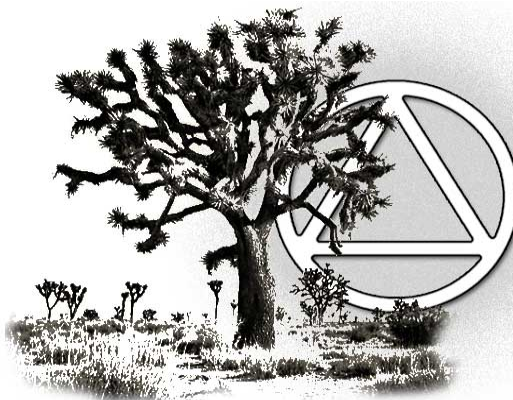


INTO ACTION

VICTOR VALLEY INTERGROUP, CENTRAL OFFICE, INC.
18888 HWY 18 SUITE 107 APPLE VALLEY CA. 92307
TELEPHONE: 760-242-9292
E-mail: vvigco_aa@yahoo.com
www.victorvalleyaa.org



As Spence Sees It

SEPTEMBER 2008

Part two of Any Lengths. Hope you enjoy what you read

Any Lengths

I never took directions, so I don't give directions.

I only make *suggestions* based on my *experience*.

If you desire sobriety, here are some of the things that I suggest you do.

However, if you choose to do otherwise, be prepared to assume responsibility for the consequences that may arise.

My *Suggestions* are:

Personality Traits:

1. **Be honest** – in all that you do.
2. **Say what you mean**, mean what you say, and don't say it mean.
3. **Suit up and show up!** Be on time. Honor your duties and commitments in the world. Arrive properly prepared. Leave it better than you found it.
4. **Pay your bills - Don't go into debt.** Don't spend more money than you make. Save money with an eye toward capital growth and retirement.
5. **Be self-supporting** through your own contributions. If you don't have a job, get one. If you have

a job, give your employer more than they pay you for. Don't steal from your employer (time, material, or money).

6. Complex problems have simple solutions. **Live in the Solution!**
7. Don't **Gossip!** Don't use information you have to harm or manipulate others.
8. **Before** making any decision or taking any action ask yourself: a) Is it any of my business? b) What is my motive?
9. **Be good to yourself.** Don't take yourself too seriously. Easy does it.
10. **Have an attitude of gratitude.** Remember that all you have, from inner peace to job to family to material possessions is a gift of God as granted through the Program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Be grateful and never forget that you must stay grounded in the Program.
11. **Be an example of "How it works."** You are a living Big Book to newcomers and a marvelous breath of fresh air to normies.
12. **Push yourself** to move outside of your comfort zone. (Be a secretary, be a speaker, work on a committee, visit a friend in the hospital, join H&I, make an amends, sign up for college, volunteer in Central Office, get on the 12 step list, etc.) Get and stay on the firing line of life!
13. **Attitude, Attitude, Attitude.** When we stand at the turning point, life and death decisions will turn on our attitude. Humility and willingness are essential.

Minutes Victor Valley Intergroup

16 Aug. 08

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Kara O. who led us in the Serenity Prayer. Tom S. read the Twelve Traditions.

Betty B., read the minutes from the June 08 meeting. Cindy S. motioned to accept them as read, Sheldon S. seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Sheldon S. gave the Treasurer's Report for July 08. Please see the Financial Statement published in the newsletter. Cindy S. motioned to accept the report, Glen R. seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Craig B. gave the Office Manager's Report. For July there were a total of 75 visitors to the office with 320 information calls and three 12 Step calls. Call forwarding had 245 information calls with four 12 Step calls. Out of 150 meetings, only 14 donated last month. Please encourage your groups/meetings to donate.

Old Business: Kara O. asked if there had been any negative feedback on the price of the directories and the answer is, "No."

Craig B. did, however, apologize to The Little House as it was inadvertently omitted from the Summer Directory.

New Business: Craig B. reported that there is still a need for volunteers, both for the office and for call forwarding. The office needs bodies for Mon. mornings, Wed. afternoons, and both shifts on Thurs. Call forwarding people are needed every Sun. (Sun. morning until Mon. morning) and Thurs. night. The only requirements necessary are you have 90 days sober and have your sponsor's approval. Also, there is a new pamphlet available titled "Making a Start in A.A." It is free for now. The idea was taken from another Central Office.

Introductions were made.

Announcements: Betty B. got 18 years on 11 Aug. Cyndi S. announced Lucerne Valley's Celebration of Love on Oct. 4 – 5. There will be Speakers and a potluck with a Bar-B-Q. The Tumbleweed Group has a potluck at 6:00 p.m. and Speaker Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the third Sat. of each month. Kara O. reported that the Convention Committee meets on the third Wed. at 7:00 p.m. at the Alano Club. Helen M. said the Beginner's Meeting at the H.U.G. needs "time."

The 7th Tradition was passed. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE 18 October 2008 AT OF 9:30 A.M. Betty B. motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 a.m., Glen R. seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Submitted by,
~Betty B., Secretary

Far From The Brink

In the last thirty years, I've had ten thousand beers
In saloons, back alleys, 'n' cars
Now down the road from me, the tender won't see
My belly pressed up 'gainst his bar
I guess Morgan's Place, was my first drinking place
Though I was twelve 'n' too young to drink
All through the week, Mom, Dad, 'n' me
Got so drunk we couldn't even think
Hokie House for me, was as good as could be
Though it sometimes ruined my grades
As I stumbled back home, I'd mindlessly roam
To the place my reputation was made
Bitter Creek Saloon, made me howl at the moon
Five or six nights a week
Ohio's a great place, to get you pea-faced
'N' paddle your bark up the Creek
For a decade I swore, Raccoon Saloon meant more
Than the home where I seldom lived
I could drink my rent, down to my last cent
'Til I didn't have a good damn to give
I found me some grog, at the Ole Lost Hog
Where my restless mind longed to roam
In ole Oro Grande, I'd drink like a man
And wee-wee-wee all the way home
When there wasn't a bar, I'd just drink in my car
The bottle stashed neatly away
There were no pesky tips, as I drove I took nips
Keeping mad mothers mad was my way
The last thirty months, I nightly see drunks
Yet few has had us a drink
You're sober like me, 'n' all of us see
The good life lived far from the brink

~Ed L.

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help, I want
the hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.

TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

from the A.A. Grapevine

These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

Practice These Principles....

Tradition Nine: AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

1. Do I still try to boss things in AA?
2. Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?
3. Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?
4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
6. Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?
7. Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes?
8. What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

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A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future:

To place our common welfare first;

To keep our Fellowship united.

For on A.A. unity depends our lives,

And the lives of those to come.

Lord,

Teach me to be generous.

Teach me to serve you as you deserve;

To give and not count the cost;

To fight and not heed the wounds;

To toil and not to seek for rest;

To labor and not to ask for reward,

Except to know that I am doing Your will.

Amen

St. Ignatious

2008 Group Contributions Are down As of July 31st, 2008 34 out of 201 groups/meetings Have contributed, Or 17% of the Groups in the Victor Valley.

Your 7th tradition Group contributions will make the difference in carrying our "vital services" that our need for the alcoholic who calls us for help. Each day that your Group participates in the work of our local A.A. services, whether through Group Contributions, Individual contribution, Sobriety Birthday contributions, or newsletter contribution, or those who "contribute their time" something wonderful happens in A.A.

When a newcomer calls us and finds your meeting, it is indeed a miracle. Your Groups contribution shows that you care about the services we provide and continued hope for the newcomer that reaches out for help. Words cannot fully express the deep gratitude everyone at your Central Office Intergroup feels about the energy that you're A.A. Group devotes into carrying the message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic.

~ Craig B.

Apple Valley

Back To Basics Speakers

September 6	Frank H	Diamond Bar
September 13	Lynn B.	Chino Hills
September 20	Connie B	Crestline
September 27	Mike B.	???

"The Saturday 7:00 PM Maple Street Speaker Meeting is one of the best-kept secrets in the AA Hi-Desert. Excellent speakers week after week. Please join us and bring your spouse or a friend!" 8518 Maple, Nazarene Church

~Kathy F.

Corrections:

V-1 Little House address was left off the new summer Directories my apologies Craig B.

V-1 15624 6th. Street Victorville CA.

New Women's Meeting in Hesperia CA.

When: Wednesday's at 7:00 pm

Where: Crosswalk Charter School

12061 Jacaranda suite 3

Corner of Bear Valley Rd. and
Jacaranda Rd. (Behind the liquor store).

Who: Sisters In Sobriety

Format: closed women's meeting

Apologies

Thank You Bonnie C. for that wonderful article in last months newsletter. (A Commitment To Our Intergroup Office!). I am sorry that I left off your name. I also make mistakes. Again thank you...

~Andrew A.

INTO ACTION

Lucerne Valley Speaker Meeting

September 3	Patty W.	Big Bear
September 10	Brian	Camp Fire
September 17	Bob D.	Huntington Beach
September 24	Charles K.	Highland
October 1	Jason A.	Lucerne Valley
October 8	Josh	Lucerne Valley
October 15	James	Casa Colina

Join us out in Lucerne Valley for some wonderful Speakers 32744 Old Woman Springs Rd.

Rx for Sobriety

Smith & Wilson A.A.

12 Steps practiced in all our affairs -- Pages 59-60

Trust Higher Power & Clean House -- Page 98

Share Experience, Strength and Hope

Stay Active in Service

One Day At A Time for the rest of our life

A handshake, smile and hug as often as possible

Dr. Bob S.

Bill W.

Recovery Guaranteed

MORAL	PROSAIC	PRUDENT	NADIR
HUMBLE	IMPOSE	FALLACY	EXCERPTS
ZEAL	WILL	WREST	VIGOR
TRUDGE	UTOPIA	TRIFLE	TENETS

H	T	E	X	L	I	A	H	Y	C	E	W
J	U	M	O	R	A	L	V	T	I	L	R
G	C	M	T	N	D	E	N	L	A	F	E
S	E	B	B	G	A	E	Z	L	S	I	S
I	T	A	Z	L	D	D	O	I	O	R	T
M	A	P	A	U	E	S	I	W	R	T	C
P	U	I	R	J	T	L	Q	R	P	X	D
O	A	P	P	E	F	A	L	L	A	C	E
S	N	Q	N	O	C	R	O	G	I	V	V
E	M	E	U	A	T	X	C	J	F	Z	E
R	T	A	N	T	U	U	E	K	J	I	T
P	E	G	D	U	R	T	X	T	Q	P	B