

New Service



When celebrating your AA Birthday, consider a contribution to the local intergroup. At the Emerald Valley Intergroup, volunteers staff the office six days a week, make sure another alcoholic is available to answer the phone 24/7 and provide many other services, like Public Information and taking meetings into hospitals and institutions. Now, with these convenient birthday envelopes, contributing to the intergroup is easier than ever. Many folks like to send one dollar for each year of sobriety to the intergroup and GSO. A five year birthday would be a five dollar donation and so on. Thanks for your support.

Home Alone

I ALWAYS thought that the chapter “We Agnostics” in the Big Book was for the other guy. Trouble with believing in a Higher Power? Not me! I came from a religious background; had no trouble at all in straightening out the kinks in my spiritual affairs since getting sober, over two years ago. Well, there was one thing, a minor point. . . .

Miracles! Those, too, were for the other guy. They were properly part of another age. Oh, they kept men from being blown apart in war or kept crippled airplanes aloft; but a miracle that would keep me sober--in spite of myself? Nonsense! As a matter of fact, I had heard it again and again: My sobriety was a “daily reprieve” contingent on the maintenance of my spiritual condition. In my mind (and that’s your clue right there!), this meant that nothing could be expected from my Higher Power unless I worked for it. I had faith, all right--faith that my Higher Power and I worked on a tit-for-tat basis. I thought I could stay sober like that.

Now I’m not so sure. At least once during the last two years, I’ve stayed away from that first drink only because my Higher Power drastically shaped the events leading up to my not taking that drink.

Whenever I toy with the idea that having been a high-bottom drunk is somehow beneficial to my sobriety, it always comes to mind that for the first year I was off the sauce, my wife took great care to buy only nonalcoholic vanilla and other extracts. She wouldn’t have thought that advisable if I had established my track record only at the high-toned spots, now would she? Booze is booze, and I’d had a problem with all of it. I never asked her to do away with the alcoholic vanilla. As a matter of fact, I didn’t even know she already had.

Continued on page 2



May 2008

Contents:

New Service	1
Home Alone	1
AA Meeting Changes	2
EVI Meeting Minutes	3
Intergroup News	3
AA Discussed on “We The People Program”	4
Calendar and Events	5
Open Service Positions	5
People	6
On Cultivating Tolerance	7
Rule 62	7

EVI Office

(541) 342-4113

1259 Willamette Street

Eugene, OR 97401-3509

Monday-Friday 9:00 am -5:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

www.eviaa.org

Meeting schedules, business meeting minutes, and more.



Home Alone

Continued from page 1

New

Friends of Dr. Bob

Friday 7:00-8:00 pm
554 Water St., Springfield

Recovery's Real

Friday 7:00-8:00 pm
1500 S. St, Springfield

Spiritual Kindergarten

Closed, BB, Stps & Trdns, Lit
Tuesday 7:00-8:00 pm
1166 Oak St. - Eugene

Changed

Sober Chicks at Six - Open Mtg

Wednesday 6:00-7:30 pm
Jesco Club, 340 Blair Blvd

T&T - Meeting name, day, time,
and location correction:

Tuesday 6:00-7:30 pm
255 Maxwell Rd., Eugene
Lutheran Church

BB, Stps & Trdns, Closed,
Men's, Handicap Access

Thursday 6:30-7:30 pm
1305 5th St., Springfield -
Church of Christ.

Men's, Handicap Access

Cancelled

Tues. Nt Mens' Sponsorship Grp.

Tuesday 6:30-9:00 pm
115 Maxwell Rd.

Dexter Women's Book Study

Wednesday 7:00-8:30 pm

After the first year of sobriety, I settled down considerably. I had lost weight and was exercising; my meetings were regular; I had made progress on a Fourth Step. . .blah, blah, blah. Comfortable sobriety! The farthest thing from my mind was anything like vanilla extract.

My new attitude must have showed, because my wife started buying the real McCoy again. Of course, she never mentioned it to me, because she hadn't mentioned that she had ever *stopped* using it!

Then it happened: At home alone--and for reasons that I don't even remember very clearly--I was going to drink. I had to drink! Forget the meetings, the sponsor, everything I had learned and loved in AA. Damn the torpedoes, full steam ahead! That moment was at hand--when only a miracle was going to stop me! And, of course, I had already decided that miracles don't happen--to me.

There I stood, vanilla in hand, unscrewing the cap from the bottle. As I raised the bottle to my lips, a little blue banner across the label caught my eye: "Nonalcoholic." I threw the vanilla across the kitchen and screamed my frustration, but I didn't drink--there wasn't anything to drink!

Later that afternoon, when my wife returned, I told her about the experience, adding sheepishly that I made, not only a lousy drunk, but a lousy "slipper" as well. She had a thing or two to tell me, too. The first was that she had been careful to buy only nonalcoholic extracts for the first year of my sobriety, for fear that just that sort of thing would happen. Then she told me she had figured I was over that sort of thing, so she had gone back to the regular products. Now came the kicker! On her last shopping trip the week before, something made her switch back to the "safe" kind of vanilla. She couldn't explain it--just a feeling she had that it was better not to be a part of something I might not be able to handle.

Coincidence? Sure, that's a good word for it. But does "coincidence" have an interest in my sobriety--even when I don't? Even when my interest, such as it is, is feeble? What I don't know keeps me sober, too!

R. S. - Eugene, Oregon
September, 1979

Reprinted with permission from The Grapevine

Please remember to let us know if your group changes its schedule. To submit changes of any kind, please notify the EVI office. Thanks!

EVI Business Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2008



6:30 p.m.: Open with Serenity Prayer, Quorum determined to be present.

6:40 p.m.: Open positions and elections.

Open Positions: Member at Large (1 position), Newsletter Co-Chair, Treasurer Co-Chair

Nominations and Elections: Diverter Co-Chair: Myron nominated and elected. H&I Co-Chair: Kurt nominated but it was determined that H&I votes on positions at the committee meeting. EVI Steering Committee Member-At-Large: Ted nominated and elected. Outreach Co-Chair: Rebecca nominated and elected. Office Co-Coordinator: Lee nominated and elected.

Committee Reports:

Activities--Dawn. Bingo Karoke was a success. Jazz/Spaghetti dinner is next event.

Archives--Izaak. Written histories are needed, please take to groups, as well as old photos of AA in our area; also wishes to start Archives Committee.

Website--Teffany. All is well. Please e-mail flyers to her.

Meeting Guides--Thanks to the office for the great job keeping meeting-guides-sold records. One more month before another print run.

Newsletter--Tanya. It's nice to have the printer back again. An issue will focus on Public Information; if you have any experience, please forward to Tanya.

CPC&PI--Lyndee. This committee meets the fourth Tuesday of the month. Upcoming workshop May 10, 2008 at Friends Church on Bailey Hill at 2:00 p.m. and will cover "Speaking to non AA Groups."

Diverter--Jane. All shifts are covered. The 12 step lists needs updating. Contact Jane if you can help. Please do not submit a long distance number for the diverter.

Grapevine--Gus. No meeting last month. Ready to meet with treasurer for literature purchase.

H&I--(Annie) Brenda. Bridging the Gap @ Serenity Lane is suspended. SERBU needs volunteers; two years sobriety and must pass legal clearance.

Literature--Bill A. Thanks to the office volunteers for excellent record keeping/inventory skills.

Office Coordinator--Tricia. Committee meeting attendees, please pick up after holding your meeting at EVI. All is going well. Loves having books in stock and guides to sell. Does have a shortage of 12 step call volunteers. Please take to groups. (Six months sobriety requirement). Loves having a new printer. Office is well.

Speaker Meeting--Dot. Their business meeting is next Wednesday.

Treasurer--Angie. Report is attached. Prudent reserve is just over \$1,700. Has completed 2007 tax forms. Will mail 4-15-08. There is a 2005 tax issue. Add 1063 and 2142 for actual expenses on report.

Steering Committee--Tim. EVI's steering committee meeting was lightly attended. Will meet tonight after business meeting to address bookkeeper position. SC has also addressed the heating issue at EVI, we are trying to resolve the non-heat issue and being reimbursed accordingly. It was requested that we obtain another "Faithful 5'ers" board, and that is being worked on.

7:35 p.m.: Motion to close, seconded and passed.

Gratefully submitted in the spirit of service and love, Lisa J.

Edited by Newsletter Chair

EVI Office

(541) 342-4113

1259 Willamette Street

Eugene, OR 97401-3509

Monday-Friday 9:00 am -5:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Drop by for a visit!

EVI Web Site

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 the members of the Alcoholics Anonymous fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article, event or notice imply endorsement by either Alcoholics Anonymous or EVI. (Exceptions: Quotations from A.A. books or pamphlets, which are reprinted with permission of A.A. 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 E.V.I. News. Please include a contact phone number.

Submissions and comments may be sent by e-mail to:

EVINews@comcast.net

Contributions:

March 2008

Group Contributions (month/ytd)

6:45AM Stag 120.00/311.20
Attitude Adjustment 335.83/1,085.45
Autumn Group .00/50.00
Cottage Grove Gratitude .00/10.00
District 19 100.00/100.00
Downtown AM Group .00/688.26
Friday Night Stag 500.00/500.00
Get Well Group .00/60.00
How It Works .00/100.00
McKenzie River Group.00/35.00
Monday Mens Stag .00/59.80
Monday Noon Stag .00/170.52
New Freedom 50.00/250.00
One Day at a Time 120.00/120.00
SAG 75.00/75.00
Saturday Morning Steps .00/252.00
Serenity Seekers West .00/210.00
Sober Awakenings 300.00/300.00
Sober Chicks .00/20.00
Sobriety For Life .00/150.00
Springfield Men's Stag .00/45.00
Sunday Morn Big Book 150.00/515.00
Sunday Night Wm's StpStd .00/63.87
Thurs Men's Book Study .00/52.66
Thurs PM Rush Hour .00/60.00
Try God Group 490.00/1,820.00
Unknown .00/19.00
Veneta Gratitude Group 84.00/84.00
Wednesday Beginners 30.00/30.00
Wednesday Nt Mens Stg .00/312.00

Total Group Contributions:

2,374.83/7,548.76

Individual Contributions (month/ytd)

Anonymous: .00/3.50
Faithful Fivers: 95.00/145.20
Other: 25.35/84.85

Total Individual Contributions

120.35/613.23

Total Contributions (ytd): 8,282.34

A.A. Discussed on "We, the People" Program

Excerpt from We The People radio program on Sunday, May 4, in which Marty M. explained Alcoholics Anonymous and the work of the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism.

BOULTON (Master of Ceremonies): The story of the young lady who is beside me now at our microphone, can be told in just seven words. I want her to repeat those seven words for you.

MARTY: For ten years, I was an alcoholic.

B: That's a shocking statement, isn't it? And what courage it must take to make such an admission. But it's just that sort of courage that has made this young lady who is our guest on We The People tonight one of the leaders in the fight against alcoholism. She is a member of Alcoholics Anonymous and executive director of the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism. Welcome to We The People.

M: Thank you, Mr. Boulton. The name Alcoholics Anonymous speaks for itself. We are a group of alcoholics who have anonymously banded together to help ourselves and each other get well. We have preferred to remain anonymous for obvious reasons. But--as director of the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism, I am glad to use my name. The purpose of the National Committee is to teach people the truth about alcoholism--that this is a disease--and alcoholics are sick people. By using my name and telling my story, I believe I can further that truth. My name is Mrs. Marty Mann, and I live here in New York City.

B: Mrs. Mann, it seems incredible that a young and beautiful woman like you should have once been an alcoholic.

M: Mr. Boulton, I still am an alcoholic.

B: But--I thought you'd been cured.

M: Oh, no. You must realize that alcoholism is a disease--a disease which today is as prevalent as tuberculosis or cancer. My illness has been arrested, and I think and hope it will stay that way, but people like me can never safely touch alcohol again, so we can never say we're cured.

B: Mrs. Mann, before you continue your story, I want to tell our listeners why we invited you to be our guest tonight. Alcoholism is mounting at an astounding rate in this country. Reliable sources have informed us that there are an estimated three million alcoholics, and that one in every six are women. We The People feel that the hush-hush policy that has always surrounded this subject will no longer work in the face of such figures, and that by bringing it out into the open we may contribute one step toward combatting the problem.

M: Mr. Boulton, I'm so glad you said that, because that's the reason I consented to come on this program tonight. I don't enjoy airing my personal life, but perhaps others may profit by my counsel.

B: Mrs. Mann, will you tell us now how or why it was you started to drink to excess?

M: First let me tell you a little bit about my background. I was born in Chicago, and my family had a good deal of money. I had everything a girl could ask for. I went to a boarding school, finished abroad, and had the usual coming-out party when I returned. I was young and happy and gay and thought it was fun to drink.

B: How old were you then?

M: Eighteen. If that seems young to you--remember that was in the 20's, and that was the era when decent young men thought it was smart to carry hip flasks. I didn't know then--in fact I didn't find out until seven years ago--that I'm one of those people who should never have tasted liquor. I thought I could drink in moderation. I thought I could stop any time I wanted to.

Calendar

- 1st Mon Steering Committee, 6:30 PM
Tue District 20, 6:30 PM, 418 A St. Richard T.
Tues District 33, 6:30 PM, Lauri S.
Wed District 19, 5:30 PM, Brenda K.
Thur Speaker Mtg. Committee, 7:00 PM, Vicki
Sun Activities Committee, 6:00 PM, Sylvia
2nd Mon EVI Business Meeting, 6:30 PM
Wed District 6, 6:30 PM, Rhonda 556-4613
Sat Answering/Diverter, 10:00 AM, David W.
3rd Thur Outreach Committee, 6:30 PM
Last Thurs Grapevine Committee, 5:30 PM
Last Wed H&I Committee, 6:00 PM
(All meetings are held at the EVI Office, unless otherwise noted.)

Fellowship Events

Oregon Area Quarterly Assembly - Hosted by District 21

May 16th-18th, Linn County Fairgrounds - Albany, OR
Advance registration advised
Contact: registration@millerdm.com or Ray R.

AA Founders Day - Celebrate the birthday of our fellowship

June 7th 11:30 am - 4:00 pm
AA history, workshops, speaker meeting, potluck BBQ
Washington Park at 2025 Washington St., Eugene
Contact Eric, Dawn, Rhonda

ORCYPAA Campout 2008 - Cottage Grove

(Oregon Conference of Young People in AA)
June 20-22nd - \$20 early registratoion, \$25 late.
Shwartz Park, 34909 Shoreview Dr., Cottage Grove
Contact Leah M.

EVI Presents: Independence Day 2007 Picnic - BBQ - Potluck

July 4th - 3:00-7:00 pm - Fun & Games with Family
Emerald Park Shelter #2 - 1400 Lake Dr., Eugene
Hamburgers, hotdogs, and refreshments provided
Volleyball, Croquet, Children's games, Raffle

Gratitude:

Currently Available Service Positions:

Hospitals and Institutions has an open co-chair position, CTF co-chair, as well as an ongoing and varied need for AA volunteers to bring meetings into facilities as well as people to serve on the H&I committee. See page 4 for contact information for various facilities and committee members, as well as to see which positions are open in the H&I committee.

Public Information needs people for various volunteer functions.

The EVI Office can use people to answer phones and perform office functions. Contact Tricia.

The Activities Committee needs volunteers to help plan and staff events. There is no minimum sobriety requirement, and the time commitment is flexible. Contact Dawn.

Bookkeeper, CTF Co-Chair, H&I Co-Chair, Outreach Co-Chair, and Newsletter Co-Chair, Archivist Co-Chair, Office Co-Chair, Treasurer Co-Chair positions are open, please attend the next EVI business meeting if you are interested.

Addresses for Group Contributions

Contributions for Districts 6, 19, 20, and 33 may also be sent to the below address. Please indicate the district on the envelope.

Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, OR 97401-3509

Oregon Area 58 Treasury
1900 NE 3rd Street, Suite 106-172
Bend, OR 97701

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

People:



Following is a list of all EVI positions. For chair and co-chair contact information, please call the EVI office: (541) 342-4113

ACTIVITIES

ANSWERING SERVICE

ARCHIVIST

BOOKKEEPER

COOP. PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

DIVERTER COORDINATOR

E.V.I. COMMUNICATIONS

Meeting Guides

Newsletter

Website

E.V.I. OFFICE MANAGER

E.V.I. SPEAKER MEETING

E.V.I. STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair

Co-Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

At-Large: 5 members

GRAPEVINE

HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS (H&I)

Corrections:

Lane County Jail (Women)

Lane County Jail (Men)

C.C.C.. Women

C.C.C. Men

Alma Work Camp

Pathways

Serbu Detention

Cooperation with Treatment Facilities

Carlton House

W.F.T.

Serenity Lane

Fri. Speaker

B.T.G.

S.N.L.

Hospitals

Johnson Unit

VA Reintegration Center

LITERATURE

OUTREACH

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Planning an AA event?

Get the word out more effectively by getting your flyer posted on the E VI website and in the newsletter. Email a copy of your flyer to eviwebmaster@q.com and evinews@comcast.net

AA History in the Emerald Valley

The EVI Archives Committee is seeking written histories and old photographs of AA in our area. Call the office or drop by if you have anything to share!

Do you have PI experience?

EVI News is seeking stories about experience in Public Information.

A.A. Discussed on “We, the People” Program

Continued from page 4

B: When did you discover that you couldn't stop?

M: A couple of years before I landed in a sanitarium. But those years in between were frightful and frightening. I had married an alcoholic. He should have been an example to me, but he wasn't. After our divorce I drank even more. Then my family suffered financial reverses, and I had to go to work. My drinking still seemed under control. Then I remember later telling myself I was drinking for business reasons. Still later it was to calm my nerves, for by then the liquor was beginning to affect my nervous system. I thought I was going crazy. I had to have a drink to make myself feel normal. I reached the melancholic stage and twice tried to commit suicide. I was a confirmed drunk--and didn't know it. It was then that my friends persuaded me to go to a sanitarium.

B: What treatment did they use there?

M: Psychiatric treatment and it helped a lot--but not enough. Then one day my doctor handed me a copy of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. I was furious with him. I was not an alcoholic! In a fit of temper I threw the book across the room. The book landed on the floor open. More angry than ever I went across the room to pick it up and my eyes lighted on the words, “We cannot live with anger.” The words were so apropos of my mood it startled me, and I began to read. As I read, the truth became apparent, and I admitted to myself for the first time--I was an alcoholic.

B: Well, then--I assume that *Alcoholics Anonymous* is responsible for your rehabilitation.

M: Indeed they are. They didn't lecture me, or look down on me, or make me sign a pledge. They did advise me to promise myself that I would not drink for 24 hours, and when the 24 hours were past, to make myself another promise. They taught me to live without alcohol. I slipped once or twice in the beginning, but today, because of their help, I'm well. We know the alcoholic can be helped and is worth helping. We feel this is a public health problem, and therefore a public responsibility. We want the public to realize drunks shouldn't be jailed, but sent to hospitals--because a drunk is as sick as a man with a mortal disease. But he can, with proper treatment, become a useful citizen. I am proof of that. And I am devoting all my energies to aid those who are afflicted with this dread disease.

Rule 62:



Short Takes

Liquor doesn't drown your troubles--it only irrigates them!

*March 1948**

"Take it easy, but TAKE it." *December 2006**

*June 1947**

Did you ever note how often a narrow mind and a wide mouth go together?

*April 1948**

New York -- Gerri Gale:

"Alcoholics Anonymous takes a drunk apart and finds out what makes him hic.

*June 1948**

Iowa -- FROM a member of the Beverly Hills, Calif., Group comes this tip; 'If you're not as close to God as you'd like to be--remember you are the one that moved.' "

*October 1948**

New Jersey -- A disgruntled AA is a man who has taken moral inventory of himself and got sore about it.

*December 1949**

It was W. C. Fields who said, "I drink to steady my nerves, and sometimes I get so steady I can hardly move."

June 1948

Criticism is something you can avoid by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.

*April 1950**

**Reprinted with permission from The Grapevine*



"I've been sober in AA for three months, and I feel so good, I'm worried!"

Reprinted with permission from The Grapevine

On Cultivating Tolerance

During nine years in A.A. I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal, not only maintain sobriety, but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well. One of these is tolerance. Tolerance expresses itself in a variety of ways: in kindness and consideration toward the man or woman who is just beginning the march along the spiritual path; in the understanding of those who perhaps have been less fortunate in educational advantages, and in sympathy toward those whose religious ideas may seem to be at great variance with our own. I am reminded in this connection of the picture of a hub with its radiating spokes. We all start at the outer circumference and approach our destination by one of many routes.

To say that one spoke is much better than all the other spokes is true only in the sense of its being best suited to you as an individual. Human nature is such that without some degree of tolerance, each one of us might be inclined to believe that we have found the best or perhaps the shortest spoke. Without some tolerance we might tend to become a bit smug or superior--which of course is not helpful to the person we are trying to help, and may be quite painful or obnoxious to others. No one of us wishes to do anything which might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another--and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.

Tolerance furnishes, as a by-product, a greater freedom from the tendency to cling to preconceived ideas and stubbornly adhered-to opinions. In other words it often promotes an open-mindedness which is vastly important--in fact a prerequisite to the successful termination of any line of search, whether it be scientific or spiritual.

These, then, are a few of the reasons why an attempt to acquire tolerance should be made by each one of us.

Dr. Bob of Akron - July 1944

Reprinted with permission from The Grapevine

GET THE NEWS!

Faithful Fiver Pledge:

Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

I pledge \$5 per month to support EVI and service work in my community.

Name:

I'm feeling grateful. I can send _____ per month.

Address:

I will mail or drop off my contribution monthly.

When you acknowledge my contribution, please list me as (first name, initial or nickname):

I will mail or drop off my contribution quarterly (\$15 each).

I will mail or drop off my contribution once a year (\$60)

Receipt

“Faithful Fivers” are individuals who donate \$5 or more per month to help support Intergroup. A Faithful Fiver pledge is recognized by a mailed subscription to the EVI Newsletter. We will post your nickname on a board in the EVI office. We don't remind you or otherwise keep track of your contributions, and we will send the Newsletter whether or not you remember to send in your pledge. You may contribute monthly, quarterly or yearly. If you check the “Receipt” box, we will send you a receipt at the end of the year. If you would like to save EVI postage, write “No news” next to your address, and pick up your copy of the Newsletter at a meeting or at the EVI office.



Stamp

Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401