

Strange Coincidence?

FOR the past few months our group discussions have seemed to skirt the edges of the Traditions rather consistently. We follow the usual pattern of rotating chairman and yet without pre-arrangement seem to have stuck pretty close to matters covered by the suggested Traditions. For examples, the question of breaking anonymity, the matter of soliciting financial aid, the requirements for membership; all these and several others have been raised.

One of our meetings was devoted entirely to a review of the Traditions as suggested in the available pamphlet. Each member regardless of experience in AA was asked to read and comment on one or two with particular reference to the purpose and general validity from his own personal interpretation. Naturally, time of one meeting limited the discussion to a more or less general review but as a supplement to the previous meetings it served to consolidate the thoughts and impressions that had been forming.

The important thing to my mind was the agreement all seemed to reach as a result of the various discussions. Starting with many divergent and often contrary opinions, we seemed invariably to arrive at conclusions that were in accord essentially and that could be accepted both voluntarily and rationally. By some strange coincidence these resulting conclusions were in remarkable agreement with the suggested Traditions.

The value and importance to my mind, however, rises from the fact that we can now also regard these opinions as our own, having been arrived at independently and after a free and open discussion. At the time these various matters were under discussion there was little or no reference to the Traditions and no attempt to consciously guide the talk in accordance with them.

One meeting in particular may explain what I am trying to say. Several newspaper and magazine articles relating personal stories of comebacks by members of AA were read and heartily approved by me and I am sure by several others. They were all tremendously moving recitals and looked to me like the best kind of publicity. My immediate response was to wonder how any practicing alcoholic could read and not rush to the nearest office. I wondered if I would ever have enough courage to permit my name to be used for such a worthy purpose.

It is still my opinion that those recitals were prompted by the highest motives with the hope of instilling a desire for the Program in the hearts of alcoholic non-members and as an expression of gratitude for restoration to sanity. Easy enough to understand, because even at this early stage I am subject to recurring fits of evangelism and an urge to dash out and inject this way of life into the veins of every passerby, alcoholic or just plain confused.

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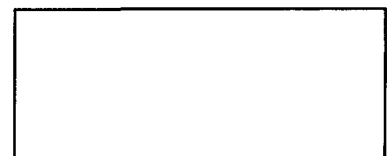


E.V.I. News

October 2008

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AA Meetings:

Change:

Name change only:

Beginner's Workshop
changed to

Beginer's Meeting

Wed 6 - 6:45 pm
3459 W. 18th Ave.
(Friends Church)
Eugene 97402

Cancel:

11th Step Meeting

Tues & Thurs 7 - 8 am
4th and A St.
First Christian Church
Springfield, OR 97477

Humor Us?

"I haven't touched a drop of alcohol since the invention of the funnel." - *Malachy McCourt*

"One reason I don't drink is that I want to know when I am having a good time." - *Nancy, Lady Aster (1879-1964)*

"I feel sorry for people who don't drink, because when they get up in the morning, they're not going to feel any better all day." - *Frank Sinatra*

"A drinker has a hole under his nose that all his money runs into." - *Thomas Fuller (1608-1661)*

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

**Work is
Love
Made Visible**

Kahlil Gibran

EVI BUSINESS MEETING
September 8, 2008



6:30 p.m. Open meeting with Serenity Prayer

Announcements:

1. EVI Website has an informational flyer entitled "How the Business Meeting is Conducted."
2. EASYPAA 3rd Annual Scavenger Hunt, Sept. 13, 2008, 1-4 p.m. at Monroe Park, 8th and Monroe. (Flyers available and attached)
3. The annual Barton Barbecue is Saturday, September 13, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at 1487 Goodpasture Island Rd., Eugene.
4. New Meeting Guides are in the house! They are Duck yellow and green.

Nominations and Elections for Open Positions:

1. Outreach Co-Chair: Position described and announced by Rebecca.
2. CPC/PI Co-Chair: This committee is Cooperation with Professional Community and Public Information. They participate at the Eugene Celebration, and give presentations to organizations such as the Relief Nursery and local schools. They also prepare and maintain the information packets for the medical profession in our community. They meet once per month.

It was also noted that the following Chair positions have upcoming elections in October: Activities, Literature, Newsletter, Meeting Guides, Website and Outreach.

Additionally, if any of these current committee chairs have served less than six months, would they kindly consider continuing on up to and including the next election?

Old Business:

1. **Finance Advisory Board:** The EVI Finance Advisory Board was formed and, pursuant to the By-Laws, consists of Angie (Treasurer Chair, Appointed), Chuck (Treasurer Co-Chair, Appointed) and Frank (Member at Large, Elected). Ric, our Bookkeeper, is an ex-officio member. They will make a recommendation(s) regarding the excess prudent reserve and amending the By-Laws to specifically address such an issue.

NOTE: There were approximately 13 specific suggestions from members and EVI reps as to how the excess should be spent. (In the event you wish to see these specific ideas, it is respectfully requested that you contact the Recording Secretary [Lisa] who will gladly provide you with a copy of her handwritten notes.)

NOTE: Frank advised that the "excess" is "credit" on the heating bill we did not have to pay. That is what specifically created the "excess." (See previous Steering Committee minutes)

As of August 21, 2008, the "excess prudent reserve" is approximately \$584.

New Business: None.

Committee Reports:

1. Activities (Dawn/Sandra) Java Jive is September 27, 2008 at Agate Hall at 7:00 p.m. Looking for talents as well as an MC. Contact Sandra at _____ or Brian at _____
2. Archivist (Izaak) (Absent)
3. Communications: _____

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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
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.

Contributions:

Contributions	Sept 2008	Month	YTD
GROUP			
6:45 AM Stag	0.00	/	455.20
ABC Group	0.00	/	100.40
As Bill Sees It	20.00	/	20.00
Attitude Adjustment	206.00	/	3137.54
Autumn	0.00	/	150.00
Cottage Grove Gratitude	30.00	/	80.00
District 19	0.00	/	100.00
Downtown AM	215.00	/	1909.16
EASYPAA	30.00	/	130.00
First Dexter	0.00	/	0.16
Freedom of Choice	80.00	/	348.00
Friday Night Stag	0.00	/	500.00
Get Well	100.00	/	360.00
Great Fact	0.00	/	70.00
How It Works	0.00	/	1000.00
Last Chance Study	0.00	/	145.00
McKenzie River	0.00	/	35.00
Monday Mens Stag	0.00	/	59.80
Monday Noon Stag	0.00	/	170.52
Monday Womens Study	44.25	/	44.25
New Freedom	50.00	/	550.00
New Freedom 2	0.00	/	50.00
No Name	0.00	/	26.00
One Day at a Time	0.00	/	120.00
Other	0.00	/	40.50
Pass It On	0.00	/	76.00
Physical Awakenings	0.00	/	100.00
Rush Hour Group	0.00	/	150.00
SAG	15.00	/	135.00
Saturday 11th Step	0.00	/	30.60
Saturday Morning Steps	165.00	/	759.00
Sat Night Women's Step	0.00	/	63.87
Serenity Lane	0.00	/	15.00
Serenity Seekers West	0.00	/	360.00
Sober Awakenings	0.00	/	600.00
Sober Chicks	0.00	/	20.00
Sobriety for Life	0.00	/	150.00
Springfield Men's Stag	0.00	/	65.00
Stairway to Sobriety	0.00	/	125.00
Sunday Book Study Group	0.00	/	665.00
Sun AM Big Book Study	0.00	/	150.00
Sunday Morning Sunshine	0.00	/	175.00
Sunday Night Wm's Step	116.43	/	394.02
Thurs Men's Book Stdy	0.00	/	52.66
Thurs PM Rush Hour	0.00	/	60.00
Try God	700.00	/	3220.00
Unknown	100.00	/	239.20
Veneta Gratitude	0.00	/	204.00
Voyagers	0.00	/	50.00
Wednesday Beginners	0.00	/	60.00
Wednesday Men's Noon	0.00	/	150.00
Wed Night Mens Stag	0.00	/	509.20
Womens Courage to Change	0.00	/	270.00
Young Peoples Book Study	0.00	/	37.50
Total Group Contrib:	1871.68	/	18487.58
Unknown	0.00	/	53.50
Faithful Fivers	40.00	/	1280.65
Other	12.45	/	216.74
Total Individual Contrib:	52.45	/	1550.89
Total Contrib:	1924.13	/	20038.47



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 3rd 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)

- 1st** 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.
Thur Speaker Meeting 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
Sat Answering/Diverter, 10:00 am, David W
- 3rd** Thur Outreach Committee, 6:30 pm
- 2nd to last Sun** Literature committee 1pm to 5
- Last Wed** H&I Committee, 6:00 pm
Last Thur Grapevine Committee, 5:30 pm

Several **Service Positions** are currently available with **Hospitals & Institutions and Outreach.**

Activities needs volunteers to help plan and staff events. No minimum sobriety requirement. Time commitment is flexible. Contact Dawn

CPC/PI (Cooperation with Professional Community/ Public Information) needs volunteers for various functions.

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

Fellowship Events

EASYPAA Logo Contest "On the Water Wagon"
(runs through Nov. 1, winner chosen Nov. 9)
Mail entry to willsr11@gmail.com or
Call Bill H. at
(Prize is a Hoodie with logo.)

Sobriety Under the Sun
7th annual English Speaking AA Convention
Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico
January 23, 24 & 25, 2009

See fliers at the EVI office. (Registration deadline is 12/30/08.)

Faithful Fivers: As you may have noticed, the Faithful 5'er Board did not go back up after the office makeover as we are going to present it a bit differently. We want you to know that you may still donate towards running the EVI office – you just won't see your name "up in lights". If you have any ideas on how to acknowledge the donations, please write them down and leave in the

People:

(continued from page 3)

ACTIVITIES

Dawn Sandra E Brian

ANSWERING SERVICE

Mike B

ARCHIVIST

Izaak

BOOKKEEPER

Ric H

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

DIVERTER COORDINATOR

Jane W

EVI COMMUNICATIONS

Meeting Guides: Ric H Daniel

Newsletter: Sally B Angela M

Website: Teffany Alan U

EVI OFFICE MANAGER

Tricia S Elisabeth

EVI SPEAKER MEETING

Gary, Gene

EVI STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair: Tim A

Co-Chair: Wes H

Secretary: Lisa

Treasurer: Angie Chuck

At-Large: Frank K

At-Large: Kurt J

At-Large: Lee

At-Large: Ted

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 Co is open

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

C.C.C. (Men): Bob S Co is open

Alma Work Camp: Lee H Co is open

Pathways: Joe N Co is open

Serbu Detention: Jack Co is open

Cooperation w/Treatment Facilities: Jeff C Co is open

Carlton House: Mark Z Co is open

W.F.T.: Jacquie C Johanna

Serenity Lane:

Fri. Speaker: Richard Co is open

B.T.G.: Tim a Co is open

S.N.L.: Greg D Co is open

Shelter Care: Hank Angela D

Hospitals: Both positions open

Johnson Unit: Jill David L

VA Reintegration Cntr: Both positions open

LITERATURE

Bill A Diana

OUTREACH

Rebecca Co is open

a) Website (Teffany): Thanked us for allowing her to be of service and introduced the Website's new chair, Alan. Website is well.

b) Meeting Guides (Ric) New order of 2,200 guides has new binding.

c) Newsletter (Sally) September issue will be out in one week.

4. CPC/PI (Lyndee) Went to Portland last weekend for Portland and District CPC/PI. Took lots of notes, exchanged ideas and information. Eugene Celebration is September 12th & 13th and they have a booth there.

5. Diverter (Jane) The phones are being answered!

6. Grapevine (Gus) Grapevine display is up at EVI. Their committee meets last Thursday of the month. Gus is preparing an article for newsletter re Grapevine's role and history. For time being, they're holding off on display board to present to groups.

7. H&I (Angie for Brenda). Positions almost filled. CCC is on hold. Need SERBY volunteers.

8. Literature (Bill A.) (Absent) However, noted that charge slips are still being issued—these need to go to Bill directly.

9. Office Coordinator (Tricia) (Absent)

10. Outreach (Rebecca) Needs Co-Chair. She is just starting this position and open to suggestions. Her committee meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
11. Speaker Meeting (Dot) Cruising along! Have arranged for speakers for rest of the year. New surprises for next year!

12. Treasurer (Angie) (Report Attached). At the end of August we are 67% through the year. Ahead of budget in overall contributions. August contributions quite low, perhaps due to summer months' activities. Prudent reserve remains over the 2008 amount; however, less than last month's total due to large meeting book order and lower-than-average August contributions.

13. Steering Committee (Wes for Tim): Addressed the prudent reserve issue by forming a Finance Advisory committee, pursuant to the By-Laws. A big THANK YOU to office volunteers and all the recent work they have performed "spiffing up" our office.

7:48 p.m. Meeting closed with the Responsibility Declaration.

(continued from page 1)

As a newer member, this was just the stuff I wanted and the more the better. From a personal viewpoint it was probably simple to identify myself with the subject and to enjoy a little of the reflected credit which I had done nothing to earn. Now my mind suggested, let anyone alcoholic or otherwise question your sincerity and genuine repentance. These clippings should convince anyone that before long they will have been proud to know you.

At this point an old familiar acquaintance began to shove his face in the way. The expression was not complimentary nor did there seem to be much admiration for the new act I was going into. It wasn't hard to recognize him after giving up the attempt to ignore him. It was yours truly on a binge or suffering the remorse after one or at almost any time during my drinking days and before AA.

That character conceded sincerity to no one and would have immediately rejected or denied any such nonsense as a spiritual awakening or an unselfish desire to aid others even though with a selfish reason. The things that now were of tremendous help in approaching the Program were the very things that would have caused me to leap into the next county. That familiar character would have immediately concluded that I had lost my ability to take it (if I ever had it) and now wanted to take the fun out of life for everyone else and as a final and conclusive argument would have advanced the proposition that I go beat my drum elsewhere and leave the men alone.

It was then that the meaning of the suggested Fifth Tradition began to appear. That our primary purpose in order to survive must be to carry the message to other alcoholics and that the most important AA is the one who has yet to join. Speaking for myself I was suspicious as all get out when first approached and only the mystifying anonymous presentation by an utter stranger who apparently wanted nothing for himself kept me from automatic doubt and mistrust which could easily have led to more years of misery and increasing distress (I should live so long.) As it was I sort of thought he was a book salesman with a new approach.

In my case about the same process of thought and discussion seems to follow in connection with the other problems mentioned and any other ideas no matter how worthy the original motive. So far they just cannot stand up to open thought and discussion and are gladly discarded. Later it has been apparent that such ideas were opposed to one or more of the Traditions but it took the discussion to show how and why they were bad for me.

By discussing particular incidents and then relating them to the various Traditions in general it serves again and again to convince me of the basic soundness of the Program as it has evolved over the years and from the combined experience of the members as individuals and as groups. Gradually an additional block is being erected in my mind against thoughts or actions that may conflict with AA philosophy as partly expressed in the Traditions and which might otherwise lead to disaster. It is constantly being impressed on me they operate as a warning signal which cannot safely be ignored by me in view of the fact my original reactions and thoughts are often subject to change after discussion.

F.S.
Evanston, Illinois

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