

# “The Step Three Parable”

A drunk is staggering along the street and she meets God. “God, I can’t do this anymore,” she says. “Please, please, will you give me sobriety?”

God says, “Sobriety isn’t free, how much money do you have?” The drunk reaches into her pocket. “Fifty bucks.” “I’ll take it,” says God, “you’re sober.”

The woman stands up straight, drunk no more. It feels pretty good. “Yeah but, God?” “Yes?” “I know I gave you my money willingly. But, you see, I need to get gas for my car.”

God says, “You have a car?”  
“Well, yes,” she said.  
“You didn’t tell me that. I’ll take the car.”  
“But...”

God interrupts and says, “I’ll take the car. It’s part of the price for your sobriety.”

“But how will I get to work?”  
“You have a job? I’ll take the job, too.”

“But God, how will I pay my mortgage?”  
“Mortgage? You have a house? I’ll take that too.”

“But God, my family. How will I take care of them if You have my house and my job?”

God says to her gently and lovingly: “In order to keep your sobriety; you must give Me these things. But I will let you drive My car, as long as you remember it’s MY car. You can have the job, but remember you’re working it for ME. It’s My house but I will let you live in it. And as for the family, they are MY family but I will trust you to take care of them.”

- Anonymous

# E.V.I. News

## May 2009

### Contents:

<b>Article</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>AA Meeting Changes</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Intergroup News</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Business Mtg Min</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Gratitude</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Calendar, Events</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>People</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Distilled Spirits</b>	<b>7</b>

Emerald Valley Intergroup  
1259 Willamette St.  
Eugene, OR 97401-3509  
(541) 342-4113

# AA Meetings

## **New Meeting:**

The Family Afterward  
(women and babies)  
St Marys Episcopel  
166 E 13th  
Fri noon-1pm

**New Meeting Guides  
are in,  
get'em while they're  
HOT!**

*There's always  
a lot to be thankful for  
if you take time  
to look for it.*

*Please remember to let  
us know of your group  
changes by submitting  
the **NEW OFFICIAL  
FORM** at the EVI  
office. Thanks!*

**Thank You  
To all who  
participated  
and  
attended the  
memorial for  
Dale D.**

*Please be aware that the EVI News staff is  
always looking for worthy submittals! Articles  
having to do with your AA experience / wisdom,  
etc., are always welcome. Keep in mind that  
editing for appropriateness and length may  
occur.*

*E-mail submittals to:*

***evinews@yahoo.com***

*not later than the last Monday of the month,  
or mail/drop it off at the EVI office  
c/o EVI News.*

*Please include a contact phone number.*

## EVI Business Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2009

6:30 pm Opened with the Serenity prayer. It was determined that a quorum was present and 34 signed the attendance roster.

**Announcements** (from those who had to leave early).

Eric said there will be a comedy night and speaker meeting evening of April 26 in Portland, which is a benefit for WACYPA. Russ said that Up the River Group in Dorena has been discontinued. There will be a planning meeting for the EVI inventory on April 26, 12-2 pm at the EVI office. Fliers were distributed for the Activities Committee Memorial Day softball game.

### **Old Business:**

Open Positions as follows: EVI Chair Co-Chair, Treasurer Co-Chair, Archivist, Office Coordinator Co-Chair and Meeting Guide Co-Chair. There were no nominations for EVI Chair co-chair or Archivist. Marika C. was nominated and elected as Office Co-Coordinator. Jack N. volunteered to become Co-Treasurer and was unanimously elected.

David B. nominated himself for the Meeting Guide co-chair position and was elected unanimously. In addition to Co-chair and Archivist positions, EVI is looking for a Newsletter co-chair as the position rotates in June.

### **Inventory:**

Steering Committee recommended that since EVI serves the Districts, District reps (DCMs or designee) should help design the inventory, and should attend the planning meeting at the EVI office April 26. Keeping our positions staffed will be a major focus of the inventory.

### **New Business:**

Teffany (literature) reported that far more big books are selling than anticipated and we're temporarily out of the hard cover edition. More are on order.

Karen S. (Sober Awakening Rep) brought up a suggestion from her group, based on the observation that the current recession is causing higher traffic in EVI and more people turning to AA instead of treatment centers, and wondered what EVI could do to help us fill the gap. Martha elaborated. Several people supported the idea of a 12<sup>th</sup>-step workshop to encourage and better-prepare 12<sup>th</sup> step volunteers. The Diverter Coordinator indicated he had added more referral materials to packets. There was a brief discussion about whether maintaining a list of recovery houses and giving out numbers constituted endorsement. The consensus was that merely telling people what was available did not.

Eric moved to have a workshop. Wes amended that motion forming a committee to plan and put on a workshop. Group voted unanimously for the amended proposal. Dave agreed to chair the committee and got names of several people willing to be on it. Details to be announced.

### **Committee Reports:**

Activities Committee (Sandra) . Repeated Announcement of Memorial Day Softball Tournament. There will be no July 4 Picnic because of Summerfest. There will be a BBQ at Emerald Park July 18. Committee asked permission to staff (but not otherwise fund) the hospitality room at Summerfest. Wes indicated the by-laws did not require them to get permission.

Website (Bill H.). Considering putting online a list of the speaker tapes available for loan from the office. Converting remainder of old newsletter files to PDF format for accessibility. There are many speaker presentations that can be accessed from the web and website coordinator would like to put links to some of these on the website.

CPC/PI (LynDee) Putting together presentations for the LCC nursing school, the DA Office's June Conference, and a school workshop, and participated in an Area CPC workshop in District 2 on April 2.

Diverter (Myron): New packets are available with some additional information. All shifts are covered. Thanks to the groups that have volunteered as a group to take specific slots.

Grapevine (Gus): Placed an order for \$533.12 in publications to stock office shelves. The cost of publications is rising due to increased publication costs – Grapevine literature receives no subsidy from groups.

H&I (Brenda): Clarified that jail meetings are still taking place – there are currently none at the Community Corrections Center. (correction to March minutes).

# Intergroup:

### **EVI Office**

(541) 342-4113

1259 Willamette St.

Eugene, OR 97401-3509

Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm

Saturday 9 am – 4 pm

Drop by for a visit!

### **EVI Web Site**

[www.eviaa.org](http://www.eviaa.org)

Meeting Schedules, business

Meeting minutes and more.

Save a bookmark!

### **EVI News**

Emerald Valley Intergroup's monthly newsletter for the AA community in Lane County.

EVI news is about, by and for members of the AA fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does publication of any article, event or notice imply endorsement by either Alcoholics Anonymous or EVI. (Exceptions: Quotations from AA books or pamphlets, which are reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc.) EVI News reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, length, language and editorial policy.

Contributions are gratefully accepted for consideration for publication.

Submissions are due by the last Monday of each month. To submit articles or event information, mail them or drop them off at the EVI office c/o EVI News. Please include a contact phone number.

Submissions and comments may be sent by e-mail to:  
[evinews@yahoo.com](mailto:evinews@yahoo.com).

(continues on page 6)

# Contributions

April 2009

Month YTD

**Contributions/Group:**

As Bill Sees It	0.00	20.00
Attitude Adjustment Group	150.00	840.00
Downtown AM group	0.00	410.00
District 19	0.00	150.00
EASYPAA	0.00	20.00
Fireside Group	0.00	45.00
Friday Night BB	240.00	240.00
Get Well Group	60.00	160.00
Host Of Friends	0.00	80.00
How It Works	0.00	123.00
New 11th Step Mtg	0.00	13.00
New Freedom	100.00	200.00
Pass It On	53.00	53.00
SAG	80.00	120.00
Saturday Morn Steps	0.00	198.00
Serenity Seekers West	150.00	282.00
6:45 AM Stag	75.00	121.00
Sober Awakenings	0.00	523.80
Sober Chicks	0.00	10.00
Sobriety for Life	0.00	60.00
Spiritual Kindergarden	0.00	4.00
Springfield Men's Stag	20.00	40.00
Sunday AM BB	150.00	150.00
Sunday Book Study	40.75	40.75
Sunday Morn Sunshine	200.00	350.00
Sunday Ngt Womens Step	0.00	141.28
Try God	297.00	806.00
Wednesday Night Men's	354.00	354.00
Womens Courage	113.92	288.92

**Total Group Contribution 2085.67 5843.75**

**Contributions/Individual:**

Faithful Fivers	25.00	215.00
Other	24.50	229.95
<b>Total Individual</b>	<b>49.50</b>	<b>444.95</b>
<b>Total Contribution</b>	<b>2135.17</b>	<b>6288.70</b>

"The worst loneliness  
 is  
 not to be comfortable  
 with yourself."  
  
 - Mark Twain

## NEED SERVICE?

**Current Open Service Positions at EVI:**  
 (attend EVI Business Meeting)

Chair co-chair  
 Archivist

**Recently Filled Service Positions at EVI:**

Co-coordinator - Marika C.  
 Treasurer co-chair - Jack N.  
 Meeting Guide co-chair - David P.

**Upcoming Openings:**

Newsletter co-chair (take office in July)  
 Office personnel (ongoing need)

# Gratitude

**Addresses for Group Contributions**

*Contributions for districts 6, 19 and 20 may also be sent to the below address. Please indicate the district on the envelope.*

Emerald Valley Intergroup  
 1259 Willamette St.  
 Eugene, OR 97401-3509

District 33  
 P. O. Box 40163  
 Eugene, OR 97404

Oregon Area 58 Treasury  
 1900 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Suite 106-172  
 Bend, OR 97701

AA General Service Office  
 PO Box 459  
 Grand Central Station  
 New York, NY 10163-0459

# Calendar

(all meetings held at EVI office unless otherwise noted)

- 1<sup>st</sup>** Mon Steering Committee, 6:30 pm  
Tues District 20, 6:30 pm, 418 "A" St., Richard T  
  
Tues District 33, 6:30 pm, LynDee R.
- Sun Activities Comm, 6:00 pm, Sylvia
- 2<sup>nd</sup>** Mon EVI Business Meeting, 6:30 pm  
Wed District 6, 6:30 pm, Rhonda  
Sat Diverter, 10:00 am, David W.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>** Thur Outreach Committee, 6:30 pm
- 2nd to last Sun** Literature committee 1pm to 5
- 4th** Tues CPCPI Committee, 6:30 pm
- Last** Wed H&I Committee, 6:00 pm
- Last** Thur Grapevine Committee, 5:30 pm
- Every** Sat Development Committee meeting until further notice,  
for purpose of creating the following:
- 1) workshop and/or panel to educate regarding 12th Stepping of wet drunks;
  - 2) New sign-up for volunteers to 12th Step, including format change to develop experienced teams made up of 2 men / 2 women.
  - 3) Other topics as they arise.
- Contact Michael S. David  
OR JUST SHOW UP!

*Please be aware that the EVI News staff is always looking for worthy submittals! Articles having to do with your AA experience / wisdom, etc., are always welcome. Keep in mind that editing for appropriateness and length may occur. E-mail submittals to:*

***evinews@yahoo.com***

***not later than the last Monday of the month,  
or mail/drop it off at the EVI office c/o EVI***

## EVENTS

(application forms at EVI office)

### **Fellowship on the River**

Tri-State 25th Annual Roundup  
Laughlin, NV  
May 14,15,16,17  
Call Elizabeth R

### **Spring Fling Convention**

St. Louis, MO May 22 -24  
Call John S.

### **Relationships in Sobriety Workshop**

Saturday, May 23, noon - 3 PM  
St. Mary's Church  
13th & Pearl

### **Annual Rootbeer Kegger**

Amazon Ballpark South  
May 25, 2 - 5 PM

### **Founders Day**

Sunday, June 14

### **32nd Annual Summerfest**

Eugene Hilton, Eugene  
July 3 - 5

**“The tongue of man  
is a twisty thing.”**

**- Homer, Iliad**

# People:

(continued from page 3)

## ACTIVITIES

Dawn Sandra E Brian

### ANSWERING SERVICE

Mike B

### ARCHIVIST (position open)

BOOKKEEPER: Ric H

CPC/PI (Coop. w/Profess. Commun/Public Info.)

Lyndee R Brandon

### DIVERTER COORDINATOR

Myron Dee

### EVI COMMUNICATIONS

Meeting Guides: Bill David P.

Newsletter: Sally B Angela M

Website: Alan U Bill H

### EVI OFFICE MANAGER

Michael Marika C.

### EVI SPEAKER MEETING

Gene S. Scott

### EVI STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair: Wes H (co-chair open)

Secretary: Martha S.

Treasurer: Chuck Jack N.

At-Large: Andre K.

At-Large: Breyer

At-Large: Greg

At-Large: Ted H.

At-Large: Bill

### GRAPEVINE

Chair: Gus

Co-Chair: Chris

H&I (Hospitals and Institutions)

Chair: Brenda K Co is open

Corrections: Annie O Co is open

Lane County Jail (Women): Rose B Karla B

Lane County Jail (Men): David

Ron L.

C.C.C. (Women): Melody Denna S

C.C.C. (Men): Bob S

Alma Work Camp: Lee H

Pathways: Joe N Co is open

Serbu Detention: Jack Co is open

Cooperation w/Treatment Facilities: Jeff C

Carlton House: Mark Z

WFTS: Johanna D.

Serenity Lane:

Fri. Speaker: Richard

B.T.G.: Tim a

S.N.L.: Greg D

Shelter Care: Hank Angela D

Hospitals: Both positions open

Johnson Unit: Jill David L

VA Reintegration Cntr: Both positions open

### LITERATURE

Teffany Doug S.

### OUTREACH

Rebecca Jeff

Volunteers asked to speak at treatment centers should familiarize themselves with the code of conduct, be aware of institutional rules, and limit themselves to sharing their personal experience, strength and hope.

Literature: Teffany is looking for a co-chair who is computer literate. She has a prospect. Gus asked that birthday donation cards be ordered. Newsletter (Sally): Co-chair will be needed in July to assist Angela M., who will rotate into the Chair at that time.

Office (Michael) Things are going smoothly but he foresees a shortage of people for morning shifts.

Outreach (Rebecca). Packets available for EVI Reps. Did not get to many meetings this month and could use volunteers to attend daytime meetings.

Speaker Meeting (Gene). Attendance was down in April. Distributed flier.

Treasurer (Chuck). Distributed financial report showing that group contributions were well below normal in March and that our YTD expenses exceeded revenues by \$2316. As of March 31 we have dipped below our prudent reserve. April contributions are also low. The Financial Advisory Board will be meeting to discuss the situation and recommend action.

Meeting closed at 7:45 with the Responsibilities Statement.

Some people try  
to turn back their odometers.

Not me,  
I want people to know  
why I look this way.

☞ If you want to quit drinking,  
you're going to have to quit drinking

# Distilled Spirits\*

A bird comes into the world in a shell and then breaks out and becomes free to fly. Humans, on the other hand, come into the world free and then build a shell around themselves. When I was drinking, I was afraid to let others know how much I drank, how I felt, or what I was doing or thinking. When I came to AA, I began to break that shell of isolation by admitting I was powerless over alcohol. I broke more of the shell when I did a Fourth Step, talked about the things I'd done which I was ashamed of, and asked God's help in removing my defects and making amends. There is still part of a shell that I recognize from time to time. But I'm thankful for the Steps and the principles given me by AA to help me become the happy, joyous, and free person God wants me to be.

- Sherry G., Riverdale, Michigan (June 1999)

My drinking career was an eighteen-year effort to avoid pain. It led me straight into the uncertainty of an alcoholic life and then, via AA, to the satisfaction of a long season of spiritual renewal. It was there that I paused to learn the value of things that hurt.

- Jack Mc., Vancouver, British Columbia (November 1995)

I heard this at a meeting yesterday: a person was talking to his grandson who had fallen out of bed while asleep. "Why did you fall out of bed?" asked the grandfather. The boy's reply was, "Because I stayed too close to where I got in." I think there is a good analogy here for recovery: I should try to move away from where I first "got in"--generally as fast as possible.

- Dennis B. (December 1999)

I went to my first AA meeting in prison. It was scary--could I trust anyone? But as the other inmates talked, I was surprised at how much honesty there was, how much acceptance. No one cared what I was in jail for, or what I looked like. They were happy to see me. That day, I found a family that is AA.

- J. F., Bellefonte, Pennsylvania (October 1993)

\* Reprinted with permission from the Grapevine archives.

# Faithful Fiver Pledge:

Emerald Valley Intergroup  
1259 Willamette  
Eugene, Oregon 97401

- I pledge \$5 per month to support EVI and service work in my community.
- I'm feeling grateful, I can send \_\_\_\_\_ per month.
- I will mail or drop off my contribution: Monthly.
- Four times a year (\$15 each)
- Once a year (\$60)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

# GET THE NEWS!

"Faithful Fivers" are people who donate \$5 or more per month to help support Intergroup. You can contribute monthly, quarterly or yearly, and if you check the receipt box on this form and you are on our mailing list, we will send you a receipt at the end of the year. (If you want a receipt, but would like to save EVI postage by picking up the News at the Office, or the EVI Business Meeting, fill out your nickname and address, but write "no news" next to your address.)



stamp

Emerald Valley Intergroup  
1259 Willamette Street  
Eugene, Oregon 97401