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Yes! Enclosed is my \$5.00 check for 12 Monthly Mailed Issues				
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**LATEST NEWS** 

- + Events
- + Meetings
- + Recovery
- + Fellowship

12 Monthly

Updates

only **\$5.** 

Per Year

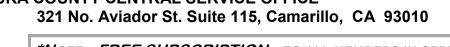
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Mail this subscription form to:

**VENTURA COUNTY CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE** 



\*NOTE—FREE SUBSCRIPTION: TO ALL MEMBERS IN SERVICE POSITIONS: Meeting Secretaries, Intergroup Representatives and GSR's who register with Central Office, will automatically receive The Tradition each month at no charge. If you'd like to receive a free copy in the mail, please submit this subscription form and note the service position you are now filling. Stay informed, order now!

Non Profit Org.



# **Spiritual Experience**

As soon as I opened my eyes that Saturday morning, I was in a state of panic. How in the world was I going to find a place to live and move in 24 hours? I had very little money and very little resources. Weary, I went into the kitchen to make coffee, all the while dealing with those racing thoughts...what if I don't find a place? I will have to store my things and sleep on someone's couch...l hate him for doing this to me! He knew all along he wasn't ready to move in together! I was so scared! My heart, which I had been protecting my whole life, was broken. My idea of love, now shattered. How could he tell me to find another place to live, 3 days before we were to move in together? The anger and resentment was overwhelming! My mind felt like it was going to explode and my body was weak.

Grateful for the warmth of the mug and the heavenly smell of coffee, I headed back to bed to sip some hot comfort into my veins and to read my pages, the way I start every day. In a kind of mental haze. I sat the cup down on the bedside table and picked up my books. I read the first few pages and took another anxiety-ridden gulp of the warm liquid, not even able to retain what I had just read. Reaching now for the book that had become my favorite, hoping to find some magic answer to this dilemma, I tried again to relax my thoughts and take in the wisdom on the

page. Frustrated even more after failing at the attempt of calming down, put all the books back on the nightstand and picked up the cup.

I didn't want to move. I didn't want to pack. I just wanted to give up. I relaxed against the pillow with my legs straight out in front of me. After a few seconds, a tingling sensation started in my toes, into my feet and then began to slowly move up my legs. I did not pay very much attention to it at first. Then it spread higher, up into my torso and then down her arms. and then all the way to the top of her head. What was happening to me made me think of the end of the movie, Beauty And The Beast. Belle has only seconds to tell Beast that she loves him before the last petal of the magic rose falls. She whispers, " love you" just in time. Beast lay on the ground almost dead, when bright, blinking lights surrounding him. He is lifted into the air as he transitions back into the Prince in a flurry of sparkles and electricity. When the tingles in my body had subsided, I was overwhelmed again, this time with a sense of calm and relief, a feeling of absolute peace. It was as if I had not a care in the world! Taking a deep breath I exhaled and said to myself out loud, "I guess I'll go take a shower and get going".

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- ♦ A review of Tradition #6
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### Info Lines ..

Visit Our Website. Just want a meeting or other A.A. information? Check out the expanded Ventura County website. www.aaventuracounty.org

**Ventura County Central** Service Office Inc. 321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115 Camarillo, Ca. 93010

24 Hour Telephones

(805) 389-1444 (800) 990-7550

Fax (805) 389-2912

vcaaco@verizon.net



On May 12, 1935, at the Seiberling Estate in Akron Ohio, two strangers met for the first time - one's sobriety hanging on a thread; the other's soon to begin. This meeting was the beginning of a movement that would change the future of alcoholics around the world. This month we celebrate Founder's day on June 10<sup>th</sup>, the day of Dr. Bob's last drink and the day that is widely accepted as the founding day of Alcoholics Anonymous. We should all take a moment to reflect on how this meeting between Bill and Bob has changed our lives and the lives of those around us. Two men whose initial goal was to save themselves, ended up saving millions. In the spirit of the program we pass along the message, keeping the legacy of these two great men alive.

## I AM RESPONSIBLE

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

**Recycle Your Copies of** 

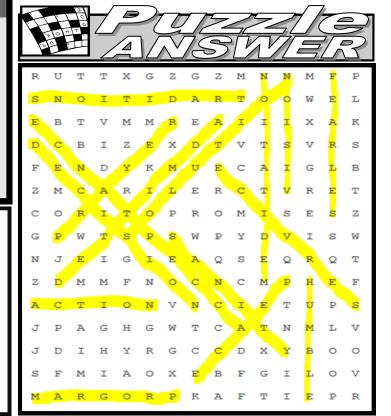
# **The Grapevine Magazine**

The Grapevine is timeless! Articles written ten or twenty years ago are still fresh and inspiring.

Central Office provides a box for collecting back issues of The Grapevine. These issues are picked up by H & I and re-circulated in institutions and jails. So . . . before discarding your back issues, bring them in for use by another recovering alcoholic! Recycle and help spread recovery by sharing the stories of A.A.







### Due to the downturn in the economy...

June 2015

...we will NO LONGER be due and membership "Free", as has been the case for almost 80 years. Like many businesses, we will now be charging for some things that used to be free, such as:

- 1--Being Rocketed into the 4th Dimension---\$49.99 per trip, fuel surcharge applies, extra baggage NOT included. 5th dimension trips optional, see your sponsor for details.
- 2--Sponsorship--was free, NOW \$9.99 per month, with 4 visits/20 phone calls per month free, after that, \$2.00 each.
- 3--Membership Dues now \$29.99/month, 10% discount for a 1-year plan.
- 4--Seating charges--Each seat now \$2.00 per meeting, with a 20% discount for the 90-in-90 plan. (verification maybe required)
- 5--Pink Cloud was free, NOW \$14.99 per cloud, with a \$5.00 per event environmental cleanup fee. These are the NEW ozone-free Pink Clouds that do NOT add to global warming.
- 6--Coffee to be \$1.50 per cup, with a 10% discount with a pre-paid "punch card" of 5 or more cups,
- 7--Hugs now will be \$2.50 each.
- 8--Conscious Contact with GOD now \$9.99/month, with the first 450 minutes free, then 0.10 cents/minute fee over. New Double your minutes for life plan is a low 49.99 one time charge. Holidays and weekends extra, see rate schedule, as GOD is VERY busy.
- 9--Accidental cell phone going off charge now set at \$25.00 per episode.
- 10--"I've been Thinking" fees to now be \$3.00 each, with a relapse re-entry fee of only \$99.99 each, if your lucky enough to make it back into the rooms. \*Please, void where prohibited by law, we reserve the right to change none, all, or some of these rates at anytime, with no notice to you. If you need a notice of change of rates, a written request may be sent to headquarters in Parody, AL (a \$10.00 fee applies)



District 13
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 166

Ventura, CA 93002

Gold Coast Districts (9 & 12)

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 132
Camarillo, Ca. 93011

District 24

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 843 Simi Valley, CA 93065

**District 28** 

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3432 Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Area 93

Mailing Address:
PMB #140
606 Alamo Pintado #3
Solvang, CA 93463

**AAWS** 

P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163 (212)870-3400

# 2015 International AA Convention July 2-5, 2015 Atlanta Georgia www.aa.org

AA & AL-ANON 39th
Sequoia Camp-out
July 2-6, 2015
Terry (562) 852-4323 RSVP

### **District 28 4th of July Picnic**

Conejo Community Park
Dover & Hendrix in Thousand Oaks
Food from 11:30 - 2:00
Meeting 2:30-3:00

Santa Paula Pig Roast
July 17-19, 2015
Lake Casitas, CA
santapaulapigroast@aol.com

Ventura County AA Convention

BINGO Fundraiser

July 25th

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

NEW LOCATION

Camarillo Community Center

1605 E. Burnley St

Camarillo, CA 93010

### **The Ventura County Central Office**

has listings and flyers of many other
AA related events in Southern
California and throughout the
United States.

Call 805-389-1444 or drop by to see us even if it's only for a cup of coffee.

www.aaventuracounty.org

# June 2015 Calendar

Fri 5th 6:00 pm H & I Board Mtg @ Central Office

Wed 3rd 6:00 pm District 13 GSR Meeting @ Ventura Center for Spiritual Living @ 101 S. Laurel, Ventura

Thu 4th 7:00 pm Inter-group Board Meeting @ Central Office

Sat 13th 10:00 am Newsletter Stuff and Fold @ Central Office

Sun 14th 12:00 pm VCYPAA Committee Mtg Central Office 4 pm VCAA Convention Planning Mtg Central Office 5.30 pm H & I Committee Mtg @ Central Office

Wed 10th 7:00 pm Inter-group Meeting @ The Buck 321 N Aviador Suite 111, Camarillo

Tue 16th 7:00 pm GSR District 28 Meeting @
King of Glory Lutheran Church
2500 Borchard Road, Newbury Park

Wed 17th 7:00 pm Gold Coast Districts General Service Mtg
The Buck 321 N Aviador Ste 111 Camarillo

Thu 18th 7:00 pm District 24 General Service Meeting
United Methodist Church 2394 Erringer Rd
Rm # 10, Simi Valley

Sun 28th 12:00 pm VCYPAA Committee Mtg @ Central Office

June 23rd Last day to submit items to the July Newsletter



# July 2015 Calendar

Fri 3rd 6:00 pm H & I Board Mtg @ Central Office

Wed 1st 6:00 pm District 13 GSR Meeting @ Ventura Center for Spiritual Living @ 101 S. Laurel, Ventura

Thu 2nd 7:00 pm Inter-group Board Meeting @ Central Office

Sat 11th 10:00 am Newsletter Stuff and Fold @ Central Office

Sun 12th 12:00 pm VCYPAA Committee Mtg Central Office 4 pm VCAA Convention Planning Mtg Central Of-

fice

5.30 pm H & I Committee Mtg @ Central Office

Wed 8th 7:00 pm Inter-group Meeting @ The Buck 321 N Aviador Suite 111, Camarillo

Tue 21st 7:00 pm GSR District 28 Meeting @
King of Glory Lutheran Church
2500 Borchard Road, Newbury Park

Wed 15th 7:00 pm Gold Coast Districts General Service Mtg
The Buck 321 N Aviador Ste 111 Camarillo

Thu 23rd 7:00 pm District 24 General Service Meeting
United Methodist Church 2394 Erringer Rd
Rm # 10, Simi Valley

Sun 26th 12:00 pm VCYPAA Committee Mtg @ Central Office

July 24th Last day to submit items to the August Newsletter

### A Review of Tradition #6

"An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose."

- Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital?
- Is it good for a group to lease a small build ing?
- Are all the officers and members of our local clubs for AAs familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs" (which is available free from GSO)?
- Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?
- Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and a card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?

### Living Step # 5

### "Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."

After sharing all of our guilt and resentments at step five, we now move on to step six. This is where we now humble ourselves to God and sincerely ask him to remove our defects of character. Also, to continue to give us the strength to stay sober and the ability to live a life that reflects honesty, caring and the will to improve our personal character.

By being willing to clean house, we are opening the door for God to guide our lives, one day at a time, through prayer and meditation, so that we don't repeat the errors of our past.

Many of us have been apprehensive about the results of taking this step, wondering if this action will work for us as it has for many thousands of Alcoholics in recovery. If we ask, God will certainly forgive our derelictions of the past, but it is up to us to be willing to work for progress. Remember that we seek progress, not perfection. Recovery in AA is a journey in life and not a destination.

(See Pg. 63 "Twelve steps & twelve traditions")

# \* Poets' Corner \*

# 36TH ANNUAL VCAAC CONVENTION IS ACCEPTING PRIZE DONATIONS!

We are looking for donations from AA members and AA groups for **NEW ITEMS** to be raffled off or awarded as prizes during the Bingo fundraiser, to be held on July 25, 2014. Any support is appreci-

What we need is new items to be placed in baskets as prizes, or to be raffled off individually (depending on value), items such as:

- Tickets for sporting, movie, travel or
   Entertainment events
- Candy or other food items—Books
- Gardening items—Sporting Goods
- Gift certificates—Music & Video DVD's
   Items for children or babies—Jewelry
- BBQ items, Electronic Equipment
- AA related materials Etc, etc, etc.

Any support is appreciated. Questions, Donations, please contact:

Mary M.- Fundraising co-chair 805-404-1496



### A Desperate Prayer

Where do I go from here dear God? Won't you help me see? I want what those people are talking about I want so bad to be free. Help me find the strength dear God Give me the courage to say, I got a problem with drugs and alcohol And I need your help today. I'll do anything you ask dear God Please help me see the light, I need you now especially God To get me through this night. Please help me push away dear God These demons inside my head, I need to find a better way I don't want to end up dead.

Rick L.



# Recovery Word Puzzle

### By Michele B. of Newbury Park

Twelve ways to use the AA Grapevine to strengthen and insure your sobriety

### 6. IT'S A TWELFTH STEP COMPANION.

Let the Grapevine help you give a newcomer a picture of AA as it really is – a wonderfully human Fellowship of more than a million men and women all over the world, united in the one common purpose of staying sober and helping others to achieve sobriety.

### AT WIT'S END

### It's a miracle

A pastor is stumbling is stumbling across a parking lot looking for his car, when a cop sees him. The officer walks up to him and asks, "Have you had anything to drink tonight sir?"

"No," the pastor replies.

"So, what's in that cup?" the cop asks.

"Water sir, take a look!" he says.

Looking in the cup, the officer says, "This isn't water,

Gasping, the pastor exclaims, "He did it again!"

#### **Double trouble**

The drunk stumbles up to the only other patron in a bar and asks if he could buy him a drink. "Why of course," the guy replies.

Drunk 1: "Where are you from?"

Drunk 2: "I'm from Ireland."

Drunk 1: "Hey, I'm from Ireland too. Let's have another round for Ireland!"

Then with a curious look he asks. "Where in Ireland?"

Drunk 2:: "Why, Dublin."

Drunk 1: "I can't believe it, me too!. Lets have a

round for Dublin!"

Drunk 2: "Of course! Hey, what school did you go

Drunk 1: "St. Mary's I graduated in 62."

Then both drunks yell in unison: "Me too! This is becoming unbelievable!"

About that time, one of the regulars strolls in and sits down at the bar.

"What's up?" he asks the bartender. "Oh, nothing much." Replies the bartender" The O'Malley twins

"Don't LOOK for an AA Sponsor...LISTEN for an AA Sponsor."



**PROGRAM** 

**VISION** 

**PRAYER** 

**SOLUTION** 

**PROMISES** 

**PEACE** 

**ACTION** 

**TRADITIONS** 

ACCEPTANCE

**SERVICE** 

**FEARLESS** 

**MEDITATION** 

**ADMITTED** 

SANITY

**DECISION** 

Answer on page 2



### **CELEBRATE YOUR AA BIRTHDAY HERE!**

Celebrate your annual sobriety anniversary with us. To participate in this tradition, just send in the form provided in this column or submit it to vcaaco@verizon.net with your Birthday information. Member's birthdays submitted will be published in this section the following month.

### **June & Previous AA Birthdays**

**HAPPY SOBRIETY BIRTHDAY** 

June 2015

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** 80 Years



**Keep On Sharing Your Recovery From Alcoholism With** Other Alcoholics Who Still Suffer. **CONGRATULATIONS!** 

### **Birthday Club Listing For:**

City \_\_\_\_\_ Sobriety Date \_\_\_\_ Years ■ Voluntary Donation Amount \$

> Please mail to: **Ventura County Central Service Office** 321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115 Camarillo, CA 93010



Meeting Info	360
Twelve Step Calls	58
Other Twelve Steps Programs	<b>53</b>
Activities	36
Directions to Office	35
Other Type Calls	<u>411</u>
TOTAL	953

# AATRIVIA QUESTION Of The Month

### JUNE QUESTION:

How did Lois and Bill meet?

### **MAY ANSWER:**



A What was Dr. Bob's phone number in 1941? UN2436

Congratulations to Steve H. and Michele B. for submitting the correct answer. ALSO hats off to Dave B. who not only answered correctly by also provided Dr. Bob's Office number HE8523 along with a copy of the 1941 Akron phone directory.

Answers will be published the following month. Mail your answer to: Ventura County Central Service Office Inc., 321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115, Camarillo, Ca. 93010. The correct answer will win a free one-year subscription to this publication. If the winner already has a subscription, a gift subscription will be awarded to another member — winner's choice.

### **NEWSLETTER STUFF-N-FOLD GROUP**

Friends of Bill W., Paul H, Rosalie, Don, Allison, Linda, Bill C, Jessie and Visitors

#### **INTERGROUP BOARD:**

Martin F. Oxnard Chairperson Wayne W. Ventura Vice Chairperson Michelle P Camarillo Secretary Lynn S. Simi Valley Treasurer Member at large # 1 Jan K. Ventura Member at large # 2 Vickie L. Camarillo Member at large # 3 Scott W. Simi Valley

### **SPECIAL PAID WORKERS**

Matthew C., Dick M.

### **OFFICE VOLUNTEER STAFF:**

Don B., Robert S., Peter M., Robin S., Dora E., Linda T., Azusa S., Mary H., Eric K., Dale S., Dan M., Malia S.

### **Ventura County Central Service Office Inc.**

321 N. Aviador Street, Suite 115 Camarillo, Ca. 93010 24 Hour Telephones

(805) 389-1444 - (800) 990-7550 Fax (805) 389-2912 E-Mail vcaaco@verizon.net

Website: www.aaventuracounty.org

### Office Hours:

Monday thru Friday 9:30 am - 6 pm Saturday 10:00 am - 2 pm **CLOSED SUNDAY**