

NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



November 1, 2025
 Father Jeff
 Host group-
 Young at Heart

Silver Legacy - 407 North Virginia St., Reno - Doors open at 6:30

NOVEMBER 2025

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GENERAL WARRANTIES OF THE NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

In all its proceedings, the Intergroup Association observes the spirit of AA Traditions, taking great care that the Intergroup Association never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus a reserve be its prudent financial principal; that none of the Intergroup Association members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decision be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that no Intergroup Association action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Intergroup Association may act for the service of AA Groups in the Northern Nevada area and parts of Northern California, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Intergroup Association itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

(The above is adapted and modified from "The AA Service Manual", and AA Co-Founder Bill W.'s Twelve Concepts for World Service; Concept XII, as adopted by the General Service Conference on April 26, 1962. This adaptation of copyrighted AA material has been approved by the General Service Board)

CENTRAL OFFICE

436 S. Rock Blvd.,
 Sparks, NV 89431
 Monday thru Friday
 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

24 Hour Answering Service:

(775) 355-1151 Fax: (775) 355-1560

EMAIL: officemanager@nnig.org

Web Site/Meeting Schedule: nnig.org

The Bracer: nnigbracer@gmail.com

THE BRACER



NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP

God as We Understand Him

A member offers his thoughts on this key phrase in our literature

I was at a meeting the other day—a spiritual meeting, as it turned out. One of the folks sharing talked about his belief in Jesus as his Higher Power. Well, I wouldn't have put it quite the way he did, but we are counseled to be tolerant, so I let him have his say. But when he went on to say that Christ died so that we could get sober—or as I heard it, so that I could get sober—I got up and left the room and the meeting.

I was struck by the intensity of my reaction. I have nothing against Jesus. I like most of his teachings. But as it says in the Twelve and Twelve, in the chapter devoted to Step Two: "As psychiatrists have often observed, defiance is the outstanding characteristic of many an alcoholic." What I don't like is to be told how to think—and I'm not alone. I reserve the right to choose my own Higher Power as we are told we can.

There is a reason why as AA groups, we are told that we have no opinion on outside issues. It's the same reason that sometimes parents caution their children not to mention religion or politics at parties or family gatherings—because it's divisive. When I've heard people outside a meeting expressing opinions on such topics and I've disagreed with them, I've never been able to think of those people the same way again.

I've heard many newcomers talk about how they were afraid of having religion shoved down their throats when they first came to AA. That's exactly how I felt when I sat in that meeting and heard the talk about religion.

One of the most brilliant parts of the program is that the Third and Eleventh Steps talk about "God, as we understand Him." The italics are not mine, they are used in the book. It was a hard-fought battle to have this language included early on in our history. Without it, many of us might never have gotten sober.

Bill W. wrote in "The Dilemma of No Faith," in the April 1961 Grapevine: "The phrase 'God As We Understand Him' is perhaps the most important expression to be found in our whole AA vocabulary. Within the compass of these five significant words there can be included every kind and degree of faith, together with the positive assurance that each of us may choose his own."

I'd like to claim my right to choose my own Higher Power. Please don't try to sell me yours.

—John H., Moorestown, N.J.

A A's

Recovery Step : Eleven

"Sought thru prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understand Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out"."

Three

Unity Tradition Eleven:

"Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films."

Legacies

Service Concept Eleven

Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous."

Tradition Eleven :Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

Alcoholics who have recovered through our program are themselves the strongest attraction that A.A. has. When people are asked what led them to seek A.A. help, the answer given most often is: "An A.A. member." Their chances would have been slim if all of us had remained completely in hiding. But many of us have chosen to tell our friends, neighbors, employers, co-workers, doctors, or spiritual advisers that we are in A.A. — and when we do so, we are not breaking our anonymity in the meaning of this Tradition.

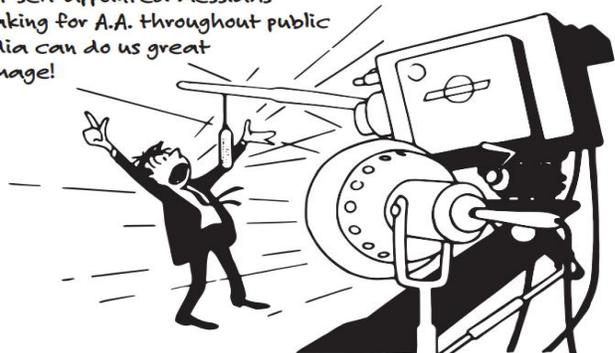
Suppose a sick alcoholic never has the good fortune to meet an A.A. How is such a person going to find us? The search will be difficult if the local group thinks it should be anonymous, too. The Tradition is talking about "personal anonymity," remember? Alcoholics will not be attracted to A.A. if they don't know that it exists or if they have distorted, unfavorable impressions of its members or its program.

Giving the general public an accurate picture of A.A. is the chief job of our public information committees. In addition, they often carry the message to certain groups — from police officers to personnel directors — whose work includes contact with active alcoholics.

Ours is not a secret society...
we carry the message
anywhere we can—



But we must ever be aware
that self-appointed messiahs
speaking for A.A. throughout public
media can do us great
damage!



NNIG & AREA EVENTS

NNIG Monthly Speaker Meetings
 Meetings held 2nd Saturday of the month
 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



October 11, 2025

Minnie M. – Las Vegas, NV

Host Groups – Women’s New Harmony & Women’s New Beginnings

November 1, 2025

Father Jeff- Carson City, NV.

Host Group – Young at Heart

December 13, 2025

Sully- Las Vegas, NV

Host Group – Pyramid Way Discussion Group

January 10, 2026

Bob D.- Las Vegas, NV

Host Group- TBD

NNIG Speaker Chair: Robert S. - 775-247-9677
 Need more info call: Central Office - (775) 355-1151
 Join us for dinner at Café Central ~5 pm with the speaker.

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

2026 NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

NNIG

A New Year “One day at a time”
TALENT ~ NO TALENT SHOW!
 Cash Prizes

SPEAKER
Grace P. ~ Redding, Ca

31 DEC 2025 | Sparks Christian Fellowship
 510 Greenbrae Dr, Sparks, NV
 6PM

Tickets \$35 in Advance

RAFFLE
 Individual Charcuterie Boxes and Desserts Included

“DJ RISE”

OTHER A.A. EVENTS

Northern Nevada Intergroup Presents

Gratitude Dinner

NOV
 SATURDAY **8** 5:00-8:00
 2025

RENO BALLROOM

401 University Way | Reno | 89501

Turkey Dinner 6pm
 Dessert | Raffle

AA SPEAKER

Doug R.- Tujunga, CA | 7:00pm

TICKETS \$65

NNIG Central Office
 436 Rock Blvd | Sparks | 89431

Gratitude ~ Gateway to Grace



Same Venue as Last Year
 District 16's

38th Annual Christmas Affair

“Working Together, Increasing Trust”

Saturday December 20th 2025
 12:00 to 5:00 PM

American Legion Darrell Dunkle Post 1
 877 Ralston Street, Reno, NV.

Come for food, fun, and fellowship!
 Please bring a dessert to share!!!

Service Panel Discussion: *12:15 PM
 “Working Together, Increasing Trust”
 (TBD)

Santa: *1:30 PM

Turkey Dinner with all the Extras: *2:00 PM

Speaker: *3:00 PM

(TBD)

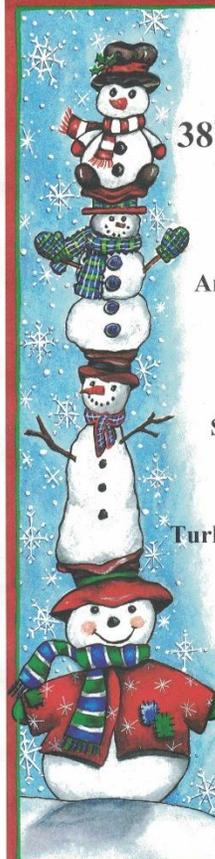
Raffle: After Speaker

*All times are approximate

Door prize raffle ticket with

\$10.00 Suggested Contribution

For raffle prize contributions,
 volunteer help, or information
 please call: Stacy P. (775) 830-9840



MEETINGS AND MORE

Central office report from Ronda H. September, 2025

Book of the month "Any Original Big Book " \$2 OFF (limit of 20)

Please come and support your Central office and the AA events going on in our area.

The office is for every member , if anyone needs anything to get 12 step work done and the office can help in some way, please let us know.

Volunteer Hours: 115 hrs.
Calls into Central Office: 147

- Calls for AA help - 9
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen - 3
- Meeting information - 36
- Retail / merchandise - 16
- Other 12-step programs - 3
- Events – 26
- New to AA/ Talked with - 6
- Business/Central office- 48
- **Visitors – 315 -Dogs- 4**



Texts – 2 Phone calls on the text Phone- 6 Ronda H.

Previous Birthdays

September

- Angelo-2 years
- Mark H.-30 Years
- Cheryl - 37 Years
- Dave - 40 Years
- Phil - 49 Years

August

- Linda G. 33 Years
- Sue M. 30 Years
- Jeff M. 30 Years
- Lulu
- Jermery L. 4 Years
- Joanne D. 13 Years
- Ann G. 21 Years
- Sandra G. 30 Years
- Paul M. 34 Years

June 2025

- Cassie. 3 Years
- Teri G. 12 Years
- Paul E. 34 Years

May

- Ron T. 14 Years
- Tom H. 23 Years

March

- Eryn W. 2 Years
- Dion D. 6 Years
- Kent L. 43 Years
- Kim D. 48 Years

January & February

- Chip C. 41 Years
- Jack 40 Years

December

- Sean S. 35 Years
- Cindy 36 Years
- Mystery Person - 37 years

November

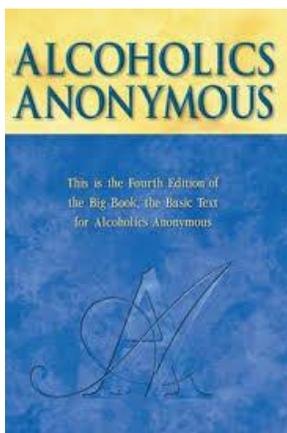
- Heather L. 7 Years

October

No birthdays



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 contribution of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety. Envelopes available at Central Office, NNIG Business Meeting or Intergroup Representatives



The month of November 2025

Any Original "Big Book"

\$2.00 OFF

Five N Live
Saturday 5:15 PM
Alano Club
680 River St.
Elko, NV

Brown
Baggers
Discussion
1036 N Main St.
Alturas, CA
Mon-Sat

Southside
Monday-Friday
Noon
780 Del Monte
Ln, Reno NV

SATURDAY NIGHT
FEVER 7PM
1631 ESMERALDA
PL
GARDNERVILLE NV.

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
 3835 Lakeside Dr. Reno NV 89509 or virtually
 ID: 831 8146 4811 PW: ZoomAA1
**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
 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!

District Meetings

- DISTRICT-2** 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30 Central Office
- DISTRICT 4** Fourth Thursday of every other even month, 6:00 pm
 Central Office OR Zoom ID: 819 5830 2884
 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 424
 Greenbrae Blvd 6:45PM
- 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

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

AA AREA 42 TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

BECOME A VOLUNTEER



ALL AREA 42 MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO HELP
 TRANSLATE MINUTES, EMAILS, GUIDELINES, ETC.
 PROFICIENCY IN SPANISH **NOT**
 REQUIRED! IN FACT, YOU DON'T EVEN
 NEED TO SPEAK SPANISH.

ZOOM
 MEETING
 THIRD
 THURSDAY OF
 EACH MONTH
 @ 5:30 PM PST

FOR MEETING ID & PASSCODE:
 please contact the email below

Questions? ... email
translator_interpreter@nevadaarea42.org
 Ask that someone from the translation
 committee contact you.

We Are The
 Sunshine Committee



Can You Help?

There are cases where sober AAs are unable to
 make it to meetings. They are in the hospital or
 physical rehabilitation hospital or are home-
 bound while they recuperate.

When you cannot attend meetings do you get
 'squirrely' or on edge? Be a part of carrying the
 message to those shut-ins by joining us as we
 trudge the road of happy destiny on the

Sunshine Committee!!

Sobriety requirement—1 year
 We will work with your schedule
 Call: Ann —650-290-4335
 Email: aschwenderlauf@gmail.com

Northern Nevada Intergroup

Bridging the Gap

Bridging the Gap is one of the many ways to get into
 service in Alcoholics Anonymous. Through 12th step work we
 aim to bridge the gap of time newcomers have between jails
 and institutions and their first days to the fellowship. The
 committee is always accepting people who want to be of
 service either with being a newcomer's contact or taking
 presentations into institutions to help share our message of
 hope. Please scan the QR code below.

Our committee is looking for a co-chair, to help assist
 the Chair with responsibilities, and a contact coordinator for
 the Carson/Gardnerville area. 2 years of sobriety required
 with knowledge of our 12 traditions. Please email Becky O.
 for more information at

btgnnig@gmail.com



11th Step Prayer

*Higher Power, as I understand You, I pray to keep open my
 connection with You and to keep it clear from confusion of daily life.
 Though my prayers and meditations, I ask especially for freedom
 from self-will, rationalization, and wishful thinking. I pray for the
 guidance of correct thought and positive action. Your will, Higher
 Power, not mine, be done.*

11th Tradition

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

THE NAMES of Joe DiMaggio, Henry Ford, Fiorello La Guardia, Mrs. Thomas A. Edison, Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Senator Harry S. Truman, the Duke of Windsor, Earl Baldwin, and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek may not seem to fit together. But they were all listed in New York newspapers as joint "sponsors" of the Oxford Group, an evangelical religious movement very popular in the 1930's.[1] (Actually, it had no ties with the renowned English university; but people thought it did, so the name was used because such an image had obvious prestige value.

When Bill W., who codified AA customs into our Twelve Traditions, first sat down to write them out (for the Grapevine), in 1946, he had very much in mind this Oxford Group practice of exploiting celebrity names to promote its cause. And that, he told me once, was one reason he proposed "attraction" rather than such "promotion" as the basis of AA's relations with the public.

In fact, AA had already pretty much adopted the nonpromotion policy as the young Fellowship's way of doing things. Ex-drunks knew from their own experience that the hard sell generally does not persuade a rumpot (or anyone else) to give up his pot. Tradition Eleven just put this idea into capsule form.

But none of this was known to me, or of any use or interest whatsoever, one hot summer day in 1942. I stood in a seedy old joint on lower Main Street in Fort Worth, Tex., trying to get a glass of cold beer down before my shakes made me spill the damn thing.

Three thousand years and two bottles later, I had begun to get it all together, and I realized, to my mild surprise, that it must be afternoon. The evening-paper boys were delivering their wares.

I bought a paper and turned to my favorite gossip columnist. He had a funny piece that day about a bunch of folks in town who called themselves Alcoholics Anonymous. They sounded like awful fools, or some kind of fanatic reformers, just like the fellows who ran that rundown, shabby old mission next door to the tavern I was in. They had gone all sanctimonious, I figured, and had given up drinking and almost everything else I liked to do, which the mission preachers called "sinful ways."

Despite my scorn for both the mission and this AA business, I did tear out the AA story and slip it into my wallet. I explained to the bartender that I wanted to show it to some drinking buddies of mine, for a laugh.

I wonder now whether that story really was funny, intentionally or unintentionally. Anyhow, I lost it and never thought of it again--consciously--through the next two and a

half years of fierce alcoholic drinking. During that time, I took a geographical cure, seriously believing that, if I moved to New York from Fort Worth, my drinking would somehow get straightened out. It was a severe and scary setback to find myself drinking even worse around Times Square than I ever had back in the old corrals of Cowtown.

One morning, sweatily trying to decide which shoelace to tackle first, desperately trying to remember what horrors I had perpetrated the night (or nights) before, I found myself crying and saying, "I've got to get out of this hell, some way." Then I suddenly remembered that old Fort Worth newspaper clipping about Alcoholics Anonymous.

Two general ideas from that gossip column had apparently lodged themselves in the collection of throbbing cavities I called my head. One was that AA had something to do with people known to be very heavy drinkers. The other impression was that AA didn't ask for more than your first name, so they could never tell anyone that you had joined their club.

That promise of privacy, that pledge--implied in the name Alcoholics Anonymous--to keep my shameful record absolutely confidential made it possible for me to show up at the local AA office a few days later. The Traditions were still unwritten, but the spirit of trustworthiness and anonymity which pervaded our Fellowship enabled me to sneak through the door on a clear, cold January day of 1945 and find at long last, not only that I was at home, that I was wanted, but that no one would tell on me.

Already, I was the beneficiary of both halves of Tradition Eleven. Fort Worth members had cooperated with that Texas columnist back in 1942, so he could carry the message of AA in his newspaper. They had given him information about AA--not boastful promotion material. By that action, they had acknowledged that AA itself could not be anonymous; it could not be a secret society if it wanted to carry the message. And in their message that problem drinkers could recover, they also conveyed the AA promise of privacy, or confidentiality.

Because their behavior saved my life, I have ever since been glad to see our public information committees helping to get more and more publicity for AA in newspapers, on television, in magazines, books, and movies. It may not always be the kind of publicity I like; but, when I am tempted to criticize, I just remember that all it has to do is to plant the twin seeds of (1) hope for the problem drinker and (2) anonymity--the conviction that he can trust us never to betray him. I'm sure such publicity has saved many other lives, and I hope we get cleverer and cleverer at figuring out ways to keep AA constantly being mentioned in the public media.

Once I had joined AA, I found there was something I could do, personally and privately, to help spread the message. Rather soon after starting to sober up, I told my friends and family about this wonderful new thing I had learned: that alcoholism is a disease, not a moral failing. It wasn't my fault

that I had been such a bad drunkard for so long; it was the disease's fault. But I quickly added that now I was going to be all right, it wouldn't happen again, because I had joined this marvelous organization called Alcoholics Anonymous.

I also told my doctor and employers, when it seemed appropriate for them to know. My friends in AA did, too. Whenever we told of our own membership, we knew that it might help chip away at the cruel stigma which still kills too many alcoholics. Sometimes, of course, the message was carried to other alcoholics, indirectly, through these doctors and employers.

Since we also told of our AA membership when we made amends, when we spoke at open meetings, and when we did Twelfth Step work, the notion of keeping our membership secret, or being furtive about it, just never occurred to most of us, I guess. After all, why should we be ashamed of recovering from a disease?

We did not tell any outsiders the names of other members, of course. That promise of confidentiality in our name was precious to me, and still is; I certainly would not break it.

But I have always loved to gossip, and it wasn't easy to keep from telling last names and other identifying facts about members to other AAs. I have learned my lesson on that one, I hope, the hard way--through embarrassment. It happened to me twice. Having told one member about another member, I learned that the two were old acquaintances and each wanted particularly to keep the other from knowing he was in AA! Clearly, I had violated confidences. It was unforgivable, and I am still ashamed when I think of it.

Now, I consider my knowledge of people in AA to be very much like the privileged information confided to a doctor, lawyer, or priest. I have absolutely no right whatever to disclose anything about a member to anyone else, in AA or out, without that member's explicit permission. Respect of this privileged information is not a matter of professional ethics, specifically sanctioned by law, but I think the AA promise of confidentiality is a sacred one, and I must do my part to keep it.

Within the Fellowship, I prefer to speak of another member--and be spoken of--only by the first name. I like this practice simply because it is extra insurance against letting slip things told me privately, and because it is an effective symbol, making the point--particularly to outsiders and newcomers--that we mean it when we say we're anonymous, we're trustworthy, we don't tell.

Few of us in AA, I guess, have much occasion to worry about that part of the Tradition cautioning against the use of our names or faces in mass communications media. Not long after sobering up, I discovered that neither Winchell, Life, the New York Times, nor anyone else was standing outside the meeting doors every night to announce to a breathless world that I was just leaving an AA meeting, sober. As far as I know,

David, Walter, and Harry and their TV cameras have let practically all the rest of us alone, too. By and large, the record is remarkably good on that part of Tradition Eleven. Even if as many as seventy-five "anonymity breaks" accidentally occur in, say, one year, that's only about .00015 percent of our membership.

One particular set of AA members does run into that problem, however, and I especially admire the way they handle it. I refer to the many good AAs who work professionally in the field of alcoholism and are always being interviewed by newspapers and on television and radio. They just say they are "recovered alcoholics," without saying that they are AA members. It seems to me that this device is honest, adheres perfectly to the Tradition, and at the same time may carry a message of hope. Certainly, the old stigma fades when good-looking, smart-sounding, respectable folks like that are not ashamed to say in public that they are recovered alcoholics, and when they say it as casually as they would state any other fact about themselves.

In my opinion, anonymity in the mass media is still very important, to all AA members and to all potential members. It signals to sick alcoholics: Come on in--we won't tell. And it guards us against the temptation to start bragging about ourselves. . .but I'm ahead of myself again. That's Tradition Twelve.

And I still have a long way to go in getting Number Eleven under my belt. Doesn't "attraction rather than promotion" have a personal meaning for me? Yes, I am supposed to make AA life look so attractive that drunks will want the kind of sobriety they see in me more than they want to go on drinking. Rather than promote AA with the hard sell or with bribes (a cup of coffee, a flop, a job, or other favors), it's up to me to make AA seem very attractive.

The members I met in 1945 did just that for me. I don't find it so easy.

Eleventh Tradition Checklist

Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?

Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?

Am I careful about throwing AA names around--even within the Fellowship?

Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic? What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?

Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

1you can read the wonderful story of AA's great debt of gratitude to the Oxford Group in the book AA Comes of Age.



RULE 62

An Irishman walks into a bar in New York City and orders three pints of beer. He drinks each one in turn and walks out. The next night he returns, and again orders three pints of beer, and then again the next night.

The bartender offers to serve them consecutively so they won't go flat, but the Irishman explains, "I'd rather see them all lined up before me. I left two brothers behind in Ireland, and since we used to meet at the pub every night and have a pint together, I feel closer to them when I come to drink my pint and their two." This goes on for a year, and then one night, the Irishman fails to come in. The regulars are concerned, and then saddened when he returns a few nights later and orders only two pints of beer. When the bartender serves him, he says, "I see you didn't order a beer for one of your brothers. My condolences on your loss." "My brothers are still alive," the Irishman says. "I didn't order my own beer; my wife made me promise to give up drinking."

Two jumper cables walk into a bar.
One of them says "We'd like a couple of beers, please."
The bartender says, "OK, but don't start anything."

We never know the difference between a tragedy and a blessing.

March 1947

12 Steps in Reverse

Everyone is always talking about the 12 Steps in A. A. Another way of thinking about it are the 12 Mis-Steps of A. A. Here they are:

1. Start missing meetings for any reason, real or imaginary.
2. Become critical of the methods used by other members who may not agree with you in everything.
3. Nurse the idea that someday, somehow, you can drink again and become a controlled drinker.
4. Let the other fellow do the 12th Step work in your group. You are too busy.
5. Become conscious of your A. A. seniority and view every new member with a skeptical, jaundiced eye.
6. Become so pleased with your own views of the program that you consider yourself an "elder statesman."
7. Start a small clique within your own group, composed only of a few members who see eye-to-eye with you.
8. Tell the new member in confidence that you yourself do not take certain of the 12 Steps seriously.
9. Let your mind dwell more and more on how much you are helping others rather than on how much the A. A. program is *helping you*.
10. If an unfortunate member has a slip, *drop him at once*.
11. Cultivate the habit of borrowing money from other members; then stay away from meetings to avoid embarrassment.
12. Look upon the 24-hour plan as vital to new members, but not for yourself. YOU have outgrown the need of that long, long ago.





Scan here to go
to the website

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

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

NNIG BRACER SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Date _____
 New _____ Renewal _____
 Donation for Electronic Version _____
 I cannot send a donation at this time but I would still like to
 receive the BRACER electronically _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email address: _____

\$15 One Year (Suggested) - Paper Version
\$7 Yearly Contribution (Suggested) – Electronic Version
 Email us at nnigbracer@gmail.com to sign up for your
 Electronic Version of the BRACER.

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