

A Rosebud

A new minister was walking with an older, more seasoned minister in the garden one day. Feeling a bit insecure about what God had for him to do, he was asking the older preacher for some advice.

The older preacher walked up to a rosebush and handed the young preacher a rosebud and told him to open it without tearing off any petals.

The young preacher looked in disbelief at the older preacher and was trying to figure out what a rosebud could possibly have to do with his wanting to know the will of God for his life and ministry. But because of his great respect for the older preacher, he proceeded to try to unfold the rose, while keeping every petal intact.

It wasn't long before he realized how impossible this was to be.

Noting the younger preachers inability to unfold the rosebud without tearing it, the older preacher began to recite the following poem...

It is only a tiny rosebud,
A flower of God's design:
But I cannot unfold the petals
With these clumsy hands of mine.
The secret of unfolding flowers
is not known to such as I.
God opens this flower so easily,
But in my hands they die.
If I cannot unfold a rosebud, this flower of God's design,
then how can I have the wisdom
to unfold this life of mine.

continued on page 5

LIFELINE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

CENTRAL OFFICE OF SALT LAKE CITY, INC.

We welcome your correspondence and will publish your material, space permitting, if it meets editorial criteria. *Share your experience, strength and hope with another alcoholic.* For a free subscription or to submit articles, suggestions or contributions, contact Central Office of Salt Lake City:

CENTRAL OFFICE OF SALT LAKE CITY, INC.

80 West Louise Avenue

Salt Lake City, Utah 84115

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**CENTRAL OFFICE
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Central Office is to provide the basic services listed, to include, but not limited to:

- To carry the A.A. message and help those individuals who suffer from alcoholism;
- to maintain a 24-hour Twelve-Step phone service;
- to answer phone inquiries as needed;
- to compile, update and print meeting lists;
- to maintain A.A.-approved literature for sale to members and the public;
- and to print and distribute a newsletter.

Specifically excluded shall be the operation of any club, clubhouse or drying-out place, and acts in violation of the Twelve Traditions of A.A.

“ . . . Let them carry the experience and spirit of A.A. into all these affairs, for whatever good they may accomplish. For not only has God saved us from alcoholism; the world has recieved us back into its citizenship.”

Suiting up and Showing Up

**Groups Represented At the
Central Office Reps Meeting for:**

February 2008

10TH STEP GROUP
AN A.A. GROUP
A WAY OUT
12 O'CLOCK HIGH
SERENITY VIEW
DRAPER FIRESIDE
EYEOPENER

Our apologies. The sign-up sheet was held onto once again. Remember to 'pass it on' next time.

Is Your Group Represented?

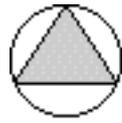
The next C.O. Reps Meeting is the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at Central Office, 80 West Louise Ave. (2860 South)

Please visit our website for meeting information.
www.saltlakeaa.org

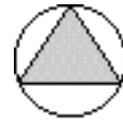
To reduce our costs, Central Office would like to update our mailing list for the **LIFELINE**. If you have moved please contact C.O. at 484-7871
Thank you.

“Let us never be a closed corporation; let us never deny our experience, for whatever it may be worth, to the world around us. Let our individual members heed the call to every field of human endeavor. . . .”

A.A. Comes of Age, pp. 232-233



Upcoming Events,



and Schedule Changes

March 7th; **Honoring Utah's Oldtimers**, Alano Club, 5056 South 300 West, Murray, UT.

March 20, 2009; **A Salt Lake Central Office FUN-raiser — Imagine** will be appearing for one night only at the Bonneville Junior High Auditorium. The address there is 5330 S. 1300 E., Salt Lake City. Tickets are available at Central Office (80 W. Louise Avenue), or through your Central Office representative.

August 7th — 9th; **Maple Grove Campout**, Maple Grove, UT.

August 23rd; Sunday afternoon in Murray Park at the **Central Office Picnic Pavilion#5**, Murray, UT.

Changes to the January, February and March 2009 Schedule

CANCELED MEETINGS:

AA at Best, was held at 5056 S. 300 W. on Thursdays at 7:00 pm.

Crescent Group, that was meeting at 11000 South 617 East at 7:00pm on Sunday .

The **Sunday Night Candlelight** at 5056 South 300 West on Sunday at 9:30 pm.

And at 616 East 11000 South we have a big frelling ? Courtesy of **Monday's Miracles** and the Central Office memo I get this information from. It's probably at the address given for the Crescent Group 11000 South 617 East and it was held at 7:30 pm.on Monday.

Tuesday night's **Alcoholics Only** closed meeting at 5056 South 300 West at 7:00 pm.

NEW MEETINGS:

Next to the Last Chance is a new group meeting on Saturdays in the Baptist Church in Clearfield (160 East 1700 South, Clearfield). 8:00pm, open.

Monday at the same church in Clearfield, the **Last Chance Nooners** meet at 12:00pm. for a closed meeting.

The **Newcomer Meeting** at 5056 S. 300 W., on Tuesday's, at 7:00 pm. An open meeting.

Also meeting on Tuesday, **All Are Welcome** meets in the recovery home located at 13059 South 3100 West at 8:00pm. An open meeting.

The **12th Stepping Mommas** are meeting in the church at 150 North 400 South in Bountiful at 8:00pm. Open.

The Secret

One day, one friend asked another, "How is it that you are always so happy? You have so much energy, and you never seem to get down."

With her eyes smiling, she said, "I know the Secret!" "What secret is that?" To which she replied, "I'll tell you all about it, but you have to promise to share the Secret with others."

"The Secret is this: I have learned there is little I can do in my life that will make me truly happy. I must depend on God to make me happy and to meet my needs. When a need arises in my life, I have to trust God to supply according to HIS riches. I have learned most of the time I don't need half of what I think I do. He has never let me down.

Since I learned that 'Secret', I am happy." The questioner's first thought was, "That's too simple!" But upon reflecting over her own life she recalled how she thought a bigger house would make her happy, but it didn't! She thought a better paying job would make her happy, but it hadn't. When did she realize her greatest happiness? Sitting on the floor with her grandchildren, playing games, eating pizza or reading a story, a simple gift from God.

Now you know it too! We can't depend on people to make us happy. Only GOD in His infinite wisdom can do that. Trust HIM! And now I pass the Secret on to you! So once you get it, what will you do?

YOU have to tell someone the Secret, too! That GOD in His wisdom will take care of YOU! But it's not really a secret... We just have to believe it and do it...

Really trust God!

AMEN!!

Just Pass It On!

Improve the quality of your sobriety and get out of yourself! Central Office needs volunteers for service work. We need people for 12-Step calls, stuffing envelopes, answering the telephone, et cetera. If you are interested contact Central Office at 484-7871.



1849

Swedish physician Magnus Huss, coined the word alcoholism in his writings titled *Alcoholismus Chronicus* (Chronic Alcoholism) and *Chronische Alkohols Krankheit* (Chronic Alcohol-Sickness) It took nearly a century for Dr Huss' new term, and the accompanying term alcoholic to achieve widespread usage in America (GB 167-168, SD xiv)



[A *Rosebud*, continued]

So I'll trust in God for leading
Each moment of my day.
I will look to God for guidance
in each step of the way.
The path that lies before me,
Only my God knows.
I'll trust in God to unfold the moments,
Just as he unfolds the rose.

THE MEETING THAT WASN'T THERE

When I got sober, the guy who 12th-Stepped me asked if I wanted to go to a meeting that night. I said, "sure," so he gave me a Directory. Since I didn't know how to read all the codes in the Directory, I accidentally went to a special interest group, but it was fine. They welcomed me, gave me a Newcomer chip, and even though I didn't identify with their special interest, I did identify as an alcoholic. It was a good experience. I started going to two or three meetings a day.

When I got six months, I went back to that meeting to thank them for welcoming me into A.A. They appreciated the gesture, and I appreciated them. It was great.

After another six months, I decided to visit this group again, so we could celebrate my first year of sobriety. When I got to the church where the meeting was held, nobody was around. The pastor happened to be changing light bulbs in the patio, so I asked him where the group was. He didn't know, they had disappeared two or three months before.

I decided to wait on the sidewalk outside the church, in case someone else showed up. We could go for coffee.

As I waited, just hanging around, something strange happened to me. Suddenly, everything I saw looked different. It all appeared hard, rock solid, and somehow set against me. When I say "everything," I mean everything: the buildings, trees, fences, streets, cars and the rest. Some people call alcoholism "a disease of perception." I sure had a change of perception then. The whole world exchanged its normal appearance for something impenetrable and ominous. Then after a period of time – I don't know how long – the world came back to its normal appearance. Things didn't look hard and set against me any more.

Yeah, I know it's weird. But a short time later I realized what this strange experience was all about. Here's the deal: there had been no meeting at that time and place. OK. One meeting had gone. However, my change of perception showed me what the world would be like if there were no meetings at all. It would be hard, impenetrable,

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and set against me. I got a glimpse of the world without A.A.

I hadn't really taken A.A. for granted before that evening, but I sure don't take it for granted now. A.A. hasn't been around very long. If I had been born fifty years earlier than I was, I might not have encountered the Program. Also, there are places in the world where there is still no A.A. even today. For example, John Barleycorn is very much alive and well in the mountains of northern Luzon in the Phillipines.

I'm grateful for that evening's strange change of perception. It was weird, but it was a gift. I remember it vividly, and I don't ever take A.A. for granted.

From my newsletter in-box.

ANNOUNCEMENT # 1

Looking for people to participate in an upcoming A.A. corrections workshop. If you have carried or received the A.A. message behind the walls and would like to share your experience strength and hope with others.

Please contact John Y. at 801-467-5775
Corrections Chair District 2

ANNOUNCEMENT #2

WOMEN TO HELP WOMEN

Contacts are needed to help other women. Bridge the gap.

Members of A.A. are leaving prison and going to halfway houses before going home. Temporary sponsors are badly needed to help these folk re-settling in the Salt Lake Valley.

To help, or for more information, Contact
Sara (District 2 BTG Coordinator) at 801-414-6285

**AFTER-HOURS AA SLC CENTRAL OFFICE
PHONE VOLUNTEER CALENDAR**

*If you would like to help us out by filling in one of the open times,
please call or email our Vol. Phone Coordinator Bill J. @ 801.604.0511
or billj5403@yahoo.com!*

March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 12pm Bill J. 12pm – 6pm An AA Group 6pm – 9pm 974 Group 9pm – 11pm Dave W. 11pm – 12am Randy</p>	<p>2 12am – 930am Deanna 530p – 1030p No Nonsense 11pm – 12am Jeff R.</p>	<p>3 12am – 930am Jeff R. 530p – 10p 10th Step Grp 10pm – 12am Vivian</p>	<p>4 12am – 930am Allison W. 530p – 7pm Afternooners 7pm – 12am Todd K.</p>	<p>5 12am – 7am Todd K. <u>7am – 930am OPEN</u> <u>530pm – 12am OPEN</u></p>	<p>6 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> <u>7am – 930am OPEN</u> <u>6pm – 12am OPEN</u></p>	<p>7 12am – 10am Troy J. 2pm – 6pm Andrea <u>6pm – 12am OPEN</u></p>
<p>8 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 12pm Bill J. 12pm – 6pm An AA Group 6pm – 11pm Chris M. 11pm – 12am Randy</p>	<p>9 12am – 930am Deanna 530p – 1030p No Nonsense 11pm – 12am Jeff R.</p>	<p>10 12am – 930am Jeff R. 530p – 10p 10th Step Grp 10pm – 12am Vivian</p>	<p>11 12am – 930am Allison W. 530p – 7pm Afternooners 7pm – 12am Todd K.</p>	<p>12 12am – 7am Todd K. <u>530pm – 630pm OPEN</u> 630pm – 10pm Hillcrest <u>10pm – 12am OPEN</u></p>	<p>13 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 930am Andrea <u>530pm – 630pm OPEN</u> 630pm – 12am Basic Y.P.</p>	<p>14 12am – 10am Troy J. <u>2pm – 3pm OPEN</u> 3pm – 7pm Its In The Book <u>7pm – 12am OPEN</u></p>
<p>15 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 12pm Bill J. 12pm – 6pm An AA Group 6pm – 8pm Chris M. 8pm – 11pm Dave W. 11pm – 12am Randy</p>	<p>16 12am – 930am Deanna 530p – 1030p No Nonsense 11pm – 12am Jeff R.</p>	<p>17 12am – 930am Jeff R. 530p – 10p 10th Step Grp 10pm – 12am Vivian</p>	<p>18 12am – 930am Allison W. 530p – 7pm Afternooners 7pm – 12am Todd K.</p>	<p>19 12am – 7am Todd K. <u>7am – 930am OPEN</u> <u>530pm - 12am OPEN</u></p>	<p>20 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 930am Andrea <u>530pm – 630pm OPEN</u> 630pm – 12am Non Smoking Sobriety Hour</p>	<p>21 12am – 10am Troy J. 2pm – 7pm Unity Lunch B 7pm – 12am Magna Friendly Bunch</p>
<p>22 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 12pm Bill J. 12pm – 6pm An AA Group 6pm – 8pm Chris M. 8pm – 11pm Dave W. 11pm – 12am Randy</p>	<p>23 12am – 930am Deanna 530p – 1030p No Nonsense 11pm – 12am Jeff R.</p>	<p>24 12am – 930am Jeff R. 530p – 10p 10th Step Grp 10pm – 12am Vivian</p>	<p>25 12am – 930am Allison W. 530p – 7pm Afternooners 7pm – 12am Todd K.</p>	<p>26 12am – 7am Todd K. <u>7am – 930am OPEN</u> 530pm – 12am Dave S.</p>	<p>27 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 930am Andrea 530pm – 10pm Honey's Breakfast Bunch 10pm – 12am Troy J.</p>	<p>28 12am – 10am Troy J. 2pm – 6pm Billy S. 6pm – 10pm Grapevine <u>10pm – 12am OPEN</u></p>
<p>29 <u>12am – 7am OPEN</u> 7am – 12pm Bill J. 12pm – 6pm An AA Group 6pm – 8pm Chris M. 8pm – 11pm Dave W. 11pm – 12am Randy</p>	<p>30 12am – 930am Deanna 530p – 1030p No Nonsense 11pm – 12am Jeff R.</p>	<p>31 12am – 930am Jeff R. 530p – 10p 10th Step Grp 10pm – 12am Vivian</p>			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>CENTRAL OFFICE REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS MON – FRI 930AM – 530PM SATURDAY 10AM – 2PM</p> </div>	