



THE GRAPEVINE

March 2005

A Publication of Central Intergroup of the Desert
Serving the Coachella Valley
Email: gveditor@aainthedesert.org

Central Intergroup Office of the Desert

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10am to 2pm Sat & Sun

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Fax (760) 324-4851

Web Site: www.AAintheDesert.org

You can now e-mail the
manager of central office
at
manager@AAinthesdesert.org

Intergroup Meeting
1st Thursday at 7 PM

Board of Directors Meeting
3rd Thursday at 6 PM

General Service District 9
1st Sunday at 6:30 PM

Fellowship Hall
45-940 Portola Ave.
Palm Desert

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 3684
Palm Desert, CA
92261-3684

Hospitals & Institutions Last Wed. at 6:30 pm

NEW LOCATION

Fellowship Hall, 45940 Portola, Palm Desert

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 1843
Palm Desert, CA 92261

Other Addresses:

Mid Southern Calif. Area (MSCA)
P. O. Box 51446
Irvine, CA 92619-1446

The General Service Office
P. O. Box 459
Grand Central Station, NY 10163

The Time Is Now And Now is No Time For Fear

AROUND THE TABLES, I have heard repeatedly about tomorrow's fears and yesterday's guilt, with a number of admonitions about living one day at a time. It has come to me that my brethren who experience difficulties in living one day at a time have missed an extremely important point, namely: that you don't live one day once upon a time.

Invariably interwoven in any discourse on today is this childish fairy tale: "But once upon a time I had a good time drinking. Drinking overcame my shyness. It made a man out of me." Such thoughts are usually contrasted with the horror chamber of the last years of active alcoholism. But relentlessly the speaker goes back to a time when things were pleasant, when alcohol was the supposed servant and not the master.

Reminiscing about the good old days is as fatal to spiritual development as wallowing in self-pity or remorse. Forget yesterday's pleasant memories, as well as yesterday's troubles. *This is today.* Delight in the wonderment of today's good things. Accept today's troubles as merely a means to develop the faith that they are *only* for today and that God can and will, if you seek Him, adjust today's troubles.

The alcoholic part of our mind wants us to live in the past, because that is where fear remains. Fear can't live with love, nor can love live with fear. Dwelling in the past promotes fears which push out the love of today. It weakens our resolve not to take the first drink, which would actually drive us backward into the past. Living one day at a time means thinking of today, not of yesterday. *Think today*, so that yesterday's negatives don't swallow you up.

Now I try to think today so that I can live today in this beautiful AA world of reality.

D. W. R.

Detroit, Michigan

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January, 2005 BIRTHDAY CLUB

(They've Kept Coming Back)



Cristal	1 Yr.	Bernice	7 Yrs.	John	19 Yrs.
Bonnie	1 Yr.	Anne	9 Yrs.	Lyman B.	23 Yrs.
Tracey R.	2 Yrs.	Sasha L.	9 Yrs.	Leslie D.	26 Yrs.
Samuel	2 Yrs.	Rosie R.	11 Yrs.	Dick C.	28 Yrs.
Javier	5 Yrs.	Deborah U	12 Yrs.	Bob Z.	29 Yrs.
Terry S.	5 Yrs.	Maggie	12 Yrs.	Eileen B.	31 Yrs.
Jodelle	5 Yrs.	Carol W.	15 Yrs.	Joyce T.	31 Yrs.
Bob H.	6 Yrs.	Daniel M.	17 Yrs.	Nick T.	34 Yrs.
Charles	6 Yrs.	Heidi E.	17 Yrs.	Tom H.	39 Yrs.

Many A.A. members across the country are currently sharing their Anniversary Celebration with others by giving a dollar or two for each year of their sobriety to Central Office. This insures that the same help they received will be available to others. Start this year and make it an annual event. Individuals may give up to \$2,000 to A.A. in

any one calendar year. It's not how much you give that's important. It's thinking of others on your AA anniversary that makes it special. Some of us also make a birthday contribution for our friends, or our sponsor. If you would like to see your A.A. birthday in the GROUP-VINE, just call us. Coachella Valley Central Office: 760.324.4880

Central Office Activity (We are Responsible)!

January, 2005

Meeting Info	476
12 Step Calls	15
Visitors	224
Literature Sales	132
Al-Anon	37
Other 12 Step	11
Misc. / NA	107
Business	285
Billboard	3

Answering Service

12 Step	12
Meetings Info	68
Other	11

TOTAL: 1,381

Website Activity

Total visits	1,611
Total hits	13,422
Total	15,033

*Thanks to all who are of service.
It makes a difference!*

MAAD Dog Daze Committee Meetings

SUNDAY @ 4:00 P.M.

March 13th

April 3rd

May 1st

June 5th

July 10th

July 24th

New Meeting Location:

Fellowship Hall

*For more information ~
call Trish @ 275-7700*

*There are still positions available!
Come be part of the Team.*

Guidelines
for Publication of Articles

Articles must be received by the 15th of the month for consideration of publication in the following month's issue.

Please submit your material for the GroupVine to: Central Intergroup Office of the Desert
35-325 Date Palm Drive, Suite 134,
Cathedral City, CA 92234 Or email to:
gveditor@aainthedesert.org

NEW MEETINGS & MEETING CHANGES

Palm Desert – Tuesday 6:30 PM

Fearless & Thorough Big Book Study
Christ Church of the Desert, Rm #1
73441 Fred Warring (San Pablo)

Banning - New Beginnings

Tuesday 7:30 PM – Morongo Reservation
13000 Fields Rd – 1st Meeting 1/18/05

Palm Springs - Two Steps a Month

Women's Meeting – Thursday 10:00 AM
550 Industrial Way – Book Study

Palm Springs – Illness & Sobriety

Thursday – 5:00 PM – Discussion
Sunny Dunes Fifth Tradition Group
1555 S. Palm Canyon Dr. Ste. D-108

Indian Wells -- Meeting Name Changes

Southwest Community Church
77701 Fred Warring Drive

Thursday 6 AM **What Step Ya On?**
Friday 6AM **Step Study**

Desert Hot Springs - Tuesday Noon

Keep the Plug in the Jug
66475 Pierson Blvd - KIS Fellowship

Speaker Meeting

PALM SPRINGS
550 Industrial Place
Saturday Night 7:00 PM
Speaker Meeting

Mar. 5th Hank C. (West Covina)
Mar. 12th Pat W. (Palm Desert)
Mar. 19th TBA
Mar. 26th Ellie C. (La Quinta)



Step Three

Made a

decision to

turn our

will and our

lives over to

the care of

God

as we

understood

Him.

Recovery Word Search

Courtesy of The Tradition,

The Ventura County Central Service Area Monthly Newsletter

Find the words below in the puzzle. They are backwards, forwards, up, down or any which way.

S	D	Y	T	R	A	D	I	T	I	O	N	S	L	H	M
S	L	P	H	G	F	L	A	N	G	U	A	G	E	K	P
A	A	D	H	E	J	U	C	A	A	L	U	A	L	A	U
X	N	H	G	C	X	O	I	O	T	S	R	G	P	A	O
T	O	R	O	N	T	O	F	S	H	T	R	D	R	K	R
W	I	T	F	E	B	A	A	M	R	A	U	J	A	L	G
C	T	T	S	I	Y	M	M	G	P	N	L	I	A	H	R
Z	A	R	T	R	Y	T	T	E	P	O	H	I	J	M	E
C	N	F	P	E	M	V	V	V	U	N	A	A	C	K	T
B	R	A	E	P	U	A	A	A	D	Y	N	S	P	C	N
I	E	A	C	X	N	E	E	C	U	M	A	V	I	N	I
H	T	G	N	E	R	S	S	A	N	O	E	R	V	W	C
Q	N	Y	O	I	K	N	N	U	O	U	T	A	E	Y	R
A	I	G	C	F	E	S	S	G	R	S	J	A	L	A	I
A	E	C	O	N	V	N	N	T	I	O	N	S	R	U	P
D	S	S	R	E	M	T	T	D	L	O	K	C	A	A	I

Alcoholics
Anonymous
Grapevine
Experience
Strength
Hope

Language
Heart
Oldtimers
Intergroup
District
Area

International
Convention
Roundup
Toronto
Traditions
Concepts

ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT

I suppose this could be considered an addendum to Dallas Ann's letter, regarding the 6:00am, "early bird's" meeting, as this is just an hour later & it is the 7:00 "attitude adjustment" meeting to which I attribute soooo many "gifts" with unconditional love (at Fellowship Hall). The promise of our meeting is "this meeting is not a meeting devoted so much to reliving that past, as it is in living this particular day successfully".

It was started by Dr. Paul, who sadly passed in 2000. (I'll bet he's attending morning meetings above!)

I was a bartender locally, and my shift began at 6:00am. I now enjoy visiting with a few of my "regulars" at morning meetings. We laugh and say, "What were we thinking?"

Our meeting has "old timers", "guru's", the full spectrum of alcoholics, and all embrace newcomers!! I speak from experience (As does my son, who now has 7 months sober!!)

I've been blessed with several "Eskimos", who held out the hand of A.A. They showed my family a new way of life. I can't express my gratitude to these people. They truly walk the walk, as we say.

I look forward to following their example, and I'm very involved in A.A. I'm staying in the middle of the herd, so my chances are better at not being picked off.

For this fellowship, my sponsor & sponsee, and all those who came before me, I'm eternally grateful.

I've found a God in AA, and I'm not alone anymore.

Respectfully Yours,

Robin A.

P.S. If you don't know what I mean by Eskimo, keep coming back!!!!

WHAT IS AN INTERGROUP REP?????

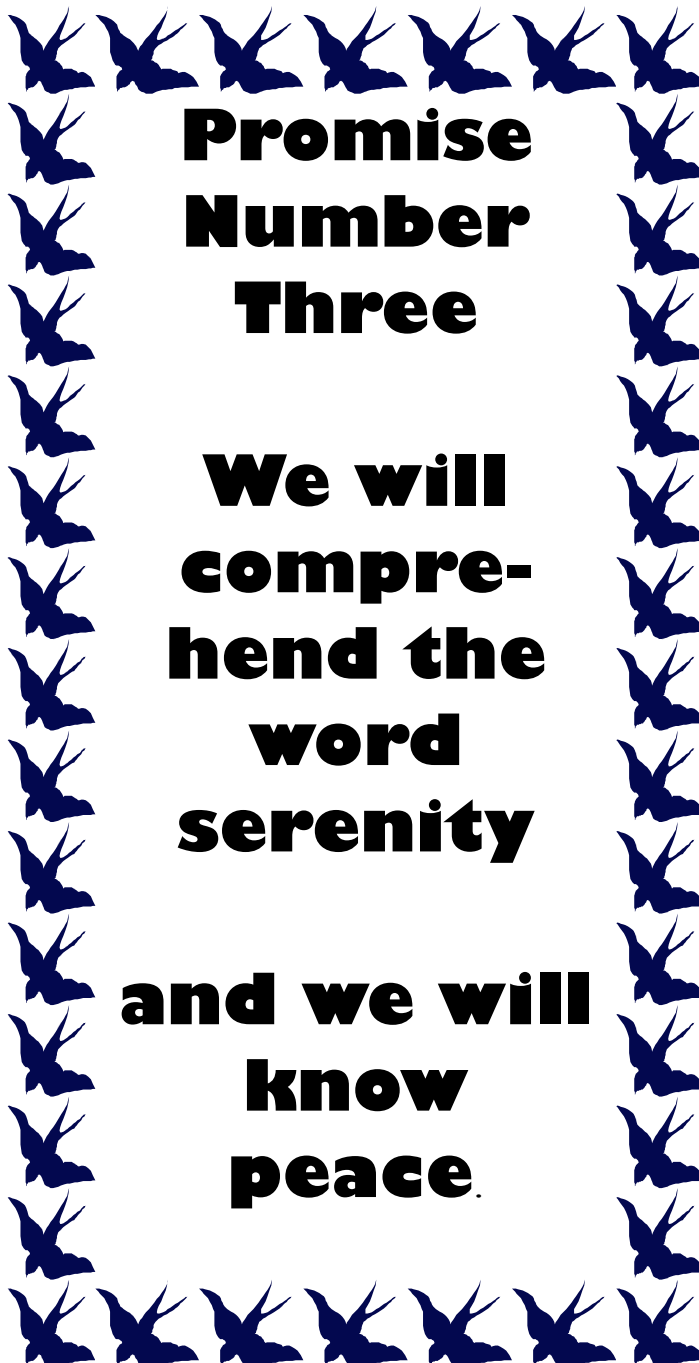
The rep carries his/her group's message and questions from the fellowship to the Intergroup meeting and carries the AA message [as expressed by Intergroup] back to the home group.

It is vital to the health and well being of AA as a whole, that its members stay knowledgeable and connected.

VOLUNTEERS – Central Office

Thanks for your service in January

Allan S.	Deborah U.	Paul A.
Bob Burns	Dick P.	Peter L.
Bob Boyle	Dorit R.	Phillip F.
Brenda F.	Emil M.	Ron D.
Carol A.	Jerald W.	Ron N.
Carol D.	Jim D.	Sari H.
Charlie B.	Lisa E.	Sasha L.
Cindy G.	Marita H.	Stan G.
Dallas E.	Nancy E.	Steve P.
David B.	Pat W.	Tom C.



Promise Number Three

**We will
compre-
hend the
word
serenity**

**and we will
know
peace.**

Meeting Makers- Make It

I attempted to go to a meeting today
But other things got in the way

Like grocery shopping or a trip to the mall
It's only one meeting after all.

I've been to a meeting most everyday
I know what to do, and I know what they say
About taking it easy, and first things first

If I miss one meeting, how much could it hurt.

Months have passed and I'm ok
See - I don't need a meeting everyday

One or two meetings, here or there
Is enough to keep me sober and aware.

I guess after awhile It just didn't seem
There was anything left In those meetings for
me.

So now here I lay Six feet under ground
Can't tell you my story I can't make a sound.

Alcohol Kills!! It's cold, but it's true

If you don't go to meetings, it will happen to you.

YOUR OPINION COUNTS

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE AN
INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVE?

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

MAKE SURE YOUR GROUP IS
REPRESENTED AT THE MONTHLY
INTERGROUP MEETING.

1ST THURSDAY AT 7 PM
CENTRAL OFFICE
35-325 DATE PALM DR. STE 134
CATHEDRAL CITY

Tradition Number Three Long Form

**Our membership
ought to
include all who suffer
from alcoholism.**

**Hence we may refuse
none who wish
to recover. Nor ought
A.A. membership ever
depend upon money or
conformity.**

**Any two or three alco-
holics
gathered together for
sobriety may call
themselves an A.A.
group, provided that,
as a group, they have
no other affiliation**

But Dust

A visiting minister waxed eloquent during the offertory prayer.

"Dear Lord," he began with arms extended and a rapturous look on his upturned face, "without you we are but dust..."

He would have continued but at that moment my very obedient daughter (who was listening carefully for a change!) leaned over to me and asked quite audibly in her shrill little girl voice,

"Mom, what is butt dust?"