FILING CABINET



Volume 33, Issue 3

March, 2023

SALT RIVER INTERGROUP

Step Three required a follow-up.

Early on in sobriety I considered the Third Step Prayer on page 63 as both a "decision" and "turning over" of my will and life over to God. However, the Big Book directions tell us that we have already made this decision on page 62 (Bottom paragraph) and that this step was only a beginning. It was already made!

The Third Step Prayer requires asking God for relief from "the bondage of self," although I had no precise knowledge of what of what that was. However, the bottom paragraph tells us to "launch out" on a course of vigorous action. I would think this requires writing Step Four so as to understand, to some degree, my shortcomings and defects of character. Also, I believe that Step Five was important to allow my sponsor to point out the further aspects of my bondage of self.

So, The Third step Prayer was only a beginning and will have "little permanent effect unless at once followed by a strenuous effort to face and be rid of, the things in ourselves which had been blocking us." (p. 64)

These additional steps were necessary to provide the information about what I was asking God to remove when I got to Step Seven!

I spent the first five months of my sobriety without doing the Step Three follow up as listed above and almost drank—thankfully I immediately found a sponsor who took me through all twelve steps and have not had to drink since. I will be eternally grateful for the clear-cut directions in the Big Book!

Bob S

From Your Steering Committee

Tradition Three

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.

The attempt to define membership was first printed in 1939, in the first edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. It read: "The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking. We are not allied with any particular faith, sect, or denomination nor do we oppose anyone. We simply wish to be helpful to those who are afflicted."

In the ensuing years, many groups, fearful for their future, developed adjunct rules for membership. There was a plethora of restrictions involving race, gender, status, wealth, morality, ad infinitum. Finally, in 1943 GSO asked groups to send their membership rules to New York. A revelation occurred. When combined, these rules would eliminate participation by almost all AAs, newcomer and established member alike.

Thus Bill W. began to formulate and publish in the *Grapevine* his "Twelve Points to Assure Our Future" (which later became our Twelve Traditions). Among his concerns was the notion that one alcoholic could or would judge another alcoholic. Disruption might be grounds to ask someone to leave a meeting

but nonconformity could not keep them out of AA. The words "honest" and "alcoholism" were dropped from the Short Form, lest judgments of motive, sincerity, or qualification be grounds for contention (or exclusion). The words "all", "none" and "any" are in the Long Form to insure that every person who believes they have a problem drinking alcohol is welcome to join the AA fellowship and seek relief through the AA program.

By 1946, Bill's writings reflected an understanding that we could assure our future by following the spiritual path of love, tolerance and patience. He saw that the trend among groups to include was and could continue to lead to faith, whereas exclusionary practices rooted in the fear of losing group control would only lead to more fear. It is why we can say to all who come through the doors of Alcoholics Anonymous "Welcome home," and "Keep coming back."

Dave B.

Suggested Readings:

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions

Pass It On, pp. 315-318

The Language of the Heart, pp. 79-80

A.A. Tradition – How It Developed pamphlet

Tradition Three Checklist

The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers?

Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?

Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?

Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?

Am I overimpressed by a celebrity, a doctor, a clergyman, an exconvict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?

When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he had been to AA before? What his other problems are?



Concept Three

As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the conference, the A.A. General Service Board, and it's several corporations, staffs, committees, and executives, and of thus ensuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision"

It is suggested that one should be familiar with the General Service Conference Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service board as background for this Concept, both of which are found in *The A.A Service Manual*.

With the "Right of Decision" comes great responsibility of trusted servants to the service entity that elected or appointed us, to A.A. as a whole, and to our own informed conscience.

The "Right of Decision" for A.A. service in this authors opinion, must 1st be grounded in an adequate working knowledge of **our** Traditions and Concepts of Service for the service position held. This will help ensure proper consultation, reporting, representation, and clearly defined authority by those we have entrusted. Trusted servants should also be accountable to service entity Bylaws they are entrusted to receive clear purpose and direction from.

Clearly, A.A. has grown to where there is much need for filter of information deemed pertinent to service meeting agendas, operational decisions that need efficient disposal of, details of

task to function, reports and group conscience votes, etc. Here is where the Trusted Servant needs to exercise their own conscience and judgment so A.A. service can be both representative and efficient.

All our Traditions and Concepts of Service guide us to a place of maximum service. Concept III illustrated puts it best - "Our entire A.A program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other."

Bud C

- Do I understand the important relationship of our Concepts of Service to our upside-down triangle service structure.
- Do I understand that the Concepts of Service are grounded in our Traditions and are guiding principles for our Third Legacy (Service).

Suggested reading:

The Twelve Concepts for World Service illustrated (pamphlet P-8), aa.org

The A.A. Service Manual 2021-2023 edition, BM-31, aa.org

"Our Great responsibility"- a selection of Bill W's General Service Conference talks, 1951-1970, aa.org

HYBRID!!! PI/CPC meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm; Meeting ID: 976 6139 5578 Passcode: 397657 & In person at SRI Central Office 3215 E. Thunderbird Rd, Phoenix 85032

Concept Three Checklist

To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. – the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staff, committees, and executives-with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Do we understand what is meant by the "Right of Decision"? Do we grant it at all levels of service or do we "instruct"? Do we trust our trusted servants – G.S.R., D.C.M., area delegate, the conference itself?

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Salt River Intergroup Business Meeting February 14, 2023, via zoom

Mission Statement - Adrian

Open meeting with Serenity Prayer - Adrian

2nd Tradition and Tradition checklist reading - Dave

2nd Concept and Concept checklist reading – Bud

Introduction to Steering Committee

New Intergroup reps – Sarina, Puttin' Sober; Marisa, stand – in for Friday Nights Young People

Introduction to pages 6 - 7 of IG packet for communication of information to and from the home groups

Number of attendees - 44

Remarks and announcements by chair - Adrian

Previous month's meeting minutes – pages 8 –9 of IG packet. Motion to accept as is – Chuck opened; Barry seconded. 29 to accept, 3 abstain

General Service Liaison (Area) - no update

Treasurer Report – James – pages 10 – 11 of the IG <u>packet</u>. An Ad hoc committee of 5 was suggested by the Steering Committee to get ideas on what to do with surplus funds; approximately \$10,000.00 - \$12,000.00. Volunteers include Jerry, WNMSS; Beth, Zoom Cactus Study; Jay, Freedom Hour;

Discussed opening SRI office on Saturday. It's usually staffed by the Steering Committee but because the Steering Committee is not full it puts too much stress on committee members. There was a call for reps to volunteer to be on the Steering Committee.

7th Tradition – Adrian called for participation and will read the green card at the next meeting.

Central Office Report - Cyndee - pages 4 - 5 of the IG packet. New reps send email to info@sriphoenix.org so your email address is on file to receive emails.

Event Committee Liaison

2023 Anniversary – Bud. There is a date change from April 15th to April 29th (on the 15th there was a conflict with another dinner). Next meeting is February 23 at 6pm, and every other Thursday.

2023 Summer Round - Up - Adrian - Same venue

2023 Alcothon - James, Dave Alcathon Profit & Loss page 14 in IG packet -No update

Old Business

Motion to change the bylaws regarding when the annual budget is to be presented. The motion was opened at the January 10^{th} IG meeting: Budget is to be presented to the IG meeting in November meeting with vote for approval at the December meeting. Yes -24, No -2, Abstain -8. Motion to change bylaws passed.

New Business

Steering Committee appointments; Terry resigns as Sr Advisor. Bud appointed from advisor to Co-Chair per Adrian – poll to accept – Yes – 30, No – 0, Abstain – 2, appointment passes. Robbin B. appointed to Sr. Advisor per Adrian – poll to accept – Yes - 24, No - 0, abstain – 6, appointment passes. The secretary position is still open, Adrian calls for volunteer. Terry appointed to Advisor per Adrian – poll to accept – Yes – 27, No – 0, Abstain – 3, appointment passes. Jay volunteered to accept Advisor position – poll to accept – Yes – 21, No – 1, abstain 7. appointment passes.

Hybrid meetings – Adrian – Cost to go hybrid is to be presented at March IG meeting. The goal is to be hybrid as soon as technically possible.

PRAASA - Bud – Cost to attend PRAASA is approximately \$1200.00 per Bud. Barry motioned to approve expense to attend PRAASA at no more than \$1200.00. Jay second. Poll to approve – Yes - 26, No – 1, Abstain – 2. Motion carried.

SRI Standing Committee Reports

Archives – Pat – No report

PI/CPC - Terry - Informational hybrid meeting was well attended. PI/CPC meets 4th Tuesday of each month in-person at SRI office **Meeting Update Committee** - no report

Grapevine - no report

H & I – Call for volunteer liaison: A suggestion to have a rep attend 1 H&I meeting to tap into their membership seeking a volunteer to be the SRI liaison.

Birthdays: Cass R. 11 years, Beth 18 months, Bruce 3 years, Terry 16 years, Bud 20 years, Cindy 6 years

Motion to close - Jay, Barry second: motion to close meeting carries

Responsibility Pledge

Meeting adjourned

Cass R: meeting minutes respectfully submitted

Central Office Manager's Report

Hello everyone...

Presently all the shifts are filled at Central Office. I am so grateful for the volunteers, THANK YOU!! Please update Zoom codes and passwords with Central Office, CTRL + Click to follow this link: https://aaphoenix.org/groups/group-update/ or from the home page of the SRI website click on meetings, then click on meeting update form. www.aaphoenix.org

We have some spots to answer the phones from your home; Saturday's 9a-12p if nobody is scheduled, the phones don't get answered. Period. You never know... the life you save just might be your own!!! If interested, please contact Sandy at (602)264.1341. This commitment has a sobriety requirement of 1 year of continuous sobriety and have worked your 12 steps.

Please remind groups to buy literature & chips from SRI office to help support your local AA Intergroup so that we can keep the hand of A.A. there for all who need it.

We have approx. 1,600 meetings per week here in the Valley. Approx. 700 of those meetings are registered with us, Salt River Intergroup. Approx. 275 are registered with Agua Fria Intergroup and approx. 500 are registered with East Valley Intergroup.

In the Spirit of Tradition Eight,

Cyndee Rogers

January Phone Stats

	This Month	Last Month	-
Total Help Line Calls:	622	649	4.2%

January WEB Stats:

	This Month	Last Month	
Total Sessions:	22,10 8	22,230	0.55%

	This	Last
*New stats reset	Month	Month
New Visitor	74.3%	91.2%
Returning Visitor	25.7%	8.75%

Sessions by Acquisition	This Month	Last Month
Organic Search:	64.4%	69.6%
Direct	32.3%	28.5%
Referral	1.9%	1.8%
Other	1.4%	0.97%

Sessions by Device	This Month	Last Month
Mobile	72.8%	73.7%
Desktop	25.9%	25.0%
Tablet	1.76%	1.7%





God Leaves the Door Open for Everyone

No Need to Overthink This Issue By Rick R.

The Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) program is open to anyone that has a desire to stop drinking. It makes no difference if you are an atheist, agnostic, Buddhists or a member of one of the vast number of religions in the world. All of us have the same opportunity to get well through the steps. They were fashioned that way to ensure that no alcoholic is left out. We embrace everyone that walks through that door. If step two had been written to say, "Came to believe that God", rather than, "a Power greater than ourselves." could restore me to sanity, I wonder if A.A. would have succeeded in the way that it has, especially when we consider the problems that the Oxford group had with this issue. I have seen people talking of religion, and others that were irritated with any talk of God, yet we still hold hands at the end of the meeting and say a prayer and everyone leaves the meeting feeling a little better. I personally know priests and ministers in the program, and they seem to adjust to the diversity of the landscape. I wish that it could be simpler for each person, but there are no two people that are identical in this matter. Speaking for myself, if I wanted to be freed from the deadly obsession of alcoholism, I had to trust the guidance of the two books that are suggested, and the leadership of the more experienced members of the group, to come to terms with a concept of a power greater than myself. I was the one in the 12&12 that "tried religion and had found it wanting". I also read that, "even the militant atheist got through the hoop with

room to spare". I did not believe in the God of the religionist, in the same way, that I thought, they did, but I did not think I was an atheist either. The Power Greater than myself option, was a good start for me. Something happened to me within minutes after arriving at my first introduction to three people, sitting on a bench in the front yard of a little house in Los Angeles, where they held their meetings, and the obsession to drink was gone, and I have not had, nor wanted, a drink since then. You might call that a miracle, and you might be right, depending on your definition of a miracle, but it came to me as a profound Change of Perception brought about by the Love, Understanding and Compassion I sensed as they welcomed me. These experiences were a great way for me to start, but NOW, WHAT ABOUT PRAYER? Who or what do I pray to? I heard about doorknobs and icons, the ocean, and other such things but that way of thinking did not set well with me. I did not want to be too glib about such an important matter. Then I noticed that, in step two, it did not say that I had to believe in anything, only that I had to believe that a power greater than myself, could restore me to sanity. The collective wisdom of the AA program and the people in it have been the framework for my faith in a higher power. The experience that I had in that front yard, fifty-one years ago, was all I needed to know to get on with the rest of the program. I pray to God every day to show me what to do and to give me the strength to do it and I still do not know for sure, who or what God is. I use the word God, only to describe the spiritual influence that A.A. has had on this drunk. I pray to God as I understand God, and he expresses himself in my consciousness, the only thing left for me to do is to separate the wheat from the chaff.

I am Responsible . . .

When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help

I want the hand of AA to be there, And for that,

. . . I Am Responsible

Group Contributions

Group	Group Name	JAN	YTD
5221	11 AT 7	\$171.53	\$171.53
5243	11TH STEP MEETING	\$100.00	\$100.00
1900	12 AND 12 (CAREFREE)	\$156.75	\$156.75
1035	5:30 HAPPY HOUR	\$500.00	\$500.00
5498	7am Solution	\$299.75	\$299.75
1700	A.A. SAFE PLACE	\$168.74	\$168.74
5110	BREAKFAST CLUB	\$73.30	\$73.30
6106	BRUNCH BUNCH	\$67.81	\$67.81
6137	CAREFREE RATTLERS	\$73.00	\$73.00
1056	CAREFREE SOBRIETY	\$274.00	\$274.00
1191	CAREFREE WAY OF LIFE	\$136.00	\$136.00
6042	CREIGHTON TUESDAY STAG	\$300.00	\$300.00
5271	CROSSROADS TO HEAVEN	\$300.00	\$300.00
2110	FOUNTAIN HILLS GROUP, THE	\$120.30	\$120.30
6183	HAPPY DESTINY	\$17.83	\$17.83
6221	HAPPY VALLEY EAST	\$91.75	\$91.75
5404	HOW IT WORKS	\$200.00	\$200.00
F200	How It Works Big Book Step	¢500.00	¢500.00
5290	Study	\$500.00	\$500.00
5104	IN-BETWEENERS	\$100.00	\$100.00
1340	K.I.S.S. Keep It Simple Sisters	\$80.13	\$80.13
6061	KNUCKLEHEADS	\$506.62	\$506.62
6622	LADDER OF SUCCESS	\$100.00	\$100.00

1514	LET'S TALK ABOUT IT	\$125.00	\$125.00	
5297	LIVING IN THE SOLUTION	\$130.00	\$130.00	
5178	LONE MOUNTAIN BB STUDY	\$341.00	\$341.00	
3114	LUNCH BUNCH (CROSSROADS)	\$434.78	\$434.78	
1092	MENS 4PM MONDAY MEETING	\$125.14	\$125.14	
5111	Mens Attitude Adjustment	\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00	
1158	MEN'S MONDAY NIGHT BB	\$150.00	\$150.00	
1130	STUDY	\$130.00	λ130.00	
1204	Mid City Group	\$140.00	\$140.00	
5413	N SCOTTSDALE TUE NIGHT	\$750.00	\$750.00	
3413	MENS STAG	7/30.00	7/30.00	
5085	NORTH MOUNTAIN STUDY	\$73.00	\$73.00	
3003	GROUP	773.00	٧/٥.٥٥	
6214	ON AWAKENING	\$600.00	\$600.00	
2820	PINNACLE PEAK GANG	\$133.00	\$133.00	
1516	RIO VERDE AA GROUP	\$194.10	\$194.10	
1606	SATURDAY NIGHT 12&12	\$100.00	\$100.00	
1169	SHADOW MOUNTAIN GROUP	\$25.00	\$25.00	
5106	SOBER SISTERS	\$105.00	\$105.00	
1129	SUNNYSLOPE GROUP	\$180.00	\$180.00	
1060	Sunnyslope Happy Hour	\$4.00	\$4.00	
2803	WOMAN BY THE BOOK	\$275.50	\$275.50	
5500	Work In Progress Group	\$97.00	\$97.00	
5263	WORKS BEST When READ	\$140.00	\$140.00	
5494	ZOOMS Best When Read	\$95.00	\$95.00	
		\$10,455.03	\$10,455.03	



BREAKING

NEWS



SALT RIVER INTERGROUP 80th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF A.A. IN THE VALLEY WILL BE APRIL 29th, 2023!!!

WATCH THE SRI WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS!!!

... heard in the rooms;

- ★ The places in our personalities where we tend to deviate from *love* are not our faults (character defects) but our wounds. God wants to heal us, not punish.
- ★ I have nothing to fear and everything to give.
- ★ The miracle happens when I change my perception.

I'm always blown away by the wisdom we are fortunate to hear in the rooms of AA. I almost feel sorry for those non-AAs. I said 'almost'...We are the lucky ones...What have you heard?

Cass R. Phoenix, AZ



SRI Intergroup Meeting via Zoom March 14, 2023 at 7pm.

If you are the Intergroup Rep for your home group, do we have your e-mail? If, you are not sure if we have your current info please send an e-mail to info@sriphoenix.org. *Meeting documents can be found on the website under "groups", www.aaphoenix.org.*

	Salt River Intergroup, Inc.				
			Balance Sheet		
		-	As of January 31, 2023	3	
			J		
ASS	SETS	3			
	Cur	ren	t Assets		
		Che	ecking/Savings		
			General Fund	46,773.87	
			Prudent Reserve Fund	66,590.13	
Total Checking/Savings 113,					
	Other Current Assets 28,917.9				
	Tot	al C	urrent Assets	142,281.90	
	Fixe	ed A	ssets	8,105.22	
TO	ΓAL	ASS	ETS	150,387.12	
LIA	BILI	TIES	& EQUITY		
	Equ	ity			
	Funds Balance 145,635.			145,635.78	
		Net	Income	4,751.34	
	Total Equity 150,387.12				
TO	ΓAL	LIA	BILITIES & EQUITY	150,387.12	

Salt	Salt River Intergroup, Inc.				
	Pro	ofit & Loss			
	J	anuary 2023			
Ordina	ry Inco	ome/Expense			
	Incon	ne			
	С	ontributions	11,089.43		
	S	tore Income	8,924.20		
	N	on Store Income	43.48		
	Total	Income	20,057.11		
	Cost	of Goods Sold	5,556.65		
Gro	oss Pr	ofit	14,500.46		
	Expe	nse			
	0	ordinary Expenses	4,099.17		
	Employee Expenses				
	Total Expense				
Net Ord	Net Ordinary Income				
Net Income	9		4,751.34		



Please update your meetings with Central Office. It's important, so can we provide current information to the Alcoholic who asks for help!!

https://aaphoenix.org/groups/group-update/

Page 10 FILING CABINET



First		Sober Date	Years
Al	L.	3/17/1963	60
Gar & Irene	D.	3/9/1964	59
Horst	N.	3/1/1970	53
Roxanna	C.	3/12/1971	52
John	D.	3/1/1975	48
John	Р.	3/18/1975	48
Silvia	S.	3/29/1975	48
Dyan	B.	3/9/1976	47
Jerry	P.	3/1/1976	47
Tony	P.	3/5/1976	47
Donna	R.	3/1/1976	47
Patricia	T.	3/5/1976	47
Larry	R.	3/17/1976	47
Bob	C.	3/1/1977	46
Jack	J.	3/7/1977	46
Dave	S.	3/27/1978	45
Marcia L.	S.	3/31/1979	44
Bill	A.	3/18/1979	44
Jan	Н.	3/1/1979	44
Tom	J.	3/23/1979	44
Caroline	M.	3/31/1980	43
Blair	P.	3/13/1980	43
Nancy	B.	3/3/1981	42
Larry	M.	3/30/1981	42
Corrine	Y.	3/15/1981	42

Bob	D.	3/31/1982	41
Jim & Jean	R.	3/16/1982	41
Joe	O.	3/26/1982	41
Susan	R.	3/1/1983	40
Kevin	Ο.	3/2/1983	40
Bill	K.	3/21/1983	40
Don		3/18/1983	40
Theresa	D.	3/31/1983	40
Linda	A.	3/21/1984	39
Judi	N.	3/18/1984	39
Gypzy	Н.	3/12/1984	39
llene	K.	3/12/1984	39
Mike	R.	3/28/1984	39
Steve	A.	3/24/1984	39
Diane	D.	3/2/1984	39
David	S.	3/9/1986	37
Robbin	B.	3/10/1986	37
Mike	B.	3/4/1986	37
Milton	F.	3/30/1987	36
Dean	L.	3/26/1989	34
Dick	В.	3/2/1989	34
Carole	S.	3/15/1990	33
Patrick	M.	3/23/1990	33
Julie	P.	3/18/1991	32
Julie	W.	3/9/1991	32
Tracy	N.	3/17/1992	31

We are currently updating our Old Timers data base. Please email any changes to info@sriphoenix.org. If you have 25+ years and would like to be added please email your sobriety date, address, phone number and email address to info@sriphoenix.org or call Cyndee at Central Office 602-264-1374.



March 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Steering Committee Meeting	8 H&I Meeting 7pm check website for details www.vwhi.org	9	10	11
12	13	14 Intergroup Meeting 7pm via	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 PI/CPC meeting 7pm see pg 3 for details	29	30	31	

Please check specific meetings for cancelations or postponements

SALT RIVER INTERGROUP

3215 E. Thunderbird Rd Phoenix, AZ 85032

Phone: 602-264-1341 website www.aaphoenix.org email: info@sriphoenix.org

	me: Renew	Change						
Street Add	dress:							
City: Zip:			_ State:					
Phone:								
Annual Individual Newsletter Delivered via USPS Mailing = \$15.00								
Annual Group Copies (5) Delivered at SRI Business Meeting = \$20.00								

