

# 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 (April 2018):

Visitors 50  
Calls 26  
Meeting inquiries 9  
Website 822

**Great people providing a valued service! Thanks to all**

### Board Members

Chair – Joel S.  
Co-Chair – Donna R.  
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

#### April 2018

AA Sunday Grange \$160.58  
Medford Fellowship \$50  
Monday Night Men's \$100  
Thursday Night Candlelight \$75  
Crack of Dawn \$78.62  
I Did It My Way \$125  
White House Group \$150

### **VIRGINIA'S CORNER**

“Rules” Dangerous but Unity Vital.....It is out of our discussions, our differences of opinion, our daily experiences, our general consent that the true answers must finally come

.....from The Language of the Heart.

### **Editors Note:**

#### **More or less.....**

*Fear less, hope more,*

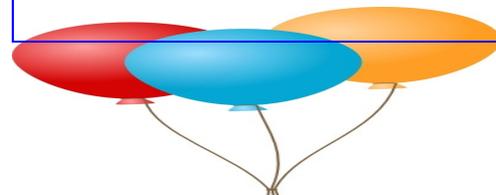
*Eat less, chew more,*

*Whine less, breathe more,*

*Talk less, say more,*

*Love more, and all good things will be yours! .....Swedish proverb*

**Enjoy your day!!!**



### **Birthday Celebration Donations:**

**Terry K \$26**

**Tom M \$35**

### **Newsletter Donation:**

**Terry K \$10**

### Upcoming Event?

Please send your event flyer to [webcoordinator@outlook.com](mailto: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.

*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.*

**The Fifth Tradition** — *Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

**An AA says we can't transmit what we don't have.** The first thing Tradition Five tells us is what a group is, or at least "ought to be."

We are not a sociological entity, although sociologists find us fascinating. We are not a therapy group, although remarkable healing takes place among us. And we are not a religion, even though some people want to see us as such. We are a spiritual entity, or at least "ought to be."

To me, that means that, although we are not saints, we "ought to" strive for spiritual progress. We follow a spiritual path laid out for us by Bill, Bob, and the first one hundred members of Alcoholics Anonymous. That spiritual path consists of the Twelve Steps, and by later development, the Twelve Traditions. They are suggestions only, but very firm suggestions--norms for our spiritual progress. We are a Fellowship of men and women who ought to come together as a spiritual entity.

We deal with two things here: our being and our doing. Clearly, what we are is going to have a lot to do with what we do. And what we do is going to have a strong influence on what we are.

We shake our heads at the "Two-Steppers" who, still on the First Step, take it upon themselves to run around "Twelfth-Stepping" whomever they can corner. We know they have not acquired a solid enough foundation in AA spirituality to pass it on to others. They forget the old saying: *nemo dat quod non habet* (No one can give what he doesn't have). Soon, without the gratification of instant success, discouragement sets in. The Two-Stepper must learn to be spiritual first, or give in to discouragement and quit AA.

Can this happen to a group? I think it can. When individuals in a group neglect the spiritual program of Alcoholics Anonymous and come to the meetings as if they were "fellowship" and nothing more; or when they dilute the meeting to focus on other things, or disparage spirituality, thinking it's the intrusion of religion; then, as a group, they stop being a spiritual entity. The group gets its spirituality from its members.

What does this mean to me personally? It means that my AA spirituality is the very foundation of my sobriety. The group will be as spiritual as its members are spiritual.

So my spiritual condition strengthens or weakens the spirituality of the group. Therefore, it increases or lessens our chances for survival as a group, and our chances for sobriety as individuals in the group.

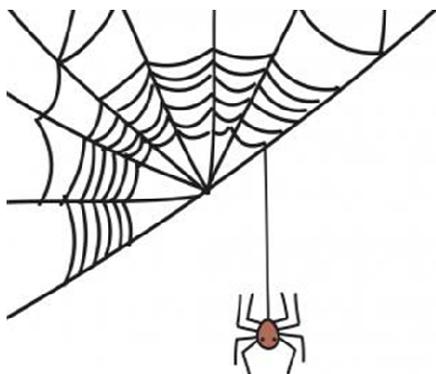
Besides taking good care of my own spirituality, I try to encourage activity that might strengthen the spirituality of the group, such as Twelfth Step workshops. Weekend events can become very popular and even traditional occasions in the life of the group. Whatever strengthens the spirituality of the group strengthens my spirituality, and vice versa. Whatever does that, increases my chances of staying sober, and at the same time, helps me and the group to remain focused on our primary purpose.

-- Anonymous—*From the May 2006 Grapevine magazine*

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

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 84

**Step 5** — *Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.*



*Entirely Ready—  
from the May  
2018 Grapevine  
Magazine*

When I first read the Twelve Steps, there were a few I expected to be difficult—especially Four and Nine. I dreaded listing all my faults and making amends the most. But once I started working them, I noticed a few other Steps that took much more effort than I anticipated. The First Step was really hard. I had just gotten my third DUI, lost my job and was living in a treatment center, yet I still had trouble saying my life was unmanageable.

My Fifth Step was one of those things I was eager to do but was also dreading. The Fourth Step was difficult. The judge had given me the option of being in treatment for two months or going to jail for a year and there were times I felt that jail seemed like a better option! In jail, I could just sleep, watch TV and read books. There was none of this introspection or discomfort. I was sick to my stomach a lot during the week I worked on my Fourth Step. But I was ready to rid myself of all that crap that had accumulated over my years of active drinking.

In the end, I felt great doing Step Five. It was a cathartic experience, very personal. My big revelation came after I'd admitted to another human being the exact nature of my wrongs. I was also lucky that there was an outdoor bench swing in a nice shaded area where I could sit and do my Sixth Step after.

And boy, was I ever wrong about how easy it would be to ask God to remove my shortcomings. I never realized how attached I'd gotten to all of my little peculiarities, quirks and vices I'd developed

over the years. Much like a cancer that had to be removed, I felt like these defects were part of me that I'd nurtured, watched grow and cared for. But they were also like a bad friend who was always borrowing money and never paying me back ... or an abusive husband or boss. It was still hard for me to let some of them go.

Then all of a sudden, I saw something that made it all easier. As I sat there on that swing in the shade, I saw a spider crawling around on the wooden frame of the bench. I watched as he spun a small length of thread, stuck it to a board and let go. When the wind picked up, it took him to the other side where he would continue to spin his web. I found that to be the most accurate description of faith I'd ever seen. This spider picked a spot to start and simply let God make the rest of the decisions regarding how his house would look. He wasn't getting in the way. He wasn't building and hanging on to resentments. He didn't want to keep his defects of character (if spiders have such defects!) even though they might be weighing him down.

Right then I said the Seventh Step prayer for the first time. And now, whenever I feel like taking control of my life and grabbing those old defects of character, I remember to be like that spider and just let go and let God.

-- Zacheriah B.  
New Philadelphia, Ohio



*and Wisdom*" spoken in the rooms of AA all over the world.

*Good things happen to drunks who don't drink.*

*Act yourself into right thinking!*

*Your naval is NOT the center of the universe.*

*HALT – Hungry, Angry, Lonely, Tired.*

*HALT – Honesty, Acceptance, Loving, Tolerance*

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 5 - Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

The AA principle and Virtues for this step are: Integrity—the state of being entire, wholeness, good, honest, upright. Integrity—probably the most difficult of all steps to face. Step 5 is also the one that provides the greatest opportunity for growth. Truth—candid confession to God and another human being. Integrity is the qualifications of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness. It is generally a personal choice to hold oneself to consistent moral and ethical standards. In ethics, integrity is regarded by many as the honesty and truthfulness or accuracy of one's actions.

A.A. History in May



May 2

1941 - Jacksonville, FL newspaper reported the start of an AA group in Jacksonville.
1943 - New Orleans Times reported founding of the first Louisiana AA group with a dozen members.

May 3

1941 - Democrat Chronicle in Rochester, NY, reported first annual AA dinner at Seneca hotel with 60 attending.

May 4

1940 - Sunday Star reported founding of first AA group in Washington, DC.

May 6

1939 - Clarence S. of Cleveland told Dr. Bob, his sponsor, he would not be back to Oxford Group meetings in Akron and would start an "AA" meeting in Cleveland.

May 7

1956 - The first English AA Convention was held in Cheltenham, England.

May 8

1943 - Akron AA Group celebrates 8th anniversary with 500 present and sober.
1971 - Bill W. was buried in private

ceremony, in East Dorset, Vermont. Dr. Jack Norris gave the eulogy.

May 10

1939 - Clarence S. announced to the Akron Oxford Group members that the Cleveland members were starting a meeting in Cleveland and calling it Alcoholics Anonymous.

May 11

1935 - Bill W. called Walter Tunks from the Mayflower Hotel, and was referred to Henrietta Seiberling who set up a meeting with Dr. Bob.
1939 - First meeting of the Cleveland Group.

May 12

1935 - Mother's Day, Bill and Dr. Bob met for the first time, at the home of Henrietta Seiberling.

May 16

1941 - Ruth Hock learned that the man credited with coming up with the name "Alcoholics Anonymous" has a "wet" brain.

May 17

1942 - Dayton Journal Herald published pictures of AA members wearing masks to protect their anonymity.

May 18

1939 - The first group to call itself A. A. is meets in Cleveland, OH.

1950 - Dr. Bob told Bill W. "I reckon we ought to be buried like other folks." He wanted no memorial.

May 19

2000 - Dr. Paul O. died at the age of 83. He was author of "Acceptance Was the Answer" in the 4th edition of the Big Book. This story was titled "Doctor, Alcoholic, Addict" in the 3rd edition.

May 29

1980 - "Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers" was published.

May 31

1938 - Bill W. and other A.A.s began writing the Big Book

Local Events

Rogue Valley Women in Recovery Brunch

Saturday, June 16, 2018 10 am—2 pm
Registration required
Flyer Here

All 12-Steppers Women's Camp Out 2018

August 9th - 12th
Camp Apserkaha at Howard Prairie
Flyer Here

Searching and Fearless South Coast Roundup

July 27-29, 2018
Flyer Here