

### **May 2024**

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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 Ws. 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



### Bleeding Deacon vs Bleating Deacon?

I've read time and time again over the years the passage below from page 135 of the 12X12 in regards to Tradition 2 that I believe that 'Spell Check' has misinterpreted what Bill W. originally wrote or meant. Do we really send our bleeding deacons to the ER (emergency room) after stabbing them or should we look at the Websters-Merriam dictionary for the possibility that he meant 'bleating deacons?' 'Bleating' in the afore mentioned dictionary calls the term in its second meaning as 'to talk complainingly or with a whine.' The 1st interpretation is as 'to make the natural cry of a sheep or goat.' In either view no blood is spilled to the old timers in question by the Group.

As we enter into the new era of AI (artificial intelligence) I believe we should look for errors in past as well as our present publications and correct them as possible. Lest not forget that 'beast feeding' and 'breast feeding' come up with no errors in Spell Check.

"This brings us straight to the question "Does A.A. have a real leadership?" Most emphatically the answer is "Yes, notwithstanding the apparent lack of it." Let's turn again to the deposed founder and his friends. What becomes of them? As their grief and anxiety wear away, a subtle change begins. Ultimately, they divide into two classes known in A.A. slang as "elder statesmen" and "bleeding deacons." The elder statesman is the one who sees the wisdom of the group's decision, who holds no resentment over his reduced status, whose judgment," fortified by "considerable experience, is sound, and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments. The bleeding deacon is one who is just as surely convinced that the group cannot get along without him, who constantly connives for reelection to office, and who continues to be consumed with self-pity." -Anonymous

> Excerpt From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions AA World Services, Inc. This material may be protected by copyright.



# Recovery Step Five:

"Admitted to God, to ourselves, and other human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

## Three

## <u>Unity</u> Tradition Five:

"Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

## Legacies

### Service Concept Five:

Throughout our world services structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

### Concept 5

Newcomers to A.A.'s General Service Conference are often surprised at the pains taken by the presiding officer to make sure the minority has a second opportunity to present its views. Even after extensive debate on an issue, followed by a vote in which a "substantial unanimity" is reached, those opposed are polled individually to see if they wish to speak further to their minority view. In fact, numerous instances can be cited in which this minority view is so compelling the Conference has then reversed itself.

This is A.A.'s "Right of Appeal" in action, and Bill says the same principle should apply to meetings of our area committees, trustee committees and boards. On an issue of grave importance, the minority has the actual duty of presenting its views.

This "Right of Appeal" recognizes that minorities frequently can be right; that even when they are in error they still perform a most valuable service when they compel a thorough-going debate on important issues. The well-heard minority, therefore, is our chief protection against an uninformed, misinformed, hasty or angry majority.

"Trusted servants," according to Bill, "do for the groups what the groups cannot or should not do for themselves." And in exercising their "Right of Decision" (see Concept III), trusted servants are almost always "a small but truly qualified minority" — whether in the form of area committees, staffs, boards or even the General Service Conference itself. It is incumbent upon them, therefore, in their own meetings, to pay special deference to the minority voice.

This Concept also warns us of "the tyranny of the majority" and points out that in A.A., a simple majority is seldom sufficient basis for a decision. That's why we usually require at least a two-thirds majority. Lacking this, it is preferable to delay the decision;



or in the case of an election following the "Third Legacy Procedure," to "go to the hat."

(See Service Manual, Chapter I.)

The "Right of Appeal" also permits any person in the service structure, whether paid or volunteer, to petition for redress of a personal grievance. He or she can complain directly to the General Service Board, without prejudice or fear of reprisal.

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 NNIG 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 <a href="mailto:nnigbracer@gmail.com">nnigbracer@gmail.com</a>
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 Location- Silver Barron Room 1-6



Monthly Speaker Meeting
Doors open at 6:30 PM
Speaker at 7:00 PM



May 11, 2024
Penny P. Livermore, CA
Host Group – Women's Just 4 Today

June 8, 2024 Ron H. Portland OR. Host Group – Jay Walkers

July 13, 2024 <u>Heather S. Reno NV</u> Host Group- KISS Group

NNIG Speaker Chair: Kevin B. 775-470-4614 Need more info call: Central Office – (775) 355-1151 Join us for dinner at Café Central @ ~5 pm with the speaker.



## **OTHER AREA EVENTS**







## MEETINGS AND MORE

## Central office report from Ronda H. March 2024

The book of the month is "Emtioinal Sobrity I" \$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 officemanager@nnig.org to be added to this once-a-month email.

Volunteer Hours: 119 Hours Calls into Central Office: 148

- Calls for AA help 10
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen 0
- Meeting information 33
- Retail / merchandise 13
- Other 12-step programs 4
- Events 12
- New to AA/ Talked with 1
- Business/Central office- 75
- Visitors 283 -Dogs- 6
- Texts 7

Ronda H. Central Office Manager





March
Rim D. 47 Years
Rent L. 42 Years
February 2024
Jack W. 59 Years
December 2025
Sean S. 54 Years
Mark U. 10 Years
Cindy 35 Years
November 2025
Sean L. 52 Years

Rich fl. 37 Years

October 2023

Sharon f. 39 Years

Dave S. 40 Years September 2023 Phil S. 47 Years

Mike tl. 28 Years <u>August 2023</u> Linda G. 30 Years

Joann P. 11 Years
JUNE

Ann G. 19 Years Paul C. 32 years

Kyle 41 Years MAY

Tom H. 21 Years Donn T. 33 Years Anonymous 38 Years

## **April 2024**

Ron T. 13 YEARS

More and more we became interested in seeing what we could contribute to life.

(p.63)



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

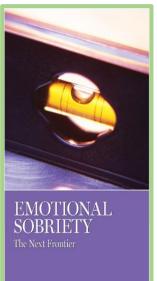
Big Pine Group
Sunday 5:30 PM
Big Pine Methodist
Church
313 Crocker St
Big Pine CA



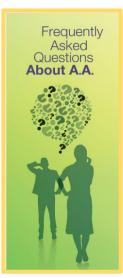
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BOOK OF THE MONTH \$2 OFF



PAMPHLET OF THE MONTH \$.40



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

#### 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

Call Central Office 775-355-1511

### CENTRAL OFFICE

IS OPEN ON SATURDAY From 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM! STOP IN FOR A CUP OF COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP!

### **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

## **District Meetings**

DISTRICT-2 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30 Central Office

DISTRICT 4 First Thursday of each month, 6:00 pm Triangle Club OR Zoom ID: 916 3107 1014

PW: bestdamnd4

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







## Fifth Step Prayer

Higher Power, My inventory has shown me who I am, yet I ask for Your help in admitting my wrongs to another person and to You. Assure me, and be with me in this Step, for without this Step I cannot progress in my recovery. With Your help, I can do this, and I will do it.

NNIG/Central Office Group Contributions 2024

NNIG/		Office Gro	oup Contributions 2024		
Group	April	YTD	Group	April	YTD
4th Dimension- ON-LINE		158.52	Kindred Spirits		250.00
A Way Home	641.27	641.27	Kings Beach AA Golden Group		
Alano Big Book Study	26.4	00.40	Ladies of the Lake		
Alano Brown Baggers	26.1 273.21	26.10 491.67	Ladies of The Evening	25.00	70.00
Alano Jaywalkers Alano Living Sober	2/3.21	491.01	Mid-Day Group ON-LINE McGill NV Freedom Group	25.00	70.00
Alano Open Heart Open Mind			Lone Pine Group		45.00
Alano Sunshine Group		200.00	Zono i mo Group		40.00
Alano Women in Recovery			Minden Language of the Heart		
Amen Maintenance Meeting			Minden Saturday Night Fever		256.34
Back Room Group	69.14	167.87	Minden Stephanie Way Group		250.00
Back to Basics Saturday Night	440.50	471.00	Minden Wednesday Night Live		46.78
Beginners are Winners On-Line Gro	440.50	589.50	Mt Rose Recovery Room Mt Rose Candle Light		192.00 150.00
Blairsden Graeagle Sisters in Recove Bishop High Sirra Group	103.65	103.65	NNIG Business Meeting	41.00	156.50
Caring & Sharing in Stead	305.63	561.21	Mt Rose Big Book Study	666.60	666.60
Carson Big Book Experience			Old Time AA Group		68.42
Carson Brown Baggers	170.00	303.00	Positive Acceptance Group		547.16
Carson Early Birds Phone Meeting	350.00	1180.00	Portola Group		100.00
Carson Happy, Joyous and Free		292.85	A Vision for You		175.00
Carson Jay-Walkers Men's		500.00	PT0 41 411	F0.00	400.00
Carson Men's NO BS Stag		115.00	RTC Almost Heaven	50.00	400.00
Carson Sandbaggers Carson Alano Club	211.00	200.00 211.00	RTC Aloha Group RTC Monday Night Mens		694.06 300.00
Chester Fellowship	211.00	211.00	RTC Beginners are Winners		968.00
Chester Saturday Night Group			RTC How We Stay Stopped	110.00	110.00
Chester Wednesday Women's Sereni	ty		Pyramid Way Discussion Group		
Carson Sisters in Sobriety	-	225.60			
Choices		100.00	RTC Little Rascals		50.00
Cold Springs Book Study					
Cornerstone Group			RTC Men's Trudgers		195.30
Crazy Drunks Dayton Fellowship Hall			RTC Not a Glum Lot RTC Monday Night Mens		
Dayton Friday Night Rule 62			RTC Nonday Night Mens	216.28	498.42
Dayton Red Rooster			KTO New Awakenings Croup	210.20	430.42
Dayton Sunday Morning			RTC Women's Just for Today		242.60
Decompression Chamber/online	145.83	382.49	Serenity on Sundays		
District 12			Southside Group	146.18	662.99
District 14	50.00	200.00	Silver Springs Groups		
District 2	40.00	24.00	Sisters of Sobriety SOS		41.35
District 22	40.00	281.35	Slide Mountain Candle light Group	580.00	1240.00
District 6 Double R at Noon			Sunnyside Group South Y Shore Lake Group	560.00	1240.00 180.00
Driars Positive Step Grp			Susanville Fellowship		100.00
Elko			Serenity in the Sierrias Campout		500.00
End of the Road Group			,		
Eye Operner			Step 1		160.00
Eye-Opener Mid-Morning			Westwood AA		
Fallon Silver Lining		31.50	Tahoe City Fellowship		100.00
First Responders		130.00	Westwood Monday Night		400.00
Fernley Kiss Fireside Group		829.79	The Next Chapter Weekend Warriors		100.00 15.63
Ground Zero		023.13	The Shop		15.65
Groupo Latino Reno			Truckee River Men's Stag		600.00
Grupo Accion		20.00	Truckee Dawn Patrol		555.55
Grupo Solo Por Hoy	12.00	12.00	Whole in the Soul		
Grupo Volver A Empezar		20.00			
Grupo La Nueva Luz	50.00	75.00	Truckee Fellowship		
Incline Village Fellowship			Verdi Greener Pastures	100.00	100.00
Inclined to be Sober			Whole in the Ground		350.00
Jamesville God Grant Me Jamesville Women's Monday Night			Westwood Back to Basics Wednesday Night Beginners Meeting	~	21.00
Greenville Group		100.00	Happy Hour Reno	4	475.00
Carson City Un Dia a La Vez		293.10	Minden/Gardnerville Group		94.21
Galena Friday Night	50.00	50.00			
			The Rock Group	297.59	297.59
			Women's AA Literature		50.98
			Yerington Group	200.00	200.00
			Winnemucca Serenity Seekers	50.00	180.00
			Women's New Beginnings Women's New Harmony	162.50	765.50 35.00
			Young at Heart		100.00
					. 55.55

Total 5583.48 21,688.90

SEPTEMBER 1952 Tradition Five BY: BILL W.

The fifth of a new series of articles explaining The Twelve Traditions... - Each group has but one primary purpose...to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

"SHOEMAKER, stick to thy last". .
.better do one thing supremely well than many badly. That is the central theme of this tradition. Around it our society gathers in unity. The very life of our fellowship requires the preservation of this principle.

Alcoholics Anonymous can be likened to a group of physicians who might find a cure for cancer, and upon whose concerted work would depend the answer for sufferers of this disease. True, each physician in such a group might have his own specialty. Every doctor concerned would at times wish he could devote himself to his chosen field rather than work only with the group. But once these men had hit upon a cure, once it became apparent that only by their united effort could this be accomplished, then all of them would feel bound to devote themselves solely to the relief of cancer. In the radiance of such a miraculous discovery, any doctor would set his other ambitions aside, at whatever personal cost.

Just as firmly bound by obligation are the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, who have demonstrated that they can help problem drinkers as others seldom can. The unique ability of each AA to identify himself with and bring recovery to the newcomer in no way depends upon his learning, eloquence, or on any special individual skills. The only thing that matters is that he is an alcoholic who has found a key to sobriety. These legacies of suffering and of recovery are easily passed among alcoholics, one to the other. This is our gift from God, and its bestowal upon others like us is the one aim that today animates AAs all around the globe.

There is another reason for this singleness of purpose. We know that we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away. If a group of doctors possessed a cancer cure they might be conscience-stricken if they failed their mission through self-seeking. Yet such a

failure wouldn't jeopardize their personal survival. For us, if we neglect those who are still sick, there is unremitting danger to our own lives and sanity. Under these compulsions of self-preservation, duty, and love, it is not strange that our society has concluded that it has but one high mission. . to carry the AA message to those who don't know there's a way out.

Highlighting the wisdom of AA's single purpose, a member tells this story:

"Restless one day, I felt I'd better do some Twelfth Step work. Maybe I should take out some insurance against a slip. But first I'd have to find a drunk to work on.

"So I hopped the subway to Town's Hospital where I asked Dr. Silkworth if he had a prospect. "Nothing too promising,' the little doc said, 'There's just one chap on the third floor who might be a possibility. But he's an awfully tough Irishman. I never saw a man so obstinate. He shouts that if his partner would treat him better, and his wife would leave him alone, he'd soon solve his alcohol problem. He's had a bad case of d.t.'s, he's pretty foggy, and he's very suspicious of everybody. Doesn't sound too good, does it? But working with him may do something for you, so why don't you have a go at it?'

"I was soon sitting beside a big hulk of a man. Decidedly unfriendly, he stared at me out of eyes which were slits in his red and swollen face. I had to agree with the doctor... .he certainly didn't look good. But I told him my own story, I explained what a wonderful fellowship we had, how well we understood each other. I bore down hard on the hopelessness of the drunk's dilemma. I insisted that few drunks could ever get well on their own steam, but that in our groups we could do together what we could not do separately. He interrupted to scoff at this and asserted he'd fix his wife, his partner, and his alcoholism by himself. Sarcastically he asked, 'How much does your scheme cost?' I was thankful I could tell him 'Nothing at all.' His next question: 'What are you getting out of it?' Of course my answer was, 'My own sobriety and a mighty happy life. Still dubious, he demanded, 'Do you really mean the only reason you are here is to try and help me and to help yourself?' 'Yes,' I said, 'That's absolutely all there is to it. There's no angle.'

"Then, hesitantly, I ventured to talk about the spiritual side of our program. What a freeze that drunk gave me! I'd no sooner got the word 'spiritual' out of my mouth than he pounced. 'Oh!' he said. 'Now I get it! You're proselyting for some damn religious sect or other. Where do you get that 'no angle' stuff? I belong to a great church that means everything to me. You've got a nerve to come in here talking religion!'

"Thank heaven I came up with the right answer for that one. It was based foursquare on the single purpose of AA. 'You have faith,' I said 'Perhaps far deeper faith than mine, No doubt you're better taught in religious matters than I. So I can't tell you anything about religion. I don't even want to try. I'll bet, too, that you could give me a letter-perfect definition of humility. But from what you've told me about yourself and your problems and how you propose to lick them, I think I know what's wrong.' 'Okay,' he said. 'Give me the business.' 'Well," said I. 'I think you're just a conceited Irishman who thinks he can run the whole show.'

"This really rocked him. But as he calmed down he began to listen while I tried to show him that humility was the main key to sobriety. Finally he saw that I wasn't attempting to change his religious views, that I wanted him to find the grace in his own religion that would aid his recovery. From there on we got along fine.

"Now," concludes the old timer,
"Suppose I'd been obliged to talk to this man
on religious grounds. Suppose my answer
had to be that AA needed a lot of money: that
AA went in for education, hospitals, and
rehabilitation? Suppose I'd suggested that I'd
take a hand in his domestic and business
affairs? Where would we have wound up? No
place, of course."

Years later this tough Irish customer liked to say, "My sponsor sold me one idea, and that was sobriety. At the time, I couldn't have bought anything else."

Copyright© The AA Grapevine, Inc 1952 Reprinted with permission The Big Hurt **BY: TONY L. | NEWPORT BEACH, CALIF.** Step by Step, the pain goes away.

The longer I drank, the more I consumed, the more my life deteriorated. After twenty-seven years of drinking, there wasn't an area in my life that was acceptable. I was displaced, disoriented, separated from others and I had this hole in my chest that kept reminded me of impending doom. The boys at the bar called it the big hurt.

My sponsor said he had the same feeling, but it had him left years ago. He told me that all negative mental noises in his mind had left as well, leaving him in a world of peace and quiet. He said he had removed these negative feelings by working the Steps with his sponsor. If his sponsor hadn't worked the Steps with him, he said, he would just be another drunk who doesn't drink. And a drunk who doesn't drink can't fix the problem of alcoholism. Quitting drinking and going to meetings helped me to stay off the booze, but to find success, happiness and achieve peace and quiet within, I had to follow my sponsor directions and work the Steps. Until I did, I kept relapsing, seeking peace by going back to drinking—and failing, one more time.

My sponsor pointed out that he had never found an acceptable life until he sought spiritual help. Because of his direction with the Steps, I too became God- reliant and able to live a life I never knew existed.



### **RULE 62**

### Til death do us part

In a candlelit room, peering into a crystal ball, a fortune teller delivered devastating news to a woman who had come seeking answers about her alcoholic husband.

"There's no easy way to tell you this, so I'll just be blunt," said the fortune teller. "Prepare yourself to be a widow. Within a year your husband will die a sudden, unfortunate death."

Visibly shaken, the woman stared at the fortune teller's face, then at the crystal ball, then at the flickering candle, and finally down at her own hands. She took a few deep breaths to compose herself and to stop her mind from racing. She simply had to know. She looked up at the fortune teller's eyes, steadied her voice, and asked, "Will I be acquitted?"

Paul C.

Oceanside, Calif.

### On the Wrong Track

Two drunks found themselves
walking along a railroad track.
"Sam," said one, "I believe this is the
longest flight of stairs I ever saw."

"Never mind the stairs," said his pal.

"It's this low handrail that worries me."

### Going under

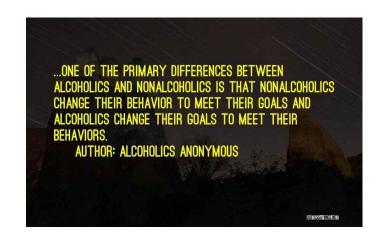
A drunk named Murphy worked at the local brewery. One day while stirring a vat of beer, he lost his balance and fell in. Mrs. Murphy was called to the brewery and was given the awful news of his drowning. After regaining her composure, she expressed gratitude that at least his death had been merciful and quick.

The foreman, shaking his head, said, "I don't know about that, Mrs. Murphy. He got out twice to go to the bathroom."



"I mean, I COULD quit drinking...but how can I give up this much fun?"

By: Geoff C.





Scan here to go to the website

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