



January 2021

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AV Intergroup of AA  
 43619 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street West,  
 Suite 106  
 Lancaster, CA 93534  
 661-945-5757  
 17<sup>th</sup> Street West / Avenue K

Central Office Web Site:  
[www.avcentraloffice.org](http://www.avcentraloffice.org)  
 Central Office Email:  
[avcentraloffice@gmail.com](mailto:avcentraloffice@gmail.com)

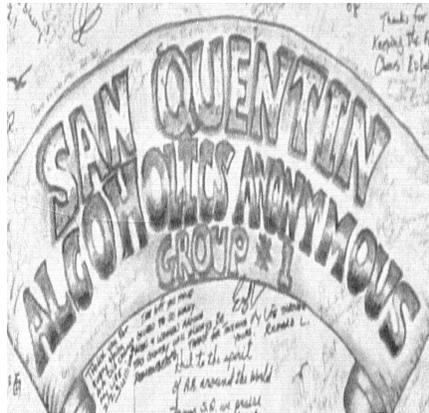
Email Scoop submissions:  
 Jessica Christman  
[Jchr93551av@gmail.com](mailto:Jchr93551av@gmail.com)

Please limit submissions to 500

# The Scoop

## AA in the AV

By: Bruce L., A.A 2012,  
 District 7 Archivist



Poster created by San Quentin prisoners

“He was aware of a group called Alcoholics Anonymous who claimed recovery from this terrible disease, and invited them into San Quentin to hold meetings with the inmates.

“After Warden Duffy invited the first AA members into San Quentin in 1942, it was very successful and a few years later an inmate was transferred to Folsom Prison to start AA meetings there.”

“We started to organize because of a problem that occurred with the meetings we were taking out to San Quentin. The story is that two groups showed up to take a meeting into the prison but the guard informed them they only had one meeting scheduled. The groups went out into the

parking lot and had a fist fight!! They were informed by the guard that their behavior was not acceptable and if it ever happened again they would not be allowed to bring meetings into San Quentin. THIS IS WHY WE FORMED H & I COMMITTEE, to schedule our meetings, it was/is to be sure we didn't duplicate meetings or miss meetings. Thus, H & I was born and San Quentin Group #1 became the first group in the Hospitals and Institutions Committee.

## Hope For A Brighter Morning

I came into the program hoping for a brighter morning, paralyzed by fear consumed by alcohol. I had PAID (Pitiful and Incomprehensible Demoralization) handsomely for my chair in this fellowship.

At first I had dysfunctional ears. I could scarcely hear any more than I wanted to hear, but I do remember what kept me coming back. Those who have gone before me to whom I stand forever grateful; assured me I no longer have to feel like I was feeling, I no longer had to live the way I had been living.

They told me to bring the body and that the mind would follow. They *insisted* that I hang

onto this program and the people in it while things got better. They gave me a book that promised they would.

Those same folks saw to it that I became increasingly more familiar with the steps of this program; that I study the big book and seek answers therein. I came to believe in my powerlessness over alcohol, people, and circumstances. I understand that with the help of this higher power, I could, indeed, change and fine quality living in sobriety. They told me the truth that I might pass it on.

I heard that if I ain't praying; I ain't staying. (I hope someone had told **YOU** that!!) Consequently, I learned to pray to God as I understand him and then in meditation. Listen for that still, small guiding voice. I have become a teachable, loving person. **Teachable!!** What a concept!! The one who had all the answers. Not so today.

No, today I awakened comfortably to chirping birds, the rooster crowing and the dogs playing chase. No more headaches, feelings of remorse, or foggy brain. No four horsemen round my bed!! The sun may not yet be thru the clouds, but my heart is warm and light. My mind is alert

I have been taught a lot and grateful attitude; for my life in recovery, and the lives of my family and my fellows. Truly a miracle! We **ARE** miracles, nothing less!

I'd say I got my brighter morning alright... as hoped for... as promised!

Susan H.

## 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 becomes 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

## Word Game

### 12th step

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

IMPRESSION  
ALTRUISTIC  
PROOF  
SPIRITUAL  
OVERWHELMING  
PROFOUND  
SACRIFICE  
ESSENTIALS  
EXPERIENCE  
EMPHATICALLY  
FELLOWSHIP  
COMMON

# January 2022 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Nov	Dec	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$24,680.78	\$3,838.05	\$28,518.83
Expenses	(\$32,519.94)	(\$2,077.36)	(\$34,597.30)
Cost of Goods	(\$17,034.39)	(\$3,310.01)	(\$20,344.40)
Contributions	\$27,638.97	\$5,130.29	\$32,769.26

<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$2,765.42</b>	<b>\$3,580.97</b>	<b>\$6,346.39</b>
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## Contributions

Group	Jan - Nov	Dec	Total
A Gathering of Women	\$0.00		\$0.00
AM/Mid-Day Mod	\$7,156.38	\$288.18	\$7,444.56
Anonymous	\$5,327.16	\$415.34	\$5,742.50
Any Lengths Group	\$85.00		\$85.00
AV Men's Stag	\$3,759.00	\$420.00	\$4,179.00
AV Roundup	\$0.00	\$163.24	\$163.24
Birthday	\$204.00	\$8.00	\$212.00
Came to Believe - Alano Club	\$4.00		\$4.00
Crown Valley Group	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Daily Reflections	\$8.00	\$5.00	\$13.00
Dare to be Different - Alano Club	\$17.00		\$17.00
Faithful Fiver	\$605.00	\$5.00	\$610.00
Friday Noon - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
High Desert BB Grp	\$4,438.68		\$4,438.68
Intergroup Fundraisers	\$40.00		\$40.00
Into Action	\$862.09		\$862.09
Joe & Charlie Book Study - Alano	\$0.00		\$0.00
Lake Hughes Group	\$623.58	\$312.00	\$935.58
New Beginnings	\$0.00		\$0.00
Open Door	\$1,000.00	\$682.29	\$1,682.29
Open Participation	\$1.00		\$1.00
Palmdale Grp	\$1,832.00	\$1,579.78	\$3,411.78
Pearblossom Grp	\$0.00		#REF!
PM Mod	\$0.00		\$0.00
Quartz Hill Unity Grp	\$888.50	\$319.85	\$1,208.35
Rainbow Grp	\$236.00		\$236.00
Recovery @ The Ranch	\$1,298.61	\$371.00	\$1,669.61
Rosamond Sun Night	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rule 62 Grp	\$300.00	\$100.00	\$400.00
Sat Spkr Mtg - Alano	\$39.00		\$39.00
Sobriety Rocks	\$0.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Sun Night BBS	\$16.00		\$16.00
The Promises - Alano Club	\$12.00		\$12.00
Tuesday Topic Mtg - Alano	\$12.00	\$2.00	\$14.00
Westside Grp	\$170.90	\$100.00	\$270.90
Women in Recovery	\$107.00	\$42.40	\$149.40
Women Seeking Serenity	\$193.00	\$110.00	\$303.00
Sober Sisters	\$72.00		\$72.00
<b>Digital Contributions</b>	<b>\$5,255.93</b>	<b>\$194.21</b>	<b>\$5,450.14</b>

Marlene J.	1/29/2017	5	Spencer	1/29/2002	20
Belinda T.	1/9/2016	6	Juan L.	1/1/2001	21
Rich M.	1/9/2016	6	Randy H.	1/19/2001	21
Lynn Z.	1/6/2014	8	Nonna W.	1/21/2000	22
Katie D.	1/19/2014	8	Tvrone C.	1/18/2000	22
Valerie D.	1/30/2014	8	David S.	1/21/1999	23
Chaz	1/7/2013	9	Jeanne C.	1/10/1999	23
Jenni J.	1/6/2013	9	Sheila G.	1/15/1999	23
Kelli D.	1/24/2013	9	Little Joe	1/3/1998	24
Tina R.	1/12/2013	9	Shalaby B.	1/6/1998	24
Deborah A.	1/14/2012	10	Dan P.	1/7/1997	25
Doug H.	1/10/2012	10	Dancee D.	1/4/1997	25
Jennifer C.	1/13/2012	10	Harvey S.	1/21/1997	25
Josie	1/4/2012	10	Tony V.	1/6/1997	25
Nicole S.	1/21/2012	10	Barry O.	1/13/1995	27
Patty T.	1/17/2012	10	Dawn Marie	1/14/1995	27
Rav E.	1/21/2012	10	Jan H.	1/13/1995	27
Terrance C.	1/1/2012	10	Ruth Lewis	1/18/1995	27
Dave K.	1/29/2011	11	Teresa P.	1/2/1995	27
Jennifer M.	1/28/2011	11	Melvin B.	1/7/1994	28
Jessica Z.	1/31/2011	11	Ralph L.	1/20/1994	28
Kim G.	1/12/2011	11	Nani	1/12/1993	29
Michelle S.	1/15/2011	11	Dan H.	1/15/1992	30
Morena	1/1/2011	11	Dave L.	1/2/1992	30
Ross W.	1/31/2011	11	Mike G.	1/23/1992	30
Steve T.	1/31/2011	11	Robert H.	1/1/1992	30
Tanva S.	1/10/2011	11	Sharon G.	1/15/1992	30
Bob D.	1/1/2010	12	Kathy M.	1/27/1991	31
Kevin K.	1/12/2010	12	Sue M.	1/21/1991	31
Kristin E.	1/10/2010	12	Tess H.	1/4/1991	31
Nico O.	1/15/2010	12	Janis P.	1/8/1990	32
Robert V.	1/7/2010	12	Mark C.	1/1/1990	32
Henry	1/18/2009	13	Bob K.	1/24/1989	33
Terry M.	1/29/2009	13	Jennifer S.	1/10/1989	33
Jenni J.	1/5/2008	14	Martha D.	1/22/1988	34
Jim B.	1/2/2008	14	Mike S.	1/20/1988	34
Lisa Marie W.	1/2/2008	14	Scott H.	1/30/1988	34
Nancy T.	1/21/2008	14	Steve W.	1/29/1988	34
Turhan D.	1/3/2008	14	Diane V.	1/17/1987	35
John O.	1/22/2007	15	Ray M.	1/2/1987	35
Rennie T.	1/20/2007	15	Margaret R.	1/4/1986	36
Robert W.	1/29/2007	15	Steve S.	1/29/1986	36
Rose L.	1/3/2007	15	Rick B.	1/13/1985	37
Soraveh J.	1/8/2007	15	Steve I.	1/23/1985	37
Susie B.	1/2/2007	15	Aurora	1/5/1984	38
Jill M.	1/16/2006	16	Christine M.	1/7/1984	38
Jim A.	1/4/2006	16	Tom C.	1/10/1984	38
Sandi P.	1/1/2006	16	Sandy M.	1/31/1983	39
Eddie G.	1/18/2005	17	Mike J.	1/18/1981	41
Jack F.	1/15/2005	17	Ellen B.	1/29/1980	42
Monique J.	1/3/2005	17	Ken S.	1/19/1980	42
Ruth M.	1/2/2005	17	Vito	1/15/1980	42
Tony F.	1/23/2005	17	Svbil	1/19/1968	54
Michelle P.	1/15/2003	19			
Jackie O.	1/17/2002	20			

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

**TOTALS** | \$36,063.83 | \$5,130.29 | #REF!

Total Years = 2,316

## 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. & Esmeralda P.
- 2nd ~ Wendy W. & Gabe G.
- 3rd ~ Carmen R. & Reggie J.
- 4th ~ Katie H. & Art H.
- 5th ~ Kenya W. & Chante D.

**Thank you for allowing me to be of service!!**

Jeff H.

Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

