

{NO BOOZE NEWS}

THE MORE DEPENDENT WE BECOME ON A HIGHER POWER, THE MORE INDEPENDENT WE BECOME

PUBLISHED BY THE AA INTERGROUP COUNCIL OF WEST CENTRAL ARKANSAS
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INTERGROUP BULLETIN

VOLUME II – JUNE--JULY – 2012

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. 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.

A History of Alcoholism Part II

“We whose names are annexed, desirous of forming a society for our mutual benefit, and to guard against a pernicious practice which is injurious to our health, standing, and families, do pledge ourselves as gentlemen that we will not drink any spirituous or malt liquors, wine or cider.”

The above quote was the pledge signed by the original six members of the Washingtonian Movement in April 1840. Their original meeting place was Chase’s Tavern in Baltimore, a location they were soon asked to leave by the owner due to loss of business, because in a short period of time some of the best customers joined the movement. By August they had grown to 90 members and in November 1840 they held their first public meeting in the Masonic Hall in Baltimore which attracted further attention to their cause. They were willing to share the experience of their drunkenness and how good they felt as a result of no longer drinking. The word alcoholic/alcoholism wasn’t used at the time. Instead words such as sots, drunkards, and inebriates were used. Instead of being treated as outcasts of society they were fed, clothed, and loved by the movement. Sound familiar? The group had a singleness of purpose: not involving itself in politics, religion, or current issues of the day. Sound familiar? This definitely set

themselves apart from the “Temperance Society” which preached the evil of the drunkard and the burden they placed upon the family.

The growth of the movement was rapid. They held a parade in Baltimore on their first anniversary, April 1841, boasting 1,000 reformed drunkards and an additional 5000 members who included family and friends. This parade brought national attention to the movement and additional chapters began to form in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago where Abraham Lincoln (answer to the question posed last month in Part I of this series) became a member and gave a speech promoting their cause. In New York the interest was so great the movement attracted 4000 people, 1000 of whom signed the pledge. John W. Hawkins, one of the early members who was a motivational speaker, went on the road in 1841 and started groups in 160 New England towns. The growth was phenomenal! Statistics are vague and differ from source to source but by the year 1843 they claimed as many as five million members, keeping in mind that membership wasn't limited to the drunkard. The famous alcoholism researcher E. M. Jellenik disputed these figures because estimated alcohol use was down only 15% from 1840-1850. Another statistic worth mentioning was the large number of children under age 15 who had signed the pledge.

Does the society exist today and if so where is it? Answer to the question in the next issue. Part III will deal with the decline and disappearance of the movement.

Reprinted from the San Diego AA Coordinator

Anonymous Prayer

*Almighty God, I humbly pray,
Lead me, guide me through this day.
Cast out my selfishness and sin,
Open my heart to let You in.
Help me now as I blindly stray
Over the pitfalls along the way.
Let me have courage to face each task,
Invest me with loving patience, I ask.
Care for me through each hour today,
Strengthen and guard me now, I pray.
As I forgive, forgive me too,
Needing Your mercy as I do.
Oh, give to me Your loving care,
Never abandon me to despair.
Yesterday's wrongs I would seek to right,
Make me more perfect in Your sight.
Oh, teach me to live the best I can,
Use me to help my fellow man.
Save me from acts of bitter shame,
-- I humbly ask it in Your name.*

(Anonymous)

Meeting Adversity

*Now and then all of us fall under heavy criticism.
When we are angered and hurt, it's difficult not to
retaliate in kind. Yet we can restrain ourselves
and then probe ourselves, asking whether our
critics were really right. If so, we can admit our
defects to them. This usually clears the air for
mutual understanding. Suppose our critics are
being unfair. Then we can try calm persuasion.
If they continue to rant, it is still possible for us
—in our hearts— to forgive them. Maybe a sense
of humor can be our saving grace — thus we can
Both forgive and forget.*

Bill W.

Reprinted from as Bill sees it, page 184

The twelve steps of our AA program are not crammed down anybody's throat. They are not sustained by any Human authority. Yet we powerfully unite around them because the truth they contain has saved our lives and opened the door to a new world **Bill W.**

{From June 1988 AA Grapevine}

In this issue, we would like to talk about the 7th Tradition...SELF SUPPORT.

From the very beginning our program has incurred expenses. In the early days, Individual AA's or nonalcoholic friends offered their parlors and living rooms for AA's to meet in. It didn't take long for that system to become outdated. John D. Rockefeller Jr., thought outside contributions would "spoil the thing" while at the same time endorsing the work of the fledgling fellowship. This is where the seed of the Seventh Tradition took root. Below is the most common distribution pie. You will find two others in the AA pamphlet "SELF-SUPPORT: WHERE MONEY AND SPIRITUALITY MIX."

10% to district

10% to area committee

30% to G.S.O.

50% to intergroup or central office

Distribution Plan of _____
(YOUR GROUP NAME)

Your Group Service # _____

(Be sure to write group name and service # on all contributions.)

Mail contributions as follows:

District ----- District 8 Treasurer, 33 rock Creek Dr. , Houston, AR 72070

Area ----- Area 4 Treasurer, P.O. Box 2005, Little Rock, AR 72203

Intergroup – P.O. box 6401, Hot Springs, AR 71902

GSO ----- General Services Office, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

Services provided by your Intergroup

24 hour / 7 days a week answering inquiries from those seeking help – suffering alcoholics, sober alcoholics, meetings, groups, professionals and the general public.

Direct callers to your AA meetings.

Publishes A. A. Meeting Schedules.

Maintains a 12-step list to help the still-suffering alcoholic.

Orders and sells A. A. literature.

Publishes the Bi-monthly Newsletter in print and email version.

Acts as an information exchange for all Local meetings.

Cooperates closely with our Area, District, Hospital and Institutions,

General Service Office, New York and all other Intergroup and Area Standing Committees.

An information and up-to-date website is in the making.

“CARRY THE MESSAGE”

Join the fun and

Submit an article!

Know God, Know peace No God, No Peace

FREEDOM FROM "KING ALCOHOL"

...let us not suppose even for an instant that we are not under constraint... Our former tyrant, King Alcohol, always stands ready again to clutch us to him. Therefore, freedom from alcohol is the great "must" that has to be achieved, else we go mad or die.

AS BILL SEES IT, p. 134

When drinking, I lived in spiritual, emotional, and sometimes, physical confinement. I had constructed my prison with bars of self-will and self-indulgence, from which I could not escape. Occasional dry spells that seemed to promise freedom would turn out to be little more than hopes of a reprieve. True escape required a willingness to follow whatever right actions were needed to turn the lock. With that willingness and action, both the lock and the bars themselves opened for me. Continued willingness and action keep me free--in a kind of extended daily probation--that need never end.

You hit bottom when you stop digging the hole.

Recent fun events

On May 12 Arkadelphia celebrated 50 years of AA, and fun, enjoyment and great fellowship was had by all. The cats were second to none, and Edwin gave a great assessment of his days past and present, on the 19th the Rockhouse group hosted their annual picnic at Iron Springs Picnic grounds, north of Jessieville, and more great fellowship, food and fun was had by all. And then on the 28th of May a family fun day was held at family Fun Park for AA's, family and friends. Great food and games. Much fun was had by all. Our thanks go out to all who labored hard putting these events together.

Up coming events

- June 3 District 8 Business Meeting 1PM 411 Sellers St. Hot Springs.
- June 8-10 77th Founders Day Akron, OH. For reservations go to www.akronaa.org or call Akron central office at
- June 9 Bake-At-The-Lake {District 8 Picnic} 10:30 Speaker. Take Arlie Moore road from AR 7 S to Arlie Moore Pavilion, Lake De Gray.
- June 16 Fish Fry and Pot Luck, in Caddo Valley, Hosted by "Last Chance Group. Everything from Dominos to Egg Toss. Bring your favorite dish. Go west on HWY 390 from ARK 7 just off of I-30. Follow the signs to picnic site in Caddo Valley.

June 24 Longtimers Meeting/Workshop, 411 Sellers St, Hot Springs, 1:30 pm .
Panel speakers and topic to be announced.

June 30 Soberfest 2012 @ Sherwood Forest in Sherwood – Noon to 8

June 30 10:30 AM History of the Grapevine Presentation, Shelby B. All groups
welcome. Faith Lutheran Church off De Soto. Enter in back at Church office.

July 4 Beach party and BBQ for AA's, Families & Friends. Degray Lake
Pavilion 12-4 PM. Contact Judy 479-221-2464

July 7-8 Area Assembly @ Howard-Johnson Hotel in Conway

July 27-29 Old Granddad Convention (Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs)

Sobriety Birthdays

<i>Nick Mc.</i>	<i>1 Year</i>	<i>04/08/2011</i>	<i>Tappen</i>	<i>6 Years</i>	<i>04/17/2006</i>
<i>Nick C.</i>	<i>1 Year</i>	<i>05/28/2011</i>	<i>Debbie V.</i>	<i>6 Years</i>	<i>05/01/2006</i>
<i>Pat N.</i>	<i>2 Years</i>	<i>05/19/2010</i>	<i>Karen S.</i>	<i>6 Years</i>	<i>05/25/2006</i>
<i>Cheryl G.</i>	<i>2 Years</i>	<i>05/22/2010</i>	<i>Chuck D.</i>	<i>6 Years</i>	<i>05/28/2006</i>
<i>Mike S.</i>	<i>3 Years</i>	<i>03/30/2009</i>	<i>Raymond S,</i>	<i>9 Years</i>	<i>05/05/2003</i>
<i>Nick S.</i>	<i>3 Years</i>	<i>04/17/2009</i>	<i>Bud A.</i>	<i>12 Years</i>	<i>04/05/2000</i>
<i>Bill L.</i>	<i>3 Years</i>	<i>05/23/2009</i>	<i>Buck B.</i>	<i>14 Years</i>	<i>05/11/1998</i>
<i>Zac H.</i>	<i>4 Years</i>	<i>05/15/2008</i>	<i>Richard</i>	<i>14 Years</i>	
<i>Donna S.</i>	<i>4 Years</i>	<i>05/06/2008</i>	<i>Tony S.</i>	<i>16 Years</i>	<i>05/23/1996</i>
<i>Tim S.</i>	<i>5 Years</i>		<i>Ray A.</i>	<i>20 Years</i>	
<i>Ginger B.</i>	<i>5 Years</i>	<i>04/15/2007</i>	<i>John K.</i>	<i>25 Years</i>	<i>04/27/1987</i>
<i>Gino E.</i>	<i>6 Years</i>	<i>03/03/2006</i>	<i>Buddy</i>	<i>30 Years</i>	
<i>Jeff T.</i>	<i>6 Years</i>	<i>04/17/2006</i>	<i>Tommye C.</i>	<i>31 Years</i>	<i>04/04/1981</i>
			<i>Mary Ann L.</i>	<i>32 Years</i>	<i>04/15/1980</i>

Intergroup contributions

Before and After Group

Evergreen Group

Thank you for your contributions

Our website is up and running....Go to

<http://intergroupwark.org> and check it out. I am sure you will very much like what you find.