

## Inside

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Tradition 11 Long Form: "Our A.A. experience has taught us that: 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.

Tradition 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 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.

# Central Office of N Idaho

Edition 58

November/December 2025

## Editor's Two-Cents Worth

**Greetings,**

**We are getting closer to Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Chanukah. We are also into the month of November and December. It is time for all the District 8 and Area 92 officers to rotate out. The Washing State East Area 92, and the District 8 Elections were held last month. District 8 still has a few open positions. If interested in District 8 service, please show up at the next GSR meeting on 12/09/2025 at 1900. I want to welcome these new, incoming (January 2026) District 8 Trusted Servants to the A.A. Service Structure.**

**District 8 Elections-Round 2**

**11/11/2025**

**10 Voting Members (GSR)**

**Facilitated by David R.**

**DCM-Garrett B -9/10/2018-7 Years Affirmed-No other candidates**

**Alternate DCM-Phil Thompson-4/27/20212-17 Years-Affirmed by the body-No other candidates**

**Secretary-Kyle M-2/9/2025-8 Months Affirmed by the Body-No other candidates**

**Treasurer-Brenda 7/18/2020-5 Years- Affirmed by the body-No other candidates**

**Alternate Treasurer-Derrick**

**Activities-Chuck-2/27/2020-5 Years-Affirmed by the body-No other candidates.**

**Archives-Kevyn**

**CPC—Lynn 6/11/1986-39 Years-Affirmed by the body-No other candidates**

**Corrections-Open**

**GV/Literature-Open**

**Newsletter-Open**

**Public Information-Marlene-3/19/2023 2 Years-Affirmed by the body-No other candidates**

**3rd Legacy Chair-Open**

**Treatment/Accessibilities-Johnny S-6/26/2024-Affirmed by the body-No other candidates**

**Web Chair-Mark**

**Yours in service, David R. Editor**

# Central Office Store Featured Item November 2025

## FEATURED ITEMS OF THE MONTH

2026 Grapevine Calendars.....\$6.50



Coffee Cups.....\$6.00 and up



## **Central Office Coordinator Monthly Report**

October 2025

This month has been productive and encouraging for the Central Office. Our work continues to be supported by the dedication of our fellowship and the generosity of our contributing groups. We extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who has helped us carry the message and maintain essential services throughout October.

### **Contributions**

We gratefully acknowledge the following groups and individuals for their financial support during the month of October:

- Young in Years
- First Things First
- Stan T.
- Fort Sherman Group
- Women in Emotional Sobriety (WIES)
- Happy Hour Group
- Primary Purpose Group
- Good Morning, AA (GMAA)
- Sisters in Sobriety

Total contributions received for October amounted to \$1,296.91.

Thank you for your continued support. We need all of you in order to function, and your generosity ensures that the Central Office can continue providing vital services such as meeting information, volunteer coordination, literature distribution, and community support.

Please come to the office in the next couple of months, as we will have some items for Christmas gift giving. (Ornaments, Calendars, Jewelry, Mugs, etc.)

We need a Wednesday Volunteer to work at the office from 10-2pm. Please call 208-667-4633.

Meeting Cancellation Notice-Sober Sisters meeting on Mondays at 5:30pm at Church of the Nazarene in Coeur d' Alene has been closed.

Phone Report for October is as follows: In Office Calls were 12 total. 3 for Info on Meetings, 3 for Business Related, 2 New to AA Callers, 1 Al Anon Call and 3 "Other" Calls which is spam calls, Coordinator Calls In, etc. After Hours Calls were 7 total. 4 for info on Meetings, 2 for Business Related & 1 New to AA Caller.

### **How Did Gratitude Month Begin?**

For decades now, AA's in the U.S. have set aside November as Gratitude Month, marking the occasion with special contributions to AA. The tradition of Gratitude Month goes back 70 years. The first recognition of an AA Gratitude Week, specifically designed to coincide with Thanksgiving week in the U.S. (Canada celebrates in October), occurred in 1956, when the sixth General Service Conference approved the motion, stipulating that "this action be noted in the annual pre-Thanksgiving appeals to the groups for funds to help support AA's worldwide services." However, you may express your gratitude-whether via an extra dollar or two in the basket at your home group, a separate contribution to GSO or gift subscriptions to alcoholics in need through Grapevine's Carry the Message program-November is a wonderful time to express our collective gratitude for individual sobriety. When AA groups choose to make special contributions to their local service offices or committees and to GSO, it is a very direct and spiritual way to participate in Twelfth Step work.

-reprinted from the Grapevine November 2024

## Central Office October 2025 Treasurer Report

Deposits \$2,265.79

Contributions \$1,296.91

Retail Sales \$ 968.88

Bills for October 2025 \$2,373.92

Coordinator, Rent, Ziply Fiber, Coeur d' Alene Press, Quarterly Taxes, Recovery Shop  
AFG, Staples, Hazelden Publishing, Temu

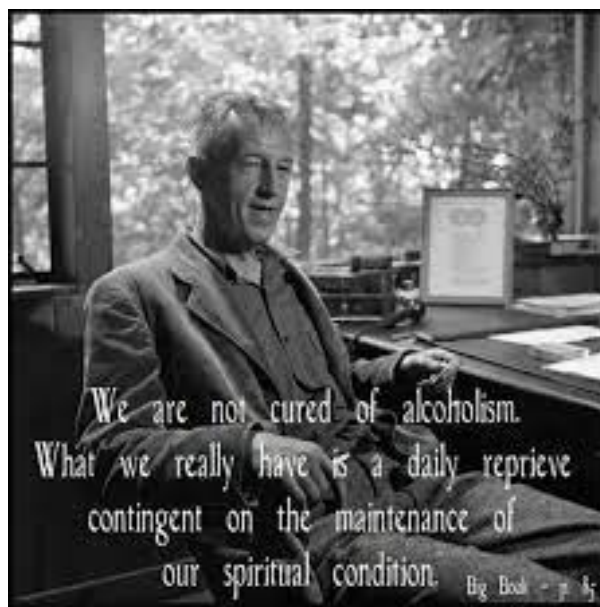
Checking Account Balance \$2322.62

Savings Reserve Account \$6,639.11



**Thank You For Your 7th Tradition Contributions**  
**Young in Years**  
**First Things First**  
**Stan T.**  
**Fort Sherman Group**  
**Women in Emotional Sobriety (WIES)**  
**Happy Hour Group**  
**Primary Purpose Group**  
**Good Morning, AA (GMAA)**  
**Sisters in Sobriety**

**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**



# **Wanted Donations For The District 8 Archives**

**Old Big Books**

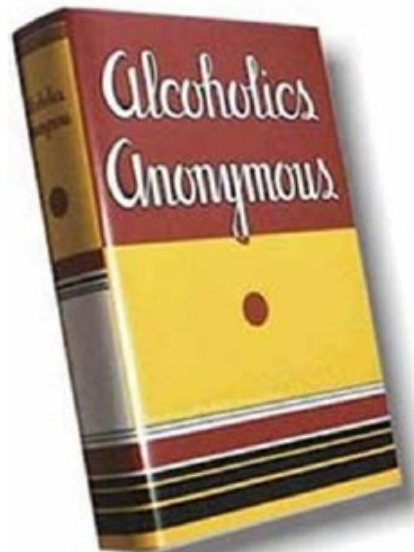
**Memorabilia**

**Historical Items**

**Contact David R**

**208-651-2215**

**[soberin95@gmail.com](mailto:soberin95@gmail.com)**



## **Principles of the Month | November**

**Step 11.** “Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.”

**Tradition 11.** Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

**Tradition #11. Checklist** [from SMF-131, Traditions Checklist from the AA Grapevine]:

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

**Concept 11.** The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

**Concept #11 Checklist** [from SMF-91, Concepts Checklist]:

1. Do we understand how the roles of nontrustee directors and nontrustee appointed committee members help serve and strengthen the committee system?
2. How do we encourage our special paid workers to exercise their traditional “Right of Participation”?
3. Do we practice rotation in all our service positions?

**Central Office Volunteers  
We Need You!  
Contact Mary  
208-667-4633**

# **AA History and Significant Dates for November:**

## **Significant Dates in AA History for November:**

### **November 1:**

**1947 – 1st AA Group in Anchorage, Alaska**

**1963 – Reverend Sam Shoemaker dies**

### **November 3:**

**2001 – J.P. Miller, wrote screenplay for “The Days of Wine and Roses” died**

### **November 9:**

**1966 – President Johnson appoints Marty M to the 1st National Advisory Committee on Alcoholism**

### **November 10:**

**1940 – 1st AA group formed in Minneapolis**

### **November 10:**

**2001 – 1st of 400,000 4th Edition Big Books arrives in the mail**

### **November 11:**

**1934 – Bill W’s final drunk begins on Veterans Day and lasts about a month**

### **November 12:**

**1940 – 1st AA meeting is held in Boston**

### **November 13:**

**1939 – Bill wants to go back to work, NY drunks want him to stay on as head of the movement November 13, 1939**

### **November 14:**

**1940 – Alcoholic Foundation publishes 1st AA Bulletin**

### **November 15:**

**1949 – Bill W suggests that groups devote Thanksgiving week to discussions of the 12 Traditions**

### **November 16:**

**1950 – Dr Bob S dies in Akron, Ohio**

### **November 18**

**1946 – 1st Dublin Ireland group met**

### **November 21:**

**1939 – AA’s in San Francisco hold 1st California AA meeting in the Clift Hotel**

**1952 – Willard Richardson, past Treasurer/Chairman of Alcoholic Foundation, dies**

### **November 26:**

**1895 – William Griffith W. born, East Dorset, VT**

**1939 – Hank P writes Bill advocating autonomy for all AA groups**

**1939 – Dilworth Lupton gave sermon “Mr. X and Alcoholics Anonymous”. Became one of first pamphlets on AA.**

### **November 28**

**1934 – Ebby T. carries message to Bill.**

**1936 – Fitz M leaves Towns Hospital to become ‘AA #3 in NY’, with Bill W and Hank P.**

**1937 – Bill and Dr. Bob compare notes in Akron. Count forty cases staying sober. Meeting of the Akron Group to consider Bill’s ideas for how to expand the movement ... a book, AA hospitals, paid missionaries. Passed by a majority of 2.**

**1939 – Akron group withdraws from association with Oxford Group. Meetings moved from T Henry & Clarice Williams’ home, to Dr Bob, Clarence Snyder (Cleveland) and other members homes.**

**1939 – Hank P writes Bill advocating autonomy for all AA groups.**

**1943 – Bill guest speaker San Quentin Penitentiary. (sometimes dated Dec 2, 1943)**

Other significant events in November for which we have no specific Dates:

1936 – Fitz M leaves Towns Hospital to become AA #3 in NY with Bill W and Hank P.

1941 – “First Mass AA Meeting” in Oklahoma City, 8 present, 1 was drunk

1945 – Bill’s article called ‘Those Goof Balls’ published in Grapevine.

1986 – The Big

## **WSEA 92 Panel 76-Congratulations**

Delegate-Dan M

Alternate Delegate-Oleta

Chair-Fran

Alternate Chair-Lorri T

Treasurer-Gary H.

Alternate Treasurer-Lisa S

All Standing Committee Chairs Will Be Selected by the Incoming Panel  
76 Trusted Servants in November 2025.

**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**

# Happy A.A. Birthday/Anniversary

November 2025

Annie-1 Year

Dan R-1 Year

Thomas S. 2 Years

Brittany-5 Years

Sally A-10 Years

Charlie-20 Years

Vicki L. 43 Years

December 2025

Madi M. 10 Years

David R-30 Years





## HANDLING A.A. SERVICES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Central/Intergroup offices provide vital local services and Twelfth Step opportunities. All areas function independently and handle local A.A. services in the manner best suited to local needs. While GSRs, DCMs, area committees, area assemblies, and the General Service Conference are concerned with matters affecting A.A. as a whole, Central/Intergroup offices and answering services fill a different need. They handle local services only — such as coordinating local Twelfth Step calls, providing meeting lists, and in some places furnishing public information speakers for non-A.A. groups and for A.A. meetings in institutions.

Central offices and general service area committees are complementary, rather than competitive, A.A. operations. They exist to help insure A.A. unity and to fulfill A.A.'s primary purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

In 1990 the General Service Conference stressed the importance of communication and recommended that delegates establish and maintain contact with offices in their areas to share Conference information and assure that Central/Intergroup offices have a voice in the Fellowship through their existing service structure.

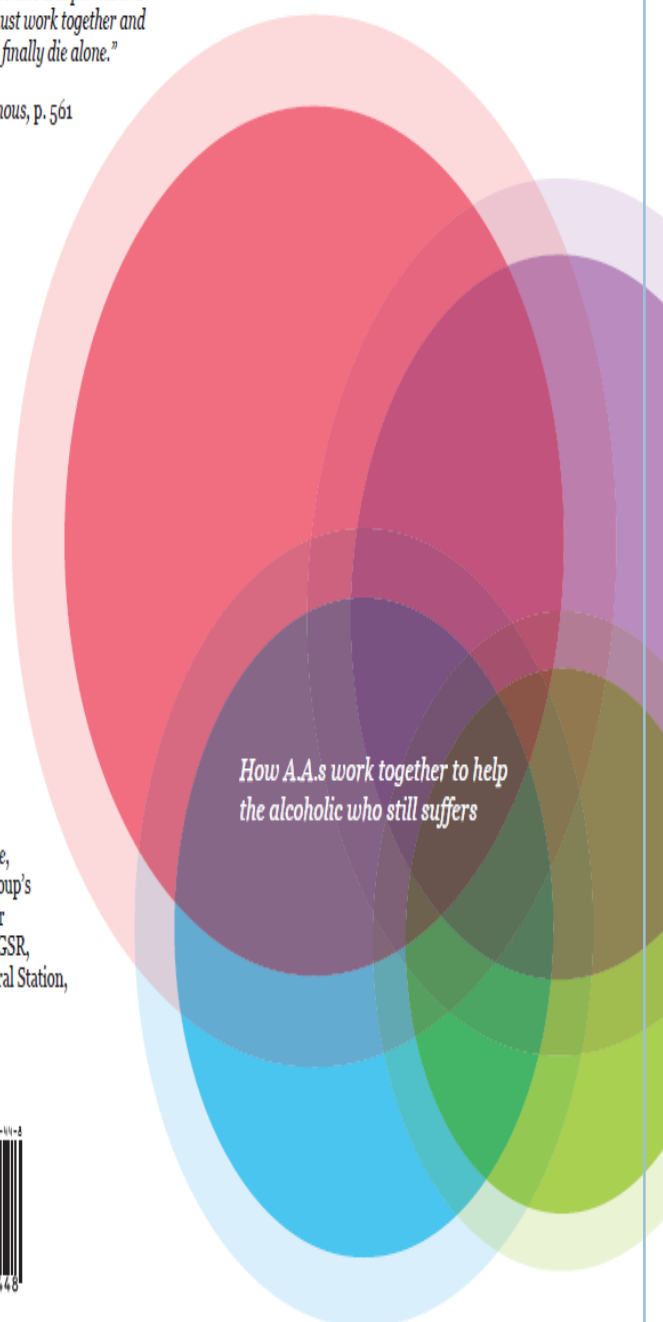
## IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, WE ALL WORK TOGETHER

*"To those now in its fold, Alcoholics Anonymous has made the difference between misery and sobriety, and often the difference between life and death. A.A. can, of course, mean just as much to uncounted alcoholics not yet reached.*

*"Therefore, no society of men and women ever had a more urgent need for continuous effectiveness and permanent unity. We alcoholics see that we must work together and hang together, else most of us will finally die alone."*

—Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 561

## Circles of Love and Service



This leaflet is based on *The A.A. Service Manual*, *A.A. Comes of Age*, and the pamphlet "GSR — Your group's link to A.A. as a whole." For further information, contact your group's GSR, or write P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)



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Box 459, Grand Central Station  
New York, N.Y. 10163

28M — 6/24 (GP)

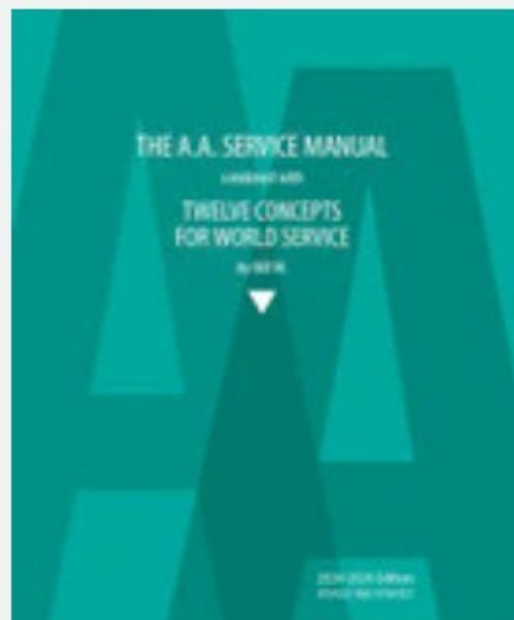
This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature.

Two titles in a single booklet. The A.A. Service Manual is a critical resource for A.A. members involved in service. Chapters cover the roles of GSRs, DCMs, delegates, directors and trustees, as well as what happens at G.S.O. and Grapevine. Substantive appendices cover the principle of rotation, the Third Legacy Procedure and much more. In Twelve Concepts for World Service, A.A. co-founder Bill W. articulates the principles by which A.A.'s world service operates and recounts how these emerged through A.A.'s early history and experience. Revised and fully reformatted in 2024. General Service Conference-approved. Softcover  
8.375" x 10.875"  
256 pages

Central Office Store  
Your Purchases Help Keep the Central Office Open  
Open Monday through Friday 10am to 2pm  
Saturday Noon to 4 pm

# The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service 2024 - 2026

\$5.00 + tax



## A.A. History December

Dec 1

1940 - Chicago Daily Tribune begins a series of articles on AA by Nall Hamilton.

Dec 5

1985 - Dave B, founder of Montreal Group, dies weeks before 50th anniversary. His story was added to the 4th Edition Big Book.

Dec 6

1939 - Bert the Tailor lends Works Publishing \$1000.

Dec 6

1979 - Akron Beacon reports death of Henrietta Seiberling.

Dec 7

1949 - Sister Ignatia received Poverello Medal on behalf of A.A.

Dec 10

1975 - Birds of a Feather AA group for pilots is formed.

Dec 11

1934 - Bill admitted to Towns Hospital for the fourth and last time (fall '33, '34 in summer, midsummer and final admittance).

Dec 11

1941 - Dallas Morning News reports first AA group formed in Dallas.

Dec 12

1934 - Bill has Spiritual Experience at Towns Hospital.

Dec 12

1937 - Bill meets with Rockefeller Foundation and tries to get money.

Dec 13

1937 - Rockland State Mental Hospital takes patients to meeting in New Jersey.

Dec 13 or 14

1934 - Ebby visits Bill at Towns hospital, brings William James' book, Varieties of Religious Experience.

Dec 19

1939 - Los Angeles hold their first AA meeting there.

Dec 20

1945 - Rowland H. dies (he carried the Oxford Group message to Ebby).

Dec 27

1893 - Rev. Samuel Shoemaker is born.

Other December happenings with no specific date:

Dec 1934 - Bill & Lois start attending Oxford Group meetings.

Dec 1934 to May 1935 - Bill works with alcoholics, but fails to sober any of them. Lois reminds him HE is sober.

Dec 1938 - Twelve Steps written.

Nov/Dec 1939 - Akron group withdraws from association with Oxford Group. Meetings moved from T. Henry & Clarence Williams' home to Dr Bob and other members' homes.

Dec 1939 - First AA group in mental institution, Rockland State Hospital, NY.

Dec 1939 - First home meeting in Los Angeles at Kaye M.'s house.

# **Wanted Donations For The District 8 Archives**

**Old Big Books**

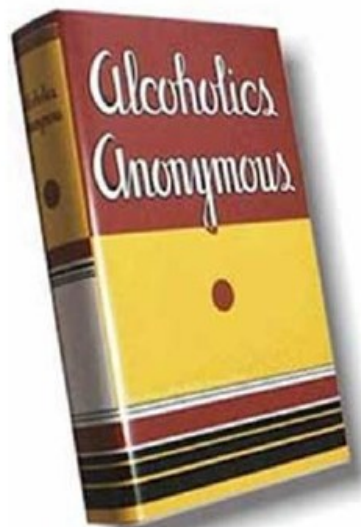
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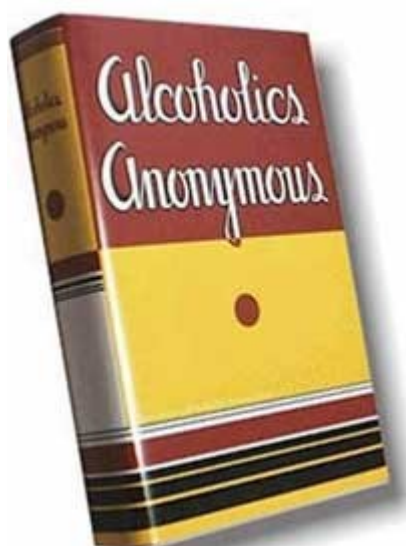
**Contact David R**

**208-651-2215**

**[soberin95@gmail.com](mailto:soberin95@gmail.com)**



# That Ain't in the Big Book!



Since the suggestion made by “The Grapevine” in the late 60’s that “Open Discussion” (OD) meetings might be a good idea, there has been a change in the message being presented in the rooms from a focus on the Program of Alcoholics Anonymous to “group therapy” where anyone and everyone is privileged to speak on whatever might be on their mind. The result of this has been a severe decline in the success rate of alcoholics finding lasting recovery. We hear a lot of stuff said in meetings that can’t be reconciled with the program as described in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. Here is a list of the opinions, perspectives, and slogans we often hear in rooms and what our original Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous basic text (4th Edition) has to say about it.

## **“We are all just an arms length away from a drink”**

Page 84, paragraph 4, “And we have ceased fighting anything or anyone – even alcohol. For by this time sanity will have returned. We will seldom be interested in liquor. If tempted, we recoil from it as from a hot flame. We react sanely and normally, and we will find that this has happened automatically. We will see that our new attitude toward liquor has been given us without any thought or effort on our part. It just comes! That is the miracle of it. We are not fighting it, neither are we avoiding temptation. We feel as though we had been placed in a position of neutrality – safe and protected. We have not even sworn off. Instead, the problem has been removed. It does not exist for us”

## **“I don’t have an alcohol problem, I have a living problem”**

Page xxiv, paragraph 2: “In our belief, any picture of the alcoholic which leaves out this physical factor is incomplete.”

## **“I’m feeling pretty crappy. I need a meeting.”**

Page 15, Paragraph 2: “I was not too well at the time and was plagued with waves of self-pity and resentment. This sometimes nearly drove me back to drink, but I soon found that when all other

measures failed, working with another alcoholic would save the day. Many times, I have gone to my old hospital in despair. On talking to a man there, I would be amazingly lifted up and set on my feet. It is a design for living that works in rough going."

**"Don't drink and go to meetings."**

Page 34, paragraph 2: "Many of us felt we had plenty of character. There was a tremendous urge to cease forever. Yet we found it impossible. This is the baffling feature of alcoholism as we know it--this utter inability to leave it alone, no matter how great the necessity or the wish."

Page 34, paragraph 3: "Whether such a person can quit upon a nonspiritual basis depends upon the extent to which he has already lost the power to choose whether he will drink or not."

Page 17, paragraph 2: "Unlike the feelings of the ship's passengers, however, our joy in escape from disaster does not subside as we go our individual ways. The feeling of having shared in a common peril is one element in the powerful cement which binds us. But that in itself would never have held us together as we are now joined."

**"This is a selfish program."**

Page 20, paragraph 1: "Our very lives, as ex-problem drinkers depend upon our constant thought of others and how we may help meet their needs."

Page 97, paragraph 2: "Helping others is the foundation stone of your recovery. A kindly act once in a while isn't enough. You have to act the Good Samaritan every day, if need be. It may mean the loss of many nights' sleep, great interference with your pleasures, interruptions to your business. It may mean sharing your money and your home, counseling frantic wives and relatives, innumerable trips to police courts, sanitariums, hospitals, jails and asylums. Your telephone may jangle at any time of the day or night. "

Page 14-15: "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."

Page 62, paragraph 2: "Selfishness, self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles"

Page 62, paragraph 3: "So our troubles, we think, are basically of our own making. They arise out of ourselves, and the alcoholic is an extreme example of self-will run riot, though he usually doesn't think so. Above everything, we alcoholics must be rid of this selfishness. We must, or it kill us!"

To Be Continued.....

Central Office of N Idaho  
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Coeur d' Alene, ID 83814  
(208) 667-4633

If you would like to subscribe to the Central Office Newsletter, or submit an article, local A.A. news, flyer, etc., please call, text or email the Editor:  
(208) 651-2215  
[soberin95@gmail.com](mailto:soberin95@gmail.com)

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