

# NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



April 10, 2021  
Lulu, Los Angeles  
Just for Today  
Speaker at 7:00  
Zoom Meeting ID# 843 0142 9257

## April, 2021

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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@nning.org

**Web Site/Meeting Schedule:** nning.org

**The Bracer:** nnigbracer@gmail.com



## NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP

### COFFEE OR TEA?

**BY: BILLY N. | BUFORD, GEORGIA**

Tradition Four is handy when choosing which beverage to serve, but what about when we decide on other Traditions?

Tradition Four: Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

Group autonomy was a liberty given to AA groups to develop their own group "customs." But AA has only one set of Traditions. Likewise, each AA member is given the freedom to decide which group customs they like and which they do not. The same liberty does not apply to our Traditions. In my experience, an AA group that does not honor all Twelve Traditions ceases to be an AA group.

Some groups like large cakes, others like individual cupcakes. Some groups hold meetings that are an hour long while others have meetings that are an hour and a half. I have the freedom to pick the group where I feel most comfortable. This is true spiritual freedom.

Some groups celebrate birthdays every week, while others once a month. Some groups give out chips, while other groups find them a wasted use of AA money. While all of these issues seem important, they don't come close to the real importance of such issues as who gets to attend a "closed" AA meeting and who gets to participate at an "open" AA meeting.

While the short form of the Third Tradition welcomes anyone with a desire to stop drinking, the long form makes clear our membership ought to include all those who suffer from alcoholism. Too often we confuse the right to attend an AA meeting with the requirement to be a member.

The Fourth Tradition is always welcome when discussing a group custom, such as whether to have only coffee or coffee and tea but it should never be used when deciding an issue regarding the other Traditions. Group autonomy never overrules our membership requirement or our primary purpose. Group autonomy is never a reason to take contributions from outside AA or require members to belong to the church where a group meets.

Using the Fourth Tradition to break another Tradition does affect other groups and AA as a whole because breaking any Tradition affects other groups and AA as a whole. God bless the liberty and freedom our Twelve Traditions have given every AA member. But this freedom and liberty come with a price tag, and that cost is simple respect for the program that saved our lives.

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## Concept IV

*Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.*

The principle of "Right of Participation" is built into the General Service Conference through the Conference Charter. Voting members include not only delegates, but also the trustees, and the directors and staff members of A.A. World Services (i.e., G.S.O.) and the AA Grapevine. In the same way, the boards of these two operating entities include as voting members not only trustees, but also nontrustee directors and paid administrators and staff members. The chairperson of the General Service Board appoints nontrustee members to the standing committees in order to have the advantage of their expertise, and staff members serve as committee secretaries. "There are no 'superiors,' no 'inferiors,' and no 'advisers.'" New trustees on the General Service Board and new directors of the A.A.W.S. and Grapevine boards are sometimes surprised to see paid executives, staff members and outside accountants attending the board meetings. They are invited because of A.A.'s "Right of Participation." Thus, the trustees and directors "are put into direct communication with these workers, who. . . feel wanted and needed. Although they do not vote, these workers may freely participate." Bill warns against the possibility of new delegates or trustees trying to "weaken, modify or toss out" the "Right of Participation." He cites arguments by delegates to take away the trustees', directors' and staff members' vote at the Conference. "Certainly," he says, "our trustees and service workers are not less conscientious, experienced and wise than the delegates." "It is vital," he continues, "to preserve the traditional 'Right of Participation,' in the face of every tendency to whittle it down." Finally, there is a spiritual reason for the "Right of Participation." All of us desire to belong. In A.A., no members are "second class." The "Right of Participation" therefore reinforces Tradition Two, that no member is placed in "ultimate authority" over another. We perform our service tasks better "when we are sure we belong — when our 'participation' assures us we are truly the 'trusted servants' described in Tradition Two."

A A's

### Recovery Step Four:

*"Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."*

Three

### Unity Tradition Four:

*"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."*

Legacies

### Service Concept Four:

*"Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels, a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge" To better understand of this Concept, please read the full Concept IV in the A.A. Service Manual, page 17, and/or in AA Pamphlet P-8, "The Twelve Concepts for World Service illustrated." P-8, "The Twelve Concepts for World Service illustrated."*

# 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  
Limit of 200 Persons in Person  
Zoom ID# 843 0142 925



April's Meeting in Grand Exposition Hall in the Silver Legacy

**April 10, 2021**

**Host Group - Just for Today**  
**Speaker-**  
**Lulu (Los Angeles CA)**

**May 9, 2021**

**Host Group – Jay Walkers**  
**Speaker-**  
**Chris G. (Reno NV)**

**June 12, 2021**

**Host Group - RTC Almost Heaven**  
**Speaker-**  
**TBA**

**July 10, 2021**

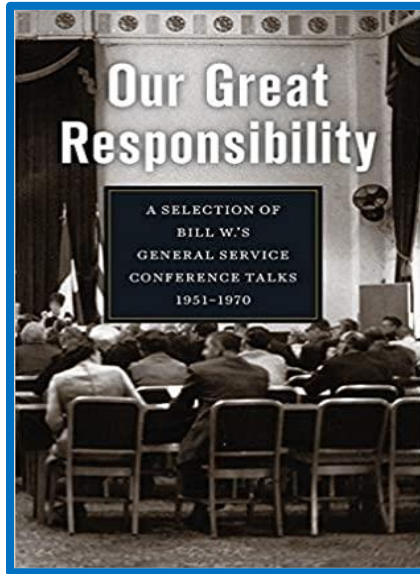
**Host Group - TBA**  
**Speaker – TBA**

**August 14, 2021**

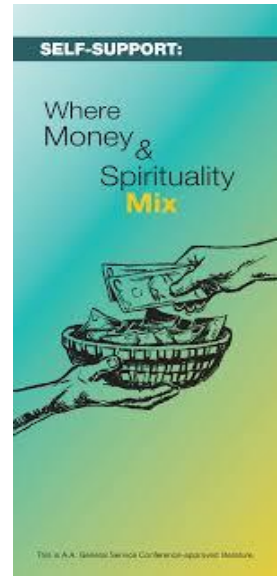
**Host Group**  
**Minden/Gardnerville Group**  
**Speaker –**  
**Bob D. (Las Vegas)**

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

*BOOK OF  
THE MONTH \$13  
FREE with purchase get Reprint  
of original Big Book*



*PAMPHLET OF  
THE MONTH  
Where money & Spirituality  
Mix FREE*



## NNIG/NAGSC Liaison Report

Woowoo! This month March Madness was in full effect with PRAASA, Agenda roundtables, and the Spring Assembly. PRAASA was held virtually this year with over 1700 service junky alcoholics in attendance to share how they were working within their areas to help their fellow suffering alcoholics. There were panels about how AA can be more inclusive with our literature, reach more of the professional community, changes to AA literature or a new simple language text for members. One of the overall themes was kindly challenging ourselves to not let good get in the way of great by how we reach newcomers through meeting formats, literature, and being open to new perspectives. For me, a Big Book thumper, it showed me once again how open mindedness is indispensable to do the duty Dr. Bob talks about being willing to do.

Throughout March GSR's from across Area 42 gathered in roundtables to get their group's and gather our Area's conscience about Agenda items for the General Service Conference for our Delegate to share in April. Every year for those who don't know there is a gathering of delegates, AAWS staff members, trustees and a few others who look at conference agenda items that have been presented by members of AA. These are issues that may affect AA as a whole such as new editions of the Big Book, new pamphlets, how Zoom meetings are included in the service structure and also how the conference operates as a whole. It gives the Board of Trustees a chance to be advised about how the members of AA feel about certain issues.

Previous to this conference we have a Spring Assembly for Area 42 our General Service Area which is unique because we are Nevada and special haha. We have the Southern and Northern Regions or SAGSC/NAGSC. At this assembly the elected General Service Representatives for all the groups as well as standing committee members get together to give our delegate a sense of the body concerning agenda items the delegate picks. This is where as AA we see the 2nd Tradition and Right of Decision play out to help mold decisions we guide the Board of Trustees to carry out. It's also a great chance to fellowship and gather ideas for how we can best reach alcoholics in our areas. I got to know the Intergroup Liaison from the South and look forward to working with her on how to best serve. There was also a proposal to hold our service assemblies in a hybrid format just as we have done with NNIG to best include as many members to hear their groups voice and best serve our area that passed with substantial unanimity. Also, another proposal for our Area's treasury and website were voted on and discussed. I have copies of those if anyone is interested as well as copies of the agenda items discussed this year. If anyone has any questions about what general service does, is or how to get involved I am available.

## Save the Date FOUNDER'S DAY 2021



Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> 11-3pm

Bowers Mansion, Washoe Valley



For more information call Central Office  
775-355-1151

## Central office report from Ronda H. April 6, 2021

The book of the month is still *Our Great Responsibility* and receive a copy of the reprint of the big book. Have masks at the office only \$8, we are still going to need these for a while. We have some new style chips in and as always if we don't have it in stock I will try and get it for you. We need to keep updated on the meetings so please call the office or email of any changes. We had 90 calls for meetings and it is so important to give the correct information.

### Calls into Central Office:

- Calls for AA help - 9
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen - 2
- Meeting information- 90
- Retail / merchandise- 25
- Other 12 step programs- 3
- Events - 11
- New to AA - 3
- Business/Central office- 71
- Total Calls- 214
- Visitors - 199

Ronda  
Central Office Manager



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

**Previous Birthdays**

**February**

**Tom C. -- 40 Years**

**Skip P. -- 21 years**

**January 2021**

Joan H. 50 Years

**December Birthdays**

Cindy M. 32 Years

Anonymous 35 Years

**November 2020:**

Rich A. 34 Years

Leslie S. 25 Years

**October 2020:**

Nancy A. 35 Years, Pete F. 27 Years

Sharon F. 36 Years

**September 2020:**

Linda G. 28 years, Dan S. 19 years

Phil S. 19 years, Michael H. 25 years

**August 2020:**

Sandra P. 25 years

**July 2020:**

Joanne 8 Years, Laurie 9 Years,

Barbara 43 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. 33 Years, Donn T. 30 Years,

Bill Mc. 31 Years

**May 2020:**

John L. 33 Years, Donn T. 30 Years

**April 2020:**

Paul M. 29 years, Linda S. 15 years

Ron T. 9 years, Suzanne T. 26 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!

**Caring & Sharing**  
**Thurs 7PM**  
**Granite Hills**  
**Baptist Church**  
**10350 N Red Rock Rd**  
**North Valley**

**AIRPORT MEETING**  
**TUES & THURSDAY**  
**6:45 AM**  
**2600 E. COLLEGE PKWY**  
**CARSON CITY**

**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

**Truckee 7AM**  
**10157 Donner**  
**Pass Road**  
**Truckee, CA**

**SUNDAY**  
**MEETING**  
**7:30AM**  
**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  
 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



## District Meetings

**DISTRICT-2** Virtually contact DCM

**DISTRICT 4** First Thursday of each month, 7:00 PM-  
 Zoom ID: 876 7717 4234 PW: District4

**DISTRICT 6** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of even numbered months-  
 For information email  
[district6@nevadaarea42.org](mailto: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** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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

### 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!!!

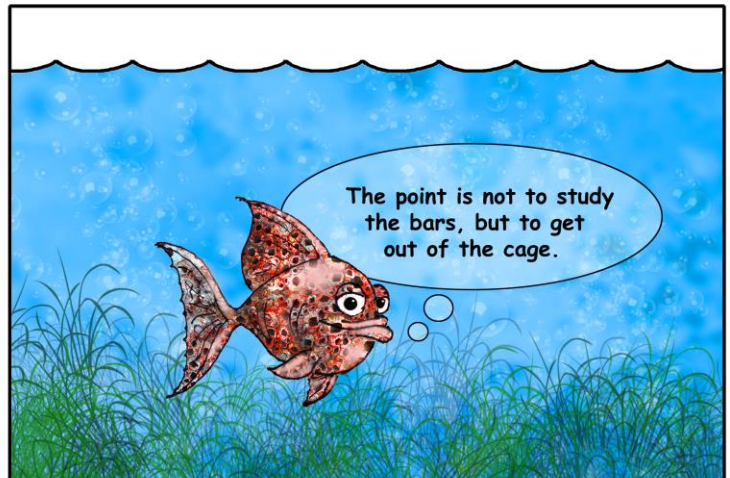
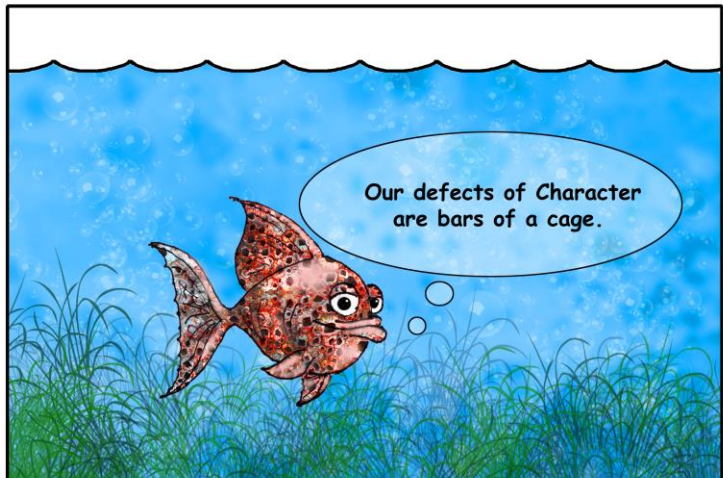
**DO YOU HAVE 35 YEARS OF SOBRIETY?**  
 IF SO, THE ARCHIVES WOULD  
 LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!  
 EACH MONTH, THE ARCHIVES WOULD  
 LIKE TO PUT A LONGTIMER'S  
 STORY IN THE BRACER.  
**BUT WE NEED YOUR STORIES!!!**  
**CONTACT CYNDY:**  
[nigarchives@GMAIL.COM](mailto:nigarchives@GMAIL.COM)  
**OR RONDA: 775-335-1151**

The office will be closed on the following holidays

May 31 - Memorial Day  
 Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> - Founders Day  
 Monday July 4- Independence Day  
 Monday September 6 - Labor Day  
 Friday October 29 - Nevada Day  
 Thursday November 11 - Veterans Day  
 November 25 & 26 - Thanksgiving  
 December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

### Drink Like A Fish

by Rick M.



**NNIG/Central Office Group Contributions 2021**

<u>Group</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>YTD</u>
3rd Tradition Secular Group			Happy Hour Reno		
A Vision for You			Incline to be Sober		
A Way Home		140.00	Incline Village Fellowship		
Alano Afternoon Serenity			Jamesville Moment to Moment		
Alano Brown Baggers			Kings Beach AA Golden Group		
Alano Dawn Patrol			Ladies of the Evening		
Alano Jaywalkers			Ladies of the Lake	109.25	109.25
Alano Sunday Morning Speaker			Mammoth Good Life Group		
Alano Sunshine Group			McGill NV Freedom Group		
Alano Women in Recovery			Minden Language of the Heart		40.00
Amen Maintenance Meeting			Minden Saturday Night Fever		
Back Room Group	99.56	99.56	Minden Stephanie Way Group		226.00
Back to Basics Saturday Night			Minden Wednesday Night Live		100.00
Battle Mountain Fellowship			Minden/Gardnerville Group		
Blairsdan Graeagle Sister in Recovery			Mt Rose Recovery Room	484.82	919.92
Beginners are Winners On-Line Group		214.50	NNIG Business Meeting		
Caring & Sharing in Stead		273.72	Our Common Welfare		
Carlin Crystal Light Group			Our Group Big Book		50.00
Carson AA Way of Life			Out and Sober		
Carson After Shifters	250.00	250.00	Portola Group		
Carson Airport			Positive Acceptance Group		94.53
Carson Big Book Experience	118.00	118.00	Pyramid Way Discussion Group	60.00	60.00
Carson Brown Baggers		962.80	RENVPA		
Carson Dr. Bob Nightngales			RTC Afternoon Delight	50.00	50.00
Carson Early Birds		1149.22	RTC Almost Heaven	150.00	450.00
Carson Happy Hour	400.00	900.00	RTC Aloha Group		
Carson Jay-Walkers Men's		200.00	RTC Beginners are Winners		
Carson Language of the Heart			RTC Big Book Study	151.00	184.00
Carson Men's NO BS Stag			RTC Coffee with Bill		
Carson Sandbaggers	100.00	100.00	RTC Don't Trip Music Meeting	101.00	101.00
Carson Sisters in Sobriety			RTC Grapevine/Big Book		25.00
Carson Sunday Morning Fire Station			RTC How We Stay Stopped		60.00
Carson Sunday Night Step Study			RTC Just for Today Women		113.25
Carson Women's Night Out	200.00	200.00			
Crystal Bay Nooners	50.00	200.00	RTC Little Rascals		97.50
Chester Fellowship	250.00	250.00	RTC Recien Liegados		
Chester Saturday Night Group			RTC Mid-Day Group ON-LINE	119.64	176.14
Choices	100.00	100.00	RTC Monday Night Men's		
Cornerstone Group			RTC New Awakenings Group		218.43
Dayton Fellowship Hall			RTC Seniors in Sobriety	150.00	150.00
Dayton Friday Night Rule 62			RTC Sober N Sane		30.00
Dayton Sunday Morning			Serenity Sisters Big Book		
Deer Park Rebels		66.00	Serenity on Sundays	150.00	150.00
District 12			Silver Springs Groups		
District 14	300.00	400.00	Sisters in Sobriety		199.40
District 2		400.00	Sisters of Sobriety SOS		
District 22	26.00	109.00	Sober Readers		
District 6			South Reno on Sunday		
Driars 4th Dimension	7.00	30.00	South Shore Group		
Driar's Positive Step			Southside Group	244.02	515.46
Driar's Support Hose			Step 1		
Eye Opener	48.60	48.60	Sunnyside Group	68.60	68.60
Fallon Grapevine Group		65.00	Susanville Fellowship		
Fallon Sunlight of the Spirit			Susanville Thursday Night		
Fallon The Real Lunch Bunch			Susanville Wed Womens		
Fernley Groups	200.00	400.00	Tahoe City Fellowship		
Fireside Group	40.00	40.00	The Rock Group		
First Responders			The Twilight Zone	50.00	50.00
Galena Friday Night			Truckee Dawn Patrol		
Ground Zero	1000.00	1200.00	Truckee Fellowship	235.80	235.80
Grupo Accion			Truckee River Men's Stag	420.00	762.00
Grupo Fe Y Esoeranza			Verdi Bookies		
Grupo La Nueva Luz	10.00	30.00	Virginia City Plug in the Jug		212.00
Grupo Latino			Wednesday Night Beginners Meeting		
Grupo Nueva Vida			Westwood AA		
Grupo Solo Por Hoy			Whitaker Park		
Jamesville God Grant Me	141.27	141.27	Whole in the Ground Sunnyside	275.00	275.00
			Willing to go to any Lengths	250.00	470.00
			Winnemucca Serenity Seekers		
			Women's 24 Hours A Day		
			Women's New Beginnings		
			Women's New Harmony		30.00
			Yerington Group		
			Young at Heart		

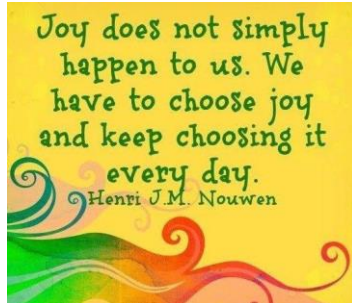
**Total      6,409.56      14,310.95**

# FINDING JOY IN RECOVERY

## Fourth Stepping into the Fourth Dimension

By Joy McP

Unlike most, I began my journey with AA *after* I took my first honest moral inventory of myself. Yet, like many real alcoholics, I've always been good at judging other people's faults, but I hadn't looked very thoroughly at my own. Everyone else was always the problem. Those actions of my own which were harmful to myself or others were always somehow justified because of what someone else had done first or rationalized as not as bad as what others do, so why should I stress about it? However, I believe stress came as a direct result of those actions and not living honestly, despite how much I tried to ignore my flaws and mistakes and blame them on others.



My husband was often the recipient of this blame. When he hit his rock bottom, I saw him bounce up in to AA and begin a gradual change for the better. I saw his true potential and knew the judgment and blame had to end if we were to be happy. I vowed to myself to be radically accepting of him, flaws and all. This was a good beginning, but didn't allow me to get to the root of my problems. Serenity alone is still, stagnant like a beautiful pool teeming with parasites under the surface, ready to draw blood.

I knew I had been part of the problem, and I had to come clean. At first, I thought if I could kind of admit to my indiscretions, I would be free from the anxiety and panic attacks that so often overwhelmed me. Not for the first time in my life, I was wrong. Laying down a confession that is only the half-truth on an unsuspecting spouse newly in recovery is not necessarily the best course of action. I didn't have the wisdom or courage needed to change me or my life; I had no higher power to help me. I was missing the first three steps needed to properly execute step 4 and beyond. My ego was still trying to win.

However, I had opened the gate, and as my faithful husband stood ready to offer forgiveness, my higher power came to me even though I hadn't asked for her yet. We were sitting out back, listening to sad country songs, enjoying one of the very few clear days last September offered Reno. With clarity as sharp as a slap in the face, I just *knew* I could no longer lie to protect my ego. It was as if the smoke from all the garbage I had been burning inside my soul cleared, and for a moment, I saw Truth. This beautiful man and this wonderful life didn't deserve dishonesty. I felt like I was in a stupor as I walked inside to make lunch. I was as afraid as I'd ever been in my life, melting as I flipped a grilled cheese sandwich in the cast iron skillet for my son, yet I also felt this incredible presence of strength within me. I could not

accept forgiveness; I hadn't earned it yet, so I resolved to change that, right after lunch.

I came clean and told him the absolute truth, about *everything*. I told him I couldn't stop drinking despite my promise to stay sober with him. I attended my first ever AA meeting that night. My mouth fumbled on the words, "I am an alcoholic," but the truth resonated in my being. From that day forward, a pledge to 100% honesty has accompanied my commitment to 100% acceptance, and together they have paved the way toward the fourth dimension, though the road is long and hard.

Soon, I found a sponsor I respected and connected with. With her help, we worked the steps in the proper order, and I spent a lot of time on step 4. Before a fearless and thorough moral inventory of my life, joy was elusive; at best, chemical induced euphoria made me forget how much I had been hurt, how much I had hurt others. Delusions fueled by my ego's limited perspective made peace impossible, peace with others and peace within. There is something inside me that in some ways always knows the truth, and to honor that little bit of divinity within me is priceless. It's about time. After over 7 months of sobriety, a solid home group, getting a sponsor, working the steps, and focusing on spirituality and service every single day, I sometimes feel like I have firm footing in the fourth dimension. It's times like those that my higher power gives me just what I need: a healthy dose of humility by pulling the rug out from under my feet. Life is a constantly changing paradox of beauty and pain. The steps and AA have helped me to learn about myself, about my disease, and about God's universe. I am learning how to face those ugly parts of myself and life that for so many years I managed to numb away. I am learning how to keep my side of the street clean and let God sort out the rest.

### FROM THE DECEMBER 1958 GRAPEVINE

True freedom is not doing what we want, but doing what we ought. There is no government in Alcoholics Anonymous, no rules or regulations. Each group may do as its members wish; they are autonomous. But to live in true freedom they ought to take every care that their actions do not interfere with other groups or contravene AA principles lest we lose our freedom. Our freedom only lives by our willingness to give to others that same right.

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

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


**NNIG BRACER SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation for Electronic Version \_\_\_\_\_  
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