



January 2024

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Please limit submissions to 500

The Scoop

AA in the AV 50

AA in the AV 50
 By Bruce L.
 District 7 Archivist

The A.V. Wednesday Night Men's Stag moved after eight years at Ernie McBride's used car lot to the Palmdale Cultural Center in 1981; quite a change from a bare bones wood-frame-with-no-insulation entryway to a car dealership to a modern (fancy by AA standards) meeting room with a kitchen, heating and air, clean large round tables with comfortable chairs, and carpet on the floor.

John C. (not John C. the "old fart"), the only current AA member I know who remembers meetings at the used car lot, told me how the smoke was so thick you had to open the door, but then it was so cold your toes turned numb, and when a freight train came by the whole place shook and you couldn't hear

whoever was speaking. What we do for sobriety!



The move to the warm and quiet Palmdale Cultural Center must have been quite something for those rough and tumble AAs from the 1970s. I know the move happened in 1981 because David F. (who just passed in 2022) told me he went to his first meeting at the car lot in 1981, didn't stay sober, and then returned to the same meeting after it had moved to the Cultural Center, and then he stayed sober. His sobriety date was November, 1981. With that information, the fact that he went to the used car lot early in the year and then to the Cultural Center later in the year, gives us confidence in the date: the move took place in 1981.

See you next month,
 Bruce L.

Calendar of Events

Central Office Intergroup

Meeting-1st Thursday of the month at Central Office @7pm

Roundup Meeting-1st Sunday each month @5:30, Grange

H&I Meeting- 2nd Sunday each month @10am, Friends of Bill

District 7 Meeting- 2nd Monday each month @ 630, Grange Hall

Winter Festival- Dec. 16th@

4pm, Palmdale Group w/Potluck & Cookie Decorating

I got sober right before

Covid happened and everything from General Service to H&I was shut down, so with 2 years sober, I decided to get involved when everything was opening back up. I had heard that people who got involved with hospitals and Institutions had a greater chance of staying sober. So, I went to my first business meeting to see what it was all about. I raised my hand to fill the position as SoCal H&I rep when it was announced and that's how my time in H&I began. I was able to attend my First SoCal H&I Conference, held in Big Bear, and my love for H&I really took off. Since then, I have been on panels at Recovery Houses and Treatment Facilities as well as others service commitments within H&I.

For the year 2023, I was blessed to be nominated as chair for Antelope Valley H&I and have been a part of helping to

raise awareness about what H&I does in our valley. We recently redid the website at avhandi.org with information about the latest events, such as the 1st Chili Cook Off, which was a great success in raising awareness and purchasing literature to bring books into our local treatment facilities. The website also has a “Live Calendar” where someone can go on and see which panels are happening and who the leader is so they can contact them and go along on a panel.

Personally, when I do go on panels, I look at it as an opportunity to carry the message of hope that I received, to those who need it. I am always encouraged when I am sitting in an AA meeting and someone says they may not have gotten sober the first time they were in treatment, but they remember hearing something from someone that planted a seed that brought them back to AA and to recovery. I get to be a small part of a great whole. To me that is the magic I receive from going on panels.... Hope that I can be of help. To have a purpose and be useful to others. That is all I ever wanted in life.

Step 1

“We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.”

Who cares to admit complete defeat? Practically no one, of course. Every natural instinct cries out against the idea of personal powerlessness. It is truly awful to admit that, glass in hand, we have warped our minds into such an obsession for destructive drinking that only an act of Providence can remove it from us.

No other kind of bankruptcy is like this one. Alcohol, now become the rapacious creditor, bleeds us of all self-sufficiency and all will resist its demands. Once this stark fact is accepted, our bankruptcy as going human concerns is complete.

But upon entering A.A. we soon take quite another view of this absolute humiliation. We perceive that only through utter defeat are we able to take our first steps toward liberation and strength. Our admissions of personal powerlessness finally turn out to be firm bedrock upon which happy and purposeful lives may be built.

We know that little good can come to any alcoholic who joins A.A. unless he has first accepted his devastating weakness and all its consequences. Until he so humbles himself, his sobriety—if any—will be precarious. Of real happiness he will find none at all. Proved beyond doubt by an immense experience, this is one

of the facts of A.A. life. The principle that we shall find no enduring strength until we first admit complete defeat is the main taproot from which our whole Society has sprung and flowered.

When first challenged to admit defeat, most of us revolted. We had approached A.A. expecting to be taught self-confidence. Then we had been told that so far as alcohol is concerned, self-confidence was no good whatever; in fact, it was a total liability. Our sponsors declared that we were the victims of a mental obsession so subtly powerful that no amount of human willpower could break it. There was, they said, no such thing as the personal conquest of this compulsion by the unaided will. Relentlessly deepening our dilemma, our sponsors pointed out our increasing sensitivity to alcohol—an allergy, they called it. The tyrant alcohol wielded a double-edged sword over us: first we were smitten by an insane urge that condemned us to go on drinking, and then by an allergy of the body that insured we would ultimately destroy ourselves in the process. Few indeed were those who, so assailed, had ever won through in singlehanded combat. It was a statistical fact that alcoholics almost never recovered on their own resources. And this had been true, apparently, ever since man had first crushed grapes.

The 1st Tradition

“Our common welfare should come first; our personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.”

The unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most cherished quality our Society has. Our lives, the lives of all to come, depend squarely upon it. We stay whole, or A.A. dies. Without unity, the heart of A.A. would cease to beat; our world arteries would no longer carry the life-giving grace of God; His gift to us would be spent aimlessly. Back again in their caves, alcoholics would reproach us and say, “What a great thing A.A. might have been!”

“Does this mean,” some will anxiously ask, “that in A.A. the individual doesn’t count for much? Is he to be dominated by his group and swallowed up in it?”

We may certainly answer this question with a loud “No!” We believe there isn’t a fellowship on earth which lavishes more devoted care upon its individual members; surely there is none which more jealously guards the individual’s right to think, talk, and act as he wishes. No A.A. can compel another to do anything; nobody can be punished or expelled. Our Twelve Steps to recovery are suggestions; the Twelve Traditions which guarantee A.A.’s unity contain not a single “Don’t.” They repeatedly say

“We ought. . .” but never “You must!”

First Concept:

Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship.

Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside-down organization because the “ultimate responsibility and final authority for. . . world services” resides with the groups — rather than with the trustees of the General Service Board or the General Service Office in New York. In Concept I, Bill traces how this came to be. The first step in 1938 was “the creation of a trusteeship,” first called the Alcoholic Foundation, renamed in 1954 the General Service Board. Why? To perform the services the groups could not do for themselves: e.g., uniform literature, uniform public information about A.A., helping new groups get started, sharing with them the experience of established groups, handling pleas for help, publishing a national magazine, and carrying the message in other languages and in other countries. A service office was formed to carry on these functions under the board’s direction. Both the board and the office looked to the co-founders, Bill and Dr. Bob, for policy leadership.

January 2024 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Nov	Dec	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$39,005.38	\$2,437.30	\$41,442.68
Expenses	(\$66,797.43)	(\$4,767.34)	(\$71,564.77)
Cost of Goods	(\$24,657.83)	(\$1,910.00)	(\$26,567.83)
Contributions	\$43,810.91	\$4,641.86	\$48,452.77



Net Income	(\$8,638.97)	\$401.82	(\$8,237.15)
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Contributions

Group	Jan - Nov	Dec	Total
A Gathering of Women	\$857.39		\$857.39
AM/Mid-Day Mod	\$7,712.46	\$1,300.45	\$9,012.91
Anonymous	\$4,750.20	\$170.00	\$4,920.20
Any Lengths Group	\$80.00	\$63.00	\$143.00
AV Hospital	\$350.00		\$350.00
AV Men's Stag	\$2,578.00	\$301.00	\$2,879.00
AV Roundup	\$1,602.35		\$1,602.35
AVYPAA	\$14.59		\$14.59
Backus Any Length	\$140.00		\$140.00
Birthday	\$274.00		\$274.00
Cal City Clubhouse	\$450.00	\$75.00	\$525.00
Came to Believe - Alano Club	\$0.00		\$0.00
Crown Valley Group	\$1,119.00		\$1,119.00
Daily Reflections	\$0.00		\$0.00
Dare to be Different - Alano Club	\$0.00		\$0.00
District 7	\$441.23		\$441.23
Faithful Fiver	\$585.00	\$100.00	\$685.00
Friday Noon - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
High Desert BB Grp	\$3,397.66		\$3,397.66
Intergroup Fundraisers	\$2,890.00		\$2,890.00
Into Action	\$1,086.50		\$1,086.50
Joe & Charlie Book Study - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Lake Hughes Group	\$697.74	\$270.00	\$967.74
New Beginnings	\$0.00		\$0.00
Open Door	\$600.00	\$477.06	\$1,077.06
Open Participation	\$0.00		\$0.00
Palmdale Grp	\$1,742.00	\$951.11	\$2,693.11
Palmdale Mon Noon 12 & 12	\$145.00		\$145.00
Pearblossom Grp	\$50.00		\$50.00
PM Mod	\$296.00	\$130.00	\$426.00
Quartz Hill Unity Grp	\$1,590.28	\$366.00	\$1,956.28
Rainbow Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Recovery @ The Ranch	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rosamond Sun Night	\$153.00		\$153.00
Rule 62 Grp	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$110.00
Sat Spkr Mtg - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sobriety Rocks	\$0.00		\$0.00
Step Workshop Meeting	\$100.00		\$100.00
Sun Night BBS	\$427.00		\$427.00
The Promises - Alano Club	\$0.00		\$0.00
Thurs Night Step Study	\$100.00		\$100.00
Tuesday Topic Mtg - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Unity Group	\$0.00		\$0.00
Wed Night BBS	\$388.36		\$388.36
Westside Grp	\$405.00		\$405.00
Women in Recovery	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women Seeking Serenity	\$288.00		\$288.00
Sober Sisters	\$0.00		\$0.00
Digital Contributions	\$4,303.45	\$378.24	\$4,681.69

Carla H.	1/25/2022	2	Tony F.	1/23/2005	19
Boyd C.	1/23/2022	2	Michelle P.	1/15/2003	21
Kevin W.	1/1/2022	2	Jackie O.	1/17/2002	22
Andy M.	1/27/2021	3	Spencer	1/29/2002	22
Darcia J.	1/23/2021	3	Juan L.	1/1/2001	23
Marlene J.	1/29/2017	7	Randy H.	1/19/2001	23
Belinda T.	1/9/2016	8	Nonna W.	1/21/2000	24
Rich M.	1/9/2016	8	Tyrone C.	1/18/2000	24
Lynn Z.	1/6/2014	10	David S.	1/21/1999	25
Katie D.	1/19/2014	10	Jeanne C.	1/10/1999	25
Valerie D.	1/30/2014	10	Sheila G.	1/15/1999	25
Chaz	1/7/2013	11	Little Joe	1/3/1998	26
Jenni J.	1/6/2013	11	Shalaby B.	1/6/1998	26
Kelli D.	1/24/2013	11	Dan P.	1/7/1997	27
Tina R.	1/12/2013	11	Daneen D.	1/4/1997	27
Deborah A.	1/14/2012	12	Harvey S.	1/21/1997	27
Doug H.	1/10/2012	12	Tony V.	1/6/1997	27
Jennifer C.	1/13/2012	12	Barrv O.	1/13/1995	29
Josie	1/4/2012	12	Dawn Marie	1/14/1995	29
Nicole S.	1/21/2012	12	Jan H.	1/13/1995	29
Patty T.	1/17/2012	12	Ruth Lewis	1/18/1995	29
Rav E.	1/21/2012	12	Teresa P.	1/2/1995	29
Terrance C.	1/1/2012	12	Melvin B.	1/7/1994	30
Dave K.	1/29/2011	13	Ralph L.	1/20/1994	30
Jennifer M.	1/28/2011	13	Nani	1/12/1993	31
Jessica Z.	1/31/2011	13	Dan H.	1/15/1992	32
Kim G.	1/12/2011	13	Dave L.	1/2/1992	32
Michelle S.	1/15/2011	13	Mike G.	1/23/1992	32
Morena	1/1/2011	13	Robert H.	1/1/1992	32
Ross W.	1/31/2011	13	Sharon G.	1/15/1992	32
Steve T.	1/31/2011	13	Kathy M.	1/27/1991	33
Tanya S.	1/10/2011	13	Sue M.	1/21/1991	33
Bob D.	1/1/2010	14	Tess H.	1/4/1991	33
Kevin K.	1/12/2010	14	Janis P.	1/8/1990	34
Kristin E.	1/10/2010	14	Mark C.	1/1/1990	34
Nico O.	1/15/2010	14	Bob K.	1/24/1989	35
Robert V.	1/7/2010	14	Jennifer S.	1/10/1989	35
Henry	1/18/2009	15	Martha D.	1/22/1988	36
Terry M.	1/29/2009	15	Mike S.	1/20/1988	36
Jenni J.	1/5/2008	16	Scott H.	1/30/1988	36
Jim B.	1/2/2008	16	Steve W.	1/29/1988	36
Lisa Marie W.	1/2/2008	16	Diane V.	1/17/1987	37
Nancy T.	1/21/2008	16	Rav M.	1/2/1987	37
Turhan D.	1/3/2008	16	Margaret R.	1/4/1986	38
John O.	1/22/2007	17	Steve S.	1/29/1986	38
Rennie T.	1/20/2007	17	Rick B.	1/13/1985	39
Robert W.	1/29/2007	17	Steve I.	1/23/1985	39
Rose L.	1/3/2007	17	Aurora	1/5/1984	40
Soraveh J.	1/8/2007	17	Christine M.	1/7/1984	40
Susie B.	1/2/2007	17	Tom C.	1/10/1984	40
Jill M.	1/16/2006	18	Sandy M.	1/31/1983	41
Jim A.	1/4/2006	18	Mike J.	1/18/1981	43
Sandi P.	1/1/2006	18	Ellen B.	1/29/1980	44
Eddie G.	1/18/2005	19	Ken S.	1/19/1980	44
Jack F.	1/15/2005	19	Vito	1/15/1980	44
Monique J.	1/3/2005	19	Svbil	1/19/1968	56
Ruth M.	1/2/2005	19			

**Get your groups birthday list to Central Office
... That's how they appear here!**

TOTALS	\$39,659.21	\$4,641.86	\$39,619.38
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Total Years = 2,544

Managers Corner

Happy New Year everyone!! Start the year off right by making a commitment to be a Faithful Fiver. It's a great way to show your gratitude for all that AA has done for you!

Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

- 1st ~ Larry W. & Vacant
- 2nd ~ Wendy W. & Laura Linn
- 3rd ~ Joni R & Deborah H.
- 4th ~ Katie H. & Vacant
- 5th ~ Stephanie S. & Vacant

Thank you for allowing me to be of service!!

Jeff H.

Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

