

June 2023

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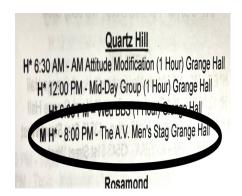
The Scoop

AA in the AV 44

AA in the AV 44 By Bruce L. District 7 Archivist

Dear reader,

This month we begin a new local group history, the A.V. Men's Stag, a group that has met every Wednesday night for more than fifty years without a miss (and counting). Over the years, the meeting has moved several times: its place of origin was Lancaster, then three locations in Palmdale, and now Quartz Hill, but as far as I know it has never missed a Wednesday night.



Its original location was Ernie McBride's used car lot at 43813 Sierra Highway. "The first windmill south of Lancaster Boulevard," is the way Linc remembered it. (Linc got sober in Lancaster in 1956.) Ernie is considered to be the founding father of the A.V. Men's Stag.

We still don't know the exact birth date of the meeting, but it was sometime prior to 1973, maybe 1971? Still researching, hoping to nail it down. The reason we know it was prior to 1973 is because we have a living member today, John C. of Quartz Hill, who got sober 11/17/73 and started going to the A.V. Men's Stag at Ernie McBride's used car lot in 1974. His best guess is that the meeting started a year or two prior to that date.

I am fortunate to know John C. and he was kind enough to help me find the original location of the car lot and to tell me a little about his memories of that spot and the meetings there. In next month's Scoop I will recap that interview with John and present a photo of the original meeting room there at the car lot.

See you next month,

Bruce L.

STEP 6

"Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."

"This is the Step that separates the men from the boys." So declares a well-loved clergyman who happens to be one of A.A.'s greatest friends. He goes on to explain that any person capable of enough willingness and honesty to try repeatedly Step Six on all his faults—without any reservations whatever—has indeed come a long way spiritually, and is therefore entitled to be called a man who is sincerely trying to grow in the image and likeness of his own creator.

Of course, the often disputed question of whether God can—and will, under certain conditions—remove defects of character will be answered with a prompt affirmative by almost any A.A. member. To him, this proposition will be no theory at all; it will be just about the largest fact in his life. He will usually offer his proof in a statement like this:

"Sure, I was beaten, absolutely licked. My own willpower just wouldn't work on alcohol. Change of scene, the best efforts of family, friends, doctors, and clergymen got no place with my alcoholism. I simply couldn't stop drinking, and no human being could seem to do the job for me. But when I became willing to clean house and asked a Higher Power, God as I understood Him, to give me release, my obsession to drink

vanished. It was lifted right out of me."

In A.A. meetings all over the world, statements just like this are heard daily. It is plain for everybody to see that each sober A.A. member has been granted a release from this very obstinate and potentially fatal obsession. So in a very complete and literal way, all A.A.'s have "become entirely ready" to have God remove the mania for alcohol from their lives. And God has proceeded to do exactly that

Having been granted a perfect release from alcoholism, why then shouldn't we be able to achieve by the same means a perfect release from every other difficulty or defect? This is a riddle of our existence, the full answer to which may be only in the mind of God. Nevertheless, at least a part of the answer to it is apparent to us.

When men and women pour so much alcohol into themselves that they destroy their lives, they commit a most unnatural act. Defying their instinctive desire for selfpreservation, they seem bent upon self-destruction. They work against their own deepest instinct. As they are humbled by the terrific beating administered by alcohol, the grace of God can enter them and expel their obsession. Here their powerful instinct to live can cooperate fully with their Creator's desire to five them new life. For nature and God alike abhor suicide.

But most of our other difficulties don't fall under such a category at all. Every normal person wants, for example, to eat, to reproduce, to be somebody in the society of his fellows. And he wishes to be reasonably safe and secure as he tries to attain these things. Indeed, God made him that way. He did not design man to destroy himself by alcohol, but He did give man instincts to help him to stay alive.

The 6th Tradition "An A.A. group ought

"An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose."

The moment we saw that we had an answer for alcoholism, it was reasonable (or so it seemed at the time) for us to feel that we might have the answer to a lot of other things. The A.A. groups, many thought, could go into business, might finance any enterprise whatever in the total field of alcoholism. In fact, we felt duty-bound to throw the whole weight of the A.A. name behind any meritorious cause. Here are some of the things we dreamed. Hospitals didn't like alcoholics, so we thought we'd build a hospital chain of our own. People needed to be told what alcoholism was, so we'd educate the public, even rewrite school and medical textbooks. We'd gather up derelicts from skid rows, sort out those who could get well, and make it possible for

the rest to earn their livelihood in a kind of quarantined confinement. Maybe these places would make large sums of money to carry on our other good works. We seriously thought of rewriting the laws of the land, and having it declared that alcoholics are sick people. No more would they be jailed; judges would parole them in our custody. We'd spill A.A. into the dark regions of dope addiction and criminality. We'd form groups of depressive and paranoid folks; the deeper the

neurosis, the better we'd like it. It stood to reason that if alcoholism could be licked, so could any problem.

It occurred to us that we could take what we had into the factories and cause laborers and capitalists to love each other. Our compromising honesty might soon clean up politics. With one arm around the shoulder of medicine, we'd resolve their differences. Having learned to live so happily, we'd show everybody else how. Why, we thought, our Society of

Alcoholics Anonymous might prove to be the spearhead of a new spiritual advance! We might transform the world.

Yes, we of A.A. did dream those dreams. How natural that was, since most alcoholics are bankrupt idealists. Nearly every one of us had wished to do great good, perform great deeds, and embody great ideals. We are all perfectionists who, failing perfection, have gone to the other extreme and settled for the bottle and the blackout. Providence, through A.A., had brought us within reach of our highest expectations. So why shouldn't we share our way of life with everyone?

Word Game

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

Reservations Entirely Capable Trying Willingness Sincerely Honesty Theory Conditions Likeness Creator Proof

Sixth Concept:

The conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as General Service Board.

When changes are made within

A.A. and meetings do not participate, then we can never live up to the valuable concept of unity. In the Antelope Valley, we are part of District 7 and Area 93. District 7does host District meetings at the Grange in Quartz Hill the 2nd Monday of every month. The start time is 6:30pm. So, please come and be part of A.A. as a whole at the next District meeting.

-Keith H., A.A. 2008

June 2023 Office Manager Report Jan - Apr May YTD Total Sales of Goods \$15,191.86 \$4,226.66 \$19,418.52 Expenses (\$20,751.34) (\$4,206.68) (\$24,958.02 Cost of Goods (\$18,556.86) (\$4,979.10) (\$23,535.96 Contributions \$13,452.84 \$3,201.33 \$16,654.17 Net Income (\$10,663.50) (\$1,757.79) (\$12,421.29 6/8/2004 6/24/2004 6/17/2003 6/23/2003 6/9/2003 6/26/2002 6/14/2002 Contributions Natasha H 6/10/2013 19 Bonnie S 10 Nick J 6/8/2013 6/15/2013 6/3/2013 Jan - Apr \$647.39 \$2,742.90 Mav Total Group Brian H 10 Jim B 20 A Gathering of Women \$50.00 \$697.30 Marc A. Veronica A Carol F 10 10 20 20 \$519.99 AM/Mid-Day Mod \$3.262.89 Carrie \$828.53 \$388.47 6/8/2013 6/25/2013 Lisa B Noel P Anonymous Deitrich \$80.00 Any Lengths Group \$80.00 Denise M 6/6/2002 6/27/2002 6/4/2001 6/4/2000 Pete S AV Hospital \$350.00 \$350.00 6/10/2013 10 oni R 6/6/2013 6/20/2013 Terry B. C Steve E. Dave S. \$40.00 AV Men's Stag \$696.00 \$736.00 ance B 10 10 AV Roundun \$2.00 \$2.00 auren (AVYPAA \$14.59 \$14.59 eigh H. 6/14/1999 6/30/2013 Birthday \$151.00 \$151.00 Dee R Mark S 6/30/2013 6/1/2013 6/8/2013 6/1/2013 6/30/2012 6/5/2012 6/4/2012 \$200.00 \$50.00 6/2/1999 6/15/1997 Cal City Clubhouse Michael G Came to Believe - Alano Club \$0.00 \$0.00 Mike H Paul W 10 6/13/1997 6/30/1997 6/24/1997 6/27/1996 \$350.00 Debbie B Crown Valley Group \$350.00 26 \$0.00 \$0.00 Dena B Daily Reflections \$0.00 Janie S Dare to be Different - Alano Club Cim B Iron Michael <u> 26</u> District ' \$441.23 \$441.2 Raissa I Karen C Dave C. Patrick I Faithful Fiver \$340.00 \$110.00 \$450.00 Richard T Rick H. Friday Noon - Alano \$0.00 \$842.75 \$0.00 6/4/2012 High Desert BB Gro \$1,078.50 Roh T \$1 921 2 Toni I \$920.00 6/10/1993 30 \$920.00 Darrnell B Intergroup Fundraisers Alena 6/3/1993 Into Action \$686.50 \$686.50 Delores G. 6/14/2011 Linda S Wanda Joe & Charlie Book Study - Alano \$0.00 Kathy T 6/10/1993 Lake Hughes Group \$277.00 \$277.00 6/18/201 Yolanda I 6/8/1993 30 isa B \$0.00 Claudia C Eileen K. 6/8/1992 6/5/1992 New Beginnings \$0.00 <u>Lorri C</u> Rick S 6/15/2011 Open Door \$300.00 \$300.00 \$600.0 6/15/2011 6/6/2010 6/25/2010 6/14/2010 6/24/2010 6/12/1992 Open Participation \$0.00 \$851.91 \$0.00 Pat S Arlene 6/3/199 Palmdale Grp \$81.56 Dora Eddie O 6/6/1991 6/18/1991 6/29/1990 Palmdale Grp Mon Noon 12 & 12 \$45.00 \$45.00 Lisa C Gerry B. Pearblossom Grp \$0.00 \$0.00 Harriet Castill \$94.00 \$510.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 6/8/2010 6/3/2009 6/12/2009 6/12/2009 6/23/2009 Paul D PM Mod \$94.00 Ernie A 6/18/1990 6/3/1989 Quartz Hill Unity Grp \$130.00 \$640.00 Roger J Amanda P Bob L Rainbow Grp \$0.00 Aminta (6/18/1988 Recovery @ The Ranch enny (Bryce A 6/22/1988 6/2/1987 6/27/1987 Rosamond Sun Night \$153.00 \$153.00Rick M 6/7/2009 6/11/2008 Bill G. Ron W Rule 62 Grp \$50.00 \$50 OC erry M 14 36 Sat Spkr Mtg - Alano \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 Oprothy B 36 37 37 6/13/2008 6/3/2008 Sobriety Rocks \$0.00 6/14/1986 Beth S Keith H \$0.00 Ken H 6/9/1986 Step Workshop Meeting Janie 6/3/2008 6/2/2008 6/9/2008 6/8/2007 6/11/2007 6/11/2007 6/30/2006 6/11/2006 6/25/2006 15 Jim M 6/20/1986 Sun Night BBS \$32.00 \$103.00 \$135.00 6/15/1983 6/15/1983 6/22/1982 6/26/198 6/20/198 6/3/198 The Promises - Alano Club \$0.00 \$0.00 Will F Tom (\$100.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 Thurs Night Step Study Chris B. Randy W \$100.00 Beverly R Tuesday Topic Mtg - Alano \$0.00 Jamie A Bill J. Unity Group \$0.00 Julie B Wed Night BBS 1<u>6</u> 1<u>7</u> 17 \$86.36 Bruce Tom Cookie H Marge B. Westside Grp \$104.00 \$104.00 6/8/198 Women in Recovery \$0.00 Celly F 6/10/1980 \$101.00 Elizabeth Women Seeking Serenity \$101.00 Mike D.C 6/11/197 6/15/197 Sober Sisters 6/6/2005 Mike I \$0.00 imi A 6/19/2005 Russ D Sterling S 6/28/1973 6/24/2004 50 Amanda H Ron M. 6/10/1971 6/1/1968 \$1,805,49 Digital Contributions \$1,455,68 \$349.81 6/28/2004 6/13/2004 Robert E Carol P. Charles P Cora 6/8/2004 6/17/2004 6/17/2004 Don Crandall Ted Summers 6/28/196 ∟acv F Lori TOTALS \$11.997.16 \$3,201,33 \$14.848.68 Total Years = 2,672

Managers Corner

This is Founder's Month - Please show your appreciation for everything AA has given you by making a financial contribution to make sure this is here for the suffering alcoholic. Visit www.avcentraloffice.org and donate!

Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

1st ~ Larry W. & Vacant 2nd ~ Wendy W. & Laura Linn 3rd ~ Joni R & Vacant 4th ~ Katie H. & Vacant 5th ~ Stephanie S. & Vacant Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

