

**INTERGROUP COUNCIL OF WEST CENTRAL ARKANSAS has two open executive committee positions. Below are brief descriptions for Secretary and Treasurer**

**SECRETARY:**

Keep Minutes of the Intergroup quarterly meetings;  
Maintain a list of all Intergroup Representatives and officers to include telephone numbers. and email addresses;  
Prepare agenda for each quarterly meeting with Chairperson;  
Notify members by email of quarterly meetings two weeks before and include agenda;  
Bring copies of Minutes to meeting and distribute to all present.

**TREASURER:**

Pick up mail from Hot Springs post office box.  
Pick up the deposits from InterGroup office;  
Send thank you cards to groups & individuals when donation is received;  
Prepare and make copies of quarterly and YTD financial reports for quarterly meetings;  
Maintain records of monies received and a bank account for depositing all receipts and making disbursements as determined by Intergroup;  
Maintain necessary records of receipts and disbursements;  
Report to the Intergroup Representatives at each quarterly meeting the condition of the Treasury with a copy of a published statement;  
Prepare and make copies of quarterly and YTD financial reports for quarterly meetings;  
Present reports at quarterly meeting.

**To apply and learn more about each position, contact John K. by text 501-282-9838**

**FREE SUBSCRIPTION to**

**No Booze News**

**Privately sent to your email address every quarter.**

**Published by Intergroup Council of West Central Arkansas with your group's contributions.**

**Email Mara M. at [louandmara@icloud.com](mailto:louandmara@icloud.com) or Text 501-984-3556**

# No Booze News

Intergroup Council of West Central Arkansas

Volume LXLI Number 1

January - February - March 2023

## **NO BOOZE NEWS**

is a quarterly newsletter published the first week of January, April, July and October. It is emailed to all Intergroup Representatives, District 8 Officers and General Service Representatives. It is also posted on our website

<https://aawcar.org/>

**This is a free publication.**

**This is YOUR newsletter**

To subscribe, email **Mara M.** at [louandmara@icloud.com](mailto:louandmara@icloud.com) or text 501-094-3556

## **John's Story...**

*Happy New Year! May the New Year bring you happiness, peace, and prosperity. Wishing you a joyous 2023!*

**Our Intergroup is a service office in partnership with all District 8 groups. We are a community — just as A.A. groups themselves are partnerships of individuals. We need each group's participation so we know what is needed and what will best serve our District groups. Our Intergroup is supervised and supported by these groups in their general interest. We exist to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message.**

**BOOKSHOP HOURS:** Open before and after the 8:00 a.m., noon, and 8:00 p.m. meetings. ur Bookstore is located at 411 Sellers St., Hot Springs, If you need to purchase books at other times, send John K. a text at [501-282-9838](tel:501-282-9838).

## **YA'LL COME!!**

Wondering what is happening in our District? Looking for Service work? Something to do with your friends or for date night?

**Check out our Upcoming Events on page 10!**

**Intergroup Council of West Central Arkansas is an A.A. service office in partnership with groups in District 8. The website is <https://aawcar.org>. To find a meeting in District 8 go to <https://aawcar.org/meetings/>. If you would like to purchase literature, coins, etc. please call John K. at [501-282-9838](tel:501-282-9838) to schedule your visit to the bookstore. ALL District 8 groups are encouraged to have an Intergroup Representative: quarterly meetings are held at 2:00 p.m., the last Sunday of January, April, July and October at 411 Sellers Street in Hot Springs. See MG-02 A.A. Guidelines on Intergroup Office.**

## THE SECRET

One day, one friend asked another, "How is it that you are always so happy? You have so much energy and you never seem to get down."

With her eyes smiling, she said, "I have a secret."

"What secret is that?"

"I'll tell you all about it but you have to promise to share the Secret with others."

The Secret is this: I have learned there is little I can do in my life that will make me truly happy. I must depend on God to make me happy and to meet my needs. When a need arises in my life, I have to trust God to supply according to His riches. I have learned most of the time I don't need half of what I think I do. He has never let me down. Since I learned the secret, I am happy."

The questioner's first thought was, "That's too simple." But upon reflecting over her own life she recalled how she thought a bigger house would make her happy, but it didn't. When did she realize her greatest happiness? Sitting on the floor with her grandchildren playing games, eating pizza or reading a story. A simple gift from God.

Now you know it too! We can't depend on people to make us happy. Only God in his infinite wisdom can do that! And now I pass the Secret onto You! So once you get it, what will you do?

You have to tell someone the Secret, too! That God in His wisdom will take care of YOU! But it's not really a secret...We just have to believe it and do it. Really trust God.

Let us pray...

Unknown Author

## WHAT'S IN YOUR SPIRITUAL TOOL CHEST?

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***"THERE IS A SOLUTION!*** Almost none of us liked the self-searching, the leveling of our pride, the confession of shortcomings which the process required for its successful consummation. We saw that it really worked in others, and we had come to believe in the hopelessness and futility of life as we had been living it. When, therefore, we were approached by those in whom the problem had been solved, there was nothing left for us but to pick up the simple kit of spiritual tools laid at our feet. We have found much of heaven's band we have been rocked into a fourth dimension of existence of which we had not even dreamed."

Alcoholics Anonymous, page 25

**"My sponsor encouraged me to choose my own conception of a higher power. It didn't need a gender, or a name, or any human attributes — it just had to be 'a power greater than myself.' It was then that I realized that the Fellowship, though comprised of human beings, represented a power greater than anything human. Even more surprisingly, by taking the Steps in my own clumsy way, supported by the unconditional love of my fellow alcoholics, I had discovered a quiet, inner voice — a God within."**

Unknown; From; AA pamphlet "Many Paths to Spirituality"

# VOLUNTEER

## IT'S EGO DEFLATION FRIENDLY

### INTERGROUP POSITIONS OPEN

District 8 Hotline Coordinator: responsible for coordinating the answering of the AA Hotline for District 8. They may delegate and schedule other volunteers to answer the line as needed. Requirements are 6 months of continuous sobriety, the completion of the 12 steps, and a working cell phone.

Please contact John K. at 501-282-9838 or your local Intergroup representative to apply.

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**WANTED:** A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH GROUP TO INTERGROUP. To apply, at your Home Group's business meeting, ask them to elect you.

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### VOLUNTEERS NEED FOR DISTRICT 8 COMMITTEES

Looking for a service opportunity for yourself or a sponsee?

We have six committees that can use your help. The Chairmen of these committees CANNOT do all the work by them selves! Come to District on March 5, 1:30 to 2:00 p.m.

**YOU ARE NEEDED!**

### 12th STEP ALMOST GONE WRONG WHAT NOT TO DO!

On a Saturday afternoon I received a call from Central Office asking me to call a woman who had 14+ years of sobriety and needed help. She was at the Double Tree in Hot Springs.

Of course I called the woman, who I'll call "J", and learned she'd had surgery the day before at St. Vincents. She was in pain. I asked if she wanted to attend a meeting, but she said she was too anxious and recovering from the surgery. I suggested since she was in such pain, perhaps she needed to go to ER. No, she needed to go to grocery store to purchase some bandages and Tylenol. Initially she sounded okay but she started telling me everything about her bus trip and her surgery and how scared she was. She sounded a little odd, but I put that down to the surgery and medications. My radar did not go off! After all she had 14 years of sobriety.

**ALWAYS** proceed with caution with an alcoholic stranger!!

I couldn't think of anyone so I called a friend who suggested I call Lea. She and I talked a few minutes about J needing to go to a grocery store. All seemed fairly normal, but I didn't think to suggest getting a buddy to go with to pick up J. **MISTAKE!!!!!!**

**ALWAYS TAKE A BUDDY!!!**

Mara M.

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## *JUST KIDDIN'*

A man in a hot air balloon realized he was lost. He saw a person the ground and yelled down to him, "Can you help me? I don't know where I am."

The man replied, "Sure, I'll help you. You are in a not air balloon hovering 30 feet above the ground...between 40 and 41 degrees North latitude and between 59 & 60 degrees West longitude."

"Wow, you must be an A.A. Sponsor," said the man in the balloon.

"I am, said the man, "but what gave me away?"

"Well," responded the balloonist, "everything you told me is technically right but I am still lost. Frankly you're not much help at all and you might even have delayed my trip."

"You must be an A.A. Sponsee," relied the man.

The man in the balloon was amazed and said, I am, but how did you know?

The man on the ground said, "Well, you don't know where you are or where you're going. You have risen to where you are due to a lot of hot air. You are expecting other people to solve your problems and the fact is that you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but, somehow now IT'S MY FAULT!"

### **Quote by Snyder:**

Trust God, Clean house, and Help others.

**Why did the anvil get sent to A.A.?**

**He was always getting hammered.**

*Green*

**Where do Canadian Alcoholics go for help?**

**Eh. Eh.**

**Why do Canadians call Alcoholics Anonymous triple A?**

**AA Eh.**

**AA meeting: "Hi I'm Chad and I've been sober for forty days"**

**"Not in a row or anything, just total."**

**The other day I tried t be inspiration saying, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take.**

**"Now I'm banned from AA for life."**



## **DOWNSTAIRS BOOKSTORE**

### **LANGUAGE OF THE HEART**

The title of this book has a very specific meaning. When one believes God speaks in the language of His heart, it has power beyond words. The fulfillment of these words is carrying the message, one alcoholic to another. That is the language of our hearts.

Bill W. Wrote more than 150 articles for the "Grapevine," from his first in June 1944 to his last in December 1970 — all are from his heart. His articles cover an incredible number of topics and Language of the Heart is a compilation of all Bill's "Grapevine" articles.



The lessons he shares describe the difficult process of creating Alcoholics Anonymous and the sometimes difficult growth of the program. His articles describe the principles represented by the Traditions; tells of his battle with chronic depression; and discusses his personal search for "emotional Sobriety." He speaks about and to our A.A. Fellowship.

After his first visit to European A.A. With Lois in 1950, Bill stated, "As we journey from land to land, we had the same magnificent adventure in *kinship* over and over.

The significance of this book cannot be overstated. In the events and insights Bill presents, we, as sober alcoholics seem to walk in his footsteps. We not only relate our own struggles to those of past members who first trudged the path we walk today, but, perhaps most important, we recognize

## **12th STEP ALMOST GONE WRONG**

### **WHAT NOT TO DO! Con't from page 4**

After receiving a call from Mara, I contacted J who seemed to be sober for 14 years, just released from hospital and recovering from being kidnapped, drugged and an operation for Sepsis in a local hospital. I agreed to take her to the grocery for food and medical supplies. I did not take another woman alcoholic in recovery because it wasn't a typical 12-Step call. I also did not let my sponsor know ahead of picking up J. The woman did not seem sober to my experience as a former alcoholic-drug addict, sober since 2011.

I ended up taking her to two Dollar Tree stores so she could return an item and then the grocery. She talked incessantly the entire time from one subject to another. I stopped trying to make sense of anything or asking questions and eventually returned her to her hotel. As I dropped her off, she said, "I could have taken Uber."

I returned home in one piece, locked the door and immediately blocked her on my phone,

Lesson for me. I'm so glad I could be of service. That's what we do. BUT, I will never do anything like this again without taking someone with me or talking to my sponsor first! I will continue to be of service.

**We must take care of ourselves and be more aware of what our roles are as sober alcoholics.**

Lea G.

## A.A. TRIVIA SHARES IN A.A.

In the Spring of 1938, Bill Wilson started writing Alcoholics Anonymous. With the help from the Rockefellers, the Alcoholic Foundation\* was formed, originally to raise money to publish the book. No money was raised.

Hank Parkhurst, an exceptionally talented businessman, was the first alcoholic in New York to recover after Bill Wilson, who was his sponsor.

First, Parkhurst convinced Bill to retain control over the book by self-publishing. Then, he devised the plan to form **Works Publishing** and sell shares in the company to A.A. Members for \$25.00 a share. The company had no assets and never incorporated. The **only** purpose of the publishing company and the stock shares was to raise money to publish; the "Big Book." Two hundred shares were sold raising \$5000.00. By selling shares no one person "owned" **Alcoholics Anonymous**. Bill and Hank each owned 300 shares.

The first publication date of the Big Book is April 1, 1939, printed by Cornwall Press, in New York. The U.S. Copyright Office confirms 4,730 copies in the first printing. The first ten copies were delivered April 10th to the Newark Office of Parkhurst and Wilson.

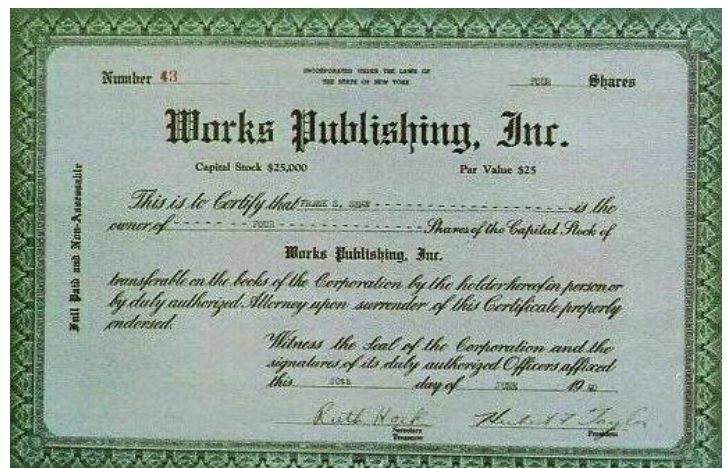
By 1940, Wilson and the Alcoholic Foundation\* decided the "Big Book" should be wholly owned by A.A. Bill transferred his 300 shares to the Foundation on April 22, 1940; Parkhurst, more hesitant,

Continued next column

transferred his shares soon after. Unfortunately Hank was drinking, possibly over a resentment towards his sponsor.

A loan from the Rockefellers allowed the stocks to be bought back at par value, \$25.00 a share.

\*The Alcoholic Foundation is comprised of seven trustees, four of whom (a majority) are non-alcoholics but keenly interested in the problem of alcoholism, and three of whom are members of A.A. This foundation is the precursor to Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.



This stock certificate was owned by Robert Furlong and repurchased in April 1942. "Jim the Car Salesman," mentioned on page 35, is attributed to be the story of Ralph Furlong, who got sober through meeting Bill Wilson.

These were times in AA's history that were riddled with struggles and lack of money. It was a miracle that AA was able to procure the loan from the Rockefellers and also convince all of the shareholders to transfer their ownership of the Big Book back to AA. It wasn't a smooth process but ownership was finally returned to its rightful owner.

## A.A. TRIVIA:

**CLARENCE  
SNYDER:**

**THE ALMOST  
CO-FOUNDER**



Various names have been suggested as being worthy of “co-founder” status, for contributions leading AA to what it is today. People such as Dr. Silkworth, William James, and Carl Jung are among the “outsiders” who, directly or indirectly influenced our society. Many would like to see more acknowledgement of the Oxford role, Sam Shoemaker and Frank Buchman specifically. Jim Burwell receives mention because he pushed for the phrase “as we understood him,” and the more inclusive phrase “higher power.”

Perhaps the strongest case for “co-founder” status can be made on behalf of Clarence Snyder, who was taken through the steps by Dr. Bob his sponsor. Snyder created today’s style of one-on-one sponsorship in which a member of the fellowship experienced in the Twelve Step program helps a newcomer adjust to sobriety and coach him through the Twelve Steps. The sponsor and newcomer meet and work their way through the Big Book together, page by page.

Cleveland sponsors emphasized the Oxford Group’s Four Absolutes and the

Continued next column

importance of working with other alcoholics.

Cleveland A.A. was the first to use the Big Book as the foundation of their Sponsorship and Step work. Due to a sudden swell in membership, newcomers were often put to work taking other newcomers, both one-on-one and in beginners classes, through the book before they had finished the Steps themselves. **Cleveland’s Big Book style sponsorship quickly became the most common form in AA.**

Bill Wilson was amazed at the growth and success Cleveland had sobering up alcoholics. Every time he visited Ohio, he made a point of going to Cleveland. Bill W. wrote in **A.A. Comes of Age**:

**“Yes, Cleveland’s results were of the best. Their results were in fact so good, and A.A.’s membership elsewhere was so small, that many a Clevelander really thought A.A.’s membership had started there in the first place. The Cleveland pioneers had proved three essential things: the value of personal sponsorship; the worth of the A.A.’s Big Book in indoctrinating newcomers, and finally the tremendous fact that A.A., when the word really got around, could now soundly grow to great size.”**

Clarence thought that if the primary purpose of A.A. was only to stop drinking and, in order to maintain that abstinence, only go to meetings, A.A. was doomed to failure.

Continued page 9



Clarence quoted Dr. Bob, “There is an easy way and a hard way to recovery from alcoholism. The hard way is by just going to meetings.”

Clarence noted that nowhere in the Steps of A.A. does it say one has to stop drinking but the only REQUIREMENT for membership is “a desire to stop drinking.” He believed the best approach to sobriety was, “Trust God, Clean House, and Help Others.” Emphasizing spirituality is what Clarence believed made Ohio A.A. so successful. He compared Cleveland A.A. to New York A.A., which had few members maintaining any sort of abstinence from alcohol, with Ohio members achieving what became permanent sobriety and had numerous, strong A.A. meetings in evidence.

Historian Ernie Kurtz states “Cleveland became the testing ground for what Alcoholics Anonymous was to be.” (Not-God: A History of Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 83) . Additionally,

“Clarence seemed to be a visionary. But he was his own worst enemy. His personality got in the way of his being recognized for these accomplishments. Many felt Clarence was arrogant and antagonistic. But he was steadfast in his ideology.

“Clarence was never one to be publicity shy, nor was he one to shun any offer of help no matter what the source. No matter what the consequence. He was open to anybody if he felt it was for the betterment of A.A. and for the principles.

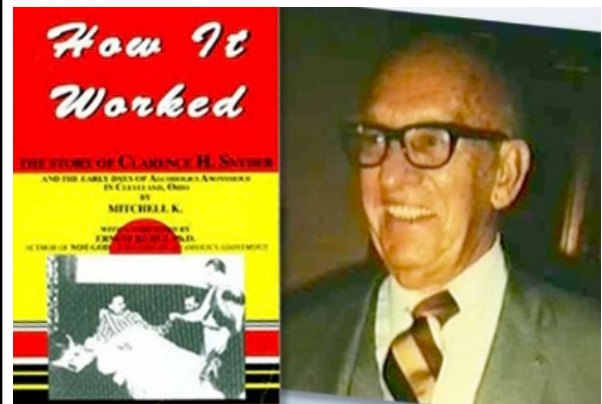
Principles he carried with him until his death.” (From Snyder’s biography by Mitchell K., How It Worked – The Story Of Clarence H. Snyder and the Early Days of Alcoholics Anonymous in Cleveland, Ohio.)

Clarence had his last drink on February 11, 1938, according to the article he wrote for the A.A. Grapevine November 1968 issue. Fifteen months later he organized the first Cleveland group.

He died with 46 years of sobriety, on March 22, 1984. He was buried in Cameron Cemetery in Cameron, North Carolina, in his wife’s family plot.

Snyder’s story is “The Home Brewmeister,” page 274 in 1st edition; page. 297 in 2nd and 3rd editions. His story is not in the 4th edition.

Clarence Snyder is still greatly respected and revered as the founder of A.A. in Cleveland.



*How It Worked, the Story of Clarence H. Snyder,” a book by Mitchell K*

# UPCOMING EVENTS 2023



**Area 4 Assembly, January 7 - 8, 2023; Russellville, AR**

**\* 65TH Annual AA Al-anon COON SUPPER, January 27 - 29, 2023, Blytheville, AR; See flyer**



**Intergroup Council of West Central Arkansas, January 29, 2023, 1:30 p.m., 411 Sellers Street, Hot Springs, AR**

**\* Winter Holiday, February 3 - 5, 2023, Embassy Suites, Little Rock, AR; See flyer**

**\* 59th International Women's Conference, February 16-19, 2023, Dallas, TX**



**District 8 Committee meeting, March 5, 2023, 411 Sellers, Hot Springs, AR**



**Area 4 Assembly, March 5-6, 2023; Russellville, AR**

While there are no dues or fees for membership in AA or to attend a regular AA meeting, Conventions and Conferences are considered special events, not AA meetings. There is a charge for the use of conference facilities; reimburse speakers' travel expenses; purchase flyers, badges, and coffee, and much more. The conference committee is responsible for all expenses incurred, and, therefore, registrations are used to pay all expenses

For more complete information, please read pamphlet MG-04, A.A. Guidelines to Conferences, Conventions and Roundups, "HOW A.A.s MAKE THEIR GET-TOGETHERS ENJOYABLE AS WELL AS EFFECTIVE IN CARRYING THE A.A. MESSAGE OF RECOVERY."

# 65<sup>th</sup> Annual A.A. Al-Anon



## Coon Supper

When: January 27, 28, 29 2023

Where: Holiday Inn – Hwy 18 at I-55

Blytheville, AR 72315

Theme: I Am Responsible

Registration: \$20.00

Coon Supper Banquet: \$20.00

SPEAKERS	FRI & SAT NIGHTS
Lynne McD - Cedar Falls, IA	A.A. Marathon Meetings
Matt W. - St Louis, MO	Saturday Afternoon
Kristena C. - Louisville, KY	Recovery Repertory Theater
Bill H. - Chesterfield, MO	Door Prizes
Tina H - Chesterfield, MO	Raffles - 50/50

For more information call:

Chairman – Peggy K. (870)623-2523

Committee – Lee H. (870)275-0175

Committee – Brandon S. (870)532-7158

For rooms call Holiday Inn – (870)763-5800

Mail Registration to:

Coon Supper, P.O. Box 675, Blytheville, AR 72315

	PRINT NAME TO APPEAR ON BADGE	CHECK ONE		PRE-REGISTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN FREE LODGING
		AA	AL-ANON	
Name _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Address _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
City _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
State _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Zip _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

# "Shoulder to Shoulder"

## WINTER HOLIDAY

### 41st Annual District 9 AA Convention

February  
3 - 5, 2023



#### SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY, February 3<sup>RD</sup>

4:00PM - 8:00PM Registration  
8:00PM Rachel F, Coral Gables, FL  
10:00PM Jeopardy AA Style

#### SATURDAY, February 4<sup>TH</sup>

8:00AM - 8:00PM Registration  
8:30AM - 9:30AM Workshop  
10:00AM Ron B, Riverview, FL  
1:00PM Angie B (AFG), Destin, FL  
3:00PM Panel Discussion  
8:00PM Don L, Bellingham, WA  
10:00PM Dance

#### SUNDAY, February 5<sup>TH</sup>

10:00AM Aaron Z, Molalla, OR

AA Open Discussion Meeting

Sat - 5:00PM

Al-Anon Open Discussion Meeting

Sat and Sun - 8:30 AM

#### Embassy Suites

11301 Financial Centre Parkway  
Little Rock, AR 72211

Phone: (501) 312-9000

Rate guaranteed if reserved before Jan 13, 2023

SPECIAL CONVENTION RATES

1-2 people/\$125.00+tax/night

PLEASE MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY TO: EMBASSY SUITES, LITTLE ROCK (Code WHC or mention "Winter Holiday") BY JAN 13, 2023 to guarantee discounted rate when registering



Should you need accommodations for the hearing impaired, PLEASE LET US KNOW BY Dec 20, 2022.

E-mail: [district9winterholiday@gmail.com](mailto:district9winterholiday@gmail.com)

#### Open Hospitality Room

(Closed During Speaker Meetings)

No Food Allowed Outside of Hospitality Room

(Please note the hotel policies printed on the back of this flyer.)

PLEASE TURN THIS PAGE OVER FOR YOUR REGISTRATION COUPON