

# BRACIER

Northern Nevada Intergroup Newsletter ♦ www.nnig.org  
436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks, NV 89431 ♦ 775-355-1151

August, 2010

Volume 08.10

## A Letter From Bill

From the AA Archives in New York

April 14, 1959

to explain my delay.

Dear R---,

Now about the business of adding the Lord's Prayer to each AA meeting. This practice probably came from the Oxford Groups who were influential in the early days of AA. You have probably noted in *AA Comes of Age* what the connection of those people in AA really was. I

Am right sorry for my delay in answering. Lois and I were a long time out of the country and this was followed by an attack of the marathon type of flu that has been around here in New York. We are okay now, however, but I did want



think saying the Lord's Prayer was a custom of theirs following the close of each meeting. Therefore it quite easily got shifted into a general custom among us.

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*Much has been written, much has been said about the Twelve Steps of AA. These tenets of our faith and practice were not worked out overnight and then presented to our members as an opportunist creed. Born of our early trials and many tribulations, they were and are the result of humble and sincere desire, sought in personal prayer for divine guidance.*

*As finally expressed and offered, they are simple in language, plain in meaning. They are also workable by any person having a sincere desire to obtain and keep sobriety. The results are the proof. Their simplicity and workability are such that no special interpretations, and certainly no reservations, have ever been necessary.*

*-Dr. Bob*

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*"We have  
no stake in  
tomorrow  
for it is yet  
unborn."*



# WE ARE NOT A GLUM

A nudist colony wanted to start an AA group, but central service denied the request on the grounds that everyone would be comparing instead of identifying.

-Patrick J.C.

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Alcoholics have  
three kinds of  
memory loss: Short  
-term,  
long-term, and  
convenient.



That 's why we

A drunk phoned police to report that thieves had been in his car. *"They've stolen the dashboard, the steering wheel, the brake pedal, even the accelerator,"* he cried out. However, before the police investigation could start, the phone rang a second time and the same voice came over the line. *"Never mind,"* he said with a hiccup, *"I got in the back seat by mistake."*

## YESTERDAY. . .TODAY AND TOMORROW

THERE are two days in every week about which we should not worry, two days which should be kept free from fear and apprehension.

One of these days is YESTERDAY with its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. YESTERDAY has passed forever beyond our control.

All the money in the world cannot bring back YESTERDAY. We cannot undo a single act we performed; we cannot erase a single word we said. YESTERDAY is gone.

The other day we should not worry about is TOMORROW with its possible adversaries, its burdens, its large promise and poor performance. TOMORROW is also beyond our immediate control.

TOMORROW'S sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds--but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in TOMORROW for it is as yet unborn.

This leaves only one day --TODAY--. Any man can fight the battles of just one day. It is only when you and I add the burdens of those two

awful eternities-- YESTERDAY and TOMORROW that we break down.

It is not the Experience of TODAY that drives men mad--it is remorse or bitterness for something which happened YESTERDAY and the dread of what TOMORROW may bring.

LET US, THEREFORE, LIVE BUT ONE DAY AT A TIME.

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## A Letter From Bill

Continued from page 1

Of course there will always be those who seem to be offended by the introduction of any prayer whatever into an ordinary AA gathering. Also, it is sometimes complained that the Lord's Prayer is a Christian document.

Nevertheless this Prayer is of such widespread use and recognition that the arguments of its Christian origin seems to be a little farfetched. It is also true that most AAs believe in some kind of God and that communication and strength is obtainable through His grace. Since this is the general consensus it seems only right that at least the Serenity Prayer and the Lord's Prayer be used in connection with our meetings. It does not seem necessary to defer to the

feelings of our agnostic and atheist newcomers to the extent of completely hiding our light under a bushel.

However, around here, the leader of the meeting usually asks those to join him in the Lord's Prayer who feel that they would care to do so. The worst that happens to the objectors is that they have to listen to it. This is doubtless a salutary exercise in tolerance at their stage of progress.

So that's the sum of the Lord's Prayer business as I recall it. Your letter made me wonder in just what connection you raise the question.

Meanwhile, please know just how much Lois and I treasure the friendship of you both. May Providence let our paths pres-

ently cross one of these days.

Devotedly yours,

Bill W.

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## POWER

Here was—power!

Here was power to live to the end of any given day,  
power to have the courage to face the next day,  
power to have friends, power to help people, power to be sane,  
power to stay sober...

I am deeply convinced that so long as I continue to strive, in my bumbling way,  
toward the principles I first encountered in the earlier chapters of this book,  
this remarkable power will continue to flow through me.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 386

**NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION**  
**INTERGROUP BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 3, 2010**

**Central Service Committee (CSC) Members Present**

Chair	Jason R.	Vice-chair Van D.
Secretary	Cindy K.	Treasurer Elisa
C.O. Exec Director	Bev C.	

**Intergroup Representatives, Committee Chairs, and Guests Present**

<b>Paul E.-Area 42 Archivist</b>	<b>Cassie G.- Bracer Chair</b>
<b>Mike C.- P.I. Chair</b>	<b>Jeff S. - Speaker Meeting Chair</b>
Wm. Van S.- Candle light	Pete B.- Southside
<b>Van D.- Mt. Rose/Vice Chair</b>	Steven C. - New Freedom
Michele M.	Holly N. - Cornerstone
David S.- Ground Zero	Jill H. - Saturday Sunnyside 9am
Randy M. - Slide Mt. Recovery	Scott M. - Happy Hour
Linda T. - Mt. Rose Recovery	<b>Jason R. - Chair NNIG</b>
<b>Shelly J. - Dist. 16</b>	Ed L. - Dist. 12, 18, Silver Springs
<b>Ed D. - Sunshine Chair</b>	Jenipher A.- Lost and Found
Jesse A. - Young at Heart	Sean L. - Just 4 today, Carson
<b>Mark C. - Co-chair intergroup</b>	Denny H. - Minden/Gardnerville
<b>Dave F. - Webmaster</b>	<b>Laura J. - T.I.A.S./Answering Service</b>
Linda J.- K.I.S.S. Fernley	Rick K. - Truckee River Stag
Ron H.- P.A.G.	Charlotte C. - Eye Opener
Ted G.- Pyramid Way Group	Michael L. - Wed Night Live
Matt S.- SOS at Nugget	Pat S. - Visitor
Janice P. - ABC Sunday Book Study	Bill M. - Sat. Night Fever, Minden
<b>Craig R. - Treatment Chair</b>	Bill V. - Dawn Patrol, Truckee

Meeting opened at 7:05pm with the Serenity Prayer, introductions, birthdays, and collection of the 7th Tradition. Pete read the bi-laws and meeting preceded.

**CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (Administrative)**

**CHAIR:** (Jason R.) Last month to current Donn T. stepped down from vice chair. The new vice chair is Van D.

**VICE-CHAIR:** (Van D.) No report

**SECRETARY:** (Cindy K.) needs to collect the reports and make corrections on June minutes.

**TREASURER:** (Elisa W.) The year to date balance is very close to breaking even, within \$100. There are steady contributions from groups, yet cash goals have not been met yet. And continue to build the prudent.

**CENTRAL OFFICE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: (Bev C.):** There were 9 volunteers at 69.5 hours total. There are three shifts open at central office: Wednesday 9-12, Thursday 9-12 shifts, and Thursday afternoon 1pm-5pm. Sign up sheets available for fall round up at central office. Fall round up is Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers need for Fall round up for literature table two people per two hour shift and there are 9 shifts. Central office

will be closed September 6<sup>th</sup> on Monday because of Labor Day Weekend. Next big event is Gratitude Dinner on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at The Nugget. Also there was 126 meeting information calls, two twelve step calls, 11 AI-anon calls, and 26 other twelve step calls. Central office needs a new computer and monitor. Please contact office if any on sale.

## CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

### CTBTG (Correction, Treatment, Bridging the Gap) (Corrections, BTG open):

**Corrections:** No report

**Treatment:** 18 contributions total of \$1848.50

**BTG:** ANNYPAA met with Bristlecone and will be bringing in meetings Wednesday nights  
No new business

**PUBLIC INFORMATION: (Mike C.):** No report

**ANSWERING SERVICE: (Laura J):** Needs to have general back up list of volunteers (alternate answering shifts). Openings current are Sunday 7pm-9pm, Monday 9pm-12am, third Tuesday of every month 5pm-12am, Wednesday 12am-9am, Thursday 9pm-12am, Friday 12am-6am, 9pm-12am.

**CPC: (Ron F.)** Graduating rd year medical students transferred

**SUNSHINE: (ED D.)** Committee now has nearly 40 participants. There was one phone call, 1 visit to re-noun, 1 visit to private residence, and 33 letters sent to nursing homes and long term care places. 50 flyers distributed to NAGSC meeting on Sunday to cover outlying areas.

**ACTIVITIES CHAIR: (Lisa W.)** No report. Announce an opening in the Webmaster.

**BRACER: (Cassie G.)** needs corrections to Junes minutes next meeting. Bracer for June and July went out July 30th, and made corrections to those with last names of the meeting minutes.

**SPEAKER MEETING: (Jeff S.)** "Not a Glum Lot" hosted July 10th with Speaker Astrid H. Attendance was down, raffle made \$206, and and the 7th traditions was \$176. Next meeting August 14, 2010 with Gordon D. from the "Tempe High Nooners" AZ. Dist 16 will be hosting the meeting at the GSR 7pm in the Nevada Foyer. Upcoming Sept 11, 2010 Jerry J. from Sacramento. Speakers are being recruited for October, November, and December. If interested hosting contact Jeff S.

**WEBMASTER [www.nnig.org](http://www.nnig.org): (DAVE F.)** The old alano in Carson City no longer exist and will have monthly visit on site count next month.

**NORTHERN AREA 42 LIAISON: (Graham S.):** Anonymity in the Digital Age is going to be the theme of the next AA GSC. Here:

1. Anonymity at the level of Press, Radiom Films, and Facebook
2. Anonymity and Social Networking Sites
3. Suggested Workshop Format

### INTERGROUP STEERING COMMITTEE LIAISONS:

**NEW BUSINESS** – no report

**OLD BUSINESS** – no report

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – none stated at this meeting

Meeting closed in the usual manner at 8:05pm with the lord's prayer  
Thank you for letting be of service  
Cindy K.

# July 2010 Profit & Loss

	<u>Jul 10</u>
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Birthday Contributions</b>	30.00
<b>Event Revenues</b>	382.00
<b>Faithful Fivers</b>	40.00
<b>Group Contributions</b>	2,498.73
<b>Individual Contributions</b>	60.00
<b>Merchandise Sales</b>	<u>2,992.95</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	6,003.68
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<u>1,824.78</u>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<u>1,824.78</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	4,178.90
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Shipping Charges</b>	20.37
<b>Compensation &amp; Benefits</b>	3,519.25
<b>Copier Lease</b>	201.92
<b>Event Costs</b>	125.00
<b>Other uncategorized expenses</b>	400.00
<b>Payroll Tax Expense</b>	354.21
<b>Rent</b>	671.00
<b>Telephone</b>	333.36
<b>Trash</b>	20.63
<b>Utilities</b>	<u>144.66</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>5,790.40</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><b>-1,611.50</b></u>

# July 2010 Group Contributions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
7/1	70102	Happy Hour/Reno 02010	Group Cont.	100.00	100.00
7/1	70103	Grupo La Nueva Luz	Group Cont.	50.00	150.00
7/1	70104	Wed Speaker Disc./16031	Group Cont.	50.00	200.00
7/2	70105	Serenity on Sunday	Group Cont.	126.70	326.70
7/6	70601	New Awakening Group	Group Cont.	76.00	402.70
7/6	70604	Sunnyside Group	Group Cont.	300.00	702.70
7/6	70605	Dawn Patrol	Group Cont.	109.95	812.65
7/6	70609	Grupo Accion	Group Cont.	10.00	822.65
7/7	70701	NNIG Business Meeting	7th Tradition	21.00	843.65
7/8	70802	Pyramid Way Group	Group Cont.	25.00	868.65
7/12	70903	Truckee River Men's Stag	Group Cont.	40.00	908.65
7/12	70904	Lost and Found	Group Cont.	30.00	938.65
7/12	70905	How We Stay Stopped	Group Cont.	52.57	991.22
7/14	71405	Brown Baggers Carson	Group Cont.	204.49	1,195.71
7/14	71408	Grupo Nueva Esperanza	Group Cont.	10.00	1,205.71
7/19	71905	Early Bird Group Carson City	Group Cont.	136.80	1,342.51
7/19	71906	Ladies of the Lake	Group Cont.	10.00	1,352.51
7/19	71909	Mt Rose Recovery Room	Group Cont.	120.32	1,472.83
7/19	71910	Mt Rose Recovery Room	Group Cont.	76.08	1,548.91
7/23	72302	Promises Meeting	Group Cont.	60.00	1,608.91
7/26	72601	End of the Road Group	Group Cont.	200.00	1,808.91
7/26	72602	AA Way of Life Group	Group Cont.	80.00	1,888.91
7/26	72603	Wed Night Live	Group Cont.	50.00	1,938.91
7/26	72604	Southside Group	Group Cont.	272.57	2,211.48
7/26	72606	Pyramid Way Group	Group Cont.	25.00	2,236.48
7/26	72608	Serenity on Sunday	Group Cont.	127.25	2,363.73
7/27	72702	Stepwalkers	Group Cont.	20.00	2,383.73
7/27	72703	Wild Bunch	Group Cont.	15.00	2,398.73
7/30	73003	Our Group	Group Cont.	100.00	2,498.73
			Group Cont.	<u>2,498.73</u>	<u>2,498.73</u>
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>2,498.73</u></b>	<b><u>2,498.73</u></b>

## JACK ALEXANDER

Did you ever look at something that's been right in front of your eyes for years, and finally see it? It's like finding a sentence in the Big Book you've read many times and discovering it's there.

This happened to me the other day when I noticed a picture on our meeting room wall. It's the cover of the March 1, 1941 Saturday Evening Post. The reason why it's hanging there is that it was this issue that contained the article "Alcoholic Anonymous" by Jack Alexander. This highly popular national magazine had chosen to share with the world the approach of AA to alcoholism.

I had to read it!

Jack had me in the first paragraph when he referred to us as "a band of ex-problem drinkers who make an avocation of helping other alcoholics to beat their liquor habit".

It's a lengthy piece in which, using fictitious names for Bill W. and Dr. Bob, he describes his assignment to find out about the new "movement" that was creating hope for alcoholics. He describes the first meeting of Bill and Bob in a hospital in Ohio, and what followed as the message of recovery spread from Akron to New York, and then through cities around the country. He made me want to be there.

The author touches on percentages of success in AA much higher than any previous movements. He writes about "geographicals", where alcoholics would move to a different city to kick-start their newest attempt at recovery. He mentions that alcoholism affects the whole family. He talks about the slips and relapses common with the disease. Right from the beginning I could sense Jack as a "normie" who cares. The conscientiousness of his writing repeatedly shows this. There's a real "Eureka" feeling about the concept of one alcoholic helping another as a bastion of hope for what had been a disease of hopelessness.

What also struck me were concepts that I thought

*"The effect of the piece hit the nation like a shock wave."*

were "new" to recovery have been here from the beginning: diversion therapy, where a strong chemical substance, paraldehyde in this case, was mixed with drinks of alcohol for the hospitalized alcoholic to make the drinking act distasteful and stabilize frayed nerves; the referral of alcoholics to AA by courts in lieu of jail; the concept that alcoholism is an allergy of the body and an obsession of the mind; and the importance of surrender and working the Steps. He also mentions a common practice of those early years where members sat on those new to the program to keep them from jumping out of windows as cravings and tremors engulfed the fledgling's body. The article lets me picture this and feel the passion of our founders.

Jack also refers to the importance of spirituality to the budding movement. Relying on a Power greater than oneself was not new. But the concept that this Power could be of one's choosing, be it a deity or a force of nature, was a revelation.

When Jack Alexander wrote his article there were 2000 members of our fellowship spread throughout the United States. There were a few areas of fairly dense membership in Ohio and New York, a few smaller ones in Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. The effect of the piece hit the nation like a shock wave. The New York "central office" was inundated with letters requesting help and information. Within a year the number exploded to 6000.

As I sit here pen in hand this morning, I shake my head in wonder and gratitude that one writer, Jack Alexander, and one magazine, The Saturday Evening Post, had the courage and vision to share our miracle. I was born in 1941 and who would have know the words written then could have so profoundly affected my life, our lives, today.

If you'd like to take a look at the magazine cover, and read Jack's article you can use this link: <http://www.barefootsworld.net/ajalexpost1941.html>

Jeff W., Milwaukie, Oregon



Know Someone That Can't Get To A Meeting?

Let The Sunshine Committee Take One To Them?

Perhaps You Can't Get Out

In Either Case Call (775) 355 – 1151

If you live in the outlying environs of Northern Area 42, you might be interested in being a committee member and taking sunshine to someone in your town.

33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
Sierra Nevada Roundup  
of Alcoholics Anonymous

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday  
September 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 2010

Keep Coming Back.  
**IT WORKS.**

Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada (formally the Reno Hilton)  
Book your rooms by August 5TH! Call 1-800-501-2651 (Mention the Sierra  
Nevada Roundup)  
For more information, contact Tim H. at 775-622-7860  
or Susan F. at 775-857-7427

Saturday, September 4th • Rosewood Lakes Golf Course  
18 hole- two person • 9 hole - two person family with fun shots on every  
hole.  
Contact David 775-560-4356 or Pat D. 775-250-2851  
david@friendofbillw.dr.bob@hotmail.com



# Speaker meeting & potluck lunch

Saturday, October 23, 2010  
Beginning @ 12 Noon  
Lassen Senior Services  
1700 Sunkist Drive, Susanville, CA



Please join us for a day of food, fun and  
fellowship

Potluck lunch ~ noon

Speaker meeting ~ 1:30 pm

Jason C (Area 42 Delegate) Sparks, NV

Sponsored by District 20, Area 42  
Alcoholics Anonymous



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