

NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



January 9, 2021
 Marcus A. NNIG Host
 Sacramento, CA
 Speaker at 7:00
 Zoom Meeting ID# 843 0142 9257

December, 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
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

A Christmas Message

From Bill W.
 December 1961



Dear Folks:

IN THIS year of world-shattering crises, none have more reason for Christmas gratitude than we who so well know how great our unexampled privileges have been. Each of us passed through his own hour of trial, then was lifted up by the Grace of the Prince of Peace into the bright awareness of God's goodness and love.

SUCH HAS been our marvelous privilege. This is why we can now say, no matter what betides, "God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change; courage to change the things we can and the wisdom to know the difference."

So, dear friends,

Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas indeed.

Ever yours,

Bill W.



Recovery Step Twelve:

“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”

Three

Unity Tradition Twelve:

“Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.”

Legacies

Service Concept Twelve:

“General Warranties of the Conference: in all its proceedings, the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the A.A. Tradition, taking great care that the conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle; that none of the Conference Members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion vote and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and action...”

Concept XII - Six Fundamental Warranties Underlie the A.A. Service Structure.

To fully understand the purpose in the writing of Concept 12, it is useful to ask why it was important to write the Concepts at all? A look at what was happening in A.A. at the time gives an answer.

Realizing that he and Dr. Bob would not be around to "head up" A.A. forever, Bill felt it important to turn A.A. ownership over to its groups and its members. This ownership would need to be self-directing, with full participation in the guidance of A.A.'s affairs. A top-down method of decision making would be avoided. Yet, there would be need for a structure that would provide a workable way to facilitate this participation. The 12 Concepts were written to outline the components of the service structure, to describe how they would work together, and to provide the desired group and member participation in A.A. operations.

Development of the 12 Concepts required a way of thinking different from what we are accustomed to in our everyday world. It required thinking in the language of service rather than in the language of governance; to create a structure whose purpose would be to serve rather than to govern.

Concept 12 was originally written as Article 12 of the Charter for the General Service Conference. The Conference structure was developed as a way in which the legal foundation of A.A., its existence as a corporation under New York law, could be integrated with the more participatory form of ownership. The substance of the Conference Charter is not a legal instrument, but exists only as an "...informal agreement which was made between the A.A. groups and their Trustees in 1955." Bill describes the Charter as an "elastic document", but only in part. The first eleven Concepts can be amended by the Conference at any time. A change in Concept 12, however, would require written approval of three-quarters of all directory-listed groups. Making this change was made purposefully difficult, though not impossible. Making both the Traditions and Concept 12 difficult to change was seen as necessary to assure A.A.'s survival and well-being into the future.

The substance of Concept 12 is a list of six declarations that Bill describes as having a "...a high and permanent importance to A.A.'s general welfare". Bill refers to these as the Six Warranties".

1. That the Conference shall never become the seat of perilous wealth or power.
2. That sufficient operating funds, plus an ample Reserve, should be its prudent financial principle.
3. That none of the Conference members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others.
4. That all important decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity.
5. That no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy.
6. That though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any act of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in action and in spirit.

By protecting A.A.'s general welfare, the six warranties, along with all of the 12 Concepts and the Traditions ensure that A.A., will always be there to serve our members as we work together to support each other in our recovery from the disease of alcoholism. They are important for our survival collectively as a fellowship and for us individually as its members.

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 nigbracer@gmail.com
Deadline for submission is the last Friday of the month.

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
 - 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 Every 1st Tuesday of the month at 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

*BOOK OF
THE MONTH
Pick Up Your Copy
Today \$2.00 off*



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



OTHER 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 November*

A Way Home, Back Room Group,
Carson Happy Hour, District 22,
Deer Park Rebels, Driars 4th Dimension Fallon
Grapevine Group, Fallon Real Lunch Bunch,
Fernley Groups, Fireside Group, Grupo Action,
Grupo La Nueva Luz,
Kings Beach AA Golden Group,
Ladies of the Evening,
Minden Stephanie Way Group,
Minden Gardnerville Group,
Mt Rose recovery Room, Portola Group,
RTC Almost Heaven, RTC Beginners are Winners,
RTC How We Stay Stopped,
Southside Group,
Step 1, Whitaker Park,
Willing to go to Any Lengths

Central office report from Ronda H. December 14, 2020

The month of November is over and we are on to the last month of this year. Finally the end on the year is here! What a year! We had a volunteer/employee meeting at the beginning on the month that all attended either in-person or on Zoom. We went over following Traditions, QuickBooks and safety protocol in the office. For the book of the month we will keep what we had last month, Experience, Strength & Hope \$2 Off, this is a collection of all the stories that have been in the first 3 editions of the Big Book. The pamphlet is the Co-Founders of Alcoholics Anonymous \$0.40. Both of these items would be great for meetings. Volunteers hours- 98hrs

Calls into Central Office:

- Calls for AA help - 9
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen - 0
- Meeting information- 91
- Retail / merchandise- 20
- Other 12 step programs- 3
- Events - 0
- New to AA - 5
- Business/Central office- 49
- Total Calls- 177
- Visitors - 153

Ronda
Central Office Manager



NNIG BIRTHDAY CLUB

These people are miracles!



November Birthdays

Sharon F. 36 Years (OCT)

Rich A. 34 Years

Leslie S. 23 Years

That's 93 Years!



October Birthdays

Nancy A. 35 Years

Pete F. 27 Years

Previous Birthdays

September 2020:
Linda G. 28 years
Dan S. 19 years
Phil S. 19 years
Michael H. 25 years

August:
Sandra D. 25 years

July 2020:
Joanne S. 8 years,
Laurie S. 9 years,
Barbara S. 45 years

June 2020:
Ann G. 16 years
Dave 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 M. 31 years

May 2020:
John L. 35 years
Donn T. 30 years
Bill M. 31 years

April 2020:
Paul M. 29 years
Linda S. 15 years
Ron T. 9 years
Susanne T. 26 years
Skip 20 years

March 2020:
Kent L. 38 years
Jim D. 43 years

December 2019:
Scan S. 30 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 and 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

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!

Veterans Meeting

6:30 pm
Thursday
1835 Montello
Reno

Backroom Group

5:00pm
Sunday & Tuesday
120 Hydraulic St.
Stead

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

12 & 5 Daily

680 River St.

Alano Club

Elko

SATURDAY GRAPEVINE

NOON

141 INDUSTRIAL WAY

FALLON

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

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

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

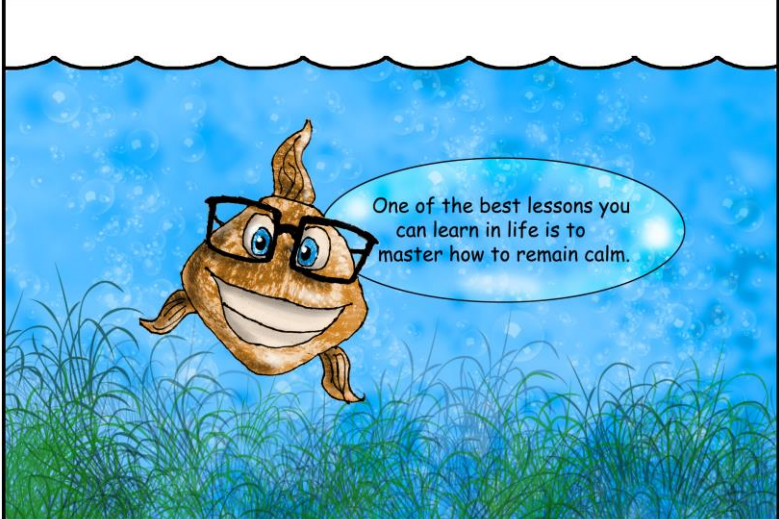
Holiday Schedule 2020

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

Wednesday & Thursday
 December 30th & 31st - Inventory

Friday January 1st - New Year's day

Drink Like A Fish by Rick M.



No More Holidays from Hell

It was Christmas Eve 1986. There I sat in my living room in front of the tree, very drunk. My wife was passed out cold on the floor. We were going to open presents but it didn't work out that way. I sat there alone with the tree lights



sparkling. That terrible emptiness came over me. That feeling I couldn't shake no matter what. I made a vow that I never wanted to spend another drunk

Christmas like that one. It wouldn't be until Mother's Day 1987 that I would attend my first meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous, and out of the ruins start building a new life, one brick at a time. I was the kid growing up with the alcoholic parents and I was never going to drink. Holidays were sometimes battlefields, when the turkey hit the floor. Shouting, violence, doors slamming, tires squealing. I was the kid who poured their booze down the sink so they wouldn't drink (that only happened once!). They returned the favor some years later when they found my stash of marijuana that, in spite of my loud protests, went down the garbage disposal. As my parents' alcoholism progressed through the years, Christmas changed. Christmas trees were at other people's houses. The gifts never made it into the house if they were ever purchased at all. Sometimes they dropped us kids off at the movies on Christmas Eve, and we hoped they wouldn't forget to pick us up. Sometimes they did, sometimes they didn't. My story is not different from those of many children living with alcoholic parents. Nope, I was never going to drink and have that kind of Christmas. Of course I did drink, and I also used drugs. In my mind, drugs were much more high-class than booze. I mistakenly thought my youth gave me immunity from alcoholism. That Christmas in 1986 I was 33 years old and nearing another bottom. I tried to make up for those Christmases in the past. I bought the biggest tree I could get in the door. Sometimes I had to cut it down to get it in the house. Big Christmas trees didn't protect me from the progression of my alcoholism or that horrible despair and emptiness. I drank every day and on holidays, especially Christmas, extra supplies were purchased. My drinking was really over the top. The hangovers got worse and worse. Sometimes I had those three-day hangovers where I could hardly move. I thought

my body would last longer! When I got sober I learned that I'd been HIV positive and had had hepatitis C for years. Drinking myself into unconsciousness every night didn't really help me with that. I was an alcoholic undercover narcotics officer. I would have been hard-pressed to pass a drug test. I was paid to drink and buy drugs every day. I was a gay man married to a woman through an arranged marriage (that's another story!). I didn't want to be married any longer. I was bankrupt financially, emotionally, and spiritually. Those were the circumstances I awoke to every morning. Staring in the mirror at my reflection and not knowing who was staring back at me, I experienced that feeling of impending doom. I was ripe for recovery. I had run out of fresh ideas for better living. I was given the gift of desperation. On Mother's Day 1987 at Paki Maui in Lahaina, I went to my first meeting. That was the beginning. Eighteen months of sobriety, and then I relapsed at Christmas! By living in a sober house, I started all over again. I now have almost 19 years of continuous sobriety. Today I do Christmas differently. Because Dec. 26 is my sober date, Christmas to me means victory over that old life. I no longer have to drink, suffer and be miserable. I'm sober and free. No more drunk Christmases from hell. In my early recovery, especially the first five to seven years, the holidays were a very slippery time for me. I hung out at the alkathons, a safe place for me to be. I made it through many Christmases by staying in the safety zone of those alkathons. I remember one year, around two years sober, I volunteered to chair a meeting at the Christmas alkathon. When I began the meeting, I started to cry and couldn't stop. I moaned, I wailed, I just fell apart. What I fell apart about I don't remember. Two friends came over, took the book out of my hands and began the meeting. The love of those two touched my heart, and I will always remember their kindness. We got sober together. The meeting went on and I just fell apart. Whatever the major crisis of the moment was passed and I stayed sober. My Higher Power does for me what I can't do for myself, but those in the Fellowship have closed the gap for me when I couldn't see my way through. Their love carried me when I needed love the most. Today I still love the alkathons. Christmas is still a celebration of victory, gratitude, grace and a new life. When I go to the alkathons now I see many a newcomer in the same position I was in: scared, wanting to stay sober, but not knowing what the hell is going on. I have found several sponsees at the alkathons. Actually, I didn't find them, they found me—Twelfth Stepping me, keeping me sober. I can never repay the debt I owe to Alcoholics Anonymous and the Fellowship. I hope I never forget what it was like in the beginning. I am so grateful for my sobriety. I am looking forward to another sober Christmas. Mele Kalikemaka.

By: Vernon G., Taken from the Grapevine Archives

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2020 Faithful Fiver Club

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Darrell S. John I. Glen R. Kathy S. Tom E.

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. \$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.