

March 2024

Concept 3	2
Events	3
Book of the Month	4
Showcase Meetings and more	4
Service Opportunities	5
Group Contributions	6
Tradition 3	7
Is It Wrong to Feel Proud?	8
Rule 62	9

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

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Northern Nevada InterGroup

Few Have a Chance

BY: L.J. | BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

FEW of us have a chance to make a dramatic spectacle of turning our lives over to God. We live our humdrum lives out in a petty round. A chance to risk our life to save another, a great renunciation of something or someone we love comes seldom, if ever, to the average man or woman.

No, our turning our lives over to the care of God, and using His will instead of our own, must be made up of small, day-by-day building. But here's assurance for serene living and great purpose: God gives us the materials for building a good life and moulding character. It's given us in the small decisions we must make daily. Choose this, reject that. What is God's will, in making this decision?

We can either make these choices the Third Step Way or go back to our old, tormented, self-willed way. Daily there's a choice offered between a kindness withheld or generously given; a loyalty failed or a loyalty lived; a day spent in self-pity, or with a song of courage. God puts the song in our hearts.

Yes, each day we are given a 24-hour's supply of building materials. And by living the Third Step Way in all the little day-by-day decisions, there emerges for us a life that reaches, like a magnificent cathedral, toward Heaven.



Recovery Step Three:

"Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understand Him."

Three

Unity Tradition Three:

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

Legacies

Service

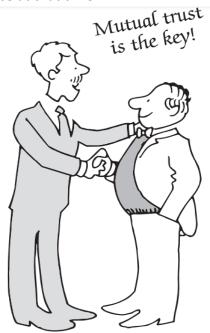
Concept Three: As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Concept 3

You should be familiar with the Conference Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board as background for this Concept, both of which are found in The A.A. Service Manual. For, except for the specific directions in these documents, every trusted servant and every A.A. entity — at all levels of service has the right "to decide . . . how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each particular problem or situation as it arises." That is, they can "decide which problems they will dispose of themselves and upon which matters they will report, consult, or ask specific directions." This is "the essence of 'The Right of Decision.'" But this right also means the Fellowship must have trust in its "trusted servants." If the groups instruct their GSRs rather than giving them a "Right of Decision," then the area conference is hamstrung. If the GSRs instruct the area delegates rather than giving them a "Right of Decision," then the General Service Conference is hamstrung. As Bill points out, "our Conference delegates are primarily the servants of A.A. as they should . . . cast their votes . . . according to the best dictates of their own judgment and conscience at that time."

Similarly, if the General Service Board, acting through its subsidiary boards,

"were to attempt to manage" the General Service Office and the AA Grapevine "in detail, then . . . the staff members . . . would quickly become demoralized; they would be turned into buck-passers and rubber stamps; their choice would be to rebel and resign, or to submit and rot." Bill warns against using "The Right of Decision" as an excuse for failure to make the proper reports of actions taken;



or for exceeding a clearly defined authority; or for failing to consult the proper people before making an important decision. But he concludes: "Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other."

Reprinted from The Twelve Concepts for World Service illustrated, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. You may see the whole pamphlet at AA.org or get one from NWG Central Office.

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 <u>nnigbracer@gmail.com</u> Deadline for submission is the last Friday of the month.

Page 3

NNIG & AREA EVENTS

Events hosted by Northern Nevada InterGroup to support Central Office



MEETINGS AND MORE

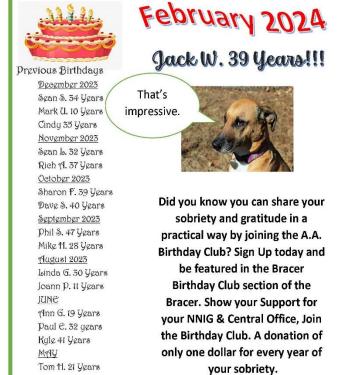
Central office report from Ronda H. January 2023

The book of the month is "The Big Book" \$20FF Get yours while supplies last! Pamphlet is "Frequently Asked Questions about AA." \$0.40. Sign up for The Blast, email of what's happening in our local AA. Fellowship. Email <u>officemanager@nnig.org</u> to be added to this once-a-month email. Volunteer Hours: 120 Hours Calls into Central Office: 159

- Calls for AA help 4
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen 0
- Meeting information 50
- Retail / merchandise 15
- Other 12-step programs 4
- Events 22
- New to AA/ Talked with 5
- Business/Central office- 59
- Visitors 272 -Dogs- 2
- Texts 4

Ronda H. Central Office Manager





Donn T. 33 Years

Kent L. 41 Years

Kim D. 46 Years

March 2023

Anonumous 38 Years

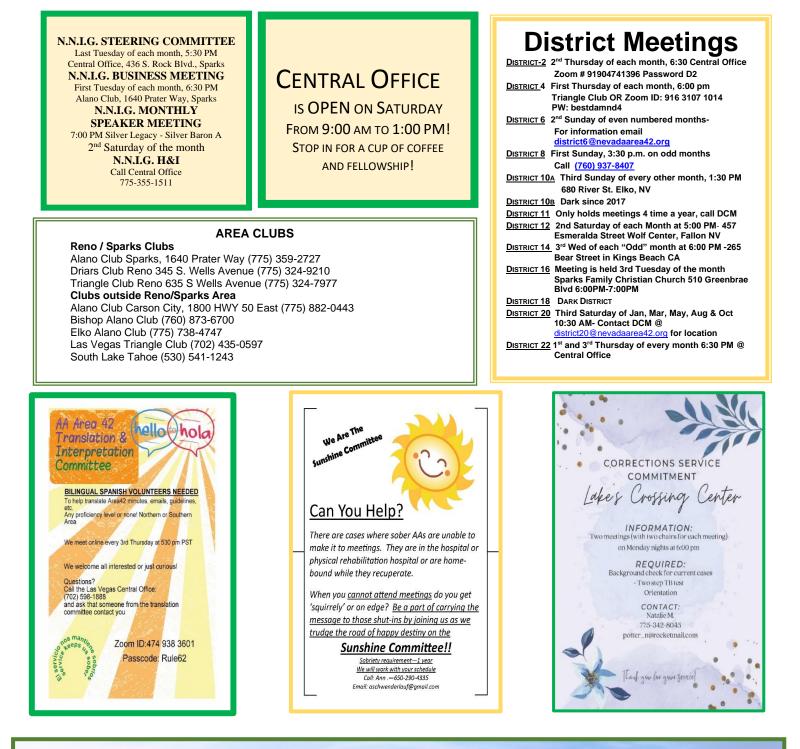
Envelopes available at Central Office, NNIG Business Meeting or Intergroup Representatives



For more event information contact Central Office @ 355-1151 or nnig.org



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



STEP 3 Prayer

God, I offer myself to Thee—to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life. May I do Thy will

always!

Rich

	oruary	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Group</u> Fe	ebruary	YTD
4th Dimension- ON-LINE	47.86	100.48			
A Way Home			Kings Beach AA Golden Group		
Alano Big Book Study			Ladies of the Lake		
Alano Brown Baggers		terre remain	Ladies of The Evening		
Alano Jaywalkers		218.46	Mid-Day Group ON-LINE	25.00	25.00
Alano Living Sober			McGill NV Freedom Group		
Alano Open Heart Open Mind			Lone Pine Group		45.00
Alano Sunshine Group	200.00	200.00			
Alano Women in Recovery			Minden Language of the Heart		
Amen Maintenance Meeting			Minden Saturday Night Fever		256.34
Back Room Group		98.73	Minden Stephanie Way Group	250.00	250.00
Back to Basics Saturday Night		321.00	Minden Wednesday Night Live		46.78
Beginners are Winners On-Line Group	0	149.00	Mt Rose Recovery Room	192.00	192.00
Blairsden Graeagle Sisters in Recov			Mt Rose Candle Light		150.00
Buena Vista Group	2		NNIG Business Meeting	23.00	64.00
Caring & Sharing in Stead		255.58			
Carson Big Book Experience			Old Time AA Group		68.42
Carson Brown Baggers		133.00	Positive Acceptance Group		547.16
Carson Early Birds Phone Meeting		830.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Carson Happy, Joyous and Free	292.85	292.85			
Carson Jay-Walkers Men's	202.00	500.00			
Carson Men's NO BS Stag	115.00	115.00	RTC Almost Heaven	100.00	300.00
Carson Sandbaggers	115.00	115.00	RTC Aloha Group	100.00	694.06
Carson Valley Gratitude			RTC Monday Night Mens	300.00	300.00
Chester Fellowship				300.00	968.00
			RTC Beginners are Winners RTC How We Stay Stopped		300.00
Chester Saturday Night Group	14		Pyramid Way Discussion Group		
Chester Wednesday Women's Seren Choices	ity	100.00	RTC Little Rascals	50.00	50.00
		100.00	RTC LITTE Rascals	50.00	50.00
Cold Springs Book Study			DTO Manla Taudatas	405.00	405 00
Cornerstone Group			RTC Men's Trudgers	195.30	195.30
Crazy Drunks			RTC Not a Glum Lot		
Dayton Fellowship Hall			RTC Monday Night Mens		000.1
Dayton Friday Night Rule 62			RTC New Awakenings Group		282.14
Dayton Red Rooster				040.00	010.00
Dayton Sunday Morning			RTC Women's Just for Today	242.60	242.60
Decompression Chamber/online		141.12	Serenity on Sundays	10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-1	
District 12		101010-10101	Southside Group	150.24	361.71
District 14	50.00	100.00	Silver Springs Groups	1010-10100	1010 1010
District 2	8.00	14.00	Sisters of Sobriety SOS	41.35	41.35
District 22	40.00	202.35	Slide Mountain Candle light Group	D	
District 6			Sunnyside Group		660.00
Double R at Noon			South Y Shore Lake Group	180.00	180.00
Driars Positive Step Grp			Susanville Fellowship		
Elko			Serenity in the Sierrias Campou	500.00	500.00
End of the Road Group					
Eye Operner			Step 1	100.00	160.00
Eye-Opener Mid-Morning			Westwood AA		
allon Silver Lining		6.50	Tahoe City Fellowship		
First Responders	130.00	130.00	Westwood Monday Night		
Fernley Kiss	100.00	100.00	The Next Chapter	100.00	100.00
Fireside Group		829.79	Weekend Warriors	100.00	15.63
Ground Zero		020.70	The Shop		10.00
Groupo Latino Reno			Truckee River Men's Stag		600.00
Grupo Accion	20.00	20.00	Truckee Dawn Patrol		800.00
	20.00	20.00			
Grupo dia a la vez	5.00	25.00	Whole in the Soul		
Grupo La Nueva Luz	5.00	25.00	Truckee Fellowship		
ncline Village Fellowship			Verdi Greener Pastures	050 00	050 05
nclined to be Sober			Whole in the Ground	350.00	350.00
Jamesville God Grant Me			Westwood Back to Basics		21.00
Jamesville Women's Monday Night			Wednesday Night Beginners Meet	ing	0.07 <u>07</u> 00.000
Greenville Group	100.00	100.00	Happy Hour Reno		475.00
Carson City Un Dia a La Vez	293.10	293.10	Minden/Gardnerville Group	94.21	94.21
			The Rock Group		

Yerington Group Winnemucca Serenity Seekers	50.00	90.00
Women's New Beginnings	350.00	600.00
Women's New Harmony		
Young at Heart		100.00

Total 4595.51 14,201.66

Tradition 3

NOVEMBER 1955 Reserved for Members Only BY: F. O. | SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS is a merry-go-round, that's what it is. And I have the strongest proof. Every once in a while my old friends come to visit me. They visit me as they would visit a zoo to see that animal from out of their world, a sober man. Those who have tried AA always say, "You know, I think I'll have to climb back on the Program again." Those who have not tried our way of life are even more amazed and invariably comment: "Shay, you look good, fella, guess I'll give that thing a whirl."

Doesn't that prove my point? "Climb back on," "Give it a whirl"--these sure add up to a merry-goround. But about that strongest proof, I am afraid I exaggerated. It is not usually more than 20%-byvol., whatever proof that is.

It has been quite a few twenty-four hours since I was discharged from the hospital with a paper saying that further treatment would not be beneficial. Little could they know that the treatment was only beginning. But they were right in that they did not say I was cured, for I had committed myself as an alcoholic and for me there was no cure.

I had gone to the hospital better prepared than most because I had a fairly good idea what the hospital could do for me and, most important of all, what it could not do. I had had a good foundation in active membership in AA several years before. The principles had made so much sense to me that I had never doubted them drunk or sober. I simply wasn't ready.

I had taken the Twelve Steps very seriously. I had admitted, yes, and accepted, the fact that I was powerless over alcohol. But I had not realized, as so many do not, that there is actually a Step before the Twelve. So, after a glorious honeymoon, I reached a too common conclusion. I was smarter than my fellow-alcoholics, in fact, I was smarter than all of them put together. I had had a good background in psychology and I figured out the "cause" of my drinking.

Eureka! Given the "cause" I had the "remedy." I could "walk alone."

They say that laughter is good for the soul so go ahead and laugh. But, if you are an alcoholic, let your laughter hide your tears at those famous last words, "I can walk alone." But this is not a dissertation on the need for AA meetings so I will skip over the years in which I walked, or should I say staggered, alone.

As I look back, I believe that the miracle of AA was working all through, my drinking days. After an attempted suicide and subsequent hospitalization, God turned His spotlight on Step Three and I made a radical change in my religious affiliation. It was a very happy change. . .but still I drank.

I went on periodic benders--of AA meetings. I was so desperate that I went the limit and even laid off the bottle for several days at a time! But over and over again AA "let me down 'cause no one understood me." Always there was a drink waiting just outside the door.

Then came one of those special days of hell with which God answers even drunken pleas for help. I came out of my purple fog to see my son, a fellowalcoholic, standing by the mirror lighting a cigarette. Suddenly his hair burst into flames. The fire was extinguished without much damage but, somehow, I stood in front of the mirror and saw myself and my life which had become completely unmanageable.

All that day and night I lay alone and thought (and drank without avail)--and thought some more. I cannot say that my thoughts were logical or even coherent but out of them sprang an idea which has obsessed me ever since.

AA has worked for hundreds of thousands but it had not worked for me. I believed in the Twelve Steps and found that they kept me sober for a time. I had been an active member. . . . Say, wait just a moment. Just how does one go about becoming a member of such a loosely organized body as AA? It has no dues or fees, I remembered that much.

I carefully reread a pamphlet which I had but it did not help much at first. AA was not "allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution" so my church didn't help or the fact that I am a Democrat. I love to argue but AA "does not wish to engage in any controversy." Shucks, there must be a membership requirement somewhere!

Then, to my confusion, I found it so plainly written that even a fool like me could read it: "The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to

Page 7

stop drinking." That was the Step before the Twelve that I had never taken seriously.

Then it was that I became a member of Alcoholics Anonymous for the first time. The subsequent hospitalization was simply to dry out and to think out my new way of life.

Now I am going to risk excommunication and let you into a secret known only to the initiates of AA. The next time that AA appears like a merry-goround that you "climb on" and "take a whirl" be sure you do it like this and you're in, pal, you're in:

Just walk up to some AA group, give them a hand and they will give you the grip of fellowship. Then say very simply, "I am powerless." That's the password, see? Now they will look at you with a certain scepticism, perhaps, even yet. Many phonies have learned the grips and passwords. But now comes the proof.

You will proudly, yet humbly, flash your "membership card" which you must carry with you always and show at any time when you are challenged by anything in your daily life. On that card will be emblazoned in the gold of sincerity, "I have an honest desire to stop drinking."

Then you will find the great secret of AA. It ain't a merry-go-round at all. It is a through express heading for a glorious future. But every seat in it has a big sign on it:

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Is It Wrong to Feel Proud?

BY: L.A. | CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE A Young Man Raises A Point....

A YOUNG man raised an interesting point at a meeting the other night. "I try not to," he explained, "but I find myself thinking that I am a better man than I was when drinking. I feel a sense of goodness about it all that I frankly like. I respect myself, and think that I am doing well. I can't seem to help but feel proud about it, and I am worried about whether that is bad thinking."

The answer, in my opinion, is no. The answer is no just so long as this young man remembers that it is AA, and the power of its Program, that is the source of such feelings. I, too, feel very good about what I am today. What I am, I mean, as compared with my dreadful drunkenness, with all its sickness of mind and soul that I now understand.

But I remember that this goodness of mind and heart comes only from my being a part of AA, and its power, which certainly is greater than myself. I never forget that, and I am deeply convinced that I again would be a lost soul, in the sea of alcoholism, were I to think otherwise.

I feel good, in other words, about being a part of AA, with the Grace of God that it means to me.

And there is nothing bad, surely, about feeling good, and having respect, about being a part of Alcoholics Anonymous!

In fact, there is in me a humble pride. It stems from the miracle that has come to me, the miracle of the knowledge of the experience of AA, by which I am no longer hopeless and helpless.

It is a pride for living which I like to think I share with the power that is the source of the strength of the tens of thousands of alcoholics who are AA. It is a pride in which I daily try to be worthy of the goodness, cleanliness and happiness which is AA, and which I can gratefully share.

I even like to think there is dignity to AA. I no longer am forced to slink through the alleys of life, and I now feel good about being able to walk erect, once again, in all my affairs. In many ways, I like to think that I am a better man, that there is dignity to AA, and that I am a part, however small, of it.

Yes, truly there is dignity to AA, and all the tens of thousands who are a part of this wondrous way of living. The dignity is there just so long as we do not forget its source, that power by which AA is able to offer so much to so many of us. I speak of what I choose to call the Grace of God.

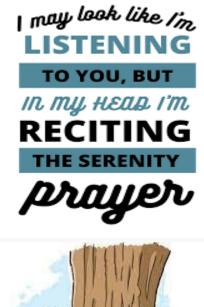
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RULE 62

A guy walks into a bar and asks for 10 shots of the establishment's finest single malt scotch. The bartender sets him up, and the guy takes the first shot in the row and pours it on the floor. He then takes the last shot in the row and does the same.

The bartender asks, "Why did you do that?" And the guy replies, "Well, the first shot always tastes like crap, and the last one always makes me sick!"





12 Steps! (hiccup) J can't even take one!



A duck walks into a bar and says to the bartender, "I'd like to buy some peanuts."

The bartender says, "Sorry, don't sell peanuts." The duck leaves.

The next day, the duck returns and again says, "I want to buy some peanuts." The bartender replies, a bit gruffly this time, "I already told you I don't sell peanuts." The duck leaves.

The next day, the duck comes in once again and yet again demands, "I want to buy some peanuts!" The outraged bartender yells back, "I told you, I don't sell peanuts! If you ask one more time, I'll nail you to the wall!" The duck leaves.

The next day, the duck walks into the bar and before the bartender can say a word, the duck asks, "Do you have any nails?" The bartender looks taken aback and says quietly, "Sorry, don't have nails." The duck asks, "Well then, do you have any peanuts?"



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