

{NO BOOZE NEWS}



THE MORE DEPENDENT WE BECOME ON A HIGHER POWER, THE MORE INDEPENDENT WE BECOME
PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE AA INTERGROUP COUNCIL OF WEST CENTRAL ARKANSAS
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INTERGROUP BULLETIN

VOLUME X – JULY – 2013

The Intergroup meets 2PM, the last Sunday of each month at 411 Sellers Street. We urge all groups to have an intergroup rep present so you will be up to date on what is going on with your intergroup, and also to provide us with any input from your group.

We need your input for this Bulletin on items of interest, i.e. birthday lists, upcoming events, personal stories, we are always in need of guest writers, and anything else that you would like to see in your bulletin. You can mail your information to: Intergroup Bulletin, P.O. Box 6401, Hot Springs, AR. 71902. You can also E-mail your information to Bill D. at bjd62070@cablelynx.com. Please put "NO BOOZE NEWS" in the subject line. Bulletins will be snail mailed to group representatives for reproduction and distribution. You can also receive the Bulletin in your E-mail by providing your E-mail address to Bill D., or you can pick up a copy from the book store at 411 Sellers.

Our website is up and running....Go to <http://intergroupwcark.org> and check it out. I am sure you will very much like what you find

Chuck C.'s Testimony Before a U.S. Senate Subcommittee

Part III

Traditionally we neither endorse or oppose any causes. We cooperate but we do not affiliate. We are on tap in most of these things, but never on top. So I think our position would be this: That when the detoxification has been accomplished, that we would, as individual members of Alcoholic Anonymous, then be available to share our experience, strength and hope with those who are coming through the halfway houses. And it is from this angle that I think that it would be of the greatest benefit to your program. We cannot take an active part as a society, but we can take an active part as individuals.

Senator Hughes: Sir, would you mind me interrupting you for a moment as you go along? I'd like to ask a question for the record. I have received a lot of mail from people who know nothing about Alcoholics Anonymous wondering why we don't appropriate money to Alcoholics Anonymous to handle the job since they obviously do pretty well. Would you like to reply to that?

Mr. Chuck C. We also have the tradition that we are self supporting. We don't take any moneys from any outside sources whatsoever. We support ourselves through our own contributions. We have no paid teachers or speakers. We do this work on a voluntary basis. And I'd like to throw this in for the record, also, that I suspect that in the last 23 years half of my waking time has been spent working with alcoholics throughout this country and Canada and in many of the other countries. And I find it a very fascinating and rewarding experience - I think that's what you wanted.

A very interesting fact has been brought out already: When I came to the program the average age probably would have been 45. I don't think it would have been less than that. It might have been nearer 50. But over the years the age has come down, down, down, until today the face of Alcoholics Anonymous has changed considerably. They are coming to us much younger.

For instance, we have a man in our own group in Laguna Beach who had his first birthday in Alcoholics Anonymous before his eighteenth birthday. We find this is true pretty much throughout the country. Brought about through better educational programs such as the Committee on Alcoholism for instance, and things of that kind. People are coming to us much, much younger than in my day and that is a very good sign.

One of the things that I would like very much to speak on for a minute (and this certainly is my own opinion), we've heard a little about the seriousness of the problem. And, of course, the problem is serious. I suspect it's the most serious problem that we face in our country today. And I know that if we put pills with it, it would be by far and away the most serious problem that affects our society today.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES TO REMEMBER

July 6 th & 7 th	Area Assembly	Howard Johnson Hotel in Conway	501-329-2961
August 2-4 th	Old Grandad	Arlington Resort in Hot Springs	501-623-7771
September 8 th	District 8	506 Lillian St. Benton	501-840-1196
Sept. 20, 21, 23	Autumn in the Ozarks	Ramada Inn 1127 N.E. Hwy 62 B Mt. Home, Rm.	
	Rate \$69/Night, 2 per room includes Breakfast Buffet.		800-272-6232
	Call Cheryl S. 870-405-2556 or Janet O. 870-321-3411		
October 5 th & 6 th	Area Assembly	Howard Johnson Hotel in Conway	501-329-2961
November 16, 17, 18	AA 61st Thanksgiving Program	Holiday Inn, Jonesboro, AR 20\$ at Door	
December 1 st	District 8	Location not confirmed at this time.	

"The absence of profanity offends no one."

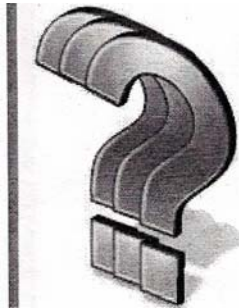
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

<i>Valerie T.</i>	<i>1 Year</i>	<i>06/01/2012</i>	<i>Rockhouse Ladies</i>
<i>Carrie S.</i>	<i>2 Years</i>	<i>06/04/2011</i>	<i>Last house on the Block</i>
<i>Jane B.</i>	<i>2 Years</i>	<i>06/24/2011</i>	<i>Rockhouse Ladies</i>
<i>Kathryn H.</i>	<i>13 Years</i>	<i>06/24/2000</i>	<i>Rockhouse Ladies</i>
<i>Mary {NJ}</i>	<i>18 Years</i>	<i>06/05/1995</i>	<i>Rockhouse</i>
<i>Stan L.</i>	<i>28 Years</i>	<i>06/13/1985</i>	<i>Lake Catherine</i>

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

YEAR TO DATE
Hot Springs AA
Central Big Book
Eastgate
Rockbottom
Evergreen
Welcome
Lake Catherine

"Our lives should revolve around recovery and not visa versa!"



How Does it Work?

A 1946 AA talks about just what it takes to stop drinking

So many persons have said to me, "How did you stop drinking; did something happen to you?" Even among fellow A.A.s this question keeps popping up, and many of us have no adequate answer. My personal feeling is that something did happen, and that something is the realization of sobriety.

When we come into AA we are usually very confused individuals, and when one is in this state in an alcoholic ward or private hospital and finds around him various "slippers" who are back for their second or umpty-second "cure", he is apt to view the AA program with justifiable skepticism. He is told that he must admit his alcoholism; keep away from the "first" drink; work the

program one day at a time; and do 12th Step work with other alcoholics.

Yet he sees persons taking trip after trip through the "wringer" who claim to have done all of these things. Isn't there any stability or security in the program? Do you have to continue to fight out each day at a time? How do you know when you have "gotten" A.A., and can have confidence in your own sobriety?

The answer to this ever recurring question is that *something* does happen to us, and that we do know when liquor has ceased to be a problem. This is the feeling of release and freedom that comes to us when we thoroughly accept the first three Steps of our program. Thousands of A.As have felt this release and have never had any physical urge or desire for alcohol since their introduction to the program. Our own case falls into this category. We know members of five to ten year standing who have felt the same way. There

is no doubt in their minds about the permanence of their sobriety, *as long as they live the program daily.*

We believe that any person coming into AA has a right to expect such release from an active urge to drink. But he or she must also *earn* this freedom. Not by a daily knockdown and drag-out fight with the Devil, but by a complete and unconditional surrender of our will and our lives to guidance by the Power that is greater than ourselves

Some persons say you do not get AA., it gets you. It seems to us that the way to receive it is to open your mind. And this seems to be almost impossible unless the alcoholic has received a tremendous kick in the pants and has definitely reached his "gutter." It is this closed mind business which gives us the greatest amount of trouble in talking AA to the man who needs it. And it is the closing mind that sends seemingly solid A.A.s back to the dry cleaners

How can we open our minds to the truth, after years of completely reversed thinking? How can we be induced to admit that we weren't as smart as we thought we were; that we don't know all the answers?

The old German writer back in 1530 who said that

"Our answer is that we must feel true humility so deeply that we are willing to assume the role of a child and learn to live all over again."

the only way to cure persons of the horrible vice of drunkenness was to give them *new heads*, may

have had the right answer. Our answer is that we must feel true humility so deeply that we are willing to assume the role of a child and learn to live all over again

We do know this: that when you go on down through the program as best you can, you wind up one day *knowing* that you don't have to drink any more ... the firm realization of sobriety. You feel the release from tension. You can think straight. You know right from wrong, because A.A. has amplified the small, still voice of conscience. You are *free*. And it feels good!

H.P.B., Columbus, Ohio



HAPPY AND SOBER 4TH TO ALL



Impatience with other people is one of my principal failings. Following a slow car in a no-passing lane, or waiting in a restaurant for the check, drives me to distraction. Before I give God a chance to slow me down, I explode, and that's what I call being quicker than God. That repeated experience gave me an idea. I thought if I could look down on these events from God's point of view, I might better control my feelings and behavior. I tried it and when I encountered the next slow driver, I levitated and looked down on the other car and upon myself. I saw an elderly couple driving along, happily chatting about their grandchildren. They were followed by me---bug-eyed and red of face---who had no time schedule to meet anyway. I looked so silly that I dropped back into reality and slowed down. Seeing things from God's angle of vision can be very relaxing.

From the book Daily Reflections – On AA's 78th Birthday – reprinted with permission of AAWS

Together WE Trudge The Road OF Happy Destiny

Only those who see the invisible can accomplish the impossible.

I can be doing great in the program--applying it at meetings, at work, and in service activities--and find that things have gone to pieces at home. I expect my loved ones to understand, but they cannot. I expect them to see and value my progress, but they don't--unless I show them. Do I neglect their needs and desires for my attention and concern? When I'm around them, am I irritable or boring? Are my "amends" a mumbled "Sorry," or do they take the form of patience and tolerance? Do I preach to them, trying to reform or "fix" them? Have I ever really cleaned house with them? The spiritual life is not a theory. We have to live it."

(Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 83)

WHAT IS INTERGROUP AND WHY DOES YOUR GROUP NEED A VOICE?

Alcoholics Anonymous Intergroup is a partnership among AA Groups in the West Central Arkansas area. The function of this group is to carry the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers and to provide vital AA services to the Area. The Intergroup meets on a monthly basis and operates by an informed group conscience utilizing the 12 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

INTERGROUP FUNCTIONS

- *Provide a fully stocked bookstore with conference approved literature as well as related.*
- *Publishes meetings lists.*
- *Updates Web Site Services.*
- *Published a monthly **No Booze News Bulletin**.*
- *Serves as an Information exchange resource regarding conventions, roundups, workshops and other fun events to do sober.*
- *Provides Hotline services for those seeking meeting information and other general information.*

Your group voice in the fellowship through the existing service structure is important in AA unity.

*Individual and group participation will help our local communities "**Carry the Message of Alcoholics Anonymous**".*

Intergroup meetings are at 411 Sellers St, in Hot Springs and held on the last Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM.

PLEASE INSURE THAT YOUR GROUP HAS A VOICE