

NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



January 8, 2022
Marilyn S., Los Angeles
Happy Hour
Speaker at 7:00
Eldorado Resort Casino

January, 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Concept I	2
Events	3
Book of the Month	3
Showcase Meetings and more	4
Service Opportunities	5
Group Contributions	6
Brooklyn Dreams	7

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

THE BRACER



NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP

Welcome?

When a wet drunk shows up at a meeting

A drunk showed up at an AA meeting holding a can of beer, and he was told, unequivocally, that he could not come in. He left, but showed up outside a few days later, yelling that even AA wouldn't let him in. A member went out to talk to him and calm him down. The police arrived and our member assured them that the man was, indeed, going into the AA meeting.

A number of people at the meeting started whispering, visibly upset that a "wet" one had disrupted the meeting. Again, the drunk left. Outside the meeting, he had a seizure and collapsed. Paramedics were called.

Someone heard that the man tried to commit suicide. When he was released from the hospital, he showed up at our meeting the same day. This time, he was sullen and reclusive. Not one male member in the room went over to him. Instead, members talked about their troubled relationships, whether or not to buy a new house, and their job problems. Silently, I got up and went over to the man.

He told me about how sick he was and about the incomprehensible demoralization he felt. He wanted to stop drinking and couldn't. I got him some water and a cookie and then quietly asked a couple of male AAs to take over. I do not know if the man is sober today, or if he is even alive.

A few days later, I brought up the topic of having a wet drunk at our meeting. Most members felt that the common welfare of the group came before the wet drunk.

During the discussion, members said various disparaging things: "He doesn't want it," and "Meetings need to be about recovery issues, not about some wet one that won't hear anything, anyway." I wondered if a recovery issue was divorce, a lost job, and a new house, or was it getting someone off booze long enough to find a Higher Power that can solve all those other issues? To me, the primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous is helping the still sick and suffering alcoholic, and not just the cleaned-up-detoxed-and-sober-twenty-eight-days new person that walks through the doors. When I arrived in the rooms of AA, I was not sober, cleaned up, or detoxed. I had not brushed my teeth in weeks. However, not a single person told me to leave. On the contrary, they welcomed me. Not one person sat in judgment.

Have some AA meetings become social groups, with membership requiring that you already be sober so that you can have a free therapy session and discuss your issue of the day? My Big Book says I must work with the still sick and suffering alcoholic if I want to stay sober and live a happy, joyous, and free life.

Today, I may not be popular in my home group because I talk about the Traditions, the responsibilities of sobriety, and welcoming and reaching out to the wet drunk.

But I do what was done for me--I share my spiritual experience in finding a Higher Power, whether the drunk I'm addressing is coming in for the first time or for the tenth time. For that, I am responsible. BY: C.G. | CRYSTAL SPRINGS, FLORIDA

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The Twelve Concepts for World Service How Bill W. explained the spiritual principles that undergird A.A.'s structure and how the parts work together.

The Twelve Concepts for World Service How Bill W. explained the spiritual principles that undergird A.A.'s structure and how the parts work together. This is a pamphlet about the Concepts; it is NOT the Concepts themselves. They are found in the book The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, and should be read by every "trusted servant." As A.A. grew up, it began with the groups — first only a few, then hundreds and then thousands. Very early an Alcoholic Foundation, later renamed The General Service Board, was formed to be responsible for our affairs. And with Dr. Bob's death and Bill's facing up to his own mortality, a General Service Conference assumed the leadership which had fallen to the co-founders. Meanwhile, a tiny publishing operation and service office had grown in size and importance to the Fellowship, and a monthly journal, the AA Grapevine, was being published. Which of these entities was supposed to do what? Little wonder there was confusion! What was their relationship? Who was in charge? What were their responsibilities — and what were their rights? Bill W. himself was sometimes part of the pulling and hauling that took place, and so he saw the need to "reduce to writing" his concepts of the "why" of the whole structure, the lessons to be drawn from experience, the relationships and, above all, the spiritual principles. As Bill set them down, the Twelve Concepts are a potpourri: Concepts III through V, IX and XII deal with spiritual principles; the remainder, though they have spiritual overtones, are devoted to describing the relationship of the various service entities and how they work together. What follows in this pamphlet is an illustrated introduction to the Twelve Concepts. If it is answers or guidance you are seeking, go to the Concepts themselves. Throughout this pamphlet, wording from the Twelve Concepts themselves (subject to some editing for clarity) is indicated by quotation marks; the rest of the text is either descriptive or explanatory.

Concept I Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside-down organization because the "ultimate responsibility and final authority for . . . world services" resides with the groups — rather than with the trustees of the General Service Board or the General Service Office in New York. In Concept I, Bill traces how this came to be. The first step in 1938 was "the creation of a trusteeship," first called the Alcoholic Foundation, renamed in 1954 the General Service Board. Why? To perform the services the groups could not do for themselves: e.g., uniform literature, uniform public information about A.A., helping new groups get started, sharing with them the experience of established groups, handling pleas for help, publishing a national magazine, and carrying the message in other languages and in other countries. A service office was formed to carry on these functions under the board's direction. Both the board and the office looked to the co-founders, Bill and Dr. Bob, for policy leadership. In the midst of the "exuberant success" of early A.A., Dr. Bob became fatally ill and Bill asked, "When Dr. Bob and I are gone, who would then advise the trustees and the office?" The answer, Bill felt, was to be found in the collective conscience of the A.A. groups. But how could the autonomous, widely scattered groups exercise such a responsibility?

Over great resistance by trustees and members devoted to the status quo, Bill managed to "sell" the idea of calling an A.A. General Service Conference (see Concept II), and eleven years later Bill was able to declare, "The results of the Conference have exceeded our highest expectations." This Concept is rooted in Tradition Two, which states: "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern." The principles of Tradition Two are crystal-clear, Bill asserts: "The A.A. groups are to be the final authority; their leaders are to be entrusted with delegated responsibilities only." The outside world cannot imagine an organization run this way, but Bill calls it "a spiritualized society characterized by enough enlightenment, enough responsibility, and enough love of man and of God to insure that our democracy of world service will work . . ."

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A A's

**Recovery
Step One:**

"We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives have become unmanageable"

Three

**Unity
Tradition One:**

"Our common welfare should come first: personal recovery depends on A.A. unity"

Legacies

**Service
Concept One:**

"The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for AA world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship"

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



All meetings located in Silver Barron Room 1-6
Unless otherwise noted

January 8, 2022

Host Group – Reno Happy Hour
Marilyn S. - Los Angeles CA
MEETING HELD AT ELDORADO

February 12, 2022
Host Group – ALOHA Group
Kristine & Jim B. – Reno NV

March 12, 2022
Host Group - TBA
Speaker - Jim A. – Hayward CA

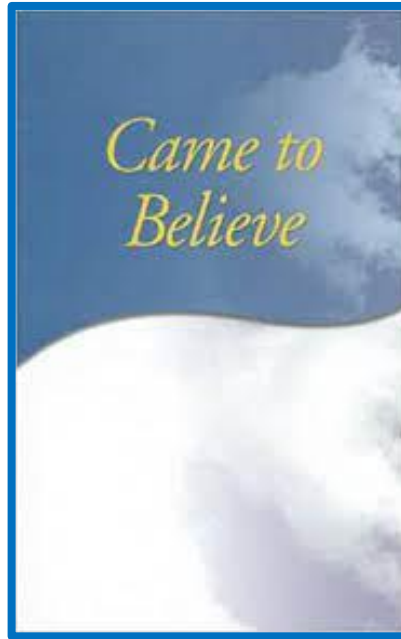
April 9, 2021
Host Group – Pyramid Way Group
Speaker- Larry T. – Seal Beach CA

May 14, 2021
Host Group – Carson City Happy Hour Group
Speaker – June G. – Oxnard CA

Speaker Chair – Kevin B. (775) 470-4614
Need more info call: Central Office – (775) 355-1151
Join us for dinner at Cafe Central inside the Silver legacy @ 5pm

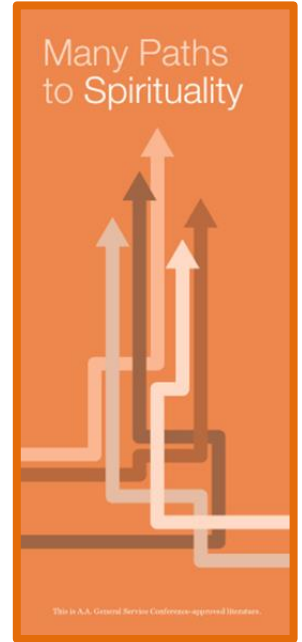
BOOK OF THE MONTH

\$2 OFF



PAMPHLET OF THE MONTH

\$0.45



OTHER AREA EVENTS

The Twelve Traditions A Distillation of A.A. Experience



Traditions Workshop
February 5th, 2021

First Congregational Church
627 Sunnyside
11 am to 3 pm

- Lunch will be served!
- Amazing speakers!
- Literature!
- Service Work Opportunities!

Please RSVP to: 415-304-3463 or
donduncaninnv@gmail.com

No one will be turned away!



Practice These Principles

Tradition One: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity.

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into arguments?
3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?

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Central office report from Ronda H. January 4, 2022

Happy New Year! May we all have a great New Year!
Book Of the month is "Came to Believe" \$2 OFF,
Pamphlet is "Many Paths to Spirituality" \$0.45

Volunteer Hours: 132

Calls into Central Office: 167

- Calls for AA help - 9
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen - 2
- Meeting information - 35
- Retail / merchandise - 7
- Other 12 step programs - 3
- Events - 36
- New to AA - 0
- Business/Central office- 75
- Visitors - 214

Ronda
Central Office Manager



Previous Birthdays

November 2021
Rich H. - 35 Years
Shawn - 30 Years

October 2021
Sharon F. - 37 Years
Nancy H. - 36 Years

September 2021
Phil S. 45 Years
Mike 26 Years

August 2021
Linda G. 29 Years
Danny S. 19 Years

JULY 2021
Barbara M. 46 Years
Joanne P. 9 Years

JUNE BIRTHDAYS
Donn T - 51 Years!!!

MAY BIRTHDAYS
Joni S. 26 Years
Ron T. 10 Years
Ann G. 1 LOT
Donn T. 31 Years

MARCH BIRTHDAYS
Kent L. 39 years
Kimmi 44 YEARS


FEBRUARY
Tom E. 40 Years
Skip P. 21 years

JANUARY 2021
Joan H. 50 Years

December 2021

Sean S. - 32 Years
Mystery Person!! - 34 Years

Don't forget
Rule 62



Papi H.

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

Please respect all meeting place mandates about face coverings.

**SOUTHSIDE
MONDAY-FRIDAY
NOON**

**780 DEL MONTE LN
RENO**

**Janesville
Log Cabin
Church**

**464 Main Street
Thursday 7PM
Janesville CA**

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
White Pine County/Ely: (775) 296-0656 Jim C.

**Wednesday Night
Beginners Group
Wednesday 7PM
7000 HWY 50 East
Dayton NV**

**After Shifters
Meeting**

Every day 5:30 PM

**1800 E William St#5
Carson City**

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 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:30 Central Office
 Zoom # 91904741396 Password D2

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

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

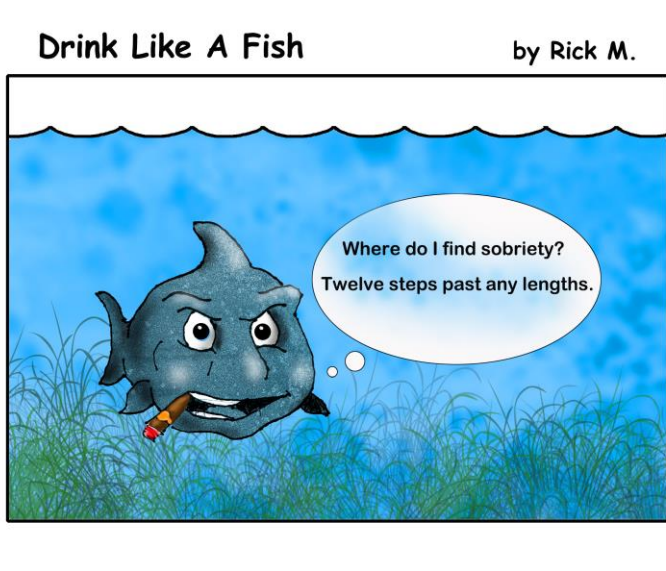
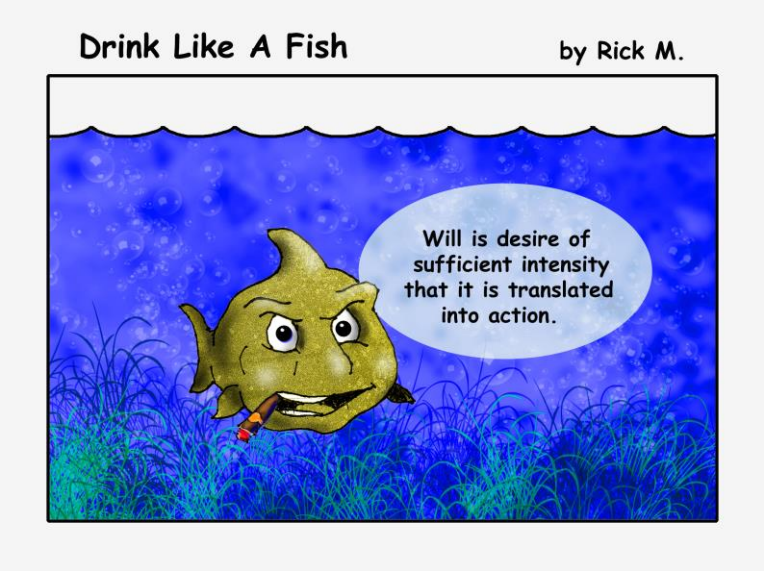
AREA CLUBS

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



STEP 1 PRAYER
GOD, CREATIVE
INTELLIGENCE, UNIVERSAL
MIND, SPIRIT OF NATURE
OR SPIRIT OF THE
UNIVERSE MY NAME IS
 _____, **AND I'M A REAL**
ALCOHOLIC ... AND I NEED
YOUR HELP TODAY.



BROOKLYN DREAMS

Trading drunken nightmares of a dark canal for the Serenity Prayer and a brighter life I say it multiple times a week, the Serenity Prayer is one of the most subtly difficult concepts for me to live by. How do I know what I'm able to control, and what I'm unable to control?

I came into Alcoholics

Anonymous utterly defeated. I couldn't go one single day without getting high or drunk or engaging in some sort of risky sexual situation. While drugs are a part of my story, my last drink was a \$5 bottle of wine. I was alone and unemployed, living in a bedroom that I sublet within walking distance of the Gowanus Canal, an area in New York City with one of the most toxic bodies of water in the U.S. The walls and ceiling of this apartment were so thin that I could hear the buttons clacking on game controllers that my neighbors were playing. I'd lie in bed, sweating on white sheets that long ago had turned yellow from previous sweats. I'd wake up with bites in my tongue and bruises on my head from the seizures I was having in my sleep, while I listened to my upstairs neighbors clacking away, as they pretended to be guitar players in a video game popular at the time.

I also kept having this nightmare that I'd had since childhood of a seemingly never-ending concrete dam soaring away from me in every direction. The incredible size of this flat plane left me feeling utterly miniscule. I would experience a reverse kind of vertigo: instead of seeing the endless fall, I saw the endless size. Then I'd start to think about the mass of water held back by this wall. I would stand pressed against the dam, like an ant preparing to stop a jumbo jet zooming toward it. Then I'd wake up crying.

As happens with some of us lucky ones, I was able to stop drinking and get sober. It wasn't a flash of light or a sonic boom. It was more like a long, slow movement through a dark cave toward a pinpoint of light. As I slowly progressed toward the light, it got brighter and brighter. I began to see that there was something other than me. I saw how a simple set of suggestions helped a group of people: they had jobs, friends and clean clothes that were not wrinkled like raisins from being piled up into heaps on their bedroom floors. I sometimes wondered if these heaps of clothes would start to smolder and eventually catch fire like the piles of leaves in the Texas pastures where I grew up. More than anything, I saw that these people in AA smiled. They laughed. Sometimes they cried, but their crying was much different crying from what I had been doing alone. There were comforting hugs, or they sat alone and felt these feelings in the most beautiful transparent way—they were alive.

Anniversaries passed, and that light at the end of the tunnel got brighter. The thing about transitioning from darkness into light was

God,
grant me the
serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change,
the **courage**
to change
the things I can,
and the
wisdom
to know the
difference.

that I could start to see myself. In the cave there was no need to worry about things I couldn't see ... the heaps of laundry, HIV, depression, anxiety, financial insecurity. These things were forced out into the open for everyone to see, including myself. So what now?

The material things got fixed. I asked for help in the rooms. Doctors were recommended. Budgets were planned. Commercial-sized laundry machines were engaged. After a few years of sobriety, however, the harder questions came up: Who was I really? What did I like? Would I ever have a career I enjoyed or a romantic mate who fit into my new set of beliefs? It took two years for me to learn how to have friends who I didn't sleep with or otherwise want something from. I learned how to do that from AA business meetings, my relationship with my sponsor and those incredibly intimidating tables at diners after the meetings.

I have amazing friends now who I love talking to and spending time with. They do great things. They have cool jobs like acting or writing. They have romantic partners and even kids. My recovery, however, has been very slow. Sure, if I compare that sweating alcoholic having seizures near the toxic dump to the sober man now who's above all happy, I'm an incredible success. That's the only comparison that really matters after all. Considering the life I led before, I should be dead.

Every day is a gift, but I'm human and I want more. I want to know what it feels like to have a career that I enjoy and that I'm stimulated by. I want to get up in the morning excited to take on a new challenge. I want to go home for the holidays and proudly talk about what I've built. I want to wake up next to someone whom I've taken the time to get to know and who has done the same with me. I want to invest in a life together and see what it is to look back on 40 years of being together. I want to take what I've learned in AA and really deeply apply it to the rest of my life, and then I want to give it back to the next alcoholic or addict who begins this journey with nothing more than a desire to stop.

When I'm applying for a new job, when do I call if I haven't heard anything back? When do I know I'm investing so much of myself in my current job, that I'm eliminating all potential for exploring the next step? What do I do with feelings of defeat while others around me seemingly progress with incredible ease? Do I call back my date from two nights ago, even though my last text was never responded to? Do I plan another date even though I've planned every previous one?

Simply put, when do I accept and when do I change? I don't think this is a question that my sponsor or anyone else can answer. The truth about life is that it's neither black nor white. It exists in the infinite shades of grey in between. Sometimes I need to be aggressive with a potential job, and other times I need to let go. Sometimes that date I had needs to know I'm interested. Other times, I need to remember that dating is about finding out facts about someone, and the facts I've found are not acceptable to me.

A critical part of the Serenity Prayer for me is that first word: God. Thankfully, Alcoholics Anonymous sets a very broad definition for this; it's simply something more powerful than me. All I need to do is to ask, "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."

BY: MICHAEL C. | NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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

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 I cannot send a donation at this time but I would still like to
 receive the BRACER electronically _____

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 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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\$7 Yearly Contribution (Suggested) – Electronic Version
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 Electronic Version of the BRACER.

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 436 S. Rock Blvd.
 Sparks, NV 89431
www.nnig.org

5 2022 FAITHFUL FIVER CLUB

Joanne P. Linda G. Tom E.
 Paul E. Skip P.
 John L. Tom E.
 Ann G. Deanna S.
 Carl H. Donn T.
 Barb P. Ron T. Paul M.
 William F.

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.

