

On the Rogue Again



Jackson County Central Office Newsletter

Jackson County A.A. Central Office
116 East 6th St., Medford, OR 97501

(541) 732-1850 • www.jccoaa.org • aajacksoncounty@yahoo.com

Central Office News

At the OFFICE (February 2018):

Visitors	43
Calls	20
Meeting inquiries	
Website	756

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—Drew A.

Newsletter Editor – Lois I.

Member #1 at Large - Davina J.

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

February 2018

Hole in the Wall \$320

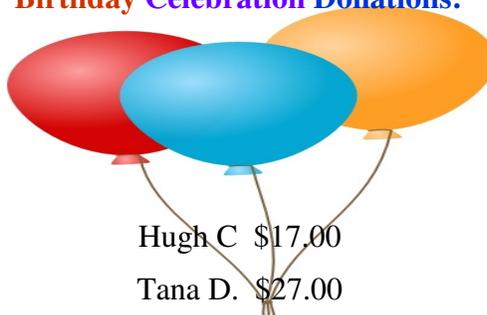
Medford Fellowship \$50

Step Sisters in Sobriety \$75

Newsletter:

Tana D. \$13.00

Birthday Celebration Donations:



Hugh C \$17.00

Tana D. \$27.00

VIRGINIA'S CORNER

One day at a time....this is enough

Do not look back and grieve over the past, for it is gone.

And do not be troubled about the future, for it has not come.

Live in the present, and make it so beautiful that it will be worth remembering.

Upcoming Event?

Please send your event flyer to web-coordinator@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.

Editors Note:

Central Office Fund Raiser Brunch is scheduled for Sunday, April 8, 2018 @ St. Vincent DePaul. Tickets available at Central Office.

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.

Tradition Two - For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority... a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants... they do not govern. But they must always remember that they serve for the good of all, without authority over any .



1940 AA Preamble

We are gathered here because we are faced with the fact that we are powerless over alcohol and unable to do anything about it without the help of a Power greater than ourselves.

WE feel that each person's religious views, if any, are his own affair. The simple purpose of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous is to show what may be done to enlist the aid of a Power greater than ourselves regardless of what our individual conception of that Power may be.

In order to form a habit of depending upon and referring all we do to that Power, we must at first apply ourselves with some diligence. By often repeating these acts, they become habitual and the help rendered becomes natural and the help rendered becomes natural to us.

We have all come to know that as alcoholics we are suffering from a serious illness for which medicine has no cure.

Our condition may be the result of an allergy which makes us different from other people. It has never been by any treatment with which we are familiar, permanently cured. The only relief we have to offer is absolute abstinence, the second meaning of A.A.

There are no dues or fees. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Each member squares his debt by helping others to recover.

An Alcoholics Anonymous is an alcoholic who through application and adherence to the A.A. program has forsworn the use of any and all alcoholic beverage in any form.

The moment he takes so much as one drop of beer, wine, spirits or any other alcoholic beverage he automatically loses all status as a

OUT of the ARCHIVES -Submitted by Kathy C.

member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

A.A. is not interested in sobering up drunks who are no sincere in their desire to remain sober for all time. Not being reformers, we offer our experience only to those who want it.

We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree and on which we can join in harmonious action. Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our program. Those who do not recover are people who will not or simply cannot give themselves to this simple program. Now you may like this program or you may not, but the fact remains, it works. It is our only chance to recover.

There is a vast amount of fun in the A.A. fellowship. Some people might be shocked by our seeming worldliness and levity but just underneath there lies a deadly earnestness and a full realization that we must put first things first and with each of us the first things is our alcoholic problem. To drink is to die. Faith must work twenty-four hours a day in and through us or we perish.

In order to set our tone for this meeting I ask that we bow our heads in a few moments of silent prayer and meditation. I wish to remind you that whatever is said at this meeting expresses our own individual opinion as of today and as of up to this moment.

We do not speak for A.A. as a whole and you are free to agree or disagree as you see fit, in fact, it suggested that you pay no attention to anything which might not be reconciled with what is in the A.A. Big Book.

f you don't have a Big Book, its time you bought one. Read it, study it, live with it, loan it, scatter

it, and then learn from it what it means to be in A.A.

EVENTS

Local & Regional & Beyond

Rogue Mountain Retreat

A Closed, Women's AA Step Experience
Cascade Mountain Ranch, Hugo, OR
March 9-11, 2018

1st come, 1st serve registration
Registration is currently: OPEN

[Flier Here](#)

70th Anniversary of AA in Rogue Valley Saturday, March 10 6 PM at 2525 Smullin Center, Medford

[Flier Here](#)

Central Office Annual Fund-raiser Breakfast—Sunday, April 8, 2018 at St. Vincent DePaul, 2424 N. Pacific Hwy, Medford.

[Flier Here](#)

24th Annual Rogue Valley

Women's Retreat April 20-22 at St. Rita's Retreat Center, Central Point.

[Flier Here](#)

Rogue Valley Women in Recovery Brunch Saturday, June 16, 2018 10 am—2 pm Registration required

[Flier Here](#)

They [the Promises] are being fulfilled among us — sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly.

Step 3 - Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him.

The Third Step - Turning It over

I REACHED the Third Step after trying to understand the first two. I had reflected on the First--I can't handle alcohol. In the Second, I had come to believe, slowly, in a Power that could restore me to sanity. Since I now did believe, it seemed a sensible idea to turn myself over completely to this Power. My own way of living had proved a disaster. Now I was willing to try the way of Someone Else.

Doing that isn't complicated. If I have a toothache, I turn my problem over to a dentist. I don't question him; I know that he is not going to drill a hole in my shoulder, that his knowledge and skill will end the toothache. The idea of turning to someone more competent than I can [apply](#) to multiple areas. In their fields, the doctor, [lawyer](#), CPA, plumber, butcher, and so on are all greater powers than I. Only my ingrown pride, arrogance, and conceit could deter me from admitting this.

So now I made a decision to turn my will and life over to God, as I [understood](#) Him. There was no defensible reason for quibbling; I knew I should just try turning it over, and shut up. But then I asked myself: How? It wasn't enough to say the Third Step aloud, then sit back and wait for miracles.

At first, I thought that since I was generously turning my life over, the Higher Power should quickly turn something over in return. The possibility that the Power, in taking such control, might cancel my free will and options (which I thought I cherished) didn't occur to me at that point.

Time brought a little common sense. Some strictly one-day-at-a-time way of turning it over must be found. It took a lot of meditation to reach the concept I hold today: Only one day need (or can) be tackled. Each day when I wake, I am guided by a set of conditions that outline what I must do, or ought to do, in the normal course. These might include going to work, or [working at home](#), or caring for the children. The conditions are different for each person.

Since the Higher Power isn't going to write out instructions or give audible [directions](#), I will have to proceed as best as I am able. Since I have free will, and certain duties have been laid out for me, I can either tackle or rebel. The mother of several brats, or the guy whose boss just sneered at him, may feel free to rush out and board a bus for Seattle. But all history proves that those who run out on others, who quit cold in the clutch, whose collars get a bit tight, eventually pay a high price one way or another. It seems I must try to do the things that come along in the course of just one day.

If I try to live one hour or one instant at a time, and do my best at each task with a cheerful and serene attitude, I believe I am implementing fully the spirit of the Third Step. I am turning my will and life over by doing all that has been placed within my reach today, which is apparently what He wants. No longer am I letting self-will and selfishness run riot.

This is how I try to put myself to work on the Third Step. Others may in other ways try the same thing, groping for answers as I must do. I am a mediocre student and must think slowly and carefully. But with daily practice, my habit of reflection will become easier and at length constant, like breathing. And as Bill W. said, far from preventing anyone from exercising free will, such a daily effort of turning over everything in full trust will help lead to "those sterling qualities which can add up to greatness of spirit and action--true and lasting freedom under God, the freedom to find and do *His* will

-- W. C.

Hull, Massachusetts (From the March 1977 Grape Vine magazine.)

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

The AA principle and Virtues for this step are: Faith, Commitment (the key word in step 3 is decision), trust and reliance. Surrender - a lifetime of self-will run riot can come to a screeching halt, and change forever, by making a simple decision to turn it all over to a higher power.

Meeting?? Group?? Fellowship? Submitted by Jack I.

Is there a difference between a meeting and a group? And what's a fellowship?

That question is a common one. The terms are often used interchangeably, but some members believe they describe different gatherings.

In short, a meeting involves members who gather at a set time and place; some members believe that groups are meetings that continue to exist outside the meeting, ready to provide Twelfth Step help, take meetings into jails, hospitals or treatment centers or provide other AA services. (A full description of an AA meeting is in the pamphlet "The AA Group," pages 12-13.)

A fellowship doesn't seem to have an AA definition. Its meaning varies from place to place, but it's generally a collection of meetings or groups that have a common business meeting, general secretary, GSR and/or registration with GSO. Each meeting in a fellowship generally has its own secretary that represents the meeting at the fellowship business meeting. In some areas, a fellowship will take on service commitments like those of a group, above.

From the AA pamphlet "The AA Group":

As the long form of Tradition Three clearly states, "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought AA membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation."

Further clarification of an AA group may be found in the Twelve Concepts for World Service, Concept Twelve, Warranty Six:

- no penalties to be inflicted for nonconformity to AA principles;
- no fees or dues to be levied – voluntary contributions only;
- no member to be expelled from AA – membership always to be the choice of the individual;
- each AA group to conduct its internal affairs as it wishes – it being merely requested to abstain from acts that might injure AA as a whole; and finally
- that any group of alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA Group provided that, as a group, they have no other purpose or affiliation.

Some AA's come together as specialized AA Groups – for men, women, young people, doctors, gays and others. If the members are all alcoholics, and if they open the door to all alcoholics who seek help, regardless of profession, gender or other distinction, and meet all the other aspects defining an AA group, they may call themselves an AA Group.

Is There a Difference Between a Meeting and a Group?

Most AA members meet in AA groups as defined by the long form of our Third Tradition (see page 44 in the pamphlet "The AA Group"). However, some AA members hold AA Meetings that differ from the common understanding of a group. These members simply gather at a set time and place for a meeting, perhaps for convenience or other special situations. The main difference between meetings and groups is that AA Groups generally continue to exist outside the prescribed meeting hours, ready to provide Twelfth Step help when needed.
