light my fire?" Someone offers us kindling, a Big Book to help us feel a tiny spark of life. After a few weeks of meetings and sponsorship and reading the literature, we begin to feel a flame ... Ah, something to cling to!

As each day passes and our sobriety builds, we start doing service work which fuels our own flame. Before we know it, months pass, then a year, and another, and we find ourselves carrying a nice, solid fire of sobriety in our gut. We keep it going by "keep coming back" to meetings and trying to stay humble. We add more logs through service and working with newcomers. All the while we remain teachable by accepting new kindling to fan the flames in the form of new information we hear at meetings.

Now my sobriety is like an inner fire ... it's the foundation from which I act, love, work and give. It creates warmth and security. I can now offer kindling to newcomers to help them build their own fire.

This Thanksgiving I am overflowing with gratitude for having been dead enough to get to the rooms of AA, and that someone there had a match to light my fire and teach me how to live sober. I carry a burning desire to live this program today. I'm so thankful for our co-founders Bill W. and Dr. Bob and the flame they carried, which was passed on to me, and will continue long after I'm gone. I wish my fellows a blessed Thanksgiving ... and another log to place on the fire ... enough to warm a whole room.

Brenda M., Boise, Idaho

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A A's

Recovery Step Three:

"Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him."

Three

Unity Tradition Three:

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

Legacies

Service Concept Three:

"To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.-the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives - with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Concept III - The Right of Decision

The right of decision means that our A.A. trusted servants are to decide how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each problem or situation as it arises. The Concept states that we have this right of decision at each level of service. That is to say that when we are elected to a service job, we are given the responsibility to both represent the body that elects us while also making our decisions based on what we think is best for A.A. as a whole.

Here are two situations calling for the representative to exercise this right of decision.

First: When presented with an agenda of topics the representative decides which of the topics to bring to the group or committee they represent. We select the topics, sometimes out of a long list, that we think would be most pertinent to our group.

Second: After taking our group's conscience, we then carry this to the next service level where we act as our group's representative. Talking and listening to others outside our own group who have additional knowledge and information is always important. When a matter comes to a vote at this next level, it is important to consider both our group's viewpoint and to be open to voting independently of it. By listening carefully at all levels we are able to make a more fully informed decision. Additionally, after voting we may be presented with still another opinion that changes how we will vote. We need always be ready to change a vote if there is good reason to do so.

If we vote differently from the conscience of the group we represent, it is important also that we return to our group to explain to them why we did so.

I offer an example of right of decision from my own experience. At the time that I was representing my home group at a service meeting as their representative. I was asked to take a matter to my group, which I did. When I returned to the next service meeting more information was presented. It changed my view on the topic and my vote was different from what my group had decided. At the next business meeting of my home group I explained why I voted as I did. Some members of my group agreed with my action and others didn't. As a trusted servant we must always make a fully informed decision based on what is best for A.A. as a whole. As Concept III states, this is what makes us trusted servants rather than just group messengers.

This is a 12 part series written by members of the 12 Concepts Study Group in Reno, Nevada. Efforts were made to use simple, everyday language. Each concept is written by an individual member of the group and is not necessarily the opinion of AA as a whole or NNIG. We hope this series will help our community to understand the Concepts and bring interest to those wanting to know more about them.

NNIG & AREA EVENTS

EVENTS HOSTED BY NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP TO SUPPORT CENTRAL OFFICE

NNIG Monthly Speaker Meetings

Silver Legacy – 407 North Virginia Street, Reno 89501



Monthly Speaker Meeting
Doors open at 6:30 PM
Speaker at 7:00 PM



February 9, 2019

Host Group – Beginners Are Winners, Triangle Club 6:45am
Speaker – Pat & Mary D. (Reno, NV)
Location – Silver Baron 1-6

March 9, 2019

Host Group – Sisters of Sobriety, Buddhist Church 6pm Tuesday
Speaker – Ilene W. (Los Angeles, CA)
Location – Silver Baron 1-6

April 13, 2019

Host Group – District 2
Speaker – Webb F. (Reno, NV)
Location – Silver Baron A

May 11, 2019

Host Group – SouthSide, Unitarian Universalist Church 12pm
Speaker – Rachel B. (Los Angeles, CA)
Location – Silver Baron 1-6

June 8, 2019

Host Group – RENVYPAA, Triangle Club 2nd/4th Sunday 4pm
Long Timers Meeting (25+ years)
Location – Silver Baron 1-6

July 13, 2019

Host Group – Women's Just 4 Today, Triangle Club Monday 5:30pm
Speaker – Adrian L. (Sacramento, CA)
Location – Silver Baron 1-6

NNIG Speaker Chair: Brian A. – (775) 846-1120
Need more info call: Central Office – (775) 356-1151

Join us for dinner at Millie's 24 inside the Eldorado @ ~5pm with the speaker



Seniors in Sobriety



12th International Conference
Reno-Tahoe, Nevada

May 19-21, 2019



LAKE TAHOE



VIRGINIA CITY



NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM



SILVER LEGACY RESORT

Our Lives Have Just Begun

The Conference focuses on alcoholism, recovery and the aging process for Seniors:
• Seniors in Sobriety History & Culture
• Coping with Grief and Losses
• Workshop Discussions

Silver Legacy Resort & Casino
407 N. Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89501

Features of the Conference:
• AA, Al-Anon participation
• Pre & Post Scenic Tours are available
• Rise and Shine Early Meditation & Yoga

Main Speakers:
Mark L. - San Jose CA
Leslie K. - Modesto CA

www.renotahoensis2019.com
P.O. Box 11011 Reno, NV 89510-9998

For more info contact:
775-399-4627
sisreg2019@gmail



District 10B and Three Legacies Presents

A Service Workshop

When: April 20th

Where: Three Legacies Group 3205 N. Highland Drive

(Zion Church - enter through gate on left side of church)

Presentations and games 11:00 to 3:00

Potluck at 12:30

Get your questions answered about service opportunities in AA



Beyond your Home Group

Intergroup Liaison – Pat S. (Gardnerville)

Grapevine and La Vina – Mark P. (Incline Village)

Intergroup/Central Office – Ronda H. & Barbara M. (Reno)

Reno NV Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous Liaison – Tyler H. (Reno)

Workshop contact: Samantha G.

If you're interested in catching an AA meeting in Winnemucca before the workshop, there's a 9:00 am meeting at 504 W. 4th St. which is only 5 minutes from the workshop.

MORE AREA EVENTS

11th Step Retreat

Spiritual Oneness – Sought Through Prayer & Meditation

Zephyr Point Conference Center Lake Tahoe
660 US-50, Zephyr Cove, NV 89448

Friday, May 31st at 4 PM through Sunday, June 2nd at 11 AM



A \$130 registration fee includes:

- 5 Amazing meals with plentiful snacks & beverages
- 2 Nights lodging with your choice of 2, 3, or 4 people to a room
- Meetings, yoga, guided meditation, spiritual nourishment, fellowship & fun
- Your participation to help cook, clean and keep costs low

Registration closes May 2nd and is limited in attendees.

This is open to anyone in recovery.

*No refunds, you will need to find a substitute for your registration if you are unable to attend.

Questions? Contact Conference Chair, Sara Keyes, at 951-515-1601 OR Registration Chair, Nancy Whitten at 775-690-8599

NAME	
ADDRESS	
EMAIL	
PHONE	
ROOMMATE(S) REQUEST	
SCHOLARSHIP DONATION (OPTIONAL)	\$
AMOUNT ENCLOSED	\$

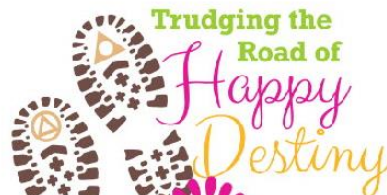
Payments are by check only. Make checks payable to "11th Step Retreat". Send check with registration form to: Nancy Whitten 1895 Wood Lane, Sparks, NV 89434

2019 Reno Spring Festival

April 26-28, 2019
Nugget Hotel Casino

Preregister at:

<http://www.renospringfestival.com/>



Serenity in the Sierras XXX

July 18-21, 2019

Eagles Nest

Campground at Camp Richardson



Dear NNIG Fellowship,

- Volunteer hours- 86.5 hours
- Calls into Central Office:
- Calls for AA help -9
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen - 4
- Meeting information- 38
- Retail / merchandise- 15
- Other 12 step programs- 6
- Events - 12
- Business/Central office- 83
- Visitors - 256

Thank you all for getting the word out about the need for volunteers at the office. We just have Saturdays open! Volunteers do not need to commit to a full 4 hour shift on Saturdays if needed. Thursday's at 1:30 the Archive Committee meets at the office, please come in to the office and have fun putting our local history together.

Ronda
Central Office Manager

The Birthday Club

FEBRUARY

JOE R. 20 YEARS

WILLIAM MK 28 YEARS



January 2019

Joan H. 47 Years

November 2018

Leslie S. 21 Years

Cheryl Z. 23 Years

Mike Mo. 34 Years

October 2018

Sharon F. 34 Years

September 2018

Mike H. 23 Years

August 2018

Kim D. 41 Years

Tonia 17 Years

Danny S. 16 Years

July 2018

Paul M. 27 Years

Linda 26 Years

Sandra 23 Years

Barbara M. 43 Years

Joanne P. 6 Years

June 2018

Kyle 36 Years

May 2018

Susanne T. 24 Years

Donn T 28 Years

April 2018

Ron T 7 Years

Jack W. 33 Years

Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the A.A. Birthday Club? Sign Up today be featured in the Bracer

Show your Support for your NNIG Central Office
and join the Birthday Club

A donation of only one dollar for every year of your Sobriety Birthday.

Envelopes available at Central Office,

NNIG Business Meeting or Intergroup Representatives

Young People's Meeting

7:30 PM Thursday

972B Tallac

South Lake Tahoe

Wolf Pack Anonymous

Noon Tuesday

UNR William Raggio Bldg Room

1001

1664 N Virginia St

Reno, NV

As Bill Sees It

12:00 PM Thursday

1276 Pitt Road Suite 4

Gardnerville, NV

AA ANSWERING SERVICE NUMBERS

Reno, Sparks, Carson City and all of Northern Nevada: (775) 355-1151
Las Vegas and all of Southern Nevada: (702) 598-1888
Mammoth Lake: (760) 934-3434
North Lake Tahoe: (530) 546-1126
South Lake Tahoe: (530) 541-1243
Susanville, CA: (775) 355-1151

Shake-Em Up Group

Sunday 8:00 PM

Alano Club of Sparks

1640 Prater Way

Sparks, NV

Knuckle Heads Mens

Monday 8:30 PM

Driars Club 345 S Wells Ave

Reno, NV

N.N.I.G. STEERING COMMITTEE
 Last Tuesday of each month, 5:30 PM
 Central Office, 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

N.N.I.G. BUSINESS MEETING
 First Tuesday of each month, 6:30 PM
 Alano Club, 1640 Prater Way, Sparks

N.N.I.G. MONTHLY SPEAKER MEETING
 7:00 PM Silver Legacy - Silver Baron A

N.N.I.G. CPC/PI
 Second Sunday of each month, 2:00 – 3:30 PM
 Central Office 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

N.N.I.G. H&I
 Last Thursday of each month, 5:15 PM
 Central Office 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

COMMITTEE MEETINGS
H&I, BRIDGING THE GAP
 FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT
 5:30 PM, CENTRAL OFFICE

CPC/PI NOT CURRENTLY MEETING

YPAA MEETINGS
TITYPAA, 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY 6:30
 PM, 8425 DOLLY VARDEN AVE, KINGS
 BEACH, CA

RENVYPAA 2ND&4TH SUNDAY 4:00
 PM, 635 WELLS AVE., UPSTAIRS

District Meetings

DISTRICT-2 Second Thursday of each month, 6:30 PM-Reno
 Central Office, 436 S. Rock Blvd. Reno

DISTRICT 4 First Thursday of each month, 7:00 PM-Reno
 Triangle Club, 635 S. Wells Avenue Reno

DISTRICT 6 2nd Sunday of even numbered months-For
 information email district6@nevadaarea42.org

DISTRICT 8 First Sunday, 3:30 p.m. on odd months
 Call [\(760\) 937-8407](tel:7609378407)

DISTRICT 10A Third Sunday of every other month, 1:30 PM
 680 River St. Elko, NV

DISTRICT 10B Last Sunday Odd Numbered Months @
 10:00AM Rotating Group Locations –
 Call [\(775\)403-0869](tel:7754030869)

DISTRICT 11 Only holds meetings 4 time a year, call DCM

DISTRICT 12 2nd Saturday of each Month at 5:00 PM- 457
 Esmeralda Street Wolf Center, Fallon NV

DISTRICT 14 3rd Mon of each "Odd" month at 6:00 PM -265
 Bear Street in Kings Beach CA

DISTRICT 16 Meeting is held 3rd Tuesday of the month
 Sparks Family Christian Church 510 Greenbrae
 Blvd 6:00PM-7:00PM

DISTRICT 18 DARK DISTRICT

DISTRICT 20 First Saturday of every month 1:30 PM- 50
 South Weatherlow, Susanville

DISTRICT 22 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month 6:30 PM @
 Central Office

Volunteers are needed to take meetings into hospitals, institutions and treatment centers. Please contact Central Office or Treatment Chair Rob L. for more information.

AREA CLUBS

Reno / Sparks Clubs
 Alano Club Sparks, 1640 Prater Way (775) 359-2727
 Driars Club Reno 345 S. Wells Avenue (775) 324-9210
 Triangle Club Reno 635 S Wells Avenue (775) 324-7977

Clubs outside Reno/Sparks Area
 Alano Club Carson City, 1800 HWY 50 East (775) 882-0443
 Bishop Alano Club (760) 873-6700
 Elko Alano Club (775) 738-4747
 Las Vegas Triangle Club (702) 435-0597
 South Lake Tahoe (530) 541-1243

AA Service in Jails 2019

Men and women are needed to take meetings into Parr Blvd Detention Center. Currently there are two women's meetings per month and one men's meeting per week. If you would like to be of service, please come fill out an application, available at Central Office or from your Intergroup Rep. Volunteers must attend mandatory orientation February 23, 2019. For more info, contact Corrections Committee.

Ashley B. abbvcpg15@gmail.com
Charlotte C. ccoxboog111@gmail.com

**2019 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
 CENTRAL OFFICE**

Monday February 18, Presidents' Day – Closed
 Monday May 27, Memorial Day –Closed
 Monday September 2, Labor Day – Closed
 Friday October 25, Nevada Day – Closed
 Monday November 11 Veterans Day – Closed
 Thursday November 21, Thanksgiving – Closed
 Friday November 22, Family Day – Closed
 Wednesday December 25, Christmas – Closed
 Tuesday December 31, 2019 Inventory – Closed

Submit this form or call Central Office to get on the list.

12 STEP Volunteer Application Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Sobriety Date: _____ Gender: Male ___ Female ___

Phone # _____ Location/City: _____

Available: _____ Days: _____ Times: _____

The Politics of Gratitude

Sober aspirations have landed me very far from the AA community that nurtured my hope in early sobriety. Now middle-aged, I am both student and teacher, living in a college town eight months a year, where I'm dependent for serenity and sobriety upon an AA community that is overall much younger than the groups I've attended the past ten years.

Looking upon these young people, I remember how, by the time I was their age, weekend hangovers were a normal part of living high. In the sixties, catching a buzz was a political statement. Tuning in, turning on, and dropping out was like in the flow. Cheap wine and weed were natural. Religions used them to get the ego out of the way and get next to the Great Spirit. My college friends joked about "getting merged" the night before.

If anyone around me had known enough to suggest that my "anti-establishment" drinking and drugging was symptomatic of a serious problem, I would have told them the problem was theirs. They were too straight and too uptight to let it all hang out. If it feels good, do it.

When I dragged myself into my first meeting ten years ago, feeling good was long enough gone that I would have settled for the financial and marital trouble and the physical sickness to go away. Others' war stories provided a way to laugh at my problems and perversity. But when speakers got to the part about how grateful they were for all the blessings and blah, blah, blah. . . I'd tune out. Maybe things were going okay for them, but if they had to face my problems and live in my skin, their promises would ring a little thin.

When I moved to this college town recently and listened to the tenor of these young peoples' concerns, I realized that I'd not thought about that part of my story for a long time. Memory kindly edits the pain and bitterness of our lives. But the truth about myself, however uncomfortable, is my only hope for continued sobriety, growth, serenity, and for life itself. My last drunk brought me too close to dying; and the next one sometimes haunts me like the bottomless hole I was lost in when I got here.

Overly obsessed with work the first semester back at college, I've worked little more of my program than praying and attending meetings regularly. And I could see myself growing impatient with twenty-year-old alcoholics who'd claim that being sober was okay, but they couldn't find much else to be grateful about.

I wanted to grab them by the shoulders and shake them, shouting, "Don't you realize what an incredible gift you've received? You get to spend the most exciting, energetic, adventurous years of your life sober! You get to see and feel and remember it all!" I wanted to tell them that they'd never have to live with the regret of trashing the opportunities that come almost too easily to people in their twenties. For most of my life, all I had was good potential--something people gauge with sharply decreasing interest as you age.

Maybe there is some residual grace from working the program steadily for a few years; or maybe my obsessiveness with work saved me. But I didn't embarrass myself with the "Don't you know how lucky you are?" lecture. A few angry deacons came to mind whenever I got ready to set somebody straight about how they ought to work their program.

The problem was that I was not working mine. And my attitude was strikingly similar to the way I saw things back in the sixties: I knew what the world and everybody in it needed to get on the right track; but protest was the only form of expression I understood. Being opposed to the way you are comes more naturally to me, even sober, than live and let live.

Still, it is baffling to feel self-righteous and angry about wanting others to be happy and grateful. Equally mysterious is how these young people sound short of hope and gratitude for themselves, but provide this sixties burnout some much needed hope for the future. During my passionate second and third years of sobriety, older members encouraged me to share my fears, doubts, and insecurities; then thanked me for giving them something--I never understood what. But I'm beginning to.

The social, political, and spiritual milieu from which young people emerge today is much more precarious than the decade of altered consciousness, protest, and demonstrations that were my pinnacle years of drinking and drugging. Back then, booze, drugs, and protest seemed to be working for some higher purpose. The government could have its wars and pass its laws; but give me a few joints and a bottle of wine and I could chart the people's way into a more promising future.

No such fantasies delude young people today. For all our increased access to information, the world is a harder, crueler, more impossible place to survive. The millennium about which Bill W. wrote in the beginning of Tradition Ten is with us still, and ever more insistent: "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."

Having arrived in AA sick, and emotionally and spiritually barren, I felt doubly defeated and guilty for having talked change so zealously and having accomplished less than nothing. I've needed this many years of recovery to grudgingly admit that, despite the addictive, self-destructive path humankind seems fated to follow, some unreasonable hope still burns in my heart. After all, if someone like me--with only intellectual conceit guiding him--could turn his life around, the world must also stand some chance at recovery.

Today there is simply the upwelling of the spirit of life that was missing all my years drinking. As much as I'd like to transplant this gratitude artery into the hearts of young people, or sometimes shake it into them, I know (without knowing how or why) that it is not mine to give away. All I can share are the things I've done to arrive at this faith and acceptance. In return I receive from newcomers a reminder that what I've done won't keep me sober and growing today. Last week's Twelfth Step work is as useful as last generation's protest.

I'm overdue giving back to the program. I've been living too many months on gratitude and promises stretched too thin. But what I've really been stalling and stammering around is this: As much as I am disgruntled with ungrateful young people, I am positively disconcerted by those who stay and work the program hard enough that, at half my age, they appear equally or more mature than me. Looks like it's time for this deacon to work another Fourth and Fifth Step on envy.

Anonymous, York Harbor, Maine
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NNIG FINANCIAL REPORT

10:29 AM

03/09/19

Accrual Basis

Northern Nevada Intergroup Transaction Detail By Account February 2019

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
4000 · Income - General					
4550 · Group Contributions					
Sales Receipt	02/01/2019	Kings Beach AA Golden G...	Group Contributi...	58.00	58.00
Sales Receipt	02/04/2019	Incline Village Fellowship	Group Contributi...	50.00	108.00
Sales Receipt	02/04/2019	Early Birds	Group Contributi...	339.42	447.42
Sales Receipt	02/04/2019	Women's 24 Hours A Day ...	Group Contributi...	100.00	547.42
Sales Receipt	02/05/2019	Carson After Shifters Meet...	Group Contributi...	2.32	549.74
Sales Receipt	02/05/2019	Fallon The Real Lunch Bu...	Group Contributi...	150.00	699.74
Sales Receipt	02/06/2019	NNIG Business Meeting	7th Tradition Bus...	25.50	725.24
Sales Receipt	02/07/2019	Almost Heaven	Group Contributi...	50.00	775.24
Sales Receipt	02/08/2019	District 22	7th Tradition	25.00	800.24
Sales Receipt	02/12/2019	RTC Monday Mens Close...	Group Contributi...	100.00	900.24
Sales Receipt	02/13/2019	carson Airport AA	Group Contributi...	16.00	916.24
Sales Receipt	02/13/2019	3rd Tradition Secular Group	Group Contributi...	50.00	966.24
Sales Receipt	02/13/2019	McGill NV Freedom Group	Group Contributi...	25.00	991.24
Sales Receipt	02/14/2019	Minden Saturday Night Fe...	Group Contributi...	150.00	1,141.24
Sales Receipt	02/14/2019	Mt Rose Recovery Room ...	Group Contributi...	200.00	1,341.24
Sales Receipt	02/15/2019	Battle Mountain Fellowship	Group Contributi...	10.00	1,351.24
Sales Receipt	02/19/2019	RTC Aloha Group	Group Contributi...	250.00	1,601.24
Sales Receipt	02/21/2019	Back to Basics Saturday N...	Group Contributi...	23.50	1,624.74
Sales Receipt	02/21/2019	Dayton Fellowship Hall	Group Contributi...	200.00	1,824.74
Sales Receipt	02/22/2019	District 22	Group Contributi...	25.00	1,849.74
Sales Receipt	02/22/2019	District 22	Group Contributi...	10.00	1,859.74
Sales Receipt	02/25/2019	Southside Group	Group Contributi...	300.00	2,159.74
Sales Receipt	02/25/2019	Grupo Solo Por Hoy	Group Contributi...	10.00	2,169.74
Sales Receipt	02/25/2019	Twilight Zone	Group Contributi...	40.00	2,209.74
Sales Receipt	02/25/2019	Southside Sunday Group	Group Contributi...	363.00	2,572.74
Sales Receipt	02/27/2019	Truckee River Men's Stag	Group Contributi...	1,000.00	3,572.74
Total 4550 · Group Contributions				3,572.74	3,572.74
Total 4000 · Income - General				3,572.74	3,572.74
TOTAL				3,572.74	3,572.74

Behind the Walls

As a newcomer to AA I was physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually drained. Nothing material was lost; I had lost myself, however--a lonely and devastating feeling. All I had left was an honest desire to stop drinking.

To prevent indulgence in self-pity it was necessary to become active in several aspects of the AA program, including service. In the beginning my sponsor was concerned about AA burn-out, but service work at various levels, including preparation of coffee, clean-up after meetings, Twelfth Step work, attendance at district and state functions, general service representative, and district committee membership, not only helped deflate an over-inflated ego but humbly taught me gratitude and to give freely without asking anything in return.

An AA member and personal friend (John) was asked by the warden of a local state penitentiary ("Big Mack") to carry the message "behind the walls." John invited me to carry the message with him. The invitation was accepted and AA service developed a personal meaning.

Big Mack is a maximum security institution. With the exception of those involved in work detail and programs, most inmates are under twenty-three-hour lock-down; one hour per day is allowed for out-of-cell or outdoor activities. Initially the AA program at the prison was experimental. We carried the message behind the walls on the first and third Wednesdays of the month; the meetings alternated between two prison units. Thus, the AA inmates attended only one meeting per month. Prison planning of meetings was unorganized. Often we would arrive unexpected by guards and the meeting could not take place. Eventually John left the area and could no longer offer his services. Nevertheless, the AA meetings continued.

Recognizing the desire by inmates for additional meetings and continued AA support, there was a meeting of the prison warden and the chaplain, the AA state chairperson of corrections (Paul), and myself. The purpose: Develop an effective method of carrying the AA message to the Big Mack State Penitentiary without violating our Twelve Traditions or the rules and regulations of the prison system.

The results of this meeting have been very positive and favorable to all concerned. The officials respect our anonymity and do not disclose names of volunteers to others in or out of the prison system. Further, they are eager and willing to accommodate the AA program to the best of their ability. Paul, through the AA corrections program, furnished each inmate with personal copies of Alcoholics Anonymous and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Two subscriptions of the Grapevine are sent to the prison each month and distributed among the AA inmates. Other AA literature is also distributed. In addition, AA members and groups donate pamphlets and past issues of the Grapevine to inmates.

Although there were some minor difficulties, nine months after the first experimental meeting the AA message continues behind the walls of Big Mack. The warden and the

chaplain sanctioned the program as permanent, provided that AA volunteers are willing to sponsor the prison group and carry the message. Our prison group will soon become officially registered. The meetings are voluntary for inmates with "a desire to stop drinking" and stay sober. Six to ten usually attend. This is the maximum number currently allowed; the number may increase as the program attracts additional inmates. We gather every Wednesday evening; thus the inmates may attend weekly meetings if they desire. The meetings are held in a very small noisy cubicle a far cry from the comfort and privacy of meeting halls outside the walls. There are no chairs or coffee; we sit on tables and sip ice cubes, in full view of guards and occasional passing inmates. The room is soundproof, however, and what is heard inside is sacred. The inmates respect anonymity and appreciate the confidentiality. The meetings represent excellent AA and we are all sober.

Included in the Big Mack AA meetings are Big Book and Twelve Step studies, discussion of the Twelve Traditions, open discussions, guest speakers, and additional AA visitors. The inmates share their experience, strength, and hope, practice the AA principles in prison affairs, and are growing along spiritual lines. Two former inmates are now involved with AA in their respective communities and are leading fulfilling lives.

During my career in AA I have visited other correctional facilities, including one federal institution. AA service in the prison system is a rewarding, humbling, and gratifying experience. It is a pleasure to watch the inmates grow in the program and have an opportunity to grow with them. Some inmates were convicted of crimes lesser than or equal to those I committed while drinking; the only difference is I wasn't arrested or convicted. Working with AA inmates is a constant reminder of where I came from. I have come to realize we are all the same: God's children seeking and finding a better way to live through AA.

When entering the prison, the electric metal doors close behind me and I have the feeling of entrapment experienced by the inmates during their everyday life. When leaving Big Mack I am grateful for freedom granted only by the grace of God--freedom from the bottle, alcoholic torture, and an unmanageable life. After all, were we not all prisoners of alcohol?

Coffee cups and ashtrays are cleaned at an AA meeting. People answer phones at intergroup offices. General service representatives carry the group conscience to district and state assemblies; state delegates carry it to AA World Services in New York. AA World Services dispatches AA literature. A drunk sobers up in a hospital or treatment center. An inmate walks freely from a cell to start a new life in Alcoholics Anonymous. Why? Because of AA service.

It is through AA service that I am learning to give freely without asking anything in return.

--Chuck P., Okmulgee, Oklahoma
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NNIG BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Business Meeting Minutes March 5, 2019 @ Alano Club in Sparks, NV

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 by Paul M., Chairman. We opened with the Serenity Prayer. Preamble of NNIG was read by Sean. Tina read the 12 Traditions. Introductions were made around the room. Birthdays, Pat S., 39 years, Skip, 19 years, Sean, 10 years, David 8 years and Ryan S., 8 years. Congratulations to all. Minutes were reviewed. Motion by A.J. to accept the minutes. 2nd and all voted to accept the minutes as written. **Treasurers Report, Kathy A.** Motion and 2nd to accept the treasurers report. Full report can be found in the Bracer. **Central Office Report-Ronda** reported there were 86.5 volunteer hours. Calls into Central Office: AA help-9; Alanon/Alateen-4; Meeting information-38; Retail/merchandise-15; Other 12 Step programs-6; Events-12; Business/Central Office-83. Visitors-256. Thank you all for getting the word out about the need for volunteers at the office. We just have Saturdays open! Volunteers DO NOT need to commit to a full 4 hour shift on Saturdays if needed. Empowerment Center called and advised Ronda the women there need sponsors. Let all the women you know these newcomers need our help. **Activities Chair-Tina** reported the Corned Beef and Cribbage is coming along real well. The next committee meeting is Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 11:00am at Central Office. **Answering Service-Mark Z.** The Telephone Answering Service is fully staffed with all thirty-two 4-hour shifts being manned. Additionally, we have seven alternate volunteers available to fill in when the regular volunteers are out of town or otherwise unable to cover their assigned shift. In February, one of our volunteers identified a problem, in that I had not made the Sunshine Committee contact information readily available to each of the volunteers. To fix this discrepancy, we sent an email to (or contacted) each of the volunteers and provided Sunshine Committee contact info, as well instructions regarding privacy and anonymity for the Sunshine Committee volunteers. Thank you, Ronda, for helping get this information out! Also, thank you for allowing me to be of service. **Bracer Chair-Emily** not present. **CPC Chair-Ben M.**, Ben advised he is having some difficulty with this position. Perhaps this is not his calling. He doesn't know what happened with the nursing program at St. Mary's. **Public Information-Tom B.** This month we will be going to Incline, Sparks and Reno high schools. So far next month we will be going to Damonte and Hug. In May we are scheduled for Reed and McQueen. That leaves Wooster, North Valley, and Spanish Springs which still need to schedule. **Corrections-Charlotte C.** Pat Brennan reporting on behalf of Charlotte C. who is on vacation. The NNIG Corrections Committee is pleased to announce a brand new corrections service opportunity with a State of Nevada Correctional Facility located in downtown Reno; Northern Nevada Transitional Housing, (NNTH). NNIG Corrections Chair Charlotte C., Committee member Tim H., and I met with four representatives from this facility on February 19th. They are very anxious for A.A. to bring a recovery meeting into this facility. Meeting timing is forecast to be Sundays from 10AM - 11AM. This is an all male facility but both men and women are encouraged to submit an application. We expect that with sufficient volunteers, this will be a once per month commitment for those who volunteer. A flyer announcing this opportunity is available tonight. Those interested in volunteering can obtain an application packet at the Central Office or by calling Ashley B. 775-379-3297 or Pat B. 707-483-7181. The required orientation / training seminar for the Washoe County Parr Blvd. facility took place on Saturday February 23rd. A.A. had a good turnout of approximately 10 volunteers. Volunteers will be contacted by the Washoe County Department of Corrections once background checks have been completed. Those interested in volunteering for service for the Parr Blvd. County Jail are encouraged to contact us. To volunteer or for more information on Corrections service, please call Pat B. at 707-483-7181 or Ashley B. at 775-379-3297 **Treatment Chair-Open Bridging The Gap-Cyndy M.** Cyndy reported she has received a few phone calls to take people to their first meeting. She was able to get people to help. Things are working well, new flyers were passed out. **H&I Treasurer's Report-Dru** Dru was not in attendance, however, the full financial report is printed in the Bracer. **Monthly Speaker Meeting-Brian A.** Brian was not in attendance, however, the speaker meeting will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at the Silver Legacy. **Sunshine Committee-Stacy P.** Hi I'm Stacy your friendly Sunshine Committee Chairperson. This was a very busy month for the Sunshine Committee, there were 32 visits between 3 people, 2 of which were in Renown awaiting liver transplants. I'm happy to report I went to Stanford and the other was sent home to Meyers California. I was able to contact a member through another member, through another member from South Lake Tahoe to visit and or help him to get to meetings up there, so he can keep up on his 30 meetings in 30 days which are required for the liver transplant by Stanford. I have 35 volunteers on my list that I contacted when I first took over this position that all said they were still willing to help. I called most of them to get help with this project and was only able to get 12 volunteers to help. What I found out is I need more reliable volunteers to help and I also need volunteers outside the Reno / Sparks area (Carson City, Tahoe, Truckee, Fernley, Fallon, etc.). Please take that back to your groups there are flyers on the table. I left my information at the nurse's station for that ward of the hospital to get a hold of me if they had any future patients that were alcoholics in need of this service. Also I want to mention in the March 2019 Grapevine, there is a story called "Rest Easy, Fellow" of someone needing a liver transplant and needing a paper signed 3 times a week for A.A. meetings. Thanks, Stacy. **Web Master-Ollie K.** Marshall reported for Ollie. The new Website should be up and running by the end of the month. This Website will be much more user friendly. **Northern Nevada Area 42 Liaison-Pat S.** My name is Pat. I am an alcoholic and I serve as the liaison between NAGSC, which is alphabet soup for Northern Area General Service Committee, and NNIG. This past weekend I attended PRAASA (Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly) in Irvine, California. Part of PRAASA's purpose is to develop unity and the exchange of ideas. Thus, one of their roundtables, involved both Intergroups and General Service. I learned so much. Hopefully I'll be able to put together a panel and workshop for the two entities in Northern Nevada in the near future. Stay tuned!

NNIG BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

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Meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Paul M. Opened with the Serenity Prayer. Roll Call, Paul M., Chairman, Jamie F., Vice Chair, Kathy A., Treasurer, Barbara M., Secretary, Ron T., Intergroup Liaison, Ronda H., Central Office Coordinator. Chris G., Intergroup Liaison, absent. Visitor A.J. Quorum was verified. November Steering Committee Meeting minutes. Motion to accept by Ron, 2nd by Kathy. All approved.

Old Business: Office Lease, Paul received an e-mail outlining the next 5 year lease. The rent will go up \$25.00 per year and we are liable for the maintenance of the new HVAC system at \$69.50 per quarter. Steering committee discussed the safety issues at this location with the Day Labor people. Ronda suggested we never have anyone in here alone. We need more volunteers to help with keeping more than 1 person in this office at a time. Committee tabled the signing of the new contract. We may be looking into moving this office to a safer, larger location. With Archives coming in, we need more space.

Employment Letter Signed. Jamie will be in the office on Thursday with the new contract for Ronda to sign. New Website Development. Ollie and Marshall are working on the new user friendly website. Paul will send Ollie an e-mail to post the correct bylaws to the current website.

New Business: Our visitor, A.J., brought in a new tri-fold pamphlet he developed for the brand new member, "Your First A.A. Meeting". Steering Committee will print these and get them out to all the clubs and have them available as soon as possible. Will request our P.I. Chair, Tom, get these out to the courts for DUI people. A.J. also requested a copy of the Spanish meetings in the area. Ron gave him a meeting schedule and showed him where all the District 22 meetings are located. Next item is the Budget. Ronda printed last year's numbers to go by. This is not a true budget at this time. Steering Committee voted to accept these numbers as printed. 1 opposed. Jamie will help Ronda build a more accurate budget for the year. Distribution of Funds. Ronda printed information from other Central Office's around the country. Most offices do not send money to their Area or AAWS. Our by-laws indicate our surplus needs to be distributed. Discussion ensued on this issue. This has been tabled for further research and we are looking for a new space.

Meeting closed at 6:45 with the Responsibility Pledge

The Twelve Traditions

OUR KEYS TO SURVIVAL and GROWTH

IN AA, EACH ONE OF US HAS TWO PRIME OBJECTIVES. We want to survive and we want to grow. While we cannot demand happiness, we know this to be the only way that it may be achieved. In any case, growth in image and likeness of the Creator is our primary purpose and the main reason for our existence.

For AA as a whole our objectives are exactly same. AA must survive and then it must grow in maturity and finally it must carry its message of hope and joy to those who still don't yet know.

That is what AA's Twelve Traditions are about. They are first concerned with our survival as a fellowship and then with our ability to grow in maturity and in numbers. Based on vast experience, they suggest to us how this can best be done.

With every passing year, I find myself more and more confident that AA will always survive and grow, no matter what perils and temptations the future may hold.

This I believe. . .because in following the Twelve Steps, each of us will find the right way, and in following the Twelve Traditions, all of us will find the right destiny.

--Bill W.
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 436 S. Rock Blvd.
 Sparks, NV 89431

Faithful Fivers Needed

\$5.00 per month or \$60.00 per year

Ann G.
 Karen S.
 Deanna S.
 Don B.
 Carl H.
 Donn T.
 Cheryl Z.
 Glenn R.
 Don M.
 Barb P.



Leslie S.
 Colleen S.
 Wes K.
 Paul M.
 Robin Y.
 Todd C.
 Lunnetta N.
 William F.
 Tina O.

2018 Faithful Fiver Club

This year's club members will directly support the Central Office twenty-four hour answering service **recently** updated with the latest in **Communication Technology!**

We are members of Alcoholics Anonymous that want the hand of A.A. always to be there in Northern Area 42 Community with Central Office Services

It's Easy to join!

Use a **Check** or **Credit Card** to pay monthly, or one time.
 Stop by the Central Office or use postal services.
 Phone Central Office for a one time Card Charge over the phone.

\$5.00 per month or \$60.00 per year!

This membership directly supports 12 step work in Northern area 42, Group Services and Central Office Operations.

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