

### May, 2020

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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 CLOSED 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

### **Tradition Five**

"Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Editorial by Bill W. A.A. Grapevine, April, 1948

"Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose -- that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Says the old proverb, "Shoemaker, stick to thy last." Trite, yes, but very true for us of A.A. How well we need to heed the principle that it is better to do one thing supremely well than many things badly.

Because it has now become plain enough that only a recovered alcoholic can do much for a sick alcoholic, a tremendous responsibility has descended upon us all, an obligation so great that it amounts to a sacred trust. For to our kind, those who suffer alcoholism, recovery is a matter of life or death. So the society of Alcoholics Anonymous cannot, it dare not ever be diverted from its primary purpose.

Temptation to do otherwise will come aplenty. Seeing fine works afoot in the field of alcohol, we shall be sorely tempted to loan out the name and credit of Alcoholics Anonymous to them; as a movement we shall be beset to finance and endorse other causes. Should our present success continue, people will commence to assert that A.A. is a brand new way of life, maybe a new religion, capable of saving the world. We shall be told it is our bounden duty to show modern society how it ought to live.

Oh, how very attractive these projects and ideas can be! How flattering to imagine that we might be chosen to demonstrate that olden mystic promise: "The first shall be last and the last shall be first." Fantastic, you say. Yet some of our well-wishers have begun to say such things.

Fortunately most of us are convinced that these are perilous speculations, alluring ingredients of that new heady wine we are now being offered, each bottle marked "Success"!

Of this subtle vintage may we never drink too deeply. May we never forget that we live by the Grace of God -- on borrowed time; that anonymity is better than acclaim; that for us as a movement, poverty is better than wealth.

And may we reflect with ever deepening conviction that we shall never be at our best except when we hew only to the primary spiritual aim of A.A. -- "That of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers alcoholism."

Bill W.

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# Concept V - Right of Appeal Assures that Minority Opinion will be Heard and that Personal Grievances will be Addressed.

Throughout his writings on the Twelve Concepts our founder expresses an underlying principle on which the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous is based, that it always be democratic in spirit, thought and action. Maintaining a "Right of Appeal" is important to this. Appeal provides for a response when there is disagreement with any action, or when any procedure is thought to fall too far short of the democratic ideal Bill envisioned.

While at my first General Service Area Assembly I was surprised to find that taking a vote on a matter did not always bring an end to the discussion. After the vote was taken, the Chairperson kept the discussion open by asking whether anyone who had voted in the minority, the losing side, wanted to speak further. This was a purposeful and planned exercise of the right of appeal. It added assurance that all opinions were adequately heard, and had not been overrun by a hasty vote or an impatient majority. As I continued to attend Assemblies I witnessed several situations in which an expressed minority opinion changed the eventual outcome, and led to a much better decision.

As Bill says it, "To increase the actual *spirit of democracy* by special deference to minority opinion is, we think, better than to follow blindly the rule which always insists on an unqualified dominance by a slight majority vote". Bill recognizes that a majority vote may not always lead to the best, fairest, most appropriate or right decision.

Applications of the right of appeal include the right to petition. This becomes important when any minority, or even a majority, feels that a decision was made by someone who may not have had the authority to make that decision, when a decision is made without adequate debate and discussion, or when the decision is felt to be wrong or not in the best interest of the whole of A.A. Bill says that in A.A.'s world services both appeal and petition have always been used well.

"Right of Appeal" includes the right of an A.A. employee or member to appeal and request a hearing regarding a personal grievance. One of the underlying principles of the right to appeal is that we respect everyone's experiences as well as what they have to say based on those experiences. Even if they might be wrong they have a right to be heard and, many times, they may have a better idea than what the majority thought best.

Some of the enemies of the spirit of democracy include impatience, apathy, self-seeking, uninformed or angry majorities, and the exercise of too much personal power. Bill says that A.A. has no room for any of these.

Bill reminds us in the text of Concept V that any alcoholic can be a member of A.A. the moment he says he is. He has a right to belong no matter what he thinks or believes. "Ours is indeed a large charter of minority privileges and liberties." Appeal is a method for assuring that these liberties and privileges are always respected and maintained as we work together in A.A. service.

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. Revised May, 2017.

The Bracer is a monthly publication intended for members of Alcoholics Anonymous and their families only. It is about, by and for members of the fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of A.A. as a whole or NNIG. For article submissions or comments, email the Editor at nnigbracer@gmail.com

## **NNIG & AREA EVENTS**

NNIG Monthly Speaker Meetings Silver Legacy – 407 North Virginia Street, Reno 89501





May 9, 2020 Host Group- NNIG Speaker- Steve M. Reno, NV Location- Zoom ID: 524-383-9936

June 13, 2020 Host Group- Sunnyside Group Speaker- Del B. San Diego, CA Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

July 11, 2020 Host Group- Mt. Rose Recovery Room Speaker- Susie B. Roseville, CA Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

August 15, 2020 Host Group- Happy Hour Speaker- Pete L. Reno, NV Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

September 12, 2020 Host Group- Just for today Speaker- Debbie D. Concord, CA Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

NNIG Speaker Chair: Chad S. (916) 295-8486 NNIG Speaker Co-Chair: Teresa D. (213) 443-3390 Need more info call: Contral Office - (75) 355-1151 Join us for dinner at Millie's 24 inside the Eldorado @ 5pm



#### INTO <u>ACTION</u>! ELECTIONS COMING IN JUNE

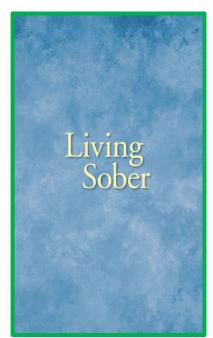
**EVENTS HOSTED BY NORTHERN NEVADA** 

INTERGROUP TO SUPPORT CENTRAL OFFICE

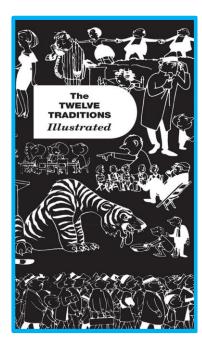
Keep your group informed! NNIG committee & cochair positions are available. No experience needed. Sobriety time requirements may be waived. Get into service and help give back to the fellowship. NNIG business meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month. **POSITIONS AVAILABLE** FOR ELECTIONS JUNE 2, 2020 POSITIONS SOBRIETY REQUIRED Steering Committee CHAIRPERSON 5 Years VICE-CHAIR 5 Years SECRETARY 2 Years TREASURER 5 Years 2-INTERGROUP REPS FOR STEERING COMMITTEE N/A NNIG Chairpersons Activities Events - Chair 4 Years Answering Service - Chair 2 Years Bracer News Letter - Chair 2 Years Cooperation with the Professional Community - Chair 2 Years Monthly Speaker Meeting - Chair 2 Years Public Information - Chair 2 Years Sunshine Committee - Chair 2 Years Web Site - Chair 2 Years Bridging the Gap - Chair 2 Years Corrections - Chair 2 Years Treatment - Chair 2 Years



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## **MEETINGS AND MORE**

#### Page 4

#### Dear NNIG Fellowship, May 5, 2020

#### Central office report from Ronda H. May 5, 2020

The office has been busy and also very slow. Truly living one day and a time. We will be renewing the insurance policies this month, so we will have a once a year expense coming up. Everything just seems to be humming along now that and it appears that are in acceptance mode. We are still open Monday – Friday 9-5 and the office is the only place around to get big books and chips besides the internet, so if you need anything please support NNIG and get it at the office.

Calls into Central Office:

- Calls for AA help 13
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen -0
- Meeting information- 75
- Retail / merchandise- 21
- Other 12 step programs- 1
- Events 1
- New to AA 3
- Business/Central office- 58
- Total Calls- 172
- *Oisitors* 139

Central Office Manager



December 2019 Leslie S. 22 Years Sean S. 30 Years

12

D D)

November 2018 Cheryl Z. 23 Years Mike Mc. 34 Years

October 2019 Sharon F. 35 Years Michael H. 24 Years Ron T. 8 Years

September 2019 Danny S. 17 years Línda G. 27 years Phíl S. 43 years <u>April 2020</u> <u>Peul M. 29</u> <u>Linde S. 15</u> <u>Rop T. 9</u> Skip 20

Susanne T. 26



<u>May 2019</u> William Mc K. 30 Years

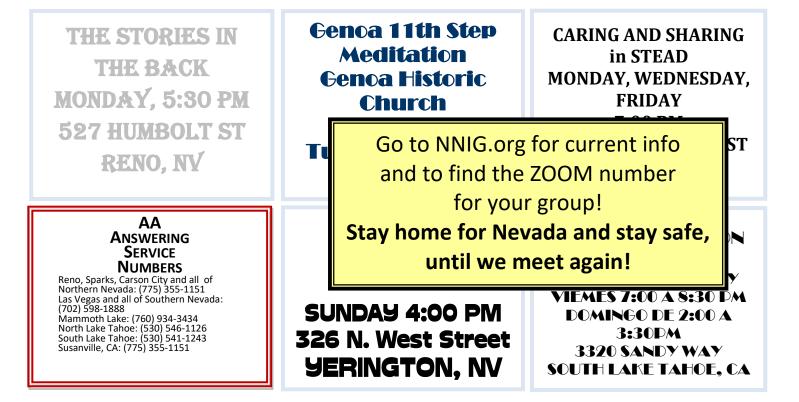
<u>JUNE 2019</u> Ann G. 15 Years Donn T 29 Years

<u>July 2019</u> Paul M. 28 Years Línda G. 27 Years Joanne P. 7 years

<u>March 2020</u> Kent L. 38 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



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

#### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month N.N.I.G. H&I First Monday of each month, 5:30 PM Central Office 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks



#### 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) 324-9277 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 Susanville (775) 355-1151





For the generous group contributions and to all the individuals for supporting Our NNIG Central Office

during this trying time!

### **District Meetings**

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
<u>DISTRICT 6</u> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of even numbered months-For information email <u>district6@nevadaarea42.org</u>
DISTRICT 8 First Sunday, 3:30 p.m. on odd months
Call (760) 937-8407
DISTRICT 10A Third Sunday of every other month, 1:30 PM 680 River St. Elko, NV
DISTRICT 10B Dark since 2017
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 Wed 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 Third Saturday of Jan, Mar, May, Aug & Oct
10:30 AM- Contact DCM @
district20@nevadaarea42.org for location
DISTRICT 22 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month 6:30 PM @ Central Office

Volunteers are needed for Bridging the Gap service commitments. We have many opportunities available. Commitments are for one hour once a month. If you are interested, please email <u>nvbtgchair@gmail.com</u>

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

### CALLING ALL LONGTIMERS!!!

DO YOU HAVE 35 YEARS OF SOBRIETY? IF SO, THE ARCHIVES WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! EACH MONTH, THE ARCHIVES WOULD LIKE TO PUT A LONGTIMER'S STORY IN THE BRACER. BUT WE NEED YOUR STORIES!!! CONTACT CYNDY: nnigarchives@GMAIL.COM

OR RONDA: 775-335-1151

#### NNIG/Central Office Group Contributions 2020

rd Tradition Secular Group Jano Afternoon Serenity Jano Brown Baggers Jano Dawn Patrol Jano Jaywalkers		50.00	Happy Hour Reno Incline Village Fellowship	122.50	122.5
lano Brown Baggers Jano Dawn Patrol			menne vinage renowsnip		
lano Brown Baggers Iano Dawn Patrol			Incline to be Sober		
			Jamesville Moment to Moment		
lano Jaywalkers			Kings Beach AA Golden Group		468.0
	48.60	48.60	Lodian of the Evening		
			Ladies of the Evening Ladies of the Lake	10.00	67.7
ano Sunday Morning Speaker			Mammoth Good Life Group	10.00	50.0
ano Sunshine Group			McGill NV Freedom Group		75.0
ano Women in Recovery			Minden Language of the Heart		40.0
nen Maintenance Meeting			Minden Saturday Night Fever Minden Stephanie Way Group		
istin Group			Minden/Gardnerville Group	8	145.6
ack Room Group		20202 0 2	Minden Wednesday Night Live		
ick to Basics Saturday Night airsden Graeagle Sister in Recov	Voru	172.60	Mt Rose Recovery Room NNIG Business Meeting	496.44	926.3
attle Mountain Fellowship	very	15.00	Our Common Welfare		72.0
			Out and Sober		37.0
lue Canyon Airport group			Our Group Big Book		25.0
			Portola Group Positive Acceptance Group		457 -
aring & Sharing in Stead	118.76	118.76	Pyramid Way Discussion Group		157.2
arlin Crystal Light Group arson AA Way of Life		110110	r yama may biodasion droup		10,0
arson After Shifters arson Airport			RTC Afternoon Delight	20.00	40.0
arson Anport			RTC Almost Heaven RTC Beginners are Winners		125.0 350.0
arson Big Book Experience			RTC Aloha Group		000.
arson Brown Baggers		986.00	RTC How We Stay Stopped	80.00	80.
			RTC Just for Today Women RTC Coffee with Bill		135.
arson Early Birds	327.75	733.29	RTC Little Rascals		50.
arson Happy Hour			RTC Big Book Study		
arson Jay-Walkers Men's			RTC Men's Trudgers		
rson Language of the Heart rson Men's NO BS Stag		78.41	RTC Don't Trìp Music Meeting RTC Grapevine/Big Book		
arson Sandbaggers		510.00	Kito Grapeville/Big Book		
arson Sisters in Sobriety		50.00	RTC Monday Night Men's		
arson Sunday Morning Fire Statio	on	66.40	DTO New Academic C	450.04	000
arson Sunday Night Step Study arson Valley Gratitude			RTC New Awakenings Group RTC Mid-Day Group	150,94	330.
nester Saturday Night Group	67.50	142.90	RTC Seniors in Sobriety		50.
noices		100.00	RTC Sober N Sane		
ornerstone Group			RENVPAA Sistara in Sakristu		445.0
Sineratone Group			Sisters in Sobriety Silver Springs Groups		40.
ayton Fellowship Hall			Sisters of Sobriety		<del>4</del> 0.
ayton Friday Night Rule 62			Sober Readers		
ayton Sunday Morning sdrict 2		46.25 39.00	Sierra City		<b>CO</b>
strict 12		39.00	South Shore Group Southside Group	20.00	60. 764.
strict 14	50.00	200.00	Serenity Sisters Big Book	20100	111.
strict 22	53.00	212.00	South Reno on Sunday		78.
strict 6 eer Park Rebels	353,00	353.00	Step 1		50.
ser i dir Nebels	555,00	333.00	Susanville Fellowship		
iars 4th Dimension		125.00	Susanville Wed Womens		
iar's Positive Step			Sunnyside Group		560.
iar's Support Hose			Susanville Thursday Night Tahoe City Fellowship		20
llon Language of the Heart			The Rock Group		20. 104.
/e Operner		63.00	Truckee River Men's Stag	40.00	1736.
allon Sunlight of the Spirit			Truckee Dawn Patrol		
illon The Real Lunch Bunch emley Groups			Truckee Fellowship The Twilight Zone		105.
reside Group	100.00	100.00	Verdi Bookies		103.
alena Friday Night		308.00	Virgina City Plug in the Jug		
			Wed Night Beginners Westwood AA		75.0
round Zero	211.00	392,50	Whole in the Ground Sunnyside		375.
rupo Accion		20.00	Winnemucca Serenity Seekers		30.
upo Fe Y Esoeranza					
rupo La Nueva Luz		40.00	Women's 24 Hours A Day		108.
upo La Nueva Luz		20.00	Women's New Beginnings Women's New Harmony		184.0 150.0
		20100	Women Down and Dirty		100.0
rupo Latino rupo Nueva Vida rupo Solo Por Hoy	20.00		Women bown and birty		

## **UP IN SMOKE**

On a quiet back road in Louisiana, he lit a flame that celebrated a brand new man

Step five: Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

I've never really understood the difference between regular honesty and rigorous honesty, but I'm pretty sure it has something to do with the degree of disclosure. I recently completed my Fourth and Fifth Steps with



my new sponsor, a man I've come to trust enough to reveal my deepest darkest secrets to. Larry is a real "nuts and bolts" kind of AA old-timer, who demands that his sponsees do things his way.

One of the first things he said to me was, "Pat, you've been trying to do things your way for quite a while now, and what has it gotten you? Why don't you try doing things my way just this once and see what happens?"

I couldn't argue with his reasoning at all, because I'd been in and out of AA for 40 years, and I was still trying to achieve "long term sobriety." My main problem was that I'd never had a sponsor I trusted



completely and so I'd never done a fearless and thorough Fourth and Fifth Step. The challenge of baring my soul completely to God and another human being and revealing the exact nature of my wrongs was going to take the kind of rigorous honesty that I'd never had the courage to attempt before. I think God put Larry in my life for a reason because I knew that I could trust him and that he wouldn't be shocked or judgmental about any aspect of my past. Once I had committed myself to being rigorously honest, I was surprised at how fast and easy the work actually was. When we did my Fifth Step, I had the distinct feeling that God was right there in the room with us. I also felt a wonderful sense of love and forgiveness.

The next morning when I awoke, I felt there was something missing. It suddenly dawned on me that all the stress and anxiety and guilt I had been living with for so long was gone.

I rent a townhouse on the edge of town, and out back is a paved road about half a mile long that doesn't go anywhere. Someone had planned to develop the property a long time ago, but for some reason they never did. It's where I go to exercise and pray and listen to music with headphones. It's perfect for that because there is never any traffic or distractions—just the beautiful flora and fauna of Southern Louisiana. The morning after my Fifth Step I gathered up the paperwork of my Fourth Step, my first ever attempt at complete and rigorous honesty. I took it out to the end of the road that leads to nowhere, crinkled it up and set it on fire. As I watched the smoke rising from the mudhole that contained the putrid essence of my past life, I felt the presence of God smiling down on me from the beautiful blue Louisiana sky. I knew without a doubt that God was filling that void inside me with love and forgiveness and the strength and desire to help others. Then I turned around and walked back down that road toward home, a new man.

–Patrick K., Baton Rouge, La.

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NNIG Intergroup Office 436 S. Rock Blvd. Sparks, NV 89431 Return Service Requested

# THE BRACER SUBSCRIPTION WOULD MAKE A FANTASTIC MEMORIAL DAY GIFT! THIS IS ALSO A GOOD TIME TO UPDATE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION! USE SUBSCRIPTION FORM BELOW!

2020 Faithful Fiver Club	NNIG BRACER SUBSCRIPTION FORM
Joanne C.P., Jami F., Carly C. Curtis O., Paul E., David L., Darrell S., John I., Glen R., Ann G., Deanna S., Carl H., Donn T.,	Date New Renewal Donation for Electronic Version I cannot send a donation at this time but I would still like to receive the BRACER electronically
Barb P., Ron T., Leslie S., Paul M., William F., Tinna O., Tom G., Mike C., Cheryl Z., Rainbow Searce members of fileoholics finongmous We are members of fileoholics finongmous that want the hand of fl.fl. alwags to be there in Northern firea 42 Community with Central Office Services	Name
It's Casy to join! Use a Check or Gredit Card to pag monthly, or ong time. Casy ways to contribute- pag in person at the office (so we can see gour pretty face) mail, onling at nnig.org or 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.	The BRACER NNIG Intergroup Office 436 S. Rock Blvd. Sparks, NV 89431 www.nnig.org