

LIFELINE

Salt Lake City Central Office Newsletter

September 2010

Made direct amends . . .

When I first struggled with step nine it was because I saw it only from the perspective of a newcomer – I was to make amends wherever possible. Like the first step and its separating ‘dash’, I came later to understand the most meaningful part of the step as the piece after the comma, “except to do so would injure them or others.” I was being pointed to a great gem, also epitomized by the last half of the last sentence on step nine in *The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, “. . . to take responsibility for the well-being of others is the very spirit of step nine.”

Step nine is an ongoing act of repair, with due consideration for not just those directly involved, but for all those who might be connected to both the original problem and to what might seem to be the obvious direct solution. I am being taught here to operate in a corner of real life and relations in a fashion foreign to me as a drunk. While drinking, collateral damage, either in act or apology, was not something I considered. I truly was the “. . . foolish martyr who would needlessly sacrifice others to save himself from the alcoholic pit.” – or to keep myself drinking and *in* said pit.

In the ‘Big Book’ it mentions that, “our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and to the people about us.” It is not merely to make repairs of the past or in the future, and is the exact opposite of my drunken view, when I believed both God and people existed mostly to facilitate my pursuit of whiskey. Soon we are rewarded in this by the small hint of an early miracle, *before* ‘The Promises’, that if diligent, “. . . in nine cases out of ten the unexpected miracle happens.” This was by virtue of courageously working the *entire process* of step nine, regardless of its immediate results. It foretold for me, at least, the greater true miracle that, “We will be amazed before we are half way through.” It required only that I carefully made amends to the best of my ability, and that the measure of that effort was the degree to which I attended to possible harm to others – a beginner’s map to a life of relations to other humans for a man who had been totally alone in the world.

~ The New Yorker, a step study group

Editor’s Note: The New Yorker is a closed meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous that meets every Friday morning at 6:40 at the downtown Salt Lake City Market Street Grill (48 West Market Street). We read the summarized version from the 12 x 12 then share our experience, strength, and hope on that particular step. When we have gone through all the steps we have one meeting on three of the traditions then start all over again with a new chairperson. **Come join us!**

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:

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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 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 August 2010 Central Office Representatives Meeting

- 10th Step Group
- 17th & 17th Step Meeting
- A Vision Four You
- A Way Out
- As Bill See's It
- Bog Irish Big Book Study
- By the Book
- City @ Seven
- Come As You Are
- Draper Group
- Early Beginnings
- Garden Variety
- Grapevine Group
- Happy Destiny
- Highland Group
- Hillcrest Group
- Lake-point Layover
- Nomadic Lunch
- Old Fashion AA
- One Small Step
- Salt Lake Group
- Spiritual Quest
- Stepping Stones
- Sugar-house Men's Meeting
- Up Group
- Valley View Group
- 10th Step Group
- 17th & 17th Step Meeting
- A Vision Four You
- A Way Out
- As Bill See's It

Is your group represented?

The next C.O. Reps Meeting is the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM at Central Office, 80 West Louise Ave (2860 South)

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

Phil E. 1945 ~ 2010	Kenny D. 1956 ~ 2010	Michael V. 1951 ~ 2010
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Congratulations to our birthdays

City @ Seven

Ryan	30 Days
Matty	30 Days
Ellie	30 Days
Andrea	60 Days
Andy	60 Days
Brighton	60 Days
Aaron	60 Days
Brian	60 Days
Tyler	60 Days
Jay	90 Days
Jill	6 Months
Chris	9 Months
John	1 Year
Rudy	1 Year
Jesse	2 Years
Mary Ann	4 Years
Patricia	6 Years
Scott	8 Years
Sharron	15 Years

Clint	6 Months
Dan	6 Months
Dustin	6 Months
Joseph	6 Months
Kevin	9 Months
Travis	18 Months
Sam	2 Years
Mark	8 Years
Matt	20 Years

Sharing & Caring

Rachel	60 Days
Patricia	90 Days
Lisa	6 Months
Tracy	6 Months
Tony	9 Months
Troy	1 Year
Chris	1 Year
Rob	18 Months
Michelle	2 Years
Blake A.	4 Years
John	4 Years
Aaron	7 Years
Allie	7 Years
Del C.	8 Years
Shanellle	8 Years

Came to Believe

MaeLynn W.	9 Months
Dave B.	18 Months
Jumpin' Joe	22 Years

Living in Sobriety

Steven	30 Days
Rachel	60 Days

No Nonsense

Caroll	4 Years
Marcell	31 Years

Note to group secretaries: please submit your group's birthday list to LIFELINE@saltlakeaa.org before the 15th of the month.

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

Delegates Report Pre-Assembly Workshop August 14, 2010 Provo, Utah

Thank you District Three for your hard work planning and hosting Area 69 this weekend. Host committees are spending more and more time preparing for our area visits and their efforts are appreciated.

We would like to welcome 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 most important tool in my General Service tool kit.

One of the many bright spots of serving our Area is the time I spend meeting and sharing with you. Several Districts have invited me to give report backs from the General Service Conference. District Three recently set aside an afternoon for a full report. The luncheon was provided by Eric’s mother and was delicious. Also Charlie G. and I attended the 3rd Local Spanish speaking FORO August 7, 2010 in Park, City. Charlie gave an excellent presentation on A.A. history focusing on the participation over the years by Spanish speaking members dating back to 1946. Next weekend we leave for the GSO hosted Spanish Speaking Local Forum in San Diego California. I have been asked to give a presentation on “Back to Basics.” At last count, three members from District 12 and I will be attending the FORO Locale in San Diego. Thank you Area 69 for the special defrayment you allowed for this event. Your contributions to the basket translate into the language of the heart. The following weekend, during the Pacific Regional Forum being held in Torrance California, I have been asked to share about “Bridging the Gap between English and Spanish Districts.” You can still get a hotel if you would like to attend the first Pacific Regional Forum hosted by a Trustee from Utah. Our own Rod B., will be the chair for this one.

I have traveled over 2400 miles visiting groups and districts since we met last May. It is a personally rewarding experience accepting your invitations and sharing my experiences as Panel 59 Delegate. Each time I share about the General Service Conference my gratitude to A.A. members for the Alcoholics Anonymous program grows. Sharing report backs allows me to relieve the spiritual experience of the General Service Conference. Thank you again.

Behind the scenes there is ongoing discussion about vulnerable members and keeping A.A. meetings safe for everyone. Last

week I e mailed the report of the roundtable hosted by Charlie T., DCMC from District 2, to delegates throughout the US and Canada. The responses I’ve received have been positive and one area intends to use the comments and format from our meeting to guide their own discussions. Copies of the Vulnerable Members report are available upon request.

The Year Long Process of The GSC Includes the Following Projects:

The Grapevine Survey has received outstanding support from throughout the Fellowship including Area 69, Utah. Thank you for taking the time to fill out the form and mail them to me. I have left a survey for each of you to fill out today and there are some extras to take back and share with your groups.

There is another Fellowship wide Survey being developed and I asked for some volunteers to distribute questionnaires and compile data. We will hear from them this weekend. Here is an excerpt from the letter I received from Headquarters. “The G.S.O. E-technology team is now working in several areas: beginning development of an e-publishing strategy; assessing expert advice on current technology costs and best uses for A.A.; and collecting e-delivery sharing from our Fellowship. As we hear from the Fellowship about what is needed and wanted, your area’s input will help us to determine priorities in digital literature accessibility and services.”

Headquarters continues gathering experiences of AA members carrying message into correctional facilities and how they manage to comply with admission rules and regulations Treatment Facilities/Special Needs desk is collecting experiences of AA’s carrying the message into outpatient facilities The Literature Desk is soliciting stories from members with various special needs, for example, members who are deaf, blind, wheel-chair bound, etc

Public Information desk is continuing the Young People Video Project; video submissions are encouraged from young people, especially from Spanish-speaking members.

Corrections desk is seeking members to correspond with inmates. There are inmates waiting for our help and we all know how well alcoholics wait!

If you or your standing committee has information/ideas to share on any of these topics I would be happy to help you submit them to GSO.

Now is the time for all of us to start thinking of suggestions to submit for next year's Theme, Presentation/Discussion and Workshop Topics. I sent suggestion forms out to DCM's and others on my District Contact list for distribution. There are additional copies for you to take and share with your groups here today.

We are reminded that the deadline for General Service Conference Agenda Item submission is January 15, 2011. If our Area is considering items, the office would like to have them in time for the October board meeting when possible.

After 4 years of development individuals and groups may now make online contributions to the General Service Office. Please visit aa.org and follow the prompts; it is set up to walk you through step-by-step.

A member recently asked me about how the \$3,000.00 annual limit and I sent the question to headquarters. Adrienne B., the Conference Coordinator called me and explained that the \$3,000.00 limit applies only to contributions from individuals to the General Service Board (GSO). The GSO has no comment on amounts members contribute to other service entities. Groups, Districts and Area's and Intergroups may all contribute

more than the \$3000.00 to the General Service Office. The Office does not accept contributions from Clubs.

Next month we begin the most important responsibility each A.A. member has to Alcoholics Anonymous. We begin the election of our leaders in our groups, districts and areas. Our decisions' regarding our leaders determines the future of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are blessed in Utah to have many qualified and willing members available for General Service. Over the year's considerable time and money are spent training and preparing our leaders so as we begin this spiritual Third Legacy process, let's remember to "Place Principles before Personalities." And choose wisely the candidates who are best prepared rather than most popular. Leaders need to be both - willing and ready.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous has given me a life beyond my grandest expectations. Through you I have come to know a Power greater than myself and to love most of you. Thank you for my sobriety and for all that you do for Alcoholics Anonymous. Thank you for this extraordinary opportunity to serve.

In gratitude, Love and Service,
Monte S. Panel 59 Delegate

A.A.W.S. Highlights

July 29, 2010

G.S.O. General Manager, Phyllis H., reported that the 2010 International Convention celebrating the 75th Anniversary of A.A. was an all-around success with attendance close to 53,000. She thanked all those involved in organizing this milestone event including Rick W. for his leadership as G.S.O. Convention Coordinator; Eva S., alternate and the Flag Ceremony Coordinator; G.S.O. employees; the Talley Management team, our convention consultants; the San Antonio Convention Bureau and the city of San Antonio; the 4,000 wonderful volunteers on the ground in San Antonio and the Boards for their service and support.

The 2010 International Convention Coordinator reported that approximately 25,000 copies of the souvenir edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age* were sold with a limited quantity remaining for purchase.

Since our “go live” date June 10th, there has been a steady increase in use of Contributions on Line. No significant problems or complaints have been reported and notes of appreciation with a few helpful suggestions for future updates have been received.

~ Reprinted with permission from A.A.W.S

Spirit of Rotation

Tradition Two: **For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.** ⁽¹⁾

Utah Area 69 Elections will be conducted September 25, 2010 in Richfield at the Fall Assembly. Rotation ensures that tasks in Service positions are passed around for all to share. Whether you are interested in the service structure or not, the Area elections are always a spiritual experience. Area Officer Positions are Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and Registrar. Area Standing Chair Positions are Assembly/Agenda, Communications, Treatment Facilities, Grapevine, Corrections, Literature, Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Public Information (PI), and the new Archives Standing Chair. The Archive Repository position is a non-rotational position that is re-affirmed to promote continuity.

It can be difficult to step down from a position you have enjoyed and loved doing. It can also be a real step forward in growth. It has been considered a step in humility and has been associated with the spiritual essence of anonymity. Anonymity in the Fellowship means we forgo personal prestige for any A.A. work, or task, we do to help alcoholics as a whole. In the spirit

of the Twelfth Tradition, it reminds us “to place principles before personalities.” We consider who may be the most qualified for the position. ⁽¹⁾

It can be rewarding for the outgoing service position holder to share their experiences with the incoming person. Rotation helps to bring us spiritual rewards more enduring than any fame because there is no A.A. “status” at stake. We do not compete for titles or praise—we have complete freedom to serve as we are needed. We are never as qualified for a position as when our term has ended. Rotation ensures each individual has the opportunity for growth. ⁽¹⁾

A few of us felt scared and lost when we arrived in A.A. Service positions in our Home Group gave us direction and focus. No longer did we look on ourselves as nothing. Instead we found a way to help ourselves by helping others. We found a contented and useful life. We learn to take responsibility for our lives. You want to feel good about yourself? Make coffee!

Hope to see you at the Elections,
Area 69 Archive Standing Chair

⁽¹⁾ The A.A. Group...Where It All Begins pamphlet.

Importance of the Seventh Tradition

Without the Seventh Tradition AA would cease to exist! There would be no General Service Office in New York City. There would not be a place to get literature, we as AA groups would fail to keep the hand of AA out there to welcome the new comer and the other members would not have the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous to guide them to recovery.

There are a lot of AA Groups that are non registered meetings, and groups that are not supporting the General Service Office, Area 69, their Central Office or their district. My question to groups and meetings is, “Where’s the money going?” If you are

giving money to a meeting you have a right to find out what that group is doing with the money. Ask your group’s Treasurer for a report and see to it that the money, after group expenses, is used to support AA.

Only by being aware can we carry the message of AA to people who need it to help save lives, AA needs members of all groups to help support the Seventh Tradition.

There is a member, Jonathan M., who does service work at the prison every Sunday night. They are in need of the plastic anniversary chips. Please note: they cannot be aluminum ones! If you have any old plastic chips and would like to donate them please contact Jonathan M. at 801-835-8157, or drop them off at Central Office. Thanks!

September 2010

			Wed 1 12a-930a Ally C 530p-12a Eddie	Thur 2 12a-7a Eddie 7a-930a Andrea 530p-10p Primary Purpose 10p-12a OPEN	Fr 3 12a-6a Bethanne 7a-930a Andrea 530-10p Saturday SOTS 10p-12a OPEN	Sat 4 12a-10a Troy 2p-12a OPEN
5 12a-7a OPEN 7a-12p Bill J 12p-6p An AA Group 6p-12a OPEN	6 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED 12a-530p OPEN 530p-1030p No Nonsense 1030p-12a Clark	7 12a-6a Bethanne 6a-930a OPEN 530p-10p Primary Purpose 10p-12a Ally	8 12a-930 Ally C 530p-12a Eddie	9 12a-7a Eddie 7a-930a Andrea 530p-10p Hillcrestgroup 10p-12a OPEN	10 12a-6a Bethanne 7a-930a Andrea 530p-8p Early Beginnings 8p-12a OPEN	11 12a-10a Troy 2p-6p Its in the Book 6p-12a Basic Young P.
12 12a-7a OPEN 7a-12p Bill J 12p-6p An AA Group 6p-12a OPEN	13 12a-930a OPEN 530p-1030p No Nonsense 1030p-12a Clark	14 12a-6a Bethanne 6a-930a OPEN 530p-10p Primary Purpose 10p-12a Ally	15 12a-930a Ally C 530p-12a Eddie	16 12a-7a Eddie 7a-930a Andrea 530p-10p Primary Purpose 10p-12a OPEN	17 12a-6a Bethanne 7a-930a Andrea 530p-10p 515 Happy Hour 10p-12a Karrie	18 12a-10a Troy 2p-7p Sharing & Caring 7p-9p Women's 12x12 9p-12a OPEN
19 12a-7a OPEN 7a-12p Bill J 12p-6p An AA Group 6p-12a OPEN	20 12a-930a OPEN 530p-1030p No Nonsense 1030p-12a Clark	21 12a-6a Bethanne 6a-930a OPEN 530p-10p Primary Purpose 10p-12a Ally	22 12a-930a Ally C 530p-12a Eddie	23 12a-7a Eddie 7a-930a Andrea 530p-12a Dave	24 12a6a Bethanne 7a-930a Andrea 530p-10p Garden Variety 10p-12a Troy J	25 12a-10a Troy 2p-6a OPEN 6p-10p Grapevine 10p-12a We Care
26 12a-7a OPEN 7a-12a Bill J 12p-6p An AA Group 6p-12a OPEN	27 12a-930 OPEN 530p-1020p No Nonsense 1030p-12a Clark	28 12a-6a Bethanne 6a-930a OPEN 530-10p Primary Purpose 10p12a Ally	29 12a-930a Ally 530p-12a Eddie	30 12a-7a Eddie 7a-930a Andrea 530p-12a Dave		
	Total Hrs office Closed-536 Total Hrs covered-353					
			AFTER-HOURS AA SLC CENTRAL OFFICE PHONE VOLUNTEER CALENDAR CENTRAL OFFICE BUSINESS HOURS MON – FRI 930AM – 530PM SATURDAY 10AM – 2PM	IF YOU OR YOUR GROUP WOULD - LIKE TO HELP OUT, PLEASE CONTACT ROB J. (OUR PHN COORD.) AT 801.647.2411 OR EMAIL: rob.j.phones@gmail.com		

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

- Sundays-12a 7a & 6p-12a
- Mondays 12a-930a The 6th LABOR DAY 930a-530p
- Tuesday-6a-930a
- Thursdays- 1st, 2nd & 3rd 10p -12a
- Fridays- 1st 10p-12a, the 2nd 8p-12a
- Saturdays- 1st 2p -12a, 3rd 9p-12a, 4th 2p-6p

Name/Group	Phone Number	Time and Day