

March 2024

STEP THREE

"Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God."

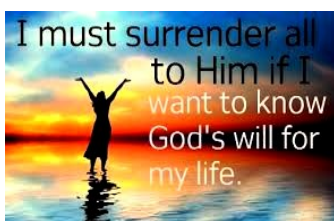
All of the Twelve Steps require sustained and personal exertion to conform to their principles and so, we trust to God's will.

It is when we try to make our will conform with God's, that we begin to use it right. To all of us, this was a most wonderful revelation

Our whole trouble had been the misuse of willpower. We had tried to bombard our problems with it instead of attempting to bring it into agreement with God's intention for us.

To make this increasingly possible is the purpose of A.A.'S Twelve Steps, and Step Three opens the door.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 40 Reprinted with permission of A.A.© World Services, Inc.



Our Third Step Spiritual Principle



TRADITION THREE

SHORT FORM

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking.

LONG FORM

"Our membership ought to include all who suffer from 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 that, as a group, they have no other affiliation."

Why did A.A. finally drop all its membership regulations? Why did we leave it to each newcomer to decide himself whether he was an alcoholic and whether he should join us? Why did we dare to say, contrary to the experience of society and government everywhere, that we would neither punish or deprive any A.A. of membership, that we must never compel anyone to pay anything, believe anything, or conform to anything? The answer, now seen in Tradition Three, was simplicity itself. At last experience taught us that to take away any alcoholic's full chance was sometimes to pronounce his death sentence, and often to condemn him to endless misery.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 141 Reprinted with permission of A.A.W.S., Inc.

FAITH IS TO BELIEVE WHAT YOU DO NOT SEE; THE REWARD OF THIS FAITH IS TO SEE WHAT YOU BELIEVE.

Saint Augustine

CONCEPT THREE

"To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional "Right of Decision."

"For, except for the specific directions in these documents, every trusted servant and every A.A. entity — at all levels of service has the right "to decide how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each particular problem or situation as it arises."

That is, they can "decide which problems they will dispose of themselves and upon which matters they will report, consult, or ask specific directions." This is "the essence of "The Right of Decision."

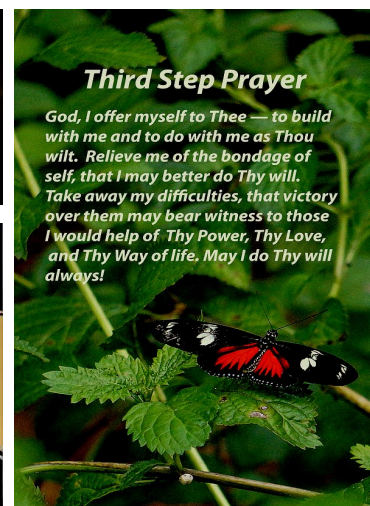
Bill warns against using "The Right of Decision" as an excuse for failure to make the proper reports of actions taken; or for exceeding a clearly defined authority; or for failing to consult the proper people before making an important decision. But he concludes: "Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other."

The text above is an excerpt from the A.A. conference approved pamphlet (P8) The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated.



Third Step Prayer

God, I offer myself to Thee — to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life. May I do Thy will always!



Faith without works was dead, he said. And how appallingly true for the alcoholic! For if an alcoholic failed to perfect and enlarge his spiritual life through work and self-sacrifice for others, he could not survive the certain trials and low spots ahead. If he did not work, he would surely drink again, and if he drank, he would surely die.

Alcoholics Anonymous©, Big Book, pp14-15, Bill's Story Reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc.

**VICTOR VALLEY INTERGROUP / CENTRAL OFFICE
SERVICE BOARD**

Chair	Heather T
Co-Chair	
Treasurer	Joe T
Secretary	Doug H
Office Co-Managers	Max L-Waylon
Central Office - I.G.R.	Kara K
Newsletter Editor	Sandy D

DISTRICT 19-GSR COMMITTEE

Cities in the District

Adelanto, Apple Valley, Barstow, Hesperia, Lucerne Valley,
Newberry Springs, Phelan, Trona, Victorville, Wrightwood, &
Yermo

PANEL 74 BOARD

DC MEETING CHAIR	OPEN
ALTERNATE DCMC	Bob O
REGISTRAR	Bob O
SECRETARY	Liz Y
TREASURER	Marty H
ARCHIVES	Leslie A

Liaisons and Chairs

Grapevine/La Vina	(Chair)	Nick K
Hospitals & Institutions	(Liaison)	Shelly J
CPC/PI	Co-Chairs	Marianne B/ Sandy D
Intergroup	(Liaison)	
CEC	(Chair)	

GSR HOME GROUP

Bob O	Soldiers for Sobriety/ Grapevine/ Daily Reflections Ft Irwin
Bob O	Big Book/ Happy Hour Barstow
Jerry M	Tumbleweed T.G.I.F.
Liz Y	Alano Club H.U.G.
Marty H	Sunday Evening Campfire Wrightwood
Nick K	Men's Stag Wrightwood
Mike M (Alt)	Sunday Open Participation Wrightwood
Tom W	
Daniel H	

MID-SOUTHERN CA AREA 09
PO BOX 51446
IRVINE, CA 92619-1446
<https://www.msca09aa.org>

District 19 Correspondence
P.O. Box 3096 Victorville, California 92395
E-mail: msca09d19@gmail.com

MSCA 09 Panel 74 Delegate: Alex W.
Emails: msca09.delegate74@gmail.com
Or: delegate@msca09aa.org
Call or text: 954- 654- 3149

NEWSLETTER for the Fellowship
is available online at:
www.victorvalleyaa.org

To receive a monthly link, contact:
newsletterforthefellowship@yahoo.com

GET your AA Birthday PUBLISHED
Have your group Chip person
call Central Office or
E-MAIL YOUR INFO TO:
fellowshipbirthdays@gmail.com

With the following:
AA MEMBERS SOBRIETY DATE,
FIRST NAME & LAST INITIAL
March 27, 2024
Is DEADLINE for
April 2024 publication
For your Fellowship announcements!



**Mid-So. California Area 09 (MSCA09), PANEL 74
DISTRICT-19/GSR Committee**

Meets the 4th Sunday each month 12:30 pm @ the H.U.G.
15885 Main St, Suite 310 (s/w corner: 8th & Main) Hesperia, Ca 92345

ZOOM ID: 82791277692 PASSCODE: 76856

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 Business Meeting GSR REPORTS

Bob O Soldiers for Sobriety/Grapevine/Daily Reflections Ft Irwin Meetings are on base, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm-7pm @ Bldg. 452, Army Substance Abuse Office. For more info, contact 760-985-3462

Bob O Big Book/Happy Hour/Barstow Desert Group Saturday 9:30 am Big Book Study follows via YouTube. Monday 5 pm Happy Hour now at 129 White St., the Alano Club.

Courtney Rule 62 /Women Only-Barstow Tuesdays 7pm at 800 Yucca Ave. Potluck last Tuesday of the month, and on that Tuesday, it starts at 6:30pm Great group of gals, & 3 newcomers last mtg.

Anthony Into Action /Men's Stag-Barstow Wednesdays 6pm Alano Club. 10-20 in size & many will be participating in the Ride for Recovery in April.

Jerry M Tumbleweed The groups present location at 14843 7th, has purchased a business license through the City of Victorville. Needed: 2 secretaries for Happy Hour (1) Mon & (1) Thurs

Liz Y T.G.I.F. @8pm Attendees Friday totaled 49 years of sobriety for their customary "countdown." The last Friday each month birthdays are celebrated. ALL AAs are invited to attend for FREE, FUN, FELLOWSHIP

Marty H Sunday Evening Campfire Alano Club 7pm The meetings are being hosted indoors this month

Nick K H.U.G. No problems at the H.U.G. All is well

Mike M (Alt) H.U.G. Is self-supporting through their own contributions, \$400/\$600 p/month. Secretary needed Wed 7pm

Tom W Men's Stag Wrightwood . Absent due to illness. No report

Daniel H Sunday AM Open Participation, Wrightwood All is well at the Old Firehouse. A generally well attended meeting

Welcome and thank you Courtney and Anthony, Barstow GSR's, for your participation

VVIGCO SERVICE BOARD COMMITTEE

Business Meeting Minutes February 17, 2024

Meeting called to order by Waylon at 8:50am Present: Waylon, Doug, Kara, Heather, Margie, Karen and name redacted on request of anonymity

The minutes from previous month were read by Doug and were approved as read

Treasurers Report	Income	\$2374.17
	Expenses	\$2135.94
	Net increase/decrease	\$ 238.23

Newsletter Report: Over 100 hard copy newsletters were distributed to AA locations in the high desert. Central Office supplying the paper, while Sandy has provided printing and toner. On sites, if it helps one more alcoholic from suffering, we're happy to be of service.

H and I Report ABSENT, No report.

Webmaster Report: Website is running well. Meetings are regularly updated. Waylon and Jim are currently working on a webstore to increase potential sales revenue. A complete overhaul for the website itself is planned in the near future.

GSR Report: Not present, no report

Office Managers Report	Checking = \$1560.00	Savings = \$5004.52
Office Visits	Information calls 55	12 step calls 4
Call Forwarding	calls 32	12 step calls 2
Total	calls 87	12 step calls 6

Old Business: Discuss moving the Intergroup meeting to a time frame that may work better for everyone, and general attendance. Intergroups physical meeting will remain unchanged, however it was voted that we are to make a zoom meeting for people to participate remotely. It was also voted in that group representatives can vote in absentia in regards to major issues when issues are tabled for 30 days if there isn't enough representatives at the current meeting.

Ride for recovery update. Everything is set in stone, facilitating cash ticket presales. Insurance & amp; AED/CPR/First-Aid Certs were forwarded to DEVA.

Continued on next pg



FDP update. The hours were extended to run from 10am-3pm, and District has provided \$325.⁰⁰ toward the space rent. We have all the necessary funds to proceed with the event itself; however donations are always accepted. All further contributions go toward next years event & amp; to keep the central office running.

Officer/Board Elections – Elections were tabled for a month due to low attendance. We are looking for a chair, co-chair, and treasurer.

Possible switch to Wells Fargo
for the business account due to new articles of incorporation & amp; bryan still being the account head.

New Business Facilitating absentee votes – passed - Intergroups physical meeting will remain unchanged, however it was voted that we are to make a zoom meeting for people to participate remotely. It was also voted in that group representatives can vote in absentia in regards to major issues when issues are tabled for 30 days if there isn't enough representatives at the current meeting.

Possible switch to gmail next intergroup so that we can **switch off Microsoft 365 to google docs** – passed - Intergroup will transition to google/gmail/google forms from the current set up to lower costs and to more effectively coordinate with other entities/volunteers.

Possible switch to Wells Fargo for the business account due to new articles of incorporation & amp; Bryan still being the account head. passed New Articles of incorporation are pending filing, along with a new statement of information. As of (3/5/2024) I am working with Bryan to get him off the Chase account, if this process continues to drag on we will open a new account entirely at Wells Fargo.



Subscription Pricing Changes ...coming soon for **AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.**

AA GRAPEVINE, the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous, will increase the price of its print magazine for the first time in over 12 years.

The new price for a yearly subscription is \$36.00, effective April 15,2024.

Grapevine has held the print magazine price steady through challenging times over the past four years — with costs for paper, printing and shipping all increasing substantially.

The Grapevine Board recognizes that we can no longer sustain the magazine's costs at the current price. Subscribers will receive discounts when ordering over multiple years, or by purchasing the "Complete" option, which includes the print magazine and full access to the website and new mobile app. Digital subscription prices will stay at the current rates. Active subscribers will stay All prices are listed in US dollars and are subject to Canadian or International conversion rates at their current rate until their term ends.

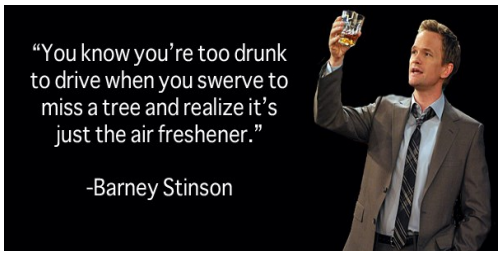
New Subscription prices US and Canada

Product	Price
Print one year	\$36.00
Print two year	\$68.00
Print three year	\$90.00
Digital one month	\$2.99
Digital one year	\$29.99
Grapevine Complete one month	\$6.00.
Grapevine Complete one year	\$56.00
Grapevine Complete two years	\$98.00
G-vine Complete three years	\$130.00

All prices are listed in US dollars and are subject to Canadian or International conversion rates.

For additional information visit us at

www.aagrapevine.org/announcement



Sister Ignatia: The Catholic nun behind Alcoholics Anonymous

In a 1951 article titled "A Catholic Looks at Alcoholics Anonymous," author Katherine Neuhaus Haffner wrote: Darrah further adds:

What is Alcoholics Anonymous? AA is not, as is sometimes supposed, just another temperance movement, a new, fanatical reform crusade. It is a society, operating in groups, that is founded upon spiritual principles, these principles closely parallel Catholic teaching. In its reliance on grace, moral inventory taking, its confessional aspect and its emphasis on outreach, Haffner argued, "A Catholic member of AA should be a better Catholic as the result of his affiliation with this society and vice versa."

Many are unaware of the role Catholics played in AA's early years. One of the key figures was a nun from Ohio named Sister Ignatia Gavin, S.C. (1889-1966). At St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, she helped Dr. Robert H. Smith, AA's co-founder, to dispel the notion that alcoholism was a moral defect, rather than a spiritual, mental and physical disease.

Bridget Della Mary Gavin was one of three children born to a farmer in County Mayo, Ireland. Even as a child, she had what her biographer calls a "raw compassion" for alcoholism:

Whenever I would see anyone under the influence of alcoholism, it actually made my heart sick. I would try to offer everlasting reparation to the Sacred Heart of Our Lord to make up for the offense against His Divine Majesty.

In 1896, the Gavins emigrated to Cleveland, Ohio. Bridget graduated from Catholic schools, studied music, and taught music. In 1914, she joined the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, a community that ran schools and hospitals statewide. At 25, she was considered a "late vocation," and given the name Ignatia.

(Taking a new name signifies that a deep change has occurred in the person entering religious life.)

As her community opened St. Thomas Hospital in Akron in 1928, she was appointed the admitting officer. There she got to know Dr. Robert Holbrook Smith, who, after a bout with alcoholism, had been removed from the rosters of Akron's more prestigious hospitals.

Beginning in 1934, Sister Ignatia began privately ministering to alcoholics with the help of a young intern, Dr. Thomas Scuderi. She tried to treat alcoholics from both a medical and pastoral standpoint, then an uncharted field. Scuderi recalled: "She was a great influence on my life as a physician. She taught me about loving people."

At a time when chronic alcoholics were routinely sent to mental asylums, Sister Ignatia realized that they needed a healing beyond what medicine could provide. At the same time, she noted, hospitals had "little enthusiasm about admitting people who were imbibing too freely."

On August 16, 1939, Dr. Smith persuaded her to officially admit an alcoholic patient to St. Thomas. Ignatia began the first hospital treatment center for alcoholics, which one historian calls "a model for many chemical treatment programs in the United States."

Although slight and frail in appearance, her biographer Mary Darrah notes, "A knowing intensity of expression all at once overcame her otherwise fragile features."

Put briefly, AA's angel was a strong, empathetic woman who extracted goodness from every situation and resolved to leave the world a little better than she found it. Ignatia had all the charisma of an Irish anamchara, or soul friend, so she easily folded the troubled into her heart.

One patient recalled: "She saved my life. I found God and sobriety through her. She loved me when there was nothing about me to love. She was AA's angel." But hers was a "tough love" that required total abstinence from alcohol and drugs, acknowledgement of one's dependence on a higher power, commitment to the AA program, and outreach to those still suffering. Ignatia had a great devotion to the spiritual teachings of St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, particularly his notion of "love through action." She found a strong parallel between the saint's writings and AA's Twelve Steps. Her spirituality was ecumenical. To a Protestant patient, she said:

The importance of our religion lies in our making it heavenly to those around us. In its essentials Catholicism is not as far apart as you suppose, from the beliefs of our separated brethren ... love can surmount every obstacle.

In 1952, Ignatia opened Rosary Hill Solarium in Cleveland, where she worked for 14 years. During her lifetime, an estimated 15,000 alcoholics came under her care. As a result of her ministry, one author notes, "the alcoholics' world changed." At the time of her death in 1966, one commentator said: "If the Catholic Church doesn't canonize her, the Protestants will make her a saint." The Sisters poured more than 6,000 cups of coffee at her wake.

Condensed excerpts reprinted from an article @ Aletea.org,

MARCH IS WOMENS HISTORY MONTH



INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY MARCH 8th



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME MARCH 10th

*IDM ~ Pi Day ~ MARCH 14th

ST PATRICK'S DAY MARCH 17th

FIRST DAY OF SPRING MARCH 19th

EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31st

COMING IN APRIL

DEATH VALLEY RIDE FOR RECOVERY 4/5 & 4/6

HIGH DESERT AA WOMENS BRUNCH 4/27



The Language of the Heart

18th ANNUAL AA HIGH DESERT WOMEN'S BRUNCH

Bear Valley Country Club *formerly Spring Valley Lake Country Club*
Saturday April 27, 2024 from 10:30 am until 3:00pm
Guest Speaker Carol M. from Orange, Ca
50/50 Raffle Drawing \$65 p/ticket
LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE

For more information contact: Melissa S 760-220-4016 or Lori T 760-486-6549

18th Annual Ride for Recovery & Poker Ride

April 5th & 6th Begins in Barstow @ Alamo Club, and Ends in Beatty Nevada
\$52 INCLUDES LUNCH Purchase your ticket online at: www.eventbrite.com/rideforrecovery
For more info contact Tonie P 760-331-3015 or Lloyd R 760-964-9586



**AREA 09 MSCA
MARCH AREA SERVICE
COMMITTEE**

SUNDAY, MARCH 10,
HOSTED BY DISTRICT 09
HYBRID EVENT

ZOOM INFO:
MEETING I.D: 89661666203
PASSWORD: P74service

HOT LUNCH
FREE PARKING
NETWORKING & MORE...

**REGISTRATION 8 AM
SERVICE (ASC) 9 AM-4 PM**

480 South Sunrise Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262
MSCA09AA.org

miz
COUNTRY CLUB FULL OF LIFE

**If I drink Alcohol
I am Alcoholic
but if I drink
Fanta
does that make me
FANTASTIC?**



38th Annual Sunshine of the Spirit High Desert Convention
With Al-Anon Participation
May 31—June 2, 2024
Courtyard Marriott 9619 Mariposa Rd., Hesperia, CA 92345
Registration \$30 Additional costs for events onsite
Hotel reservations: 760-956-3876 for room rates mention AA Convention
AA Chair Kim W 909-908-4707
AA Registrar Rick G 310-290-0545
for more information
For Al-Anon Chair Karen P 626-422 1946
After May 13, 2024, all events + \$5.⁰⁰

In Honor of our Co-founders, **BILL W & DR. BOB**
The VICTOR VALLEY INTERGROUP CENTRAL OFFICE
HOSTS

OUR ANNUAL FOUNDERS DAY PICNIC

SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2024

APPLE VALLEY CIVIC CENTER PARK

14999 DALE EVANS PARKWAY AV, CA 92307

10 AM ~ 3 PM

ALL ARE WELCOME ~ WE HAVE THE BURGERS & BUNS
THE REST IS YOUR CALL. AND BRING YOUR FAVORITES

For a fun day filled with festivities, food, and fellowship

Guest speaker: Jeryl T

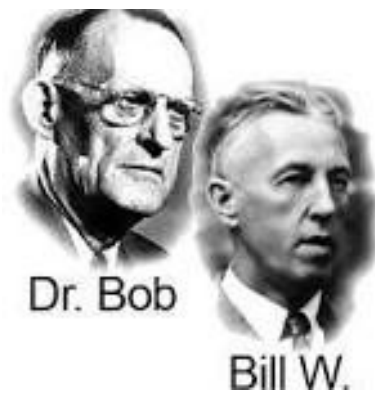
Costa Mesa, CA



**Still looking for a
WILD SATURDAY NIGHT**

The H.U.G. Presents
Saturday 7 pm
SPEAKER MEETING
MARCH AA QUESTS

March 09 Tom K Ontario
 March 16 Heidi G Sherman Oaks
 March 23 Wendy G San Dimas
 March 30 Juan O Chino



AA SOBERVERSARIES MARCH 2024

Another year, without a Drink, **SOBER!**
HAPPY BIRTHDAY To all



Billy W
 Frank A
 Tim T
 Cindy B
 Liz B
 Diane M
 David D
 Blanche P
 Cecelia P
 Jenny M
 Kim M
 Tannis H
 Seth C

March 01, 2019
 March 02, 1991
 March 03, 1996
 March 03, 2001
 March 03, 2023
 March 04, 1983
 March 04, 1998
 March 05, 2023
 March 06, 2007
 March 11, 2016
 March 13, 2013
 March 14, 2017
 March 15, 2009

Silver Lakes/Helendale
 Tumbleweed
 Tumbleweed
 AV Church of the Nazarene
 Tumbleweed
 AV Church of the Nazarene
 Tumbleweed
 Tumbleweed
 AV Church of the Nazarene
 AV Church of the Nazarene
 AV Church of the Nazarene
 AV Church of the Nazarene
 Barstow

Mary Ellen
 Mark
 David P
 Damon
 Valarie
 Gary E
 Danielle B
 Roger G
 Kathy R

March 16, 1977
 March 17, 1989
 March 17, 2023
 March 23, 2023
 March 25, 1994
 March 26, 1984
 March 28, 2018
 March 29, 2023
 March 30, 2010

AV Church of the Nazarene & C.O.V.
 Tumbleweed
 Barstow
 Tumbleweed
 Tumbleweed
 H.U.G.
 Silver Lakes/Helendale
 Tumbleweed
 AV Church of the Nazarene

FAITH
 is like Wi-Fi,
 it's invisible but
 it has the power
 to connect you to
 what you need.

