

# LIFELINE

Salt Lake City Central Office Newsletter

---

November 2010

## *Sought through Prayer and Meditation . . .*

One day I while I was in the Navy, I decided to meditate. I found a secluded office and brought my meditation equipment, a candle and a bottle of Scotch. When I got no further than lighting the candle and drinking the booze I thought it must be because I was still smoking and cursing too much. When I began to practice this Step in my early years of sobriety I didn't get much deeper. Mostly because of my intent. I still wanted magic, powers to separate me from all of you lesser beings. I thought meditation would release some unused abilities. I can say after over a long period of time that when I sit on my cushion and following my breath I quiet my mind with the INTENT to listen rather than give my opinion to my Higher Power. It is then that something changes in me. It is usually un-dramatic, and if I can use this word, I am gently tweaked.

Bill Wilson and his wife Lois would have a "quiet time" with their morning coffee. This they got from the "Oxford Groups" to whom we owe so much. They were taught to use the phrase from Psalms "Be still and know that I Am God" (Ps 46). I have started many 11<sup>th</sup>. Step Meetings and listened to the experiences members have had during meditations and they blow me away. This has not been my expe-

rience, mine has been tiny insights into my condition and an over whelming knowing that I am loved and that my purpose is to extend that love.

Prayer is not far from this experience. For most of my sobriety I have asked my Higher Power for things, mostly good things but things never the less. I know what the Step says, ". . . asking only for His Will and the power to carry that out." But I wasn't there yet. I was afraid and I wasn't sure He had all the information He needed to get it right. I don't easily trust and it took me a long time to trust God. Just within the last five years I have started to not ask my Higher Power to come down into my drama but to lift me into His Grace instead. I pray today in a state of "no thought" trusting that my God hears my soul's fear and doubt, its love and hope. I am a finite being reaching for an Infinite Being we are on two levels of reality, yet I know that I am loved. I know that because I have seen the results of His Love. I have sponsored men whose lives were shattered beyond hope and yet they were healed. I have been a part of miracles and all I can say is it has been an interesting adventure.

## 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  
[manager@saltlakeaa.org](mailto:manager@saltlakeaa.org)

### Central Office Board of Trustees

Chair  
Co-Chair  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Trustee at Large  
Trustee at Large  
Trustee at Large  
Alternate Trustee at Large

Nick R.  
David H.  
Nancy R.  
Hank W.  
Ben B.  
Kent S.  
Rob J.  
Keely M.

### Central Office Staff & Volunteers

Central Office Manager  
Administrative Assistant  
Employee  
LifeLine Editor  
Telephone Coordinator

Ron K.  
Tonuah N.  
Sandy A.  
Doug R.  
Rob J.

### 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 list; 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.

## Groups Represented at the October 2010 Central Office Representatives Meeting

5:15 Happy Hour  
Bog Irish  
Caring and Sharing  
City at Seven  
Fly N High  
Hillcrest Group  
Lakepoint Layover  
Living Sober Provo (Visitor)  
New Life  
New Way  
No Rules  
Nomatic Lunch Bunch  
Off The Cuff  
Salt Lake Group  
Stepping Stones  
Surgarhouse Mens Meeting  
Up Group  
Valley View  
Vision For You  
We Are One  
We Care  
Whippersnappers

## 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Contribution Addresses

AA World Services  
Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

Area 69 Treasurer  
PO Box 40  
Washington, UT 84780-0040

District 10 Treasurer  
PO Box 57271  
Murray, UT 84157

Central Office of Salt Lake City  
80 West Louise Ave.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

District 2 Treasurer  
PO 615  
Salt Lake City, UT 84110

District 11 Treasurer  
1065 North 400 West  
Bountiful, UT 84140

Please observe a moment of silence  
In Loving Memory of our friend who recently passed on

Tony L.  
1967 ~ 2010

## Congrats to our birthdays It works, it really does!

### No Nonsense

|             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| Kim         | 30 Days  |
| Krista      | 30 Days  |
| Brock       | 90 Days  |
| Terry       | 90 Days  |
| Bartholomew | 9 Months |
| Lucy        | 4 Years  |
| Ben B.      | 7 Years  |
| Pamela S.   | 21 Years |
| Marcell     | 31 Years |

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Rico      | 30 Days  |
| Rachelle  | 30 Days  |
| Dallin    | 60 Days  |
| Mike      | 60 Days  |
| Brandi    | 60 Days  |
| Danielle  | 60 Days  |
| Justin    | 90 Days  |
| Patti     | 90 Days  |
| Shawn     | 90 Days  |
| Ryan      | 90 Days  |
| Stephanie | 6 Months |
| September | 6 Months |
| Deanna    | 2 Years  |
| Felipe    | 4 Years  |
| Dave      | 7 Years  |
| Kim       | 27 Years |
| Richard   | 33 Years |

|         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| Michael | 1 Year    |
| Kevin   | 18 Months |
| Matt    | 2 Years   |
| Jaunita | 5 Years   |
| Lisa    | 8 Years   |

### Fresh Start Newcomers

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Bryce   | 30 Days  |
| Gary    | 30 Days  |
| Amanda  | 60 Days  |
| Mike    | 90 Days  |
| Dave D. | 21 Years |

### Living in Sobriety

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Chris   | 30 Days  |
| Marsh   | 30 Days  |
| Cory    | 30 Days  |
| Brandi  | 60 Days  |
| Angela  | 60 Days  |
| Mike    | 60 Days  |
| Chelsie | 90 Days  |
| Steve   | 90 Days  |
| Cameron | 9Months  |
| Dee     | 2 Years  |
| Skip    | 2 Years  |
| Fliepe  | 4 Years  |
| Tony    | 16 Years |

### Nomadic Lunch

|            |          |
|------------|----------|
| Courtney   | 30 Days  |
| Jeff       | 6 Months |
| Stephen L. | 13 Years |

### City @ Seven

|        |          |
|--------|----------|
| Philip | 30 Days  |
| Lance  | 60 Days  |
| Joe    | 60 Days  |
| Peter  | 60 Days  |
| Rich   | 90 Days  |
| John   | 6 Months |
| Jess   | 9 Months |

### Speak Easy Ladies

|         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| Pat     | 1 Year    |
| Emma    | 1 Year    |
| Carrie  | 18 Months |
| Heidi   | 18 Months |
| Monique | 2 Years   |
| Sheila  | 5 Years   |
| Susan   | 5 Years   |
| Polly   | 20 Years  |
| Julie   | 20 Years  |
| Heather | 23 Years  |

### Sharing & Caring

|       |         |
|-------|---------|
| Carla | 30 Days |
| Gary  | 30 Days |
| Bryan | 30 Days |

### Came to Believe

|         |         |
|---------|---------|
| Kris S. | 60 Days |
| Jeannie | 90 Days |

## Have you heard?

As you can imagine, GSO has received numerous inquiries concerning the original A.A. manuscript. Our Area 69 Repository Archivist was one of those who inquired.

Reply from the A.A.W.S. archivist: *"We have been aware of its existence and of its provenance for some time. I was present at the first auction at Sotheby's in 2004 when the manuscript was sold for 1.5 million dollars – the room was filled to capacity!"*

*"A.A.W.S. does not have any rights to the copyright of the manuscript and therefore, since it was published by an outside entity, we offer no further comments."*

*"Hazelden's publication is presumably a final draft, or 'printer's copy' that was used to publish the First Edition. This draft also holds its own inherent value as an original document."*

We have in our Area 69 archives an original manuscript that is available from the GSO Archives. It was the manuscript sent out for review to the early members and friends of A.A.

It holds its own inherent value as an original, there were at least two more editing's of this draft.

For our historical records the Area 69 archives has purchased and received the new publication from Hazelden, "The Book That Started It All" it will be on display in archival displays at the area.

Following is the article that was sent out over the web.

Treesa J. ~ Area 69 Archivist

---

## AA original manuscript reveals profound debate over religion

By Michelle B.

Washington Post Staff Writer

Wednesday, September 22, 2010; 10:59 AM

For millions of addicts around the world, Alcoholics Anonymous's basic text - informally known as the Big Book - is the Bible. And as they're about to find out, the Bible was edited.

After being hidden away for nearly 70 years and then auctioned twice, the original manuscript by AA co-founder Bill Wilson is about to become public for the first time next week\*, complete with edits by Wilson-picked commenters that reveal a profound debate in 1939 about how overtly to talk about God.

The group's decision to use "higher power" and "God of your understanding" instead of "God" or "Jesus Christ" and to adopt a more inclusive tone was enormously important in making the deeply spiritual text accessible to the non-religious and non-Christian, AA historians and treatment experts say.

The editors softened Step 7 of AA's renowned 12 Steps for example, by deleting a phrase that evoked church worship. "Humbly, on our knees, asked Him to remove our shortcomings - holding nothing back," became "Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings."

In the first chapter, a sentence that read "God has to work twenty-four hours a day in and through us, or we perish," was

edited to replace "God" with "faith," and a question was added: "Who are we to say what God has to do?"

In the years since the Big Book was first published, AA's 12-step program has been adopted by millions of people battling a wide range of addictions, from drugs to food to sex to e-mail. It has been embraced by the authorities in the Islamic republic of Iran and the former Soviet Union and retooled by groups ranging from Chabad (for Jews) to Rick Warren's Celebrate Recovery (for evangelical Christians).

"If it had been a Christian-based book, a religious book, it wouldn't have succeeded as it has," said Nick Motu, senior vice president of Hazelden Publishing, the world's largest purveyor of materials related to addiction. Hazelden is publishing the 4.5-pound, \$65 manuscript, titled "The Book That Started It All" (the original was called, simply, "Alcoholics Anonymous").

But the crossed-out phrases and scribbles make clear that the words easily could have read differently. And the edits embody a debate that continues today: How should the role of spirituality and religion be handled in addiction treatment?

They also take readers back to an era when churches and society generally stigmatized alcohol addicts as immoral rather than ill. The AA movement's re-framing of addiction as having a physical component (the "doctor's opinion" that opens the book calls it "a kind of allergy") was revolutionary, experts say.

"We didn't have any knowledge then about the brain. Today we know there is a neurological component, we know there are spiritual, psychological and environmental components," said Joseph Califano, founder of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.

Califano said "virtually every rehabilitation program" in the country today includes a requirement to join an AA group. "The concept of the 'higher power' was important because it made the whole spiritual aspect available to Catholics, Jews, others," he said.

Much remains unknown about how the manuscript was edited - and by whom. Hazelden said it hasn't had the resources to analyze the handwriting in the margins. Historians of AA and addiction treatment will not begin analyzing the scribbles and de-

bating who wrote each one until the manuscript is published next week\*.

Motu said Wilson sent his original book to about 300 recovering addicts, religious leaders and doctors, among others, but some think the writing visible in the margins belonged to a small number of commenters.

The Big Book was first published in 1939, and the only things that have changed through four editions are the personal stories of recovery added to the end. The manuscript - which Hazelden says is the only one in existence - was stored for nearly 40 years in the New York home of Lois and Bill Wilson.

In the late 1970s, Lois Wilson gave the book as a gift to a friend in Montreal, who kept it private for decades. It was put up for auction in 2004 at Sotheby's, who sold it for \$1.56 million. At the time, there was a flurry of criticism from historians who said it was a major document that should be available to scholars.

\* "The Book That Started It All" was published and is available from Hazelden Publishing.

## Calendar of Events

### Fall Workshop

November 6,7 2010

*Hosted by District 12*

2029 N. Main Street Sunset, Utah

### 47<sup>th</sup> International Women's Conference "The Last Frontier"

February 10-13, 2011

Anchorage, AK

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

### Pass-the-Gavel, Area 69 Committee Meeting

December 4, 2010

*Hosted by District 9*

Moab, Utah

### February Area 69 Committee Meeting

February 26, 2011

*Hosted by District 5*

Price, Utah



# Delegates Report Fall Election Assembly

## **“We are Responsible for A.A.’s Future – Let it Begin with Us”**

The 60<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Final Report is here. Just like companies publish an annual report to inform shareholders, we publish the Final Conference report so that each of us can be informed about what happened at the General Service Conference and the status of A.A.

The first thing you can do as you decide how to share the Conference Report with your group is to become familiar with what's in here. You can start at the Table of Contents and get a good overview of the report.

The first section contains a summary of the entire meeting and transcriptions of the greetings and keynote addresses. Then there is a complete list of Advisory Actions that came out of the Conference, arranged by Conference Committee.

Next is a section entitled Presentations and reports. Here you have all of the reports that were given at the Conference. It includes the Finance report given by the Treasurer of the General Service Board, Terrence B. Each Trustee's Committee gives a report at the Conference and those reports are included here also. There are reports from A.A.W.S. our publishing company; The A.A. Grapevine and LaVina our magazine publishing company; The World Service Meeting and information about worldwide A.A. activity and presentations on the theme of the Conference.

There are reports on how much literature was distributed over the year and how much Grapevine literature was distributed, including LaVina.

Each of the first-year Delegates gives a report on their Area and those reports follow the literature and magazine distribution reports.

After the Area reports, the Additional Committee considerations are listed. These are items that the Conference Committees discussed, but upon which no action was taken. It is good to review these periodically because some of them will likely become agenda topics in the following year.

Finally, after the full financial reports, there are listings of all of the people that participated in the Conference.

Luckily, the layout of the report doesn't change from year to year, so once you become familiar with where things are in the report you will be able to find what you need pretty quickly each year.

So, what do you do with your new knowledge of the Final Report? Again, this is where some knowledge of your group comes

in. Some groups like financial information particularly information about contributions and literature sales. They love to have discussions about whether we are truly self-supporting or not. Find what your group enjoys and share it with them.

Get a few copies of the report; highlight the different sections in the Table of Contents in different colors, then place matching colored tabs in the books. Over 4-5 weeks, you can review the final report with your group in some detail.

Some discussion groups use the sharing session material as leads for their meetings. They will read one of the sharing sessions and then hold discussions on that topic.

To summarize, get to know your group and what is in the report itself. Figure out what your group will accept in terms of hearing the information from the Final Report and then figure out a way to stretch the to accept a little bit more.

Thank you District 6 for hosting our Utah Area election assembly. We always appreciate the hospitality and warm reception we receive here in central Utah. Welcome to any new members to General Service, especially G.S.R.'s. You are the voice of your Home Group and your participation in this process is vital to Alcoholics Anonymous. Please use this weekend to introduce yourselves, ask questions and share your ideas. In my case a Service sponsor has been a most important tool in my General Service tool kit. May you find your answers to General Service as we have found ours? Excitement and adrenaline run high during our elections and the process is often a spiritual experience for those who participate.

The Conference Theme - **“We are Responsible for A.A.’s Future – Let it Begin with Us”** - serves as a wonderful reminder of the importance of our efforts to carry our message of hope and recovery. The work we do is only as effective as the leaders we choose. Concept - 9 emphasizes the importance of electing qualified and willing leaders. Choosing our leadership, from Delegate all the way up to G.S.R. is the most important responsibility we have in Alcoholics Anonymous not only those we serve but to the still suffering alcoholic. Our gratitude goes out to those who are here today with a desire to serve Alcoholics Anonymous. We pray that God will guide and direct us during our Assembly today.

Thank you Area 69 for this extraordinary opportunity to serve.

Monte S.  
Delegate Panel 59  
Area 69 Utah

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>November 2010</b> |
|----------------------|

| Sun  | Mon<br>1   | Tues<br>2   | Wed<br>3                                | Thurs<br>4   | Fr<br>5  | Sat<br>6  |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|
|  | 12a-930a OPEN<br>530p-1030p No Nonsense<br>1330p-12a Clark       | 12a-6a Bethanne<br>6a-930a OPEN<br>530p-10p Primary Purpose<br>10p-12a Ally       | 12a-930a Ally C<br>530p-12a Eddie       | 12a-7a Eddie<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>530p-10p Primary Purpose<br>10p-12a OPEN   | 12a-6a Bethanne<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>530p-10p Saturday SOTS<br>10p-12a OPEN          | 12a-10a Troy<br>2p-12a OPEN   |
| 7<br>12a-7a OPEN<br>7a-12p Bill J<br>12p-6p An AA Group<br>6p-9p 974 Group   | 8<br>12a-930a OPEN<br>530p-1030p No Nonsense<br>1030p-12a Clark  | 9<br>12a-6a Bethanne<br>6a-930a OPEN<br>530p-10p Primary Purpose<br>10p-12a Ally  | 10<br>12a-930 Ally C<br>530p-12a Eddie  | 11<br>12a-7a Eddie<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>530p-10p Hillcrest Grp<br>10p-12a OPEN   | 12<br>12a-6a Bethanne<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>530p-8p Early Beginnings<br>8p-12a OPEN   | 13<br>12a-10a Troy<br>2p-6p Its in the Book<br>6p-12a Basic Young P.    |
| 14<br>12a-7a OPEN<br>7a-12p Bill J<br>12p-6p An AA Group<br>6p-12a OPEN  | 15<br>12a-930a OPEN<br>530p-1030p No Nonsense<br>1030p-12a Clark | 16<br>12a-6a Bethanne<br>6a-930a OPEN<br>530p-10p Primary Purpose<br>10p-12a Ally | 17<br>12a-930a Ally C<br>530p-12a Eddie | 18<br>12a-7a Eddie<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>530p-10p Primary Purpose<br>10p-12a OPEN   | 19<br>12a-6a Bethanne<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>530p-10p 515 Happy Hour<br>10p-12a Karrie | 20<br>12a-10a Troy<br>2p-7p Sharing & Caring<br>7p-12a OPEN             |
| 21<br>12a-7a OPEN<br>7a-12p Bill J<br>12p-6p An AA Group<br>6p-12a OPEN  | 22<br>12a-930a OPEN<br>530p-1030p No Nonsense<br>1030p-12a Clark | 23<br>12a-6a Bethanne<br>6a-930a OPEN<br>530p-10p Primary Purpose<br>10p-12a Ally | 24<br>12a-930a Ally C<br>530p-12a Eddie | 25 THANKSGIVING<br>OFFICE CLOSED<br>12a-7a Eddie<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>930a-530p OPEN<br>530p-12a Dave S  | 26<br>12a-6a Bethanne<br>7a-930a Andrea<br>530p-10p Garden Variety<br>10p-12a Troy J | 27<br>12a-10a Troy<br>2p-6p OPEN<br>6p-10p Grapevine<br>10p-12a We Care |
| 28<br>12a-7a OPEN<br>7a-12p Bill J<br>12p-6p An AA Group<br>6p-12a OPEN  | 29<br>12a-930a OPEN<br>530p-1030p No Nonsense<br>1030p-12a Clark | 30<br>12a-6a Bethanne<br>6a-930a OPEN<br>530p-10p Primary Purpose<br>10p-12a Ally |   |  |  |   |
|  | Total Hrs office<br>Closed-574<br>Total Hrs covered-444          |   |   |  |  |   |
| AFTER-HOURS AA SLC CENTRAL OFFICE<br>PHONE VOLUNTEER CALENDAR<br>CENTRAL OFFICE BUSINESS HOURS<br>MON - FRI 930AM - 530PM<br>SATURDAY 10AM - 2PM |  |   |   | IF YOU OR YOUR GROUP WOULD -<br>LIKE TO HELP OUT, PLEASE<br>CONTACT ROB J. (OUR PHN COORD.)<br>AT 801.647.2411 OR EMAIL:<br>rob.j.phones@gmail.com |  |   |

### List of Currently Open times and days to Volunteer for After-Hours Phones:

Sundays-12a 7a & 6p-12a EXPT the 1st  
 Mondays 12a-930a  
 Tuesday-6a-930a  
 Thursdays- 1<sup>st</sup>& 2<sup>nd</sup>10p -12a  
 Fridays- 1<sup>st</sup>10p-12a, the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8p-12a  
 Saturdays- 1<sup>st</sup> 2p -12a, 3<sup>rd</sup> 9p-12a, 4<sup>th</sup> 2p-6p

| Name/Group | Phone Number | Time and Day |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
|            |              |              |
|            |              |              |
|            |              |              |