

NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



November 14, 2020
Carson City Brown Baggers
Interview – Sharron L.
Reno, NV
Speaker at 7:00

October, 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 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

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Web Site/Meeting Schedule: nnig.org

The Bracer: nnigbracer@gmail.com



NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP

The "Uglies"

Those wasteful emotions that need to be looked at for the phonies they are AFTER fifteen and a half years in AA, I have once again had the exciting experience of remembering a long-forgotten teaching of my early days in AA. Life has been good to me. I am sober, healthy, happily married, financially secure. But because I am human, I am also subject to all of the human frailties--anxiety, projection, resentment, self-delusion, and more. A few days ago, a very hurtful thing happened to me. It is unnecessary to go into it--it happened, and it hurt badly. I experienced days of all the ridiculous mental gymnastics many of us go through. My family and friends rallied round with reassurances and, more important, a few facts that I, in my squirrel cage, had overlooked. The weight of the "uglies"--comparing myself to others, insecurities, confusion, and terrible bafflement--was becoming unbearable. I suffered. Until today. Today, my very smart husband, also a member of AA, gave me his inscrutable, before-lowering-the-boom look and referred to my "troubled and agonized soul." I simply sat down and laughed until I ached. There it was. I had forgotten "Take the program seriously, but don't take yourself seriously!" The great gift of being able to laugh at myself had been my only source of sanity during all my drinking years and had helped me again when I entered the world of AA. I had forgotten to take my problems with myself seriously, but not *me*. My very smart husband then asked me whether I really believed I was so maladjusted. My lovely batch of insecurities rose instantly, clamoring so loud that I felt compelled to go to the dictionary for authoritative definitions of "adjusted, adjustment," etc. To my great delight, I found many of the definitions related to a great many things I have been able to accomplish through AA. I discovered that, for me, I am more adjusted than maladjusted. So now I shall try to list facts on one side and emotions on the other. When I face facts, in most cases my emotions surrounding the facts must fade, being unrelated, overreactive, and in the end really quite funny. If an unrelated emotion is sustained, I will delve further and work hard at laying this emotional ghost of my past hangovers. Just as important as further delving and work is a renewal of my God-given ability to see and recognize those wasteful emotions of mine that are truly funny. My problem is still me. But "me" is also a human being filled with a marvelous sense of the ridiculous; one who has been able to see herself with some sort of perspective; one who loves living every day and keeping the concentration on self at a profitable and comfortable level. The "uglies" will get licked--at least as many as possible in a lifetime--though not as fast as some people can lick them or would like me to, including my patient and amused husband. They will get licked--but never again, I pray, at the expense of the glorious freedom of laughter-at-me. So once again AA and its teachings have come to my rescue. Thank God and you, my dear friends in the program, which I take with life-or-death seriousness. But do I take me that way? It's to laugh!

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AA's

Recovery Step Ten:

"Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it."

Three

Unity Tradition Ten:

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

Legacies

Service Concept Ten:

"Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority — the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws."

Concept X – Distributions of Responsibility and Authority in the Service Structure

Bill here reintroduces the concepts of authority and responsibility, first discussed in Concept 1. He starts the discussion of Concept 10 by pointing to something most of us have either witnessed or experienced directly when he says "Nearly all societies and governments of today exhibit deviations from the very sound principle that *each operational responsibility* must be accompanied by *a corresponding authority* to discharge it." Said more simply, this means that if we are given a job to do we also need to be given the authority to do it. Seems like common sense. But, as Bill says, failure to do this is a shortcoming found in many businesses, governments and voluntary organizations.

Examples of documents that provide descriptions of how responsibility and authority are distributed within an organization are articles of incorporation, by-laws, committee charters and job descriptions. These documents guide the organization in its long and short term activities and operations. Concept 10 includes discussion of the how, where, when and why regarding the distribution of responsibility and authority throughout the A.A. Service Structure. Descriptive details of this are found in The A.A. Service Manual. The written 12 Concepts, along with the rest of the Service Manual, is where we learn about the A.A. service structure. Both are also useful as reference sources when differences in ideas and opinions arise regarding how the A.A. service components may best work together.

Bill's discussion of Concept 10 also distinguishes between *ultimate authority* and *delegated authority*. Authority to do a job or to carry out a project can be delegated from one unit or person to another. When it is working well it should not be constantly interfered with. Still, there must be someone or somewhere to make a final decision. This is what he means by ultimate authority, "where the buck stops", a designation of who or what deliberating body has the ultimate and final decision making authority regarding any service activity.

It is also important to recall that Bill did not write the concepts as abstract ideas isolated from A.A.'s early experience. The details of the 12 Concepts developed through much discussion among Bill and two of A.A.'s 1960s non-alcoholic friends, Bernard Smith and Michael Alexander. Their discussions drew on A.A. experience but were based also on their considerable professional expertise about what is needed for effective and harmonious workings of organizational and administrative processes. Yes, the principal thinkers on the Concepts were lawyers. Bill, himself, also attended law school, and undoubtedly drew on his early experiences as a business analyst in his writings on the Concepts, particularly on Concept 10.

Bill ends the discussion of this Concept by saying "We well know that only by means of careful definitions and respect can we constantly maintain a right and harmonious working balance." Respectfulness in working together comes from the informed experiences and refinement of attitude that our members and advisers say they develop naturally as they work and learn together in service to each other and to our Fellowship.

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

Deadline for submission is the last Friday of the month.

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



October 10, 2020
Host Group- Keep it Simple
Speaker- Del B. (San Diego, CA)
Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

November 14, 2020
Host Group- Carson City Brown Baggers
Interview with an Alcoholic- Sharron L. (Reno, NV)
Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

December 12, 2020
Host Group- RENVYPAA
Speaker- Kristen S. (Reno, NV)
Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

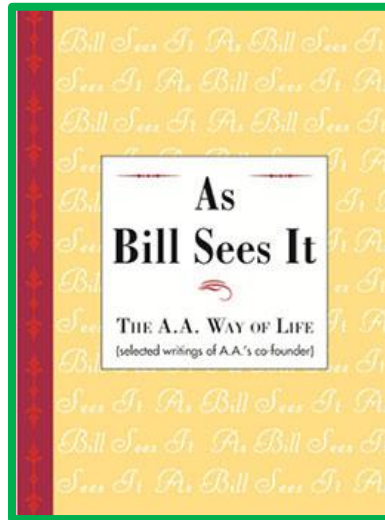
January 9, 2021
Host Group- TBA
Speaker- TBA
Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

February 13, 2021
Host Group- TBA
Speaker- Christina R. (Reno, NV)
Location- Silver Barron room 1-6

NNIG Speaker Chair: Chad S. (916) 295-8486
Need more info call: Central Office – (775) 355-1151

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THE MONTH
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Today \$2.00 off*

*PAMPHLET OF
THE MONTH
Pick Up Your Copy
Today \$0.40*



MORE AREA EVENTS

**The Driars Club,
Triangle Club,
Alano Club and
Alano Club in Carson City
are open and available
for meetings.**

For Live, in-person meetings,
check with Central Office.
They are keeping a list of all
meetings currently open.

Thank you to all the Groups that Contributed in September

A Way Home,

- Blairsdien Graegle Sisters in Recovery,*
- Carson City Dr. Bob's Nightingales,*
- Cornerstone Group, Deer Park Rebels,*
- District 14, District 22, Ground Zero,*
- Grupo La Nueva Luz, Grupo Accion ,*
- Mt Rose Recovery Room,*
- Pyramid Way Discussion Group,*
- RTC Afternoon Delight,*
- RTC Almost Heaven,*
- Silver Springs Groups, Southside Group,*
- Virginia City Plug in the Jug,*
- Wednesday Night Beginners Meeting,*
- Whitaker Park, Whole in the Ground,*
- Willing to go to Any Lengths*

And all the individuals contributions

Central office report from Ronda H. October 6, 2020
 October is here, Expect The Unexpected! I attended the ICOAA seminar this last month, on zoom of course. It was not as enlightening as in person but I did get some good information and enjoyed the seminar. Just like last year I went to the work shop on Anonymity and the Internet, if anyone wants Bill W.'s essay "Our Anonymity is Both Inspiration and Safety" please stop by the office for a copy or request through email. It will also be in the Bracer as a 3 or 4 part series. This leads us to the book of the month... AS Bill Sees It. It will be \$2 off and we have many different sizes, the pamphlet is "A.A. Tradition How it Developed". If anyone is looking for something fun, we have for a limited time only 2020 Tri-plates with Bill & Bob wearing masks. Thank you, Thank you to the fellowship for all the contributions to your groups and NNIG.

Volunteers hours- 105.5

Calls into Central Office:

- Calls for AA help - 12
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen - 1
- Meeting information- 56
- Retail / merchandise- 21
- Other 12 step programs- 4
- Events - 1
- New to AA - 1
- Business/Central office- 59
- Total Calls- 155
- Visitors - 193

Ronda
 Central Office Manager



THE BIRTHDAY CLUB

September Birthdays

Linda G 28 Years
 Dan S. 19 years
 Kim D. 42 years
 Phil S. 19 years
 Michael H. 25 years

That's 133 YEARS!!

August: Sandra D. 25 years

July: Joanne S 4 years, Laurie J 9 years, Barbara 45 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 Birthday Club section of the Bracer Show your Support for your NNIG & Central Office. Join the Birthday Club. A donation of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety. Envelopes available at Central Office, NNIG Business Meeting or Intergroup Representatives

November 2019
 Leslie S. 22 years Cheryl Z. 25 years Mike Mc. 34 years

June
 Ann G. 16 Years
 Devo S. 43 Years
 Nancy S. 29 Years
 Deanna S. 36 Years
 Kyle L. 38 Years
 Paul C. 29 Years
 John L. 35 Years
 Donn T. 30 Years
 Bill Mc. 31 Years

May
 John L. 33 Years
 Donn T. 30 Years
 Bill Mc. 31 Years

April
 Paul M. 29 years
 Linda S. 15 years
 Ron T. 9 years
 Suzanne T. 26 years
 Skip 20 years

March
 Kent L. 35 years

December 2019
 Sean S. 30 years

When attending an indoor meeting please be aware of the Covid-19 restrictions from the Governor and the facility where the meeting is held about face masks. Some meeting places have a "Mask Required", if you cannot wear a mask go to a different meeting!

Happy Hour

5:30 PM

Monday-Saturday

5340 Snyder Ave

Carson City, NV

Pyramid Way Discussion

7:00 PM

Thursday

245 Pyramid Way

Sparks, 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

Serenity on Sunday

has moved from the Nugget to the Triangle Club

Sunday @ 9:00 AM

Reno

FERNLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

MONDAY & FRIDAY

NOON

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

7:30 PM

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
 2nd 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



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

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
 Susanville (775) 355-1151

The office will be closed on the following holidays,

Friday October 30- Nevada Day

Thursday & Friday November 26 & 27- Thanksgiving & Family Day

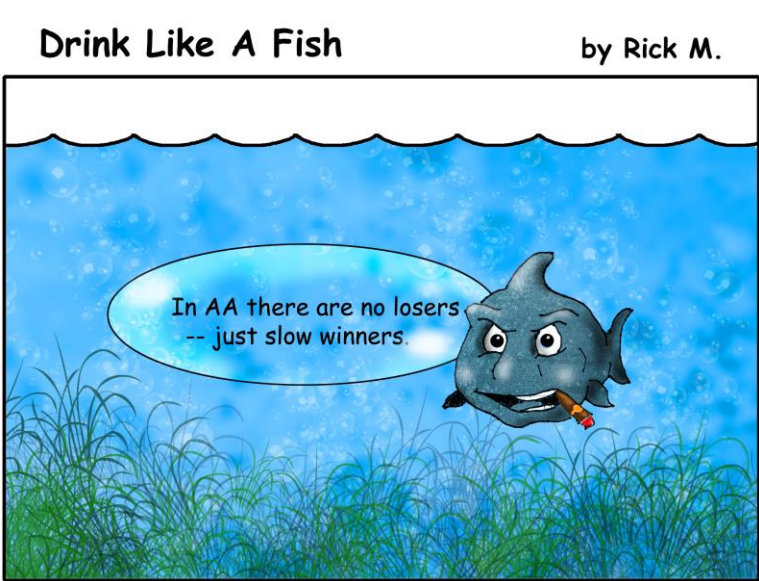
Thursday & Friday December 24 & 25 - Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

Wednesday & Thursday December 30 & 31 - Inventory

Friday January 1 - New Year's Day

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:
nigarchives@GMAIL.COM
 OR RONDA: 775-335-1151



NNIG/Central Office Group Contributions 2020

Group	September	YTD	Group	September	YTD
3rd Tradition Secular Group		50.00	Happy Hour Reno		142.50
A Vision for You		103.00	Incline Village Fellowship		
Alano Afternoon Serenity			Incline to be Sober		
Alano Brown Baggers			Jamesville Moment to Moment		
Alano Dawn Patrol			Kings Beach AA Golden Group		468.00
Alano Jaywalkers		48.60	Ladies of the Evening		58.77
Alano Sunday Morning Speaker			Ladies of the Lake		67.75
Alano Sunshine Group			Mammoth Good Life Group		50.00
Alano Women in Recovery		17.70	McGill NV Freedom Group		75.00
Amen Maintenance Meeting			Minden Language of the Heart		59.00
A Way Home	253.50	253.50	Minden Saturday Night Fever		300.00
Back Room Group			Minden Stephanie Way Group		320.00
Back to Basics Saturday Night		172.60	Minden/Gardnerville Group		158.32
Blairsdon Graeagle Sister in Reco	60.00	60.00	Minden Wednesday Night Live		
Battle Mountain Fellowship		15.00	Mt Rose Recovery Room	50.00	1081.30
Blue Canyon Airport group			NNIG Business Meeting	8.00	79.50
Caring & Sharing in Stead		198.76	Our Common Welfare		84.15
Carlin Crystal Light Group			Out and Sober		37.00
Carson AA Way of Life			Our Group Big Book		25.00
Carson After Shifters			Portola Group		
Carson Airport			Positive Acceptance Group		157.20
Carson Big Book Experience			Pyramid Way Discussion Group	37.50	52.50
Carson Brown Baggers		986.00	RTC Afternoon Delight	20.00	60.00
Carson Dr. Bob Nightingales	218.58	218.58	RTC Almost Heaven	50.00	175.00
Carson Early Birds		951.64	RTC Beginners are Winners		450.00
Carson Happy Hour		1150.00	RTC Aloha Group		48.60
Carson Jay-Walkers Men's			RTC How We Stay Stopped		80.00
Carson Language of the Heart			RTC Just for Today Women		135.00
Carson Men's NO BS Stag		78.41	RTC Coffee with Bill		75.00
Carson Sandbaggers		510.00	RTC Little Rascals		100.00
Carson Sisters in Sobriety		50.00	RTC Big Book Study		
Carson Sunday Morning Fire Station		66.40	RTC Men's Trudgers		
Carson Sunday Night Step Study		300.00	RTC Don't Trip Music Meeting		
Carson Valley Gratitude			RTC Grapevine/Big Book		
Chester Saturday Night Group		75.40	RTC Monday Night Men's		100.00
Chester Fellowship		67.50	RTC New Awakcnings Group		330.04
Choices		100.00	RTC Mid-Day Group		
Cornerstone Group	76.25	76.25	RTC Seniors in Sobriety		50.00
Dayton Fellowship Hall		200.00	RTC Sober N Sane		
Dayton Friday Night Rule 62			RENVPA		445.60
Dayton Sunday Morning		46.25	Sisters in Sobriety		
District 2		332.10	Silver Springs Groups	50.00	90.00
District 12			Sisters of Sobriety		122.17
District 14	50.00	450.00	Sober Readers		
District 22	50.00	399.00	Sierra City		
District 6			South Shore Group		60.00
Deer Park Rebels	156.00	1946.75	Southside Group	210.00	1217.80
Driars 4th Dimension		175.00	Serenity Sisters Big Book		111.10
Driar's Positive Step		180.00	South Reno on Sunday		178.77
Driar's Support Hose			Step 1		50.00
Fallon Grapevine Group		145.00	Susanville Fellowship		100.00
Eye Operner		63.00	Susanville Wed Womens		
Fallon Sunlight of the Spirit		200.00	Sunnyside Group	310.00	874.59
Fallon The Real Lunch Bunch			Susanville Thursday Night		
Fernley Groups			Tahoe City Fellowship		20.00
Fireside Group		120.00	The Rock Group		104.50
Galena Friday Night		308.00	Truckee River Men's Stag		2266.60
Ground Zero	500.00	892.50	Truckee Dawn Patrol		160.00
Grupo Accion	40.00	100.00	Truckee Fellowship		
Grupo Fe Y Esoeranza			The Twilight Zone		105.00
Grupo La Nueva Luz	10.00	50.00	Verdi Bookies		
Grupo Latino		20.00	Virginia City Plug in the Jug	404.50	404.50
Grupo Nueva Vida			Westwood AA		75.00
Grupo Solo Por Hoy		20.00	Willing to go to any Lengths	323.00	685.67
			Whole in the Ground Sunnyside	300.00	675.00
			Winnemucca Serenity Seekers		30.00
			Whitaker Park	90.00	182.00
			Women's 24 Hours A Day		108.81
			Women's New Beginnings		184.00
			Women's New Harmony		150.00
			Wednesday Night Beginners Me	65.00	65.00
			Yerington Group		
			Young at Heart		
			Total	3,332.33	24,482.08

Our Anonymity is Both Inspiration and Safety

Discussing the subject of anonymity in a previous Grapevine article, I tried to make the following points--that anonymity has, for us AAs, an immense spiritual significance; that the principle ought to be preserved as part of our vital tradition; that since we have as yet no sharply defined policy there is confusion in some quarters as to what anonymity ought to mean; that we need, therefore, a perfectly clear tradition which all AAs would feel bound to respect. I also offered some suggestions which I hoped might become, after further discussion, the basis of a national policy on anonymity. These suggestions were:

1. It should be the privilege of each AA to cloak himself with as much personal anonymity as he desires. His fellow AAs should respect his wishes and help guard whatever status he wants to assume.
2. Conversely, the individual AA ought to respect the feeling of his local group about anonymity. If his group wishes to be less conspicuous in their locality than he does, he ought to go along with them until they change their views.
3. With very rare exceptions, it ought to be a national policy that no member of Alcoholics Anonymous shall ever feel free to publish, in connection with any AA activity, his name or picture in mediums of public circulation. This would not, however, restrict the use of his name in other public activities provided, of course, he does not disclose his AA membership.
4. If, for some extraordinary reason, a member thinks it desirable to drop his anonymity locally he should do so only after consulting his own group. If, as an AA, he is to make a nationwide public appearance the matter ought to be referred to national headquarters.

If these suggestions, or variations of them, are to be adopted as a national policy, every AA will want to know more about our experience so far. He will surely wish to know how most of our older members are thinking on the subject of anonymity at the present time. It will be the purpose of this piece to bring everybody up to date on our collective experience.

Firstly, I believe most of us would agree that the general idea of anonymity is sound, because it encourages alcoholics and the families of alcoholics to approach us for help. Still fearful of being stigmatized, they regard our anonymity an assurance their problems will be kept confidential; that the alcoholic skeleton in the family closet will not wander in the streets.

Secondly, the policy of anonymity is a protection to our cause. It prevents our founders or leaders, so called, from becoming household names who might at any time get drunk and give AA a black eye. No one need say that couldn't happen here. It could.

Thirdly, almost every newspaper reporter who covers us complains, at first, of the difficulty of writing his story without names. But he quickly forgets this difficulty when

he realizes that here is a group of people who care nothing for personal gain. Probably it is the first time in his life he has ever reported an organization which wants no personal publicity. Cynic though he may be, this obvious sincerity instantly transforms him into a friend of AA. Therefore his piece is a friendly piece, never a routine job. It is enthusiastic writing because the reporter feels that way himself. People often ask how Alcoholics Anonymous has been able to secure such an incredible amount of excellent publicity. The answer seems to be that practically everyone who writes about us becomes an AA convert, sometimes a zealot. Is not our policy of anonymity mainly responsible for this phenomenon? Fourthly, why does the general public regard us so favorably? Is it simply because we are bringing recovery to lots of alcoholics? No, this can hardly be the whole story. However impressed he may be by our recoveries, John Q. Public is even more interested in our way of life. Weary of pressure selling, spectacular promotion and shouting public characters, he is refreshed by our quietness, modesty and anonymity. It well may be that he feels a great spiritual power is being generated on this account--that something new has come into his own life.

If anonymity has already done these things for us, we surely ought to continue it as a national policy. So very valuable to us now, it may become an incalculable asset for the future. In a spiritual sense, anonymity amounts to the renunciation of personal prestige as an instrument of national policy. I am confident that we shall do well to preserve this powerful principle; that we should resolve never to let go of it.

Now what about its application? Since we advertise anonymity to every newcomer, we ought, of course, to preserve a new member's anonymity so long as he wishes it preserved. Because, when he read our publicity and came to us, we contracted to do exactly that. And even if he wants to come in under an assumed name, we should assure him he can. If he wishes us to refrain from discussing his case with anyone, even other AA members, we ought to respect that wish too. While most newcomers do not care a rap who knows about their alcoholism, there are others who care very much. Let us guard them in every way until they get over that feeling.

Then comes the problem of the newcomer who wishes to drop his anonymity too fast. He rushes to all his friends with the glad news of AA. If this group does not caution him he may rush to a newspaper office or a microphone to tell the wide world all about himself. He is also likely to tell everyone the innermost details of his personal life, soon to find that, in this respect, he has altogether too much publicity! We ought to suggest to him that he take things easy; that he first get on his own feet before talking about AA to all and sundry; that no one thinks of publicizing AA without being sure of the approval of his own group.

Then there is the problem of group anonymity. Like the individual, it is probable that the group ought to feel its way along cautiously until it gains strength and experience. There should not be too much haste to bring in outsiders or to set up public meetings. Yet this early conservatism can be overdone. Some groups go on, year after year, shunning all publicity or any meetings except those for alcoholics only. Such groups are apt to grow slowly. They become stale because they are not taking in fresh blood fast enough. In their anxiety to maintain secrecy they forget their obligation to other alcoholics in their communities who have not heard that AA has come to town. But this unreasonable caution eventually breaks down. Little by little some meetings are opened to families and close friends. Clergymen and doctors may now and then be invited. Finally the group enlists the aid of the local newspaper.

In most places, but not all, it is customary for AAs to use their own names when speaking before public or semi-public gatherings. This is done to impress audiences that we no longer fear the stigma of alcoholism. If, however, newspaper reporters were present they are earnestly requested not to use the names of any of the alcoholic speakers on the program. This preserves the principle of anonymity so far as the general public is concerned and at the same time represents us as a group of alcoholics who no longer fear to let our friends know that we have been very sick people.

In practice then, the principle of anonymity seems to come down to this: With one very important exception, the question of how far each individual or group shall go in dropping anonymity is left strictly to the individual or

group concerned. The exception is: That all groups or individuals, when writing or speaking for publication as members of Alcoholics Anonymous, feel bound never to disclose their true names. Except for very rare cases, it is at this point of publication that nearly all of us feel we should draw the anonymity line. We ought not disclose ourselves to the general public.

In our whole history not more than a handful of AAs have ever dropped their anonymity so far as the general public is concerned. Some of these instances have been accidental, a few have been quite unnecessary and one or two are apparently justified. Of course there must be few policies which cannot sometimes, in the general interest, be suspended. Yet any who would drop their anonymity must reflect that they may set a precedent which could eventually destroy a valuable principle. The exceptions will have to be few, far between, and most carefully considered. We must never let any immediate advantage shake us in our determination to hang on to such a really vital tradition.

Great modesty and humility are needed by every AA for his own permanent recovery. If these virtues are such vital needs to the individual, so must they be to AA as a whole. This principle of anonymity before the general public can, if we take it seriously enough, guarantee the Alcoholics Anonymous movement these sterling attributes forever. Our public relations policy should mainly rest upon the principle of attraction and seldom, if ever, upon promotion.

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Area 42 Fall Preliminary Election Online Assembly Agenda "2020: A Clear Vision for You"	
Friday, October 16 th , 2020 Meeting I.D. 970 2249 6294	
6:00pm – 7:45pm	Welcome – Opening Remarks Approval of Area 42 Spring assembly minutes Area 42 Treasurer's report Reports from Districts, Committee Chairs & Officers
7:45pm – 8:00pm	Break
8:00pm	GSR: Orientation Area Committee Meeting (ACM) – Blue Room (break out room)
Saturday, October 17 th , 2020 Meeting I.D. 923 4551 0487	
8:00am – 9:30am	Welcome – Area Chair's report; Paul E, Delegate's report; Rhonda F., Pacific Region Trustee's report; Kathi F. Area 42's nomination for U.S. Trustee at Large
9:30am – 10:00am	Break
10:00am – 10:15am	Area 42 Election
10:15am – 12:00am	Lunch
12:00pm – 12:30pm	Area 42 Election
1:30pm – 3:30pm	Break
3:30pm – 3:45pm	Area 42 Election
3:45pm – 5:00pm	Treasury Ad-Hoc committee report Area 42 budget presentation for approval (these are if times permits pending election)
5:00pm – 5:30pm	Close for night
Sunday October 18 th , 2020 Meeting I.D. 982 7175 7227	
8:30am – 10:00am	Welcome YPAA Ad-Hoc committee report Area Conference Committee (ACC) reports Volunteer District from the North to host Area Assembly
10:00am – 10:15am	Break
10:15am – 12:00pm	New Business and any unfinished Business
12:00pm	Close
Next Assembly Spring, March 26 th -28 th , 2021	
All Times are approximate depending on Election	

Dr. Bob's Story of the 1st Camel

Dr. Bob, physician and a cofounder of Alcoholics Anonymous, would explain prayer by telling how the camels in a caravan would kneel down in the evening and the men would unload their burdens. In the morning, they would kneel down again and the men would put their burdens back on.

"It's the same with prayer. We get on our knees to unload at night and in the morning when we get on our knees again. God gives us just the load we are able to carry for that day."

Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers (1980), page 229

The Alcoholics Anonymous Camel symbol:

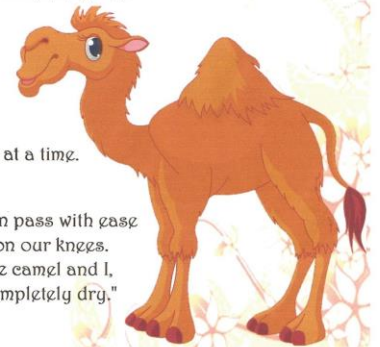
The camel each day goes twice to his knees. He picks up his load with the greatest of ease. He walks through the day with his head held high. And stays for that day, completely dry.

Spiritual Principles

- Prayer
- Faith
- Spirituality
- Sobriety – One day at a time.

Camel Prayer:

"The tasks of the day can pass with ease when a camel or I start on our knees. One Master we serve, the camel and I, and stay for that day completely dry."



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The unity, the effectiveness, and the survival of A.A. will always depend upon our continued willingness to give up some of our personal ambitions and desires for the common safety and welfare. Just as sacrifice means survival for the individual alcoholic, so does sacrifice mean unity and survival for the group and for A.A.'s entire fellowship.

A.A. Comes of Age, PP.287-288

- Vitality Unlimited Treatment Facility in **Carson City** is looking for people on Saturdays 6-7pm, It will be on Zoom
- Always looking for people for 12 Step call List in all of Northern Nevada
- West Hills in Reno needs a lot of people to go into meetings on property
- There are many committee chair positions open with NNIG
 - Treatment Chair
 - Corrections Chair
 - Sunshine Chair
 - CPC Chair
 - Events Chair
 - Intergroup Representative to Steering Committee
- If anyone is interested in these Chair positions go to the next NNIG Business meeting October 6th 6:30 PM at the Alano Club in Sparks or on Zoom ID# 831 8146 4811

PLEASE CONTACT CENTRAL OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION

775-355-1151

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

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Sparks, NV 89431
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2020 Faithful Fiver Club

Joanne C.P. Jami F. Carly C. Gail F.
Curtis O. Paul E. David L. Skip P. Mike C.
Darrell S. John I. Glen R. Kathy S.
Ann G. Deanna S. Carl H. Donn T.
Gary G. Barb P. Ron T. Leslie S. Paul M.
William F. Tinna O. Tom G. Mike C. Kim D.
Cheryl Z. Rainbow Todd C. Alvin V. Ray T.



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. Easy ways to contribute— pay in person at the office (so we can see your pretty face) mail, online at nnig.org or phone Central Office for a one time Card Charge over the phone. \$9.00 per month or \$60.00 per year!

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