

CENTRAL NEWS

Website: www.aa-tulareco.org

August 2020

What "Earn" Means When Applied to AA

Stop For the Flowers Exeter, Ca Allen L

"To merit or deserve, as by labor or service." Webster's definition of the word "distinction" is: "State or quality of being distinguishable or distinct."

We have earned the distinction of being A.A.s. Our uprising against society, our concentrated efforts to ruin our health, our painstaking efforts to insult our friends and our wanton waste of precious business hours together with our home wrecking abilities, must not be confused with my statement that we have earned the distinction of being A.A.s.

We "merit and deserve" because we have left off with our obnoxious escapades. We "merit and deserve" because we have approached humility. We have asked for spiritual guidance and help in arresting the desire to destroy ourselves as a whole or in part. We "merit and deserve" because as "by labor and service" we have undertaken to help others. We have suffered them to come to us in pain and have tried to take this pain and replace it with sobriety, joy of living, compassion and tolerance for others both within and outside our group. And in this connection let me say that to any one who each day can find a kind word for a fellow man and if the opportunity affords, a kindly deed or helping hand, I think should go the badge of fellowship. He has permitted the teachings of A.A. to penetrate his entire day by day life. May God

bless him for his complete reception of those splendid principles originally set down, by those gifted persons, for themselves and for the rest of us who wanted to run away from all that is good.

To "merit and deserve as by labor or service," "that state or quality of being distinguishable or distinct," and in the category of A.A., is something to consider as an achievement. It behooves us to continue to merit and deserve so that we may daily earn this distinction.

Gone and buried are the dead snakes of yesterday. At hand is a normal and happy way of living. We shall remember the burial ceremonies only as a protection against recurrence and to continue being useful to family, friends, community and country.

Let us rejoice in our present status as normal, thinking, unselfish people. Let us rejoice in our desire and our ability to serve. Let us be determined to continue in this status, come what may. Let us dedicate the time remaining to us to service. Let us do whatever we are doing in such a way that no one with no more skill can do a better job.

This attitude towards the philosophy of living has taken me over ten months to acquire. No one could inject it—it

had to be acquired from within. I am still ashamed that I had to kill the snakes that are now dead, but I am proud and happy that I did kill them.

From whence did this conviction, this altitude, this philosophy come? Your guess is as good as mine, but it probably came from whence most good things come.

—G.W.H., Sioux City, IA AA grapevine August 1946

Step 8 *Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.*

Step eight was specifically magical for me. I would like to quote the Twelve and Twelve

“we consider how, with our new found knowledge of ourselves, we may develop the best possible relations with every human being we know.”

I was not ready to look at my actions, and read through my fourth step to see my part in my own resentments. I was craving human interaction. I had a need for acceptance at this point in my life from people I had known through the good and the bad.

Taking those actions and completing eight and nine was an experience almost all its own. I am grateful for the push from my sponsor and for the peace these steps gave me.

--Erica D.

Tradition 8 *Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.*

AA members greedily retain any administrative, janitorial, accounting, secreterial, and especially twelfth step work because we know from years of experience that these service positions help us stay sober. We would like to be a top to bottom, all inclusive, closed society famous for our never failing ability to introduce the pitiful and incomprehensive to a new happy and spiritual way of life. Our higher power is big enough to do that.

Our effectiveness however, requires the occasional use of paid for help within our system. No one would argue that central office should always be kept open by volunteers as it is in some fortunate groups, nor should we expect our festivities to be provided by generous volunteers. Volunteers and special committees are great but they should not be expected to handle these loads day in and day out. No one owns any position of service in AA. Rotation of volunteers in these duties is best. Sometimes it is just better to employ and fairly compensate a professional to handle routine and vital assignments. Tradition eight provides an answer for us and has proven an effective answer over the years to what could be a sticky problem.

If there is any area of tradition eight that is problematic it is in the area of professionalism. Hospitals and institutions are vital to save the lives of some alcoholics who have drunk themselves into mortal danger. Sometimes abrupt cessation of the overuse of alcohol results in siezures and/or delirium tremens and can result in death. Medical detox may be required in these cases.

These entities must save the life of these alkiees so that they can get to us. AA is not capable or equipped to handle these cases. Many of us, once our heads are clear and we begin to exult in sobriety make the decision to work outside of AA in these non-AA enterprises. It can be rewarding work and is a good way to get back into society and be self supporting. This is professionalism: the counseling of alcoholics for hire. It is not a violation of tradition eight according to our literature. Problems with tradition starts with an anonymity break. The AA name must not be misused by professionals to gain patients for profit. Being an effective, enthusiastic employee of a drying out facility must not include your AA story and you must not represent yourself as some kind of AA paragon.

It all comes down to humility in the end and we must not cash in the gift of sobriety given us by Acoholics Anonomous.

--Anonymous Member

A Message from our Webmaster

Hello Everyone, Here are a few new updates to the Website:

On the front page, in the right column, is a new section named "Announcements". As Bob and I hear about changes to meetings or new events or such, we add a "post" with one or two lines about the change. The Announcements section lists the three most recent "posts".

On the top menu, we've added a new menu item: Website Updates. It is a link to:

<https://aa-tulareco.org/website-updates/>

This is the page with all the posts Bob and I add. So if someone remembered seeing an announcement, but it is no longer on the Top 3 list, this is where it will be.

Of course, the search button always works; but, if one remembers seeing something about a "new outdoor meeting", they can just go to that Website Updates page and scroll down just a little bit. As of late July 2020, it's the fifth from the top.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

In love and service,

David G.

Service Meetings AND ADDRESSES

GSR Meeting at Central Office
449 E. Maple St., Exeter, CA
Zoom Mtg Wednesday July 1, 2020
Link on Central Office Website

CSR Meeting at Central Office
449 E. Maple St., Exeter, CA
Canceled Due to COVID-19
H&I Meeting at Alano Club
Visalia Alano Club, 1311 W. Murray

SERVICE ADDRESSES

Tulare County Central Office
449 E. Maple St..
Exeter, CA 93221

District 47, C.N.I.A.
P.O. Box 273
Exeter, CA 93221

CNIA Treasurer
PO Box 161712
Sacramento, CA 95816-1712

General Service Office
PO Box 459, Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

H&I-Contributions
P.O. Box 192490
San Francisco, CA 94119-2490

Financial Report

TULARE COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE

Income & Expense Statement

6/21/20 THROUGH 7/20/2020

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DT.</u>
B.Day Club	19.00	399.00
CD & Tape Cont.	0.00	0.00
Grateful Givers Club	524.00	2,878.00
Group Cont.	944.14	9,561.25
Indiv Cont	225.00	2,496.27
Lit. Sales	294.95	2,620.13
Memorial Cont.	0.00	100.00
Misc.	0.00	20.55
Newsletter Cont.	0.00	0.00
S & H	0.00	2.00
Sales Tax	35.96	270.85
Spec. Events	0.00	195.00
Spec. Items	176.35	1,564.85
Tax Refund	0.00	527.25

TOTAL **\$2,219.40** **\$20,635.15**

<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DT.</u>
Ans. Serv.	0.00	80.00
Fees-Taxes	0.00	45.00
Insurance	0.00	550.00
Lit. Costs	0.00	1,837.32
PI-CPC Expense	0.00	0.00
Misc Expense	0.00	0.00
Newsletter Cost	0.00	0.00
Office Exp	0.00	176.92
Office Equip.& Maint	158.79	341.99
Phone & ISP	71.97	607.94
Postage	0.00	113.80
Employee Taxes	116.98	3,236.98
Rent	525.00	3,675.00
Salary	1,276.26	8,934.60
Sales Tax-Paid	552.00	552.00
Security System	0.00	377.43
Spec. Events	0.00	195.00
Spec. Items	0.00	846.62
Card Charge	14.40	75.76
Utilities	48.26	456.15
Website	7.98	120.36

TOTAL **\$2,771.64** **22,222.87**

Net Gain(Loss) **(\$552.24)** **(\$1,587.72)**

BEGINNING TOTAL ACCT BAL: **\$14,690.96**

ENDING TOTAL ACCT BAL: **\$14,138.72**

August AA Birthdays

Don H.	Porterville	47
Betty C.	Visalia	46
Larry R.	Visalia	43
Diane N.	Exeter	42
Mary S.	Tipton	39
Juanita M.	Visalia	37
Helen D.	Tulare	37
Dan H.	Porterville	36
Emma K.	Tulare	33
Les S.	Tulare	32
Emilio A.	Goshen	31
Frank V.	Visalia	30
Debbie S.	Visalia	29
Jonna K.	Porterville	29
Rick S.	Visalia	29
Deric F.	Visalia	28
Bob T.	Visalia	26
Greg H.	Visalia	24
Richard R.	Tulare	22
Margie A.	Three Rivers	22
Diane M.	Visalia	21
Lynn T.	Porterville	18
Sheri T.	Hanford	16
Gilbert C.	Visalia	16
Kelly K.	Visalia	16
Michael C.	Visalia	15
Laura N.	Fresno	14
Doug H.	Porterville	11
Bill E.	Springville	9
Glenda G.	Porterville	8
Mitch K.	Visalia	6
Vicki B.	Porterville	3
Greg R.	Visalia	2
Sara S.	Visalia	2

Tulare County

Hospitals & Institutions

Due to the rising number of Covid-19 cases, our hope to resume in-person H&I meetings at some of our facilities in July has been delayed. However, we are grateful for our continued ability to bring zoom H&I meetings to the confined alcoholic where possible. We continue to provide literature upon request due to the generous contributions to the Pink Can. We are grateful to the members who continue to contribute. Thank you for being a part of the unity which carries the message of A.A. to the confined alcoholic in the Northern California area.

Our next business meeting will be held via zoom on August 8, 2020 9:00 a.m. The meeting information is available at www.aa-tulareco.org under upcoming events. We hope you will join us! We will be voting on moving our meetings to the 4th Saturday of odd months at 10:00 a.m. with H&I orientations on the 4th Saturday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at the Visalia Alano Club. The proposed change will afford time for our committee to review information from the NorCal Steering Committee and continue active participation at the NorCal General Committee Meetings. Another topic which will be discussed is the proposed Area Reimbursements. Some Areas are struggling to maintain rent to hold their H&I Committee Meetings. Please send your group representatives to our meeting to vote your group's conscience on our committee's decisions. We hope to resume meeting at the Visalia Alano Club in September, but will monitor the health restrictions and update the meeting information available at www.aa-tulareco.org, please check back often.

It is a blessing to be in-service with you all and carry the message to the confined alcoholic in unity

--Joyce R Area 93 Chair

District 47 Minutes

July 1, 2020

This is a Zoom meeting with members participating from various locations.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m. by DCM Allen L.

Committee: Allen L., DCM; Ralph D., GSR for Bridge Street Drunks Only Group; Jim K., Recording Secretary, GSR for Monday Men's Stag; Danette L., GSR for the Saturday Women's 12x12 Study; Josh F., Treasurer
The GSR Preamble was read by Jim K.

12 Traditions: read by Josh F.

12 Concepts: Concept 7 read by Allen L. There was a question on how the slate of directors and officers are elected to the General Service Conference Board. Josh F. clarified it from our service manual.

Approval of Minutes: June 3, 2020 minutes approved with corrections as amended.

Treasurer's Report: Josh F. Balance Forward \$2,396.29. Income from groups, \$226.27. No expenses. Current Balance \$2,622.56. A big shout out for a contribution from a new group, The Friday Night Loose Women. Thanks to you and all of the groups who contributed this month! The question regarding the funds on hand was discussed. Donations to the District 47 GSR are meant to be used for GSC and DCM expenses, and Josh volunteered to work out potential costs for DCM travel to allow us to make an informed decision on this.

CSO Report: No one present attended the meeting.

Registrar: No Report

H&I Report: Ralph D. On the 18th of July there will be an orientation meeting of our area H and I. In the June issue of the Grapevine, NorCal H and I is on the cover and it discusses the work we are doing in San Quentin. It is called IVSS Inside Visiting Sponsoring Service and prisoners are helped with finding sponsors. It is hoped that it can expand to other prisons in California.

Next business meeting for our area H & I is August 8. All details regarding time and locations will be on the

Tulare County AA website.

DCM Report/Old Business: Allen attended the Virtual Post-Conference Assembly. He gave his DCM report and stayed for the delegate's report. He sent GSR's on his email list three documents from the General Service Conference that our delegate Tom A. posted on the CNIA website: Floor Actions, Committee Considerations and Advisory Actions. No Old Business.

New Business: None

7th Tradition: Not observed

Announcements: We discussed continuing with Zoom GSR monthly meetings.

The meeting closed with the Declaration of Unity and the Responsibility Declaration read by Allen L.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim K, Recording Secretary

CENTRAL OFFICE SERVICE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 14, 2020 **TIME:** 7:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cheryl Hinton, Willam Evans, Jonathan Toledo

ABSENT: Erica Eperson, Mike Kregger

SERENITY PRAYER: By all 12 **TRADITIONS:**

William Evans

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING: Two grammar corrections, Approved by group

REPORT FROM LAST MEETING: Read by William Evans, Approved by group

TREASURER'S REPORT: "We had an income of \$3,672.86 and expenses of \$2,264.16 for a gain of \$1,408.70 for this period. Group contributions are down because groups have been unable to hold their regular meetings. Sales are getting better. Our Grateful Givers Club brought in \$340.00 in much appreciated contributions. Expenses were our normal monthly expenses. We had \$86.46 in total gross sales for credit and debit cards last month. The office has been open.

Traffic and calls have been very light, but better than last month. Meetings are starting to open up. Bob Hinton, Treasurer

PUBLIC INFO. REPORT: No report
VOLUNTEERS TO WRITE STEPS AND TRADITIONS FOR NEWSLETTER:

Due to CentralintergroupNews@gmail.com
STEPS

ISSUE STEP MEMBER DUE DATE

August Step 8 Erica E. 7/20/2020

September Step 9 Trudy 8/20/2020

TRADITIONS

ISSUE TRADITION MEMBER DUE DATE

August Tradition 8 Trudy/Mike 7/20/2020

September Tradition 9 David 8/20/2020

NEWSLETTER REPORT: No report

WEBSITE REPORT: There has been a slight increase in web activity. 5,912 visits, with 598

visitors. There is a change to the web site with a new tab identified as "up date" this is where you will find all new and updated information. Please

contact Central Office or David to add or update any and all new meeting information. Please

note that it takes 12 hours to cycle new information onto the web site, and that the website and the meeting app. Are two different things.

You can find the mobile meeting app at www.AA.org.

H&I REPORT: Read by William, "Tulare County Hospital and Institution Committee Report

Due to Covid-19, in person H&I meetings were

suspended at all facilities in mid-March. H&I

meetings are being held bi-monthly via zoom with

Mothering Heights. Our other facilities have

not been able to accommodate this technology, and we look forward to return to the facilities

soon. We continue to provide literature upon request to our associated facilities.

The next Tulare County H&I Committee Meetings will be August 8, 2020 9:00 a.m. via zoom.

All information for the meeting is available on the website, www.aa-tulareco.org. At this

meeting, we will be voting on changing our meeting date and discussing the possibility of Area

Reimbursements as proposed at the last NorCal General Committee Meeting. We welcome

group feedback, please send your group's H&I representative. As possible, please pass the pink

can at meetings. " Joyce R.

GSO LIAISON REPORT: No report

CSR REPORTS: Springville Breakfast Speaker

Meeting, Jesse, CSR ... (read by Cheryl H.) Breakfast was in business on July 12, 2020. We served 68 people. Surprised us all! Robert did an outstanding job of carrying the message. Corby, the 10 minute speaker/ Chairperson set the stage for a great meeting. JOIN us Aug. 8th for biscuits and gravy. Greg R. from Madera will be our Speaker.

Springville Gut Level, Cheryl H., CSR ... Meeting has been going strong with between 8-15 members each week. Birthdays celebrated the last Thursday of each month. Meetings start at 7pm for 1 ½ hrs. Join us as we speak the language of recovery.

Friends of Bill W. and Doctor Bob, Patrick A., CSR ... This is an open meeting held every Tuesday at 7:00pm - 8:30pm. The meeting is located at St. John's Episcopal Church in Tulare on the south-east corner of Lasina & Prosperity. It's a nice little building with a great fellowship sharing their Experience, strength, and hope.

Lindsay Fireside Fellowship, Trudy, CSR... We are an open topic discussion meeting. We gather every Thursday from 7:30 8:30 pm in the Fireside Room of the United Methodist Church, corner of Honolulu and Gale Hill, due east of City Hall. We are a small, intimate meeting welcoming newcomers and oldtimers alike, a good place to dig deep and make friends. We celebrate annual birthdays at the end of each month, and monthly chips anytime for folks under one year. We are newly re-opened after a brief hiatus due to the coronavirus, practicing social distancing and mask wearing. We look forward to your visit.

Exiter Quiet Trails Meeting, Trudy CSR... We are an open, topic discussion meeting. We gather every Tuesday from 7:30 -8:30 in the Fellowship Room of the United Methodist Church, Just north of Monarch Ford. We are a moderate sized meeting, welcoming newcomers and oldtimers alike. We celebrate annual birthdays at the end of each month. We are newly re-opened after a brief hiatus due to the coronavirus, practicing social distancing and mask wearing. We look forward to your visit.

Saturday Night JayWalkers Young People, Patrick A. CSR... Unfortunately the Hillman House has been closed to any occupancy due to Covid-19. They are anticipating reopening in January 2021. Thank you.

Monday Men's Group, David G., CSR... the Monday Men's Meeting meets at the PPAV Hall in Visalia, at the corner of Burke and Main. This is a closed meeting for men and has reopened for in-person meeting. We usually have 15-30 attendees. Social distancing and (optional) non-contact visiting practiced. We meet for an hour and a half.

Civic Center Group, David G. CSR... The Civic Center Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm for one hour. This is an open meeting, and newcomers are welcome. We now have small pews spaced very far apart, and sanitize the pews after the meeting. We hand out chips, every week, for lengths of sobriety under one year. We celebrate birthdays at the end of the month, but have changed to cupcakes instead of cake. Johnny S.

Bridge Street Drunks Only, Johnny S. CSR... All 7:00 am meetings are open, Tuesday and Friday noon meetings are open, Tuesday Women's meeting is open. Business meeting is the last Saturday of each month, Book Study meeting is Thursday pm. *Sunday 2:30 pm Exter meeting is reopened.

OLD BUSINESS: All fundraising still on hold.

NEW BUSINESS: Cheryl is answering 12 step calls through July, Erica will answer through August, and Johnny will answer through September. June had 3 calls, and July has had 2 calls to date. The Central office phone number is being used to facilitate "Bridge the Gap" program to help transition people from prison to society. Bob H. suggested we create a new service position for Bridge the Gap, Jonathan T. volunteered and is now the new Bridge the Gap Service Rep.

SEVENTH TRADITION: \$12.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The "Messy Pants Winos" meeting is now called "Drop the Rock"

ADJOURNED: 7:52 pm

Group Contributions

10th Ave Men's-Lemoore		0.00
Alpha-Wed-Tulare		90.00
As It Is Outlined in Book		46.00
Attitude Modification-210		200.00
Breath of Fresh Air		0.00
Bridge St. "Drunks Only"	268.44	1913.70
Civic Center Grp.		60.00
Clodbusters-Tulare		20.00
Crossroads-Tulare		120.00
CSO Meeting	12.00	166.00
Dinuba Grp		50.00
District 47		400.00
Dr. Bob & Friends		0.00
Exeter-Quiet Trails		200.00
Exeter Sun Afternoon		0.00
Foundation Group		0.00
Freedom Fellowship		525.00
Fri. Night Study Tulare		20.00
Friday Noon 210		111.21
H&I	96.00	96.00
Half & Half		200.00
Hillman Group		0.00
Keep it Simple Sunday	337.70	337.70
Lindsay Fireside Grp		25.00
Messy Pants Winos		0.00
Monday Men's Mtg.	150.00	150.00
Mid Valley-Tulare		800.0
Mon Book Study-S'ville		0.00
Mon Lit Study-Visalia	20.00	20.00
Nooners Group-Visalia		0.00
Pine Recovery AA Mtg		28.00
Porterville Young People		0.00
Practicing The Principles		0.00
Rainbow Group		107.00
Rule 62-Visalia		125.00
Serenity Junction-Tulare		0.00
Serenity Seekers AM-Visalia		199.17
Sober Sisters		78.38
Wed. Sobriety Celebration		0.00
Springville Gut Level	100.00	150.00
St. Ritas Group		0.00
Sun Bkfst Spkr Mtg		230.00
Sun PM Serenity Seekers		0.00
Tulare Young People		104.00
TUFYPAA		125.75
Tulare Fri. Book Study		0.00
Tulare Tuesday Night		400.00
Tulare Thur. Noon		200.00
Tulare Sunday Night		0.00
Tues. Men's-P'ville		0.00
Tues. Noon 210	80.00	80.00

Three Rivers-Monday		248.00
Unity Thru Traditions		0.00
Valley Group	120.00	430.00
Valley Speaker Series		701.74
Wed. Acceptance, P'ville		150.00
Weekend Attitude Adj.		0.00
Women's Amity-Visalia		106.50
Women's Changes-P'ville		87.50
Women's Fri. Night-P'ville	50.00	50.00
Women in Unity		0.00
Women's Sat AM 12x12	249.60	309.60
Young & Restless		0.00

Total	944.14	9,561.25

Central Office Contacts

Voice Mail Calls	2
AA Members	7
Court Ref/Info	4
Meeting Information	12
H & I	0
Alanon & Alateen Information	0
Info. re Recovery Homes	0
Schedules & Info-Mailed & Faxed	0
Bridging The Gap	0
Other 12 Step Programs	2
Visitors to Office	32
Literature Sales	6
Specialty Sales	14
Churches & Schools	0
General Information	8
Prospective Members	1
Twelve Step Calls	0
E-Mail Contacts	11
Spanish Contact	1

Total	100

Contributions

Birthday Club

Tommy S. Visalia 13
Mitch K. Visalia 6

GRATEFUL GIVERS CLUB

Members - \$ 494.00

Individual Contributions

Anonymous
Brooke L.
David G.
Jim K.
Joyce R.
Mitch K.
Michele S.
Ralph D.

Newsletter Contributions

None

Memorial Contribution

None

Lighter Side of AA

Alcoholic One-liners

What does an alcoholic ghost drink? BOO'S

Redbull and vodka: so you can be wide awake for your mistakes.

"No officer, I'm sotally tober"

I am a wine enthusiast. The more I drink, the more enthusiastic I get.

What do you say when you're going to drunk dial someone? Al-cohol you!

Alcohol is the perfect solvent: it dissolves marriages, families, and careers.

You don't like him? Drink more!

What did the grape say when it was crushed? Nothing, it just let out a little wine.

If you try to send a drunk text and it ends up in your drafts, that's the universe looking out for you.

It doesn't matter if the glass is half full or half empty, there is clearly more room for alcohol!

Definition of a balanced diet: a beer in both hands.

I guess I'll grin and beer it.

How does a man show he is planning for the future?
He buys two cases of beer

I only drink beer on days that end in Y.

Dear alcohol, we had a deal that you would make me prettier, funnier, and a better dancer. I saw the video... we need to talk.

Hmm, this drink tastes like: I'm not going to work tomorrow.

Don't drink and drive, it will spill everywhere.

Beer... Helping white guys dance since 1516.

Alcohol... because no good story started with someone eating a salad.

Save water, drink alcohol.

"A vodka please."

"Sir this is McDonalds..."

"Ok, a McVodka please."



"Do you have some time to go over my inventory?"

Your Content Here!!!

Have an event????

New group starting up?????

Have a story to share???

Take some amazing photos around our district???

Want to be of service????

All this can be accommodated-we are available to help! Simply reach out to us here at Central News and we will do all we can to get the word out!!!

Carrying the message to the Alcoholic who still suffer is our primary purpose. What better way to do it then to get involved!!!!

Send your content to:

centralintergroupnews@gmail.com

... and we will help you communicate to district 47!!!