

# LIFELINE

## Salt Lake City Central Office Newsletter

August 2012

### *Made a list . . .*

Step Eight – “the beginning of the end of isolation.” For this alcoholic, this was the adventure step. This was the step that would build “the best possible relations with every human being....”

When my sponsor “suggested” that I create a Step Eight list, I thought “no problem for me.” As a trial attorney I made a good living at making lists: Lists of witnesses, lists of facts, lists of exhibits. Step Eight, so I thought, would be a “no brainer” rest stop located somewhere between Step Seven and Step Nine where I could kick back and go on cruise control.

As is usually the case, I was blindsided with a “two by four” reality moment while attending the Monday night Step Study meeting of the Men’s Sugarhouse Group. It was pointed out by one of the old timers (Stan H.) that we make a list of “all persons we had harmed” and be “willing to make amends to them all.” That meant that I was not going to get by making a list of “selected” people of my own choosing. The wreckage of my past had already set the agenda. I just needed to be willing to put those who I harmed down on a list. A tall order for this alcoholic.

“What an order”, I thought. “I cannot go through with it.” But in my reading of Doctor Bob’s Nightmare I came to realize that Step Eight was a necessary adventure that I would have to “thoroughly” take if I wanted to live a sober, happy and useful life.

What did my sponsor say? “Do not be discouraged.” You have all the resources you need at your disposal: God (as you may understand Him), the Big Book, the Twelve and Twelve, a sober sponsor who believes in attending meetings, and the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. Little did I know, that I had at my disposal the best of the best tools for one’s sobriety tool box.

This making a list of “all persons” I had harmed would require me to list Uncle Sam, and my law firm. As an attorney of some experience, I did not use a gun or knife to harm others. Worse, I betrayed the trust of others and sacrificed my integrity which itself faded as my alcoholism progressed.

Before launching into my new Step Eight adventure I consulted with my wife of then twenty plus years with respect to the Uncle Sam and law firm amends. After a year of sober deliberation my wife and I made one of our best decisions: I made my amends to Uncle Sam and my law firm. Those amends led, predictably, to

the loss of my job and sanctions from the Bar Association which suspended my license to practice law for a time. I lost my job. We lost the house, a lot of money and a lot of other “stuff.” But the family stayed together and I stayed sober.

I worked as a law clerk for several attorneys, some of whom I had previously hired or mentored. What started as a forced feeding of humble pie resulted in a feast of gratitude. With the help and care of God, my sponsor, the A.A. Fellowship and many lawyers and judges, I became a lawyer in good standing.

Today I am a member of a law firm which seems to be a better fit. My wife is the firm receptionist. We have stayed married for forty four years and continue to learn, love and laugh together. She is my best friend. My son is one my partners. I also have a daughter who is, in her own right, a very accomplished attorney. Together we take on the representation of several clients each year who cannot otherwise afford to pay for legal services. So far, we are having a most rewarding experience. How good is that?

I wish good luck and God speed to all as you continue the Step Eight Adventure. Pick up the tools in your sobriety tool box. As my sponsor would tell you: “Suit up, show up and keep your eyes open for the next miracle to come your way.”

~ Sugarhouse Men’s Group  
3280 East 3900 South, Salt Lake City  
Mondays & Fridays 8:15pm

### *In this Issue*

Step 8: Made a List .....	Page 1
Board Members/Committee Chairs .....	Page 2
Groups Represented at June CO meeting.....	Page 2
7th Tradition addresses .....	Page 2
Birthdays/Group news .....	Page 3
From the Chair .....	Page 3
Tradition 8 .....	Page 4
Concept VIII .....	Page 5
Finding Acceptance in the Fellowship.....	Page 6
Central Office Picnic .....	Page 7
Financial Summary .....	Page 7
Calendar of Events .....	Page 7
Traditions Stressed .....	Page 8
Group Contributions .....	Page 10
Your CO Committee’s Updates.....	Page 11

## 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.* 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  
[lifeline@saltlakeaa.org](mailto:lifeline@saltlakeaa.org)

### Central Office Board of Trustees

[board@saltlakeaa.org](mailto:board@saltlakeaa.org)

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### Central Office Standing Committees

Activities ( <a href="mailto:activities@saltlakeaa.org">activities@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Shar C.
Archives ( <a href="mailto:archives@saltlakeaa.org">archives@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Meg G.
Bylaws ( <a href="mailto:bylaws@saltlakeaa.org">bylaws@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Linda B.
Hotline Telephone ( <a href="mailto:hotline@saltlakeaa.org">hotline@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Tim H.
Literature ( <a href="mailto:literature@saltlakeaa.org">literature@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Chris H.
Newsletter ( <a href="mailto:lifeline@saltlakeaa.org">lifeline@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Doug R.
Outreach ( <a href="mailto:outreach@saltlakeaa.org">outreach@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Wendy W.
Twelfth Step ( <a href="mailto:12step@saltlakeaa.org">12step@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Carl C.
Volunteer ( <a href="mailto:volunteer@saltlakeaa.org">volunteer@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Betty H.
Website ( <a href="mailto:webservant@saltlakeaa.org">webservant@saltlakeaa.org</a> ) .....	Jonathan H.

### 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 July 2012 Central Office Representatives Meeting

10th Step Meeting	Hot Topics
11th Step Meditation	Jaywalker's Roundtable
A Way Out	Nomadic Lunch
An AA Group	Nutbuckets
Basic Young People's Group	Midvale Lunch Bunch
Bountiful Men's Group	Off the Cuff
By the Book	Salt Lake Group
Came to Believe	South Davis
Closed Meeting of Alcoholics	Spiritual Quest
Come as You Are	Sugarhouse Men's
District 2	The Big Ugliers
Fresh Air Serenity Seekers	VA Welcome Home
Grub Lunch Bunch	Wed Night Foothill
Highlander's Group	West Valley Group

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

### AA World Services

Box 459

Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

<https://ctb.aaws.org/Login.aspx>

### Central Office of Salt Lake City

80 West Louise Ave.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

### Area 69 Treasurer

PO Box 1422

Salt Lake City, UT 84110

<http://utahaa.org/contributions.php>

### District 10 Treasurer

PO Box 57271

Murray, UT 84157

### District 2 Treasurer

PO Box 615

Salt Lake City, UT 84110

## Congrats to our Birthdays!

It works — it really does!

Nomadic Lunch		Came to Believe	
Eric	30 Days	Kathy	4 Years
Michael	30 Days	Sheila	7 Years
Scott	30 Days	Lisa	7 Years
Eric	60 Days	Tiny	8 Years
Chris	90 Days	Gena	10 Years
Holly	1 Year	Mike	14 Years
Michelle	1 Year	Gary	16 Years
Linda	18 Months	Carol	16 Years
Tammy	3 Years	Mark	18 Years
		Jumpin Jo	24 Years
		Johnny J	19 Years
		Mark H	31 Years

*Please submit your Group's Birthday and news before the 15th  
Please e-mail them to [LIFELINE@saltlakeaa.org](mailto:LIFELINE@saltlakeaa.org) or bring them into the office.*

## From: The Chair in the Corner

Well It has happened again. Once more yours truly is holding up the publication of the Lifeline, this time for the month of August. After a courtesy call from our esteem editor and a not so courteous message a couple of days later, a couple of apologies and a little begging for forgiveness along with a promise to have it in one hour on my part I find myself sitting at my computer praying for inspiration and waiting for the miracle to happen.

It seems like summer is moving at warp speed and before we know it will be fall and time to harvest, hunt and get ready for winter. BUT before that happens we must prepare and indulge in the annual Central Office Picnic. Our activities committee is busy getting everything ready and we of the board are all looking forward to this great adventure. This year several changes have been made as to location and menu. The date will be Sunday August 26, from 11-. The location will be Germania Park located north off of 5300 South at the end of the road just East of the Jordan River. We were not able to secure the pavilion at Murray Park and feel this will be a great alternative as it is more secluded and offers more space than Murray Park did. As for the menu how does roast pig sound? Having recently returned from a high speed pilgrimage to the very secluded town of Lincoln Mt. along with Doug C. and after incurring several bruises to my previously unblemished pickup, getting to spend a little quality time with our Volunteer

Coordinator Betty H. who pretty much spoiled us with her great food and wonderful hospitality we managed to procure Dean's deluxe hand crafted mobile pig roaster. Did I mention we were lucky enough to attend an A.A meeting in Lincoln and ran into others originally from the Salt Lake area. It appears to me that Lincoln must have in their building code a law that requires every other building on the main street to be a bar.

Last weekend I took the roaster for a test drive and cooked an excellent hind quarter in an effort to make sure it works. If you are not into roasted pig or you happen to arrive a little late there will be plenty of hotdogs hamburgers and maybe a chicken or two so no one goes away hungry. Please bring a pot luck dish to share and if you would mention in your home group that we are looking for donations for the opportunity drawing (aka raffle) from either groups or individuals from the program.

Remember that this is our last blast for summer and please help make it the best ever. If you would like to help please contact the volunteers at Central Office and get involved. Remember many hands make light work and service work will keep you sober.

We have an opening on the board for an Alternate Trustee and anyone interested in standing for this position should

## From: The Chair, *continued*

plan on attending the C.O. Rep meeting on the second Tuesday in August at 6:30. If you didn't know the address is 80 W. Louise Ave.

We are still looking for people interested in doing service at Central Office during normal business hours. So far we have managed to keep the office open but if we don't have people to fill time slots we will not be open. Hopefully this will never happen. Are you doing your part? Remember the Central Office belongs to you. You are responsible for it's welfare. Please get involved, come see it. Join us for a

cup of coffee and take a phone call from a suffering alcoholic or help an out of town visitor find a meeting or give a grieving mother a little hope that her son does not have to go it alone. It was there for you make sure it's there for the next person that needs our help.

Yours in service

Nick R.

Chairman of the Board, Central Office



## Tradition 8

**"Alcoholics Anonymous Should Remain Forever Non-professional, but Our Service Centers May Employ Special Workers"**

Written to protect us from ourselves, the Traditions reflect the collective problem solving experience during our fellowships first dozen years. In the 60 plus years since they were proposed then adopted, none have ever been changed. What held true then holds true today.

Bill W., says in his essay about Tradition 8 in the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions; "Freely have ye received, freely give." In the next paragraph Bill reminds us, "Almost from the beginning, we have been positive that face-to-face work with the alcoholic who still suffers could be based only on the desire to help and be helped.

Tradition 8 guides our financial responsibilities telling us that Twelfth Step work is never to be paid for. As A.A. members representing the A.A. program we are all volunteers and the only expertise we claim is our own experiences as active alcoholics and our individual recovery through the practice of the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. This one-on-one sharing is the basis for our fellowships existence and the key to the spiritual experience of one alcoholic relating to another alcoholic, thereby saving two lives.

The Twelve and Twelve also defines SPECIAL WORKERS as professionals or paid employees who make Twelfth Step work possible. Someone has to sweep the floors, answer our phones, edit and produce our literature and "man the AA lifelines." None of these paid workers are considered to be professionalizing Twelfth Step work. Their jobs are to make Twelfth Step work possible.

In our Home Group none of our members are paid for the work they do. Someone sets up the chairs, someone lays out our literature display, someone provides our coffee (out of their pocket, not group funds), someone pays our rent and keeps our books, someone attends business meetings and provides reports and all are volunteers. The rent we pay does help pay for the clean, climate controlled, facility in which we meet. Those paid employees make Twelfth Step work possible but in no way do they professionalize Twelfth Step work.

A wise old-timer once remarked, "The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous often provide just enough rope for us to hang ourselves."

Monte S.  
*Sunday Morning Serenity*  
Ogden, Utah



"If we follow our Traditions, we will survive and, I hope, grow. The Traditions tell us to serve--not govern; to attract-- not promote; to carry the message--not force it on anyone; to keep the three legacies alive: recovery, unity, and service. These are our lifelines."

Raleigh, N.C., January 2000  
From: "Keeping Recovery Alive"  
I Am Responsible: The Hand of AA

"There will also be seen in these Concepts a number of principles which have already become traditional to our services, but which have never been clearly articulated and reduced to writing. For example: the "Right of Decision" gives our service leaders a proper discretion and latitude; the "Right of Participation" gives each world servant a voting status commensurate with his (or her) responsibility, and "Participation" further guarantees that each service board or committee will always possess the several elements and talents that will insure effective functioning. The "Right of Appeal" protects and encourages minority opinion; and the "Right of Petition" makes certain that grievances can be heard, and properly acted upon. These general principles can of course be used to good effect throughout our entire structure."

*From the Introduction to "Twelve Concepts for World Service" by Bill W*

## Concept VIII

***The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect directors of these entities.***

Concept 8 deals with the manner in which the Trustees of the General Service Board discharge their obligations and delegate their executive function to its two subsidiary corporations: A.A. World Services, Inc., and the A.A. Grapevine, Inc. The Trustees are the guarantors of good management of A.A. World Services, Inc. and the A.A. Grapevine, Inc. The Trustees of the General Service Board meet this daunting responsibility by electing the Directors of these service arms, a part of whom must always be trustees. The executive direction of these functions is embedded in the service corporations themselves, rather than the General Service Board. Each corporate service entity should possess its own bylaws, its own working capital, its own executives, its own employees, its own offices and equipment. Thus the Trustees are not burdened or distracted by the little details and endless questions which arise daily in the routine operation of the General Service Office or the publishing operations, including the *Grapevine*.

When this concept was written, Bill emphasized that an early mistake of the General Service Board was trying to run the service functions directly. The result was "too much *concentration* of money and authority." The board must devote itself almost exclusively to the larger questions of policy, finance, group relations and leadership. The board's attitude must be that of custodial oversight.

Concept 8 has served us well since 1962. But much has changed in the financial picture the last 60 years. The separate service corporations of A.A. World Services, Inc. and the A.A. Grapevine, Inc. are facing huge challenges in this area. This separation has, to date, allowed us to avoid the *concentra-*

*tion* of money and authority. We have placed our reserve funds with the Trustees, and divided our total working capital between A.A. World Services, Inc. and The A.A. Grapevine, Inc., each entity having its separate executive. Maintaining this separation may not be enough to meet the challenges we now face. Concept 8 may be in need of a change. A plan to change our separately incorporated structure (introduced by Ward Ewing, Class A Trustee) will be submitted to the 63<sup>rd</sup> General Service Conference.



As we write this article, 93 Delegates, 21 Trustees, our A.A.W.S and Grapevine Directors along with the General Service Office and Grapevine staff members are all working hard at finding a "needful change". We pray that their efforts are fruitful.

Shirley and Mike O.  
Past Delegates

Panel 51 and Panel 55 respectively

# Finding Acceptance in the Fellowship

It was my first drunk that I found how I could fit in. I didn't exactly like the way that I felt getting drunk at twelve years old; dumb and clumsy. But what I loved the most was that I was drinking with older kids who used to harass me and make fun of me for being younger, smaller and poor.

That's how the addiction started for me. Of course I had fun and enjoyed partying like everyone else. But early on what I loved the most about drinking and partying was how it positioned me socially. Back then when I drank the girls that normally wouldn't have anything to do with me were now suddenly flirting with me and treating me like one of the cool guys. The tough kids I wanted to be like were the sons of bikers. They would share their booze and drugs with me, give me rides in their muscle cars and bring me along for drinking induced illegal activities.

This type of drinking continued all throughout my teenage years and well in to my twenties. But eventually fitting in just wasn't good enough for me anymore. My drinking started moving in to a completely different level. I found I got a lot of attention for being the crazy guy, the badass, the stud, or the lady killer. I wanted to be the Fonz of punk rock.

I was no longer satisfied with blending in with everyone else. I wanted to stand out by becoming a monster that no one would mess with. And I did just that. Mysteriousness, danger, street cred and status, all became the construct of my drunken identity. The hardcore punk legend in the making was taking place and all it took was for me to keep drinking. Because, when I drank I was dangerous, obnoxious, loud and crude and the fearless fighter. Every time I drank something inside of me would trigger an expectation that whatever I did would have to be that of legendary proportions. Yep, that's how delusional drinking made me.

Early on my punk rock circle of friends gave me a nickname fitting enough for my Mediterranean and Irish lineage, and my lust for scrapping and chasing women. But this was all just a front I created in order to protect what I was really hiding - the real me.

After more than twenty years of living this destructive alcoholic life and creating a lot of heartache and pain, I was done. My drinking was out of control and I needed it to stop. I came to believe that I had no idea who I was anymore.

The one place I found unconditional acceptance was in an AA meeting in January 2010. After all the years of the drinking that which altered my perception of how I fit in the world, I didn't need to qualify myself with any of you. It was

in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous that the only thing I needed to have for qualification – was the desire to stop drinking. I knew my destructive behavior was primarily a symptom of my alcoholism and that when I drink I make very bad and dangerous decisions.

It took some time for me to really get comfortable in sobriety, so I gravitated to the recovering drunks who shared common interests as I. My first sponsor loved film and Rock 'n' Roll, which we would talk passionately about after meetings. I started bonding with other women and men in AA and becoming more focused on long term sobriety. The psychic change that is talked about in the Big Book was apparently working inside of me as I started caring about other people and their passions and desires.

I searched for over 30 years to be a part of something much greater than myself. In search of my own secret society, an underground of working class women and men who have a common bond that unites us all. I have found that in Alcoholics Anonymous. When I use to guard the hardcore punk scene so passionately from those less worthy of its existence, I have to share with others what makes me part of this fellowship. But I have to earn my AA chips to be able to do that. And that is exactly what I did.

I made my first AA meeting I went to my home group, and that's also where I met my sponsor. I went to other meetings, and took suggestions from my sponsor once we started working the steps. I did a thorough 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> step, and completed working the steps. I've been working as a sponsor to other alcoholics since March 2011.

In the last two plus years of recovery I have learned to love and accept myself for not only who I am, but also for what I have survived to get to this point in my life. The rugged exterior has slowly cracked and crumbled away, revealing a man who has learned to love again, and to also accept love in return. As a result of working the steps, I have learned to forgive myself and also the persons, places and principles that I blamed for so much of my pain and anger.

Today I am free from the anger and resentments of my past. My life is much different now; peaceful and quiet. I work on a daily basis to maintain that freedom with a lot of help from the force in my life that keeps me sober, and also being grateful for the promises and rewards that I have today.

~ C.A. Salt Lake City

## Central Office Picnic Fellowship & Unity

The Annual Central Office picnic will be held on Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 11 am until 5 pm. This year the picnic will be held at Germania Park instead of Murray Park. This will be upsetting to some members because the picnic at Murray Park has been a tradition for many years. The change in venue happened as Murray Park was not available on the last Saturday in August. So, we assembled the picnic committee from volunteers at the Central Office Rep meeting and we are on schedule to celebrate our fellowship with our annual picnic! By the way, if you'd like to serve on the picnic committee, please contact Christy R. at board@saltlakeaa.org. There is no entry fee. We will have food and water available for purchase. We will have a pig roasting and hot dogs and all the dressings available. Please bring a side dish, chips or desserts to share.

This is a fellowship event – it's your picnic. If you'd like to bring your own food and drinks, please do. Bring blankets because there is plenty of grass, umbrellas, whatever will make you comfortable. The pavilion has limited space but the surrounding area is huge.

We will have the opportunity drawings if groups donate items. Last year, we had a lot of gift cards from restaurants, stores and even cash. If your group would like to contribute an item, please drop off at Central Office with your group's name and a contact person with their phone number. We will not sell tickets at meetings – we will only sell tickets at the picnic. That way people will be present when they win a fabulous prize!

## Financial Summary June, 2012

### Income Statement

<b>Revenue</b>		
PR Fund Income	\$	289.49
Yard Sale	\$	1,240.13
Group Donations	\$	1,277.13
Literature Sales	\$	3,032.40
Awards & Misc Sales	\$	1,639.25
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,478.40</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>		
	\$	2,948.90
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,529.50</b>
<b>Yard Sale Expenses</b>		
	\$	312.13
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,285.40</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,597.53</b>
<b>Net Income:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>931.97</b>

### Bank Accounts

Prudent Reserve - Fund	\$	22,925.00
Prudent Reserve - Savings	\$	5,968.64
Operating Capital - Checking	\$	12,211.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>41,105.28</b>

## Calendar of Events

### August

**Maple Grove Campout**, August 10-12, 2012, Maple Grove Campground, Scipio, Utah, contact Ralph or Patsy at 801-597-0267 or 801-598-0732;

**Area 69 Pre-Assembly Workshop**, hosted by District 8, Vernal, Utah, August 18-19, 2012;

**All Groups Meeting** hosted by 11<sup>th</sup> Step Meditation, August 18, 2012, dinner at 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m., at Central Office.

**Annual Central Office Picnic**, , August 26<sup>th</sup> from 11 am until 5 pm, Germania Park

### September

**Pacific Regional Forum**, Fairbanks, Alaska, September 14-16, 2012;

**All Groups Meeting** hosted by 5:15 Happy Hour, September 15, 2012, dinner at 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m., at Central Office;

**CC + H<sub>2</sub>O—Men's Spiritual Retreat**, Lava Hot Springs, ID, Sept 14—16, 2012

**Area 69 Fall Elections Assembly**, District 6, Richfield, Utah, September 21-23, 2012.

## Traditions Stressed By Bill in Memphis Talk

Urging all members of Alcoholics Anonymous to strive for humility before success and for unity before fame, Bill W., speaking before the third annual Southeastern Regional Convention in Memphis, Tenn., on September 19, reviewed the 12 suggested traditions for the organization.

Pointing out that the success of A.A. could be "heady wine and a serious problem," Bill reminded members that as alcoholics "we are a people who could not exist at all except for the grace of God."

Here are the highlights of the talk as given to the *A.A. Grapevine* in advance of the Memphis meeting:

"Some years ago, Dr. Bob and I, among others, did a lot of traveling and speaking at A.A. Groups the length and breadth of the country. Alcoholics Anonymous was just starting its astonishing growth. There was concern whether we could successfully expand so fast. Widely separated clusters of A.A.s were making their uncertain start, often too far from the original few groups to get much direct help. Many had to rely wholly on literature and letters.

"To meet this seeming emergency, the few of us who could do so got out among the new groups. We wanted to bring our experience and encouragement directly to the incoming thousands who were still unsure; we wanted them to feel a part of the growing whole; we wanted them to see that A.A. had nothing to do with geography; that it would work for them under any conditions whatever. We wished to foster a sound growth and the spirit of unity. So a few of us traveled much.

"Times have changed. As every one knows, A.A. has since exceeded our wildest expectations. Speaking for Dr. Bob and myself, we feel that we oldsters need not take the prominent roles we once did. A.A. leadership is becoming, happily and healthily, a rotating matter. And besides, our literature, a generous press, and thousands of new travelers are carrying A.A. to every corner of the world.

"Yet there does remain a problem--a *serious* problem, in whose solution A.A.s will expect us oldsters to occasionally take a hand. That is the problem of *success* itself. Always a heady wine, success may sometimes cause us to forget that each of us lives on borrowed time; we may forget that we are a people who cannot exist at all, but for the Grace of God. The wine of forgetfulness might make us dream that Alcoholics Anonymous was *our success* rather than *God's* will. The very malignancy which once tore us apart personally, could again commence to rend us as groups. False pride might lead us to controversy, to claims of power and prestige, to bickerings over property, money, and personal authority. We would

not be human if these illnesses didn't sometimes attack us.

"Therefore, many of us think today the main problem of Alcoholics Anonymous is this: How, as a movement, shall we maintain our humility--and so our unity--in the face of what the world calls a great triumph? Perhaps we need not look far afield for an answer. We need only adapt and apply to our group life those principles upon which each of us has founded his own recovery. If humility can expel the obsessions to drink alcohol, then surely humility can be our antidote for that subtle wine called success."

Bill then went on to explain in detail the 12 Points of Tradition, first printed in an article in the April, 1946, issue of *The A.A. Grapevine*:

"Two years ago my old friends urged that I try to sum up our experience of living and working together; that I try to state those definite principles of group conduct which had then quite clearly emerged from a decade of strenuous trial and error. In the spirit of our original 12 Steps, and strictly within the ample proofs of our experience, I made the following tentative attempt: 12 Points to Assure Our Future, An Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations. (Recently revised in the light of later experience):

"Our A.A. experience has taught us that:

1. "Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.
2. "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority --a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.
3. "Our membership ought to include all who suffer alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided, of course, that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.
4. "With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee or individual, should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

5. "Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity *having but one primary purpose*--that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

6. "Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence, such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.--and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.

7. "The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then, too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

8. "Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we might otherwise have to engage non-alcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. 12th Step work is never to be paid for.

9. "Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their Central or Inter-group Committee, which often employs a full-time secretary.

The Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation are, in effect, our General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain the A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, *The A.A. Grapevine*. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

10. "No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues--particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.

11. "Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

12. "And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him Who presides over us all.

"I hope the day will soon arrive when each A.A. is just as conscious of the A.A. Traditions as he now is of the Recovery Program.

"To sum up: For thousands of alcoholics yet to come, A.A. does have an answer. But there is one condition. We must, at all costs, preserve our essential unity; it must be made unbreakably secure. Without permanent unity there can be little lasting recovery for anyone. Hence our future absolutely depends upon the creation and observance of a sound group tradition. First things will always need to be first: *humility* before success, and *unity* before fame."

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Anyone interested in having a "pamphlet meeting"? We would go through (read and discuss) a variety of the Conference approved pamphlets. A.A. provides a wealth of information and it's not just found in the Big Book or the 12 x 12!

If you're interested and willing to participate please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteer@saltlakeaa.org](mailto:volunteer@saltlakeaa.org) or call us, or come in and let us know!

## 2012 Year to Date Group Contributions

<b>Group</b>	<b>Jan 1 - Jul 10, 12</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Jan 1 - Jul 10, 12</b>
Young People's Park City	81.88	High & Dry	137.50
Sunday Get AA	75.00	Highland Group	214.00
90th and 32nd @ 600	50.00	Hilcrest	600.00
Island of Misfit Toys	125.00	Holladay	300.00
Jackson Hole Ladies	15.00	Honey's Breakfast Club	200.00
District 10	748.00	Individuals	514.80
Area 69	15.00	Into Action	63.00
Every Night Firelight Group	150.00	Living in Sobriety	75.00
Corrections	5.00	Magna Friendly Bunch	280.00
Crazy Ladies	25.00	Midvale Lunch	100.00
Saturday Morning SOTS	111.50	Murray Group	194.00
Nut Buckets	142.00	New Life	129.00
How It Works	215.50	Newsletter	257.00
G/C Women	75.00	No Nonsense	30.85
Draper Group	90.00	Nomadic Lunches	732.00
Keep It Simple	73.75	Non Smoking Sobriety Hour	110.00
SLCYPAA	21.50	Not A Glum Lot	55.00
Women's 12X12	222.00	Off the Cuff	428.50
5-15 Happy Hour	117.00	Park City Group	350.00
974 Group	481.53	Park City Men's Group	300.00
A Way Out	91.00	Primary Purpose	28.00
An AA Group	45.42	Quiet Time	84.33
As Bill Sees It	65.00	Jaywalkers Round Table	100.00
Back to the Basics	8.00	Sat Nite Speakers	223.82
Basic AA	65.50	Saturday Beginners	50.00
Basic Young Peoples	247.00	Sharing N Caring	271.00
Bog Irish	154.76	South Davis AA	40.00
Bountiful Community	120.00	South Enders Davis	301.00
By the Book	185.00	South Valley Lunch	326.00
Came to Believe	50.00	Speak Easy Women	303.71
Chapter Five	104.00	Spiritual Quest	200.00
Closed Meeting of Alcoholics	382.75	Starting The Day	120.00
Come As You Are	262.30	Stonewall Group	203.50
Cottonwood Group	449.69	Sugarhouse	250.98
DNS Group	750.00	Survive & Serve	130.00
Downtown	36.00	Tenth Step Group	45.60
Early Friendship	493.25	Thunder Heart AA	40.00
Eye Opener	100.00	Unity Lunch Bunch	25.00
Fresh Air Serenity Seekers	737.00	Wake Up Call	600.00
Friendship Group	124.87	West Jordan Big Book Study	56.81
Garden Variety	167.00	Women In Sobriety	91.00
Greater Kearns	3.50	Women in the Solution	22.94
Grub Lunch Bunch	344.00	Women Stepping Up	200.00
Happy Destiny	11.75	Young and Alive	40.00
Happy Group	212.83	Contributions Income - Other	1,263.29
			18,137.91

# Your Central Office Committee Updates

**Activities Committee** Kimmi S. reported on the Summer Kick-off/Founders Day Picnic held at Germania Park on June 24, 2012. Games and activities included basketball, volleyball, and shuffleboard. Thanks to all who helped with the collection, sale and distribution of the Extreme Yard Sale. Thanks to all for your contributions for prizes. Kimmi also reported on the Central Office Picnic to be held at Germania Park on August 26, 2012, 11-5 p.m. Volunteers are needed. Contact Christy R. at shayandfrank@hotmail.com to get involved. There will be no charge to attend. Games and activities will include basketball, volleyball, and shuffleboard. The only charges will be for the roasted pig, hot dogs and drinks. See attached flyer.

**Archives Committee** There was nothing to report for last month. The Committee is still waiting on the approval of their proposed budget for supplies. The next Archives Committee meeting will be held at Central Office on July 15, 2012, at 4:00p.m.

**By-Laws Committee** Linda B. reported that the new Amended By-Laws had been printed up showing the changes in the responsibilities of the Standing Chairs with respect to providing reports of their activities. The latest Amended By-Laws (May 8, 2012) were passed out to the CO Representatives. Anyone interested in getting a copy of the newly amended By-Laws can get a hard copy from Central Office or email KentS.kent@babcockscott.com

**Hotline Telephone Committee** Tim H. reported on the Committee's efforts in creating a calendar of open times. Tim H. will be preparing a flyer to distribute to the Groups in order to gain a greater awareness of the need to attract volunteers for the Answering Service. The Board will evaluate the advisability of continuing the Answering Service at the August meeting and report their findings to the CO Representatives. Tim H. will continue to maintain contact with the answering service personnel.

**Literature Committee** Chris H. reported that the latest literature inventory was conducted on July 1, 2012. The new prices of Central Office Literature went into effect on July 8m 2012. Chris reported on the need to keep a steady inventory of soft cover Big Books - at least five cases should be kept on hand. Central Office now has new Grapevine materials: Emotional Sobriety, Young and Sober, and The Story of AA. Contact Chris at chelmers@comcast.net if you or your Group has any literature needs.

**Newsletter Committee** Doug R. was not present. Doug had previously reported to the Board that 450 copies of the LIFELINE were printed; 212 mailed and 138 e-mailed. Articles on the Steps, Traditions and Concepts will continue to be published. Committee Reports, Calendar of Events and information on Central Office activities and operations will continue to be regular features. Articles on experience strength and hope are always welcome. Contact Doug R. at Lifeline@saltlakeaa.org if you are interested having an article published in the LIFELINE, or if you have any information of interest that you would like to have included in the next publication.

**Outreach Committee** The All Groups Meeting was hosted by the Basic Young People's Group. July's All Group's Meeting will be hosted by the Midvale Lunch Bunch. The July meeting schedule is done. If there is any incorrect information, please fill out a meeting change form and leave it with a Central Office volunteer. You can also fill out this form online by going to the Central Office website. Volunteers are still needed to visit meetings that do not have Central Office representatives or otherwise are not participating in Central Office activities. Please contact Wendy W. at wwwhite56@comcast.net and sign up for a grand adventure.

**Twelfth Step Committee** Carl C. was not present but previously reported to the Board on the activities of the Twelfth Step Committee. Calls from the alcoholic who still suffers continue to come in. Carl will be working with Tim to evaluate the Central Office Answering Service. Both Tim and Carl will present a report to the Board and CO Representatives next month.

**Website Committee** Jonathon H. was not present but had previously reported to the Board concerning the activities of the Website Committee. The Website Committee is looking for a volunteer to maintain the Central Office calendar of events. Contact Jonathon at Jonathon.haglund@gmail.com. Jonathon continues to work on the Central Office computers. He also worked on the integration of the new cash register system with the Central Office accounting system. Jonathon is in the process of acquiring software to support the Central Office operations. The Board would like to express its thanks for the many hours of hard work Jonathon has volunteered into keeping the Central Office technology infrastructure up and running and in good working order.

**Volunteer Committee** Betty H. was excused as she will be spending some well-deserved time off at her summer home in Montana. Christy R. reported on the activities of the Volunteer committee. There is now a volunteer coordinator to supervise the volunteers every week day. Christy R. continues to handle Saturdays. Thanks to Christy for her tireless efforts in handling the Central Office on Saturday.

**Central Office Operations Manual** Alan L. is chairing an ad hoc committee to review and revise the Central Office Operations Manual- formerly known as the "SOP." AI and his committee will report on their progress at the next CO Committee meeting.

The Archives Committee budget of \$1,116.70 to purchase supplies was approved.

**Congratulations to Wendy.W.!** Wendy W. has published a slice of her experience, hope and strength in the July Grapevine. The title of the article is "Airport arrival: just in time" and can be found on pp. 52-53.

*If you like the local content, rather than reprints from the A.A. Grapevine, please submit your stories to lifeline@saltlakeaa.org or bring them into the office.*

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