

On the Rogue Again



Jackson County Central Office Newsletter

Jackson County A.A. Central Office
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Central Office News

At the OFFICE (October 2018):

Visitors 46
Calls 21
Meeting inquiries 13
Website 775

Great people providing a valued service! Thanks to all

Board Members

- Chair – Joel S.
- Co-Chair – Donna K.
- Office Manager – Al Z.
- Volunteer Coordinator – Bill S.
- Secretary – Beth M.
- Literature – Tom M.
- Treasurer – Fran V.A.
- Co-Treasurer – Sandy J.
- Special Events – Cheryl R.
- District Liaison – Wayne T.
- Website Coordinator – Terry
- Newsletter Editor – Lois I.
- Member #1 at Large - Wayne T.
- Member #2 at Large – Casey H.

Interested in learning more about Jackson County Central Office – join us for our monthly meeting (first Saturday of the month) at 9 am.

GET INVOLVED!

Please **contact Bill S.** to learn more about volunteering at Central Office.

Donations - Oct. 2018

- Saturday Night Candlelight \$75
- Ashland Monday Night \$160
- Ashland Sunday Night \$263
- Crack of Dawn \$32
- Medford Fellowship \$50
- Tell It Like It is \$75
- Hole in the Wall \$37
- One Page At a time \$50

Newsletter:

Buzz \$20.00



Birthday Celebrations

Casey H. \$3
Sandy J. \$22

Editors Note:

Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

With the start of holiday season just around the corner, thought I would share with you an article on keeping your Holiday Sober and Joyous. Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol can be found on our website www.jccoaa.org in the News to Use Section.

VIRGINIA'S CORNER



We publish for your enjoyment and information. Any mistakes you find are there for a purpose. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.



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 it out.

Smooth ride

My sponsor told me many years ago that I would never be finished with the Twelve Steps—especially Step One. He said that no matter how much I admitted that I was an alcoholic, I'd never completely understand it. My smart-alecky answer was, "That's why it says 'admitted.' " But, as in most things, I've discovered that he was right again. The longer I'm sober, the more about my own First Step is uncovered.

In my home group, there's a man who has nearly 45 years sober. He's told the story of his car wreck many times. He describes driving drunk at a high rate of speed when he lost control and his car rolled over about 10 times. It landed on its wheels, and luckily he wasn't hurt. So he tried to drive it away, but he passed out until the next morning. When he woke, he could barely see out of what used to be his windshield and again tried to drive it home. He was stopped by the cops and arrested for driving an unsafe vehicle. He was then taken to treatment.

For whatever reason, one morning I heard his story in a different way. What I heard was a description of an unmanageable life. As an alcoholic, I'm always driving an unsafe vehicle—me. I used to drive this unsafe vehicle drunk. Today, by God's grace, I no longer drive it drunk, but my vehicle (me) is always unsafe if under my own power. My life can quickly get out of control if I try to drive it on my own. I need this program every day. I need God in my life everyday. Otherwise my selfishness and self-centeredness shows its ugly head very quickly.

Every time my life seems overwhelming and I'm afraid or angry or feeling isolated, I hear the voice of my sponsor asking, "Which Step are you working now, Bob?" The answer is always one of the Twelve—usually Steps Three and Eleven: I haven't been praying.

I'm retired now, so I'm able to attend more meetings. So I'm able to hear the answers in other people's stories more often now. And the answer is always the same: Keep coming back, let go and let God, carry the message, read the Book, talk about it, take myself out of the equation, more conscious contact—and of course, work the Steps. The answer for me is here, around these tables.

-- Bob M
Green Valley, Arizona From May 2018 Grape Vine



On the Road to **Recovery -Epigrams—"Wit and Wisdom"** spoken in the rooms of AA all over the world.

Be part of the solution, not the problem
Sponsors: have one-----use one-----be one
I can't handle it god; you take over

Hear something clever, witty, or even profound at a meeting? Send it to: aajacksoncounty@gmail.com



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

LIFE AND DEATH—After an AA dies, his right to anonymity continues.

Kathy S., DCM of District 21, Area 29 (Eastern Shore of Maryland), presented the following talk at the Northeast Regional AA Service Assembly (NERAASA) in Niagara Falls, N.Y. in February, 2010:

THERE are two aspects to my presentation: posthumous anonymity and anonymity on the internet. Neither is a new issue. Breaks in anonymity are an issue in life and after death. The introduction of the World Wide Web broadens the impact.

The pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" addresses the question of the internet. "Publicly accessible aspects of the internet such as websites featuring text, graphics, audio and video ought to be considered another form of 'public media.' Thus, they need to be treated in the same manner as press, radio, TV and films. This means full names and faces should not be used.

However, the level of anonymity in email, online meetings and chat rooms would be a personal decision."

On the AA General Service Office (GSO) website, aa.org, there is a suggestion when conducting research using GSO Archives. This section, About Anonymity, expresses the following: "Anonymity of AA members, both alive and deceased, must be strictly maintained. Full names of writers and correspondents appear in the files; you are respectfully asked, if cited, to quote only the first name and last initial, thus preserving AA's Eleventh Tradition, the anonymity of its members at the level of the public media."

It is vital that family and friends respect this Tradition. So how do we put these suggestions into practice? The program of Alcoholics Anonymous teaches us how to be right-sized; our Traditions help us put this into practice. It is important to understand that anonymity is not just to protect us from others, but also to protect us from ourselves.

We each choose on a case-by-case basis to remain anonymous within our Fellowship and when working with newcomers, but on a public level involving the media, including the internet, we are asked to remain anonymous. This is for the unity and protection of the Fellowship that has given us our lives. While we live in a time of increased enlightenment concerning alcoholism, prejudices still remain a fact of life.

After the passing of a member of our Fellowship, these principles do not diminish. We must continue to respect the anonymity of others after their death, because we can't possibly know the effect a break in anonymity may have on their families, friends or businesses. Obituaries are a common anonymity break. Electronic media reaches many more people than print media. Any time an internet search is done using an individual's name, search engines retrieve scores of pieces of information. The World Wide Web becomes literally just that, connection upon connection of information trapping data that previously had not been put together.

Social media websites connect us with people from the many facets of our lives. The Eleventh Tradition applies to these sites. Ultimately, the web can be a useful tool when used appropriately, but realize that anything you put on the web has the potential to reach the world.

In closing, I suggest educating your families and friends who are not in this Fellowship. I realized in preparing this presentation that I had been remiss in explaining the concept of anonymity to my own family. If I died, they would have been unprepared to handle my anonymity or that of my AA family, so I chose to have a discussion with them about the importance of the Eleventh Tradition. I suggest you express how important AA is, and that the people in Alcoholics Anonymous are like a family. My family should expect those people to be at funeral services to pay their respects, and their relationship to me would be theirs to disclose. My family should not be pointing out, "That's her sponsor" or "Those people belonged to the same home group." Continue to next page....



tinued from page , Life and Death

Breaks in anonymity are rarely done with ill intentions. They happen out of ignorance, so it is our duty to inform ourselves and others as we become more educated and aware of how new technologies impact our Fellowship.

Kathy.s suggestions

In life we have to be cautious about the anonymity of ourselves and our fellows, and that cannot change after death.

- Don.t label pictures or groups as AA-related.
- Don.t discuss AA business on the internet in open forums and chat rooms that are not restricted to AA members.
- Don.t place videos of known AA events or individuals on public sites.
- Do blind-copy others and not respond to all when sending or responding to emails.

Do use an old-fashioned phone tree system and the traditional AA meeting announcement if someone within the Fellowship dies and it is necessary to inform others.

-- KATHY S. Maryland, Grape Vine

UP COMING EVENTS

Principles of AA Program

DOTR Spaghetti Feed and Dessert Social

November 10, 2018 6PM
St Vincent de Paul
2424 N. Pacific Hwy

[Flier](#)

District 16 Monthly Meeting

November 21, 2018 at 7 p.m.
Smullin Center
Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center
2825 E Barnett Rd., Medford

Oregon Area 58 Quarterly Service Assembly

Feb. 22-24, 2019
Ask for details at the next General Service meeting or email our DCM.
Inn at the Commons
200 N Riverside Ave, Medford

[Flyer](#)

Southern Oregon Speaker Meeting

January 26, 2018, 7 p.m.
Smullin Center
Asante RRMC
2825 E Barnett Rd., Medford

[Flyer](#)

The 12 Steps of AA ARE the Principles of the Program that we practice, as listed in the Big Book pages 59 and 60! Over the years many lists of virtues that correspond to each of the Twelve Steps and their underlying spiritual nature have been printed in local area AA newsletters and on pocket cards. The origins of these lists are unknown, although they are used by many Twelve step members.

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.

Spiritual—Vital force, unworldly, not material, sacred things. **Making Contact**—The purpose of Step 11 is to discover God, as you understand Him, has for your life. **Brotherly Love**—Brotherly love is the love for one's fellow-man as a brother, feelings of humanity and compassion toward one's fellow humans.

Need information on Treatment Centers? This is <u>not</u> an endorsement of, simply information.	
Addiction Recovery Center (Treatment Center)	541-779-1282
Moore Center (Sobering Unit)	541-774-8232
On Track (Medford) (Treatment Center)	541-772-1777
Oxford House (Transitional, Sober Housing)	541-245-9329

Upcoming Event? Please send your event flyer to webcoordinator@outlook.com. If you do not have a flyer—please provide details of the AA event so we can get it posted on our website and put it in newsletter.