

# NNIG MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER



December 8th - 7:00 pm  
Group: A Way Home  
Wesley I., Calabasas, CA

Silver Legacy - 407 North Virginia St., Reno - Doors open at 6:30

## September, 2018

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### GENERAL WARRANTIES OF THE NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

In all its proceedings, the Intergroup Association observes the spirit of AA Traditions, taking great care that the Intergroup Association never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus a reserve be its prudent financial principal; that none of the Intergroup Association members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decision be reached by discussion, vote and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that no Intergroup Association action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Intergroup Association may act for the service of AA Groups in the Northern Nevada area and parts of Northern California, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Intergroup Association itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

*(The above is adapted and modified from "The AA Service Manual", and AA Co-Founder Bill W's. Twelve Concepts for World Service; Concept XII, as adopted by the General Service Conference on April 26, 1962. This adaptation of copyrighted AA material has been approved by the General Service Board)*

#### CENTRAL OFFICE

436 S. Rock Blvd.,  
Sparks, NV 89431  
Monday thru Friday  
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

24 Hour Answering Service:  
(775) 355-1151 Fax: (775) 355-1560

EMAIL: officemanager@nnig.org

Web Site/Meeting Schedule: nnig.org

The Bracer: nnigbracer@gmail.com

## The Bracer



## NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP

### I'd Like to Buy You a Drink

A few short months out of treatment, I was a novice in sobriety and moving back to the community where I'd reached the culmination of my thirty-year drinking career. Fear was my constant companion. I was afraid to walk past the dives that at one time had been my asylums of escape from the world of reality. I also had the constant fear of being alone, because in the past I'd chosen not to associate with anyone who wasn't also getting drunk, and therefore, I knew no one else in my own hometown. My greatest fear, however, was of running into someone I did know, not knowing if I'd have the strength to say no when they invited me for a drink for the sake of old times.

My best day sober was the day my greatest fear was realized. After three weeks of living an agoraphobic lifestyle, I was forced, out of necessity, to go to town to do some shopping. I rushed to find the items on my list and was finally finished with the most terrifying shopping excursion of my life and was headed for the checkout stand when I froze in fear. Standing in front of the only exit in the store stood "Good Ol' John," the best drinking buddy I'd ever had, and the one person I knew I couldn't say no to if he offered me a drink.

I stood frozen as I prayed to my Higher Power: "Please give me the gift of invisibility." As I stood waiting for the Big Eraser from the sky to obliterate me from that spot, John started toward me. Every hope I had of staying sober shattered. The taste of fear was strong in my mouth.

Then John was right in front of me, flashing that old familiar smile. As my life passed before my eyes, the words "Easy Does It" jumped out at me from the front of his cap, and I heard him say, "I have something I need to talk to you about." As he continued talking, I heard him say, "I belong to a Fellowship that I really think you need to know about." My knees started to turn to rubber as he continued: "I'm a member of a group called Alcoholics Anonymous, and I'd like to buy you a drink--a good strong cup of black coffee--and tell you about it." With great effort I was able to get out the words: "I'm also a member of AA!"

Both of us started laughing as we headed out the door, arm in arm, as in the good old days--only this time we were headed for the nearest coffee shop, not the nearest bar. (I'd forgotten all about the things I was going to buy and left my shopping cart in the aisle!) After five hours of drinking coffee and talking about AA, I headed home on a higher high than I've ever experienced.

That was the day one of my dragons of fear was slain. I never again needed to live in the fear of walking past one of my old hangouts or meeting an old drinking friend. I could walk down the street knowing my Higher Power walked with me.

John became my sponsor as well as my lifelong friend. Many years have passed since that day; John and I have often been separated by many miles, but we've continued to walk side by side in the spirit of AA.

Stella B., East Helena, Montana  
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# NNIG EVENTS

EVENTS HOSTED BY NORTHERN NEVADA INTERGROUP TO SUPPORT CENTRAL OFFICE

**NNIG Monthly Speaker Meetings**  
Silver Legacy – 407 North Virginia Street, Reno 89501



**Monthly Speaker Meeting**  
Doors open at 6:30 PM  
Speaker at 7:00 PM



**September 8, 2018**  
Host Group — Keep It Simple, Driars 8:30pm Friday  
Speaker — Tom H. (Reno, NV)  
Location — Silver Baron C, D & E

**October 12-14, 2018**  
**Canceled due to Sierra Nevada Fall Roundup**  
Nugget Resort & Casino – 8:00pm Speaker Friday & Saturday

**November 3, 2018**  
**Canceled due to Gratitude Dinner**  
Eldorado Hotel Casino – 7:30pm Speaker

**December 8, 2018**  
Host Group — A Way Home, Good Shepherd Church 5:30pm Friday  
Speaker — Wesley I. (Calabasas, CA)  
Location — Silver Baron 1-6

**January 12, 2019**  
Host Group — Support Hose, Driars 4pm Sunday  
Speaker — Rachael G. (Santa Rosa, CA)  
Location — Silver Baron 1-6

**February 9, 2019**  
Host Group — Beginners Are Winners, Triangle 6:45am  
Speaker — TBD  
Location — Silver Baron 1-6

**March 9, 2019**  
Host Group — Sisters of Sobriety, Buddhist Church 6pm Tuesday  
Speaker — Ilene W. (Los Angeles, CA)  
Location — Silver Baron 1-6

NNIG Speaker Chair: Brian A.  
Speaker Co-Chair: Open  
Need more info call: Central Office – (775) 355-1151  
Join us for dinner at Millie's 24 inside the Eldorado @ 5 pm with the speaker



Northern Nevada Intergroup

## 2018 Gratitude Dinner



Eldorado Hotel

## Our Common Journey

345 North Virginia Street, Reno NV 89501

**Speaker**  
Quincy W.

**Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

Doors Open 4:30  
Dinner Served 8:00  
Speaker 7:30  
Raffle 8:30

Seated Dinner \$39

Tickets are available only at Central Office on August 17  
436 South Rock Blvd, Sparks NV 89431  
775-355-1151

# MORE AREA EVENTS

Register and pay for this event with PayPal  
Go to our website for more details  
[www.laketahoeoffallfestival.net](http://www.laketahoeoffallfestival.net)

Or U.S. Mail registration form with check to:  
Lake Tahoe Fall Festival  
PO Box 18913  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151

For Questions Call or Text Chairperson Angela Black 775-376-0448

**The 43rd Annual Lake Tahoe Fall Festival will be held in the Hard Rock Casino Revolution Convention Center**

**October 5, 6, & 7, 2018**

LAKE TAHOE

1 or 2 guests per night—\$89.00 to \$109.00 per night  
(Upgrades Available)  
Room rates subject to local 14% tax & \$11.00 per day Resort Fee  
\$35.00 per additional adult per room per night. Guests MUST be at least 21 years of age to check into Hotel.  
Cut off date to book a room for this discount is September 17, 2018

1-844-588-7625 or [www.hardrockcasinolaketahoe.com](http://www.hardrockcasinolaketahoe.com)

Use this code for discount: **FALLFESTIVAL**  
YOU MUST USE DISCOUNT CODE AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BEFORE SEPT 17th

8/21/2018 Oasis@nover\_Color\_2018.jpg

**OASIS FESTIVAL IN FALLON**  
STRAIGHT AHEAD!  
At The Fallon Convention Center  
**OCTOBER 20th, 2018**  
[www.oasisfestival Fallon.com](http://www.oasisfestival Fallon.com)  
Call (775) 338-5717 or (775) 867-4807

[https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/boxes/fallfest@pmtprlb36wvllgnct\\_C03/?prevcx=1&messagePart=6](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/boxes/fallfest@pmtprlb36wvllgnct_C03/?prevcx=1&messagePart=6)

"COME ONE COME ALL"

**NNIG PRESENTS**

**2018 HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR**

3925 NEIL ROAD  
RECREATION CENTER  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 27<sup>th</sup> 2018  
6PM-10PM  
FRIGHTENINGLY GOOD FOOD FOR \$7  
GHOULISH GAMES  
SPIRITILLED SPEAKER MEETING  
CHILLING COSTUME CONTEST  
50/50  
GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES  
\$5 SUGGESTED DONATION  
FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL CENTRAL OFFICE  
(775) 355-1151

*Dear NNIG Fellowship,*

*Volunteer hours- 116.5*

*Calls into Central Office:*

- Calls for AA help - 10*
- Calls for Alanon/Alateen - 0*
- Meeting information- 45*
- Retail / merchandise-12*
- Other 12 step programs-0*
- Events - 31*
- Business/Central office- 74*

*Visitors - 292*

*We are looking to replace the floor in the bathroom at the office but first we must wait for permission from the property management. Previously we were responsible for the floor if that is to be the case we would like some bids from the fellowship, please call the office.*

*Ronda  
Central Office Manager*

## The Birthday Club

### August 2017

Kim D. 41 years  
Tonía 17 years  
Danny S. 16 years

### July 2017

Paul M. 27 Years  
Linda 26 Years  
Sandra 23 years  
Barbara M. 43 years

### June 2018

Kyle 36 Years  
Susanne T. 24 Years  
Donn T 28 Years

### April 2018

Ron T 7 Years  
Jack W. 33 Years

### March 2018

Kent L. 36 Years

### January 2018

Joan H. 47 Years

### November 2017

Leslie S. 20 Years

Sharon F. 33 Years

### October 2017

Cheryl Z. 17 years

Mike H. 22 Years

### September 2017

Phil S. 41 Years  
David D. 20 Years



Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the A.A. Birthday Club? Sign Up today be featured in the Birthday Club section of the Bracer

Show your Support for your NNIG Central Office and join the Birthday Club

A donation of only one dollar for every year of your Sobriety Birthday. Envelopes available at Central Office. NNIG Business Meeting or Intergroup Representatives

### Caring & Sharing Group

#### Big Book Meeting

Red Rock

Thursdays 7-8PM

Granite Hills Baptist Church

10250 Red Rock Road

### Support Hose

Sunday 4:00 pm

Driars Club

345 S. Wells Ave

Reno, NV

### Kingsbury Group

12:00 PM Daily

See NNIG.org for

additional times

160 Pine Ridge Dr.

Stateline, NV

### AA ANSWERING SERVICE NUMBERS

Reno, Sparks, Carson City and all of Northern Nevada: (775) 355-1151  
Las Vegas and all of Southern Nevada: (702) 598-1888  
Mammoth Lake: (760) 934-3434  
North Lake Tahoe: (530) 546-1126  
South Lake Tahoe: (530) 541-1243  
Susanville, CA: (530) 257-2880

### Women's Discussion

Monday 6:30pm (Summer)

10046 Church Street

Truckee Community Arts Center

Truckee, CA

### Sunday Morning Speaker Group

Sunday 11 AM

Alano Club of Sparks

1640 Prater Way

Sparks, NV

**N.N.I.G. STEERING COMMITTEE**  
 Last Tuesday of each month, 5:30 PM  
 Central Office, 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

**N.N.I.G. BUSINESS MEETING**  
 First Tuesday of each month, 6:30 PM  
 Alano Club, 1640 Prater Way, Sparks

**N.N.I.G. MONTHLY SPEAKER MEETING**  
 7:00 PM Silver Legacy - Silver Baron A

**N.N.I.G CPC/PI**  
 Second Sunday of each month, 2:00 – 3:30 PM  
 Central Office 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

**N.N.I.G. H&I**  
 Last Thursday of each month, 5:15 PM  
 Central Office 436 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**  
**H&I, BRIDGING THE GAP**  
 LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT  
 5:15 PM, CENTRAL OFFICE

**CPC/PI 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH,**  
 2:00 PM. CENTRAL OFFICE

**YPAA MEETINGS**  
**TITYPAA, 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY 6:30**  
 PM, 8425 DOLLY VARDEN AVE, KINGS  
 BEACH, CA

**RENVYPAA 2<sup>ND</sup>&4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY 4:00**  
 PM, 635 WELLS AVE., UPSTAIRS

## District Meetings

**DISTRICT-2** Second Thursday of each month, 6:30 PM-Reno  
 Central Office, 436 S. Rock Blvd. Reno

**DISTRICT 4** First Thursday of each month, 7:00 PM-Reno  
 Triangle Club, 635 S. Wells Avenue Reno

**DISTRICT 6** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of even numbered months-For  
 information email [district6@nevadaarea42.org](mailto:district6@nevadaarea42.org)

**DISTRICT 8** First Sunday, 3:30 p.m. on odd months  
 Call [\(760\) 937-8407](tel:7609378407)

**DISTRICT 10A** Third Sunday of every other month, 1:30 PM  
 680 River St. Elko, NV

**DISTRICT 10B** Last Sunday Odd Numbered Months @  
 10:00AM Rotating Group Locations –  
 Call [\(775\)403-0869](tel:7754030869)

**DISTRICT 11** Only holds meetings 4 time a year, call DCM

**DISTRICT 12** 2nd Saturday of each Month at 5:00 PM- 457  
 Esmeralda Street Wolf Center, Fallon NV

**DISTRICT 14** 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon of each "Odd" month at 6:00 PM -265  
 Bear Street in Kings Beach CA

**DISTRICT 16** Meeting is held 3rd Tuesday of the month  
 Sparks Family Christian Church 510 Greenbrae  
 Blvd 6:00PM-7:00PM

**DISTRICT 18** DARK DISTRICT

**DISTRICT 20** First Saturday of every month 1:30 PM- 50  
 South Weatherlow, Susanville

**DISTRICT 22** Last Saturday of each Month at 5:00 PM 433  
 Pyramid Way

**Volunteers are needed to take meetings into hospitals, institutions and treatment centers. Please contact Central Office or Treatment Chair Rob L. for more information.**

**AREA CLUBS**

**Reno / Sparks Clubs**  
 Alano Club Sparks, 1640 Prater Way (775) 359-2727  
 Driars Club Reno 345 S. Wells Avenue (775) 324-9210  
 Triangle Club Reno 635 S Wells Avenue (775) 324-7977

**Clubs outside Reno/Sparks Area**  
 Alano Club Carson City, 1800 HWY 50 East (775) 882-0443  
 Bishop Alano Club (760) 873-6700  
 Elko Alano Club (775) 738-4747  
 Las Vegas Triangle Club (702) 435-0597  
 South Lake Tahoe (530) 541-1243



## 2018 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE CENTRAL OFFICE

Monday September 3, 2018 – Labor Day - Closed  
 Thursday November 22, 2018 Thanksgiving – Closed  
 Friday November 23, 2018 Family Day – Closed  
 Tuesday December 25, 2018 Christmas Day – Closed  
 Monday December 31, 2018 Inventory – Closed  
 Tuesday January 1, 2019 – New Year's Day – Closed




**NNIG CENTRAL OFFICE**  
**OPEN ON SATURDAYS**

10:00AM – 2:00PM

**NNIG A.A. CENTRAL OFFICE**  
 436 SOUTH ROCK BLVD SPARKS, NV 89431



**Submit this form or call Central Office to get on the list.**

## 12 STEP Volunteer Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sobriety Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Location/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Available: \_\_\_\_\_ Days: \_\_\_\_\_ Times: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Fire Has Gone Out

## Step 9 - Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

*I didn't have to be told that in the years of my drinking I damaged those closest to me. My wife's tears and the pain on my children's faces as I erupted again and again in alcoholic rage played a large part in bringing me to crisis and then into recovery. I knew I needed to make amends to them. I wanted to put my involvement with my family on a healthy, functioning, and mutually-rewarding basis. There was work to be done, and lots of it.*

*The Big Book turned out to be right: my wife and children were generous in accepting my apologies, eager to help me heal, happy that the long nightmare in which we all had lived was now over. But that was only the beginning of the process of making amends to them. My apologies, no matter how sincere, were not enough. I'd damaged my loved ones and deprived them of the kind of husband and father they had a right to expect; now I needed to grow out of self-centeredness and selfishness, and to learn to look at the world from their point of view in order to understand what I might do for them. I had to find new ways of communicating with them. All of this took time, to say nothing of that rare quality, patience! It wasn't by accident, I realized, that we undertake the Ninth Step only after we ourselves have become strong enough to embark on the kind of spiritual work that amends-making requires. Perhaps we can expect the Promises to come true only after we've started making amends within the family.*

*As difficult as this process sometimes was in relation to my wife and children, it took on a new dimension when I turned to making amends within my family of origin. In my own immediate family, the major damages were done by me, and I was the one who needed forgiveness. But there had been no knights in shining armor in my family of origin. My alcoholic father damaged my codependent mother and she damaged him; frightened and angry as I was, I damaged both of them and they damaged me. Aunts and uncles and cousins and grandparents--mutual damages seemed to be everywhere. Everyone was a player, and in all honesty--perhaps because I'd left home in my mid-teens--my contribution to those damages had been relatively small. But I still needed to clean my side of the street, and I saw that I had to begin by forgiving those who had hurt me. With smoldering resentments still eating at me, I couldn't be really effective in making amends. I hadn't expected it, but forgiving others for the injury they had done to me was a necessary part of my Ninth Step.*

*But what would it mean for me to forgive those relatives of mine who had made my childhood so unhappy? Clearly it was more than merely mouthing the words, "I forgive you." But what more? And how was it to be done? The Big Book, so helpful in many other matters, didn't really give me the direction I needed.*

*Neither did the "Twelve and Twelve." In a small handful of places, both sources mentioned the necessity of forgiveness--of asking forgiveness of God and of other people, for example, and of forgiving others as well as oneself. In two places, the Big Book even implied that we should forgive and forget. Forget? Forget being beaten? Forget being sexually molested? Forget being neglected? Forget being publicly ridiculed and shamed? These childhood experiences were burned into my memory. Even if I could forgive those who had harmed me in these ways--and the Big Book, unfortunately, didn't tell me how to do that--I didn't think forgetting would be possible.*

*It turned out, however, that after eleven years in AA, I learned something about forgiving someone, and so what forgiveness means. I learned this lesson by finding myself in a kind of do-or-die situation in which forgiving turned out to be the only good option available.*

*My mother had died suddenly and I had to return to my original home for her funeral. In the confusion of the next few days, one*

*idea kept nagging at me: I would have to meet, I would have to be involved with, my father's sister, Aunt Margaret. Aunt Margaret! During my childhood, although she was sometimes kind to me (but there weren't many of those times), she was more often unkind, missing no opportunity to criticize me cruelly, even to the point of publicly embarrassing me. Negative in her attitude toward me, bullying, judgmental, insensitive, at times malicious--all of these came with Aunt Margaret! In my mind she'd become a living symbol of much of what my unhappy childhood involved. To have to deal with her--and I could no more avoid doing that than I could avoid going to my mother's funeral--was to raise the ghosts of an unhappy past.*

*Frankly, I didn't have the emotional or spiritual "energy" to handle Aunt Margaret on top of my own confused and conflicted feelings over my mother's death. "I don't know how I can do this," I said to my sponsor. "I don't know how I can handle the funeral, that whole crazy and sick family of mine, and Aunt Margaret at the same time!"*

*"Can you try to change the way you see her?" he asked. "Can you see her not as the tormentor of your childhood, but as a pathetic human being who has always wanted something she never got in your grandparents' alcoholic household--simply to be loved for herself? Can you reach around your own pain and touch her hurting spirit? Can you show love to her?"*

*"But I don't love her," I replied.*

*"I didn't ask you to love her," he said. "I'm suggesting that you act lovingly toward her, or at least try." I remember thinking: I can try--but it won't work.*

*I had no sooner arrived at my family's house, where I stayed during the funeral period, when the door opened and there was Aunt Margaret, an odd half-smile on her face. Here it is, I thought. This is it. God, give me some help with this. I went to her. "How kind of you to come," I said. "Thank you for doing this for me. It is very good of you." I hugged her close. (I didn't lie. Everything I said was true.) Aunt Margaret began to cry and I did too. She loved my mother and she was grieving. The old dragon was then just an old lady, perhaps frightened that her own death might not be very far away. Some time later that evening, as she was leaving, I said to her, "I'm going to the funeral home tomorrow to make final arrangements. I'd really appreciate it if you'd come with me to help me through it." She readily agreed (was she surprised I had asked her?), and that established what was to be the pattern of my involvement with her over the next few days. I took opportunities to invite Aunt Margaret to be with me, whatever it was I was doing. I was signaling that I wanted to have her by my side. I was behaving lovingly.*

*Since then, seven years ago, there have been changes, significant ones I think, in our relationship. I call Aunt Margaret on Mother's Day and at Christmas and on her birthday. When her husband died suddenly, I called frequently. She writes me and I write back. No, she's still not my favorite person and it hasn't happened that I've come to like her, much less developing a warm, intimate relationship with her. Perhaps it never will. Perhaps, too, it would be different if I were living near to her rather than across thousands of miles, and had to relate to her frequently and face-to-face. That might severely test my resolve to keep acting lovingly towards her! But the reality is that while memories of the past flicker from time to time, the pain of those memories is no longer there. The fire has gone out.*

*In all of this, Aunt Margaret never once asked for my forgiveness. Probably she doesn't know that she needs any forgiveness from me. So I've learned the surprising truth that I can forgive people even if they don't ask for my forgiveness, even if they don't realize that they need it. Forgiveness seems to depend more on the love of the one who does the forgiving than on the lovableness of the one being forgiven.*

*One last learning. I discovered that there is a meaning of remembering that goes beyond its minimal sense of just being able to recall. To remember in this sense means to refuse to let go--to keep something from the past alive, to give it weight in the here-and-now. In that sense, I no longer remember the pain Aunt Margaret caused me. I've forgotten it.*

Jamie C., West Henrietta, New York  
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# NNIG FINANCIAL REPORT

## NNIG/Central Office Group Contributions 2018

Group	July	YTD	Group	July	YTD
3rd Tradition Secular Group		50.00	Happy Hour Reno	300.00	800.00
A Way Home		75.90	Incline to be Sober		0.00
Alano Afternoon Serenity		0.00	Janesville Moment to Moment		0.00
Alano Brown Baggers		200.00	Kings Beach AA Golden Group	150.00	636.00
Alano Dawn Patrol	100.00	100.00	Knuckleheads		0.00
Alano Jaywalkers		0.00	Ladies of the Evening		73.44
Alano Keep it Simple		0.00	Ladies of the Lake		113.15
Alano Shake' m Up Group		0.00			
Alano Sunday Morning Speaker		204.00	Mammoth Lakes Group		0.00
Twilight Zone		171.00	McGill NV Freedom Group		25.00
Alano Sunshine Group		500.00	Minden Language of the Heart		80.00
Alano There is a Solution		0.00	Minden Saturday Night Fever		125.00
Alano Women in Recovery		39.16	Minden Stephanie Way Group		297.58
Alturas Hill Toppers		0.00	Minden/Gardnerville Group	60.00	855.00
Austin Group		82.50	Mt Rose Recovery Room	100.00	1233.00
Back to Basics Saturday Night	90.00	436.00	NNIG Business Meeting	26.86	239.86
Back Room Group	67.72	218.69			
Bare Bones		127.00	Our Common Welfare		60.00
Battle Mountain Fellowship	10.00	80.00	Out and Sober		10.00
Bishop Group		0.00	Page by Page		0.00
Blairsdon Greagle Group		0.00	Portola Group		620.00
Bridgeport High Sierra Group		0.00	Positive Acceptance Group		443.40
Buena Vista Group		0.00	Pyramid Way Discussion Group		20.00
Caring & Sharing in Stead		195.17	Quincy Fellowship		10.00
Carlin Crystal Light Group		0.00	RTC ABC Group		0.00
Carson AA Way of Life		200.00	RTC Afternoon Delight		150.00
Carson After Shifters	102.60	102.60	RTC Almost Heaven		550.00
Carson Back to Basics		0.00	RTC Aloha Group	125.00	500.00
Carson Big Book Babes		0.00	RTC Beginners are Winners	450.00	1050.00
Carson Big Book Experience		29.00	RTC How We Stay Stopped		80.00
Carson Brown Baggers		1006.00	RTC Just for Today Women		150.00
Carson Drunk Squad		199.00	RTC Little Rascals	50.00	100.00
Carson Early Birds	522.61	1969.27	RTC Lost and Found		0.00
Carson Happy Hour		50.00	RTC Men's Trudgers		210.00
Carson Jay-Walkers Men's		100.00	RTC Mid Day Group		100.00
Carson Men's NO BS Stag		26.00	RTC Mon Night Grapevine		0.00
Carson Sandbaggers		22.00	RTC Monday Night Men's		200.00
Carson Sunday Morning Fire Stativ	19.21	19.21	RTC New Awakenings Group		843.43
Carson Sunday Night Step Study	250.00	250.00	RTC Not a Glum Lot		0.00
Carson Valley Gratitude	151.70	0.00	RTC Seniors in Sobriety	100.00	150.00
Carson Dr. Bob's Nightngales		48.50	RTC Sober N Sane		50.00
Chester Fellowship		29.92	RTC Women's Literature Study		0.00
Choices		100.00	RTC Women on Wednesday		0.00
Cornerstone Group	253.00	481.29	Serenity on Sunday		0.00
Crystal Bay Nooners		0.00	Sierraville Sunday Night		0.00
Dayton Fellowship Hall		150.00	Silver Springs Groups		275.00
Dayton Friday Night Rule 62		0.00	Sisters in Sobriety		85.94
Dayton Sunday Morning		321.00	Slide Mountain Serenity		0.00
District 6		0.00	South Reno on Sunday		525.00
District 12		0.00	South Shore Group		75.00
District 14		50.00	Southside Group	251.71	4445.49
District 22		0.00	Stagecoach Friends of Bill		85.00
Driar's 4th Dimension		0.00	Step 1		0.00
Driar's Keep It Simple		0.00	Sunday New Beginnings		0.00
Driar's Club Lunch Bunch		0.00	Sunnyside Big Book Study		0.00
Driar's Serenity Night Owls		0.00	Sunnyside Group	470.00	2055.00
Driar's Support Hose		0.00	Susanville Thursday Night		200.00
Driar's Positive Step	66.50	66.50	Susanville Wed Womens		0.00
End of the Road Group		0.00	Tahoe City Fellowship		0.00
Eye Opener	360.00	915.00	The Rock Group		245.00
Fallon The Real Lunch Bunch		217.90	Truckee Dawn Patrol		0.00
Fernley Groups		200.00	Truckee Fellowship	200.00	200.00
Finding Peace		0.00	Truckee River Men's Stag		1400.00
Fireside Group		600.00	Verdi Bookies		152.00
Galena Friday Night		201.00	Virginia City Plug in the Jug		100.00
Gardnerville Roadside Group		0.00	Wed Night Beginners		202.60
Gardnerville Wed Night Live	23.00	23.00	Westwood AA		0.00
Greenville Group		0.00	Westwood Monday Night		0.00
Ground Zero		84.00	Whole in the Ground Sunnyside		200.00
Grupo Accion		81.00	Winnemucca Serenity Seekers		0.00
Grupo Fe Y Esoeranza		0.00	Winnemucca Three Legacies		0.00
Grupo La Nueva Esperanza		0.00	Women's 24 Hours A Day		100.00
Grupo La Nueva Luz	20.00	160.00	Women's New Beginnings		198.00
Grupo Nueva Vida	10.00	80.00	Women Down and Dirty		95.00
Grupo Latino		0.00	Women's New Harmony		135.00
RENVYPAA		300.00	Young at Heart		0.00
Grupo Solo Por Hoy		70.00			
			<b>Total</b>	<b>4,329.91</b>	<b>31,180.50</b>

# PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

# PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS

2:55 PM  
09/21/18  
Accrual Basis

Northern Nevada Intergrup  
Profit & Loss YTD Comparison  
September 1 - 21, 2018

	Sep 1 - 21, 18	Sep 1 - 21, 17	Jan 1 - Sep 21, 18
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
4000 - Income - General			
4500 - Faithful Fivers			1,045.00
4300 - Bracer Subscriptions	5.00	10.00	
4800 - Other Copy Reimbursements	435.00	110.50	652.00
4600 - Individual Contributions	79.86	92.00	10,611.77
4550 - Group Contributions	3,547.60	1,331.61	33,414.01
4200 - Birthday Contributions	0.00	20.00	661.00
4600 - Income - General - Other	0.00	0.00	12.90
<b>Total 4000 - Income - General</b>	<b>4,067.46</b>	<b>1,519.11</b>	<b>46,492.78</b>
<b>4002 - Income - Event Revenues</b>			
<b>Event Revenues</b>			
New Year's Day Gala			250.00
4412 - Revenue	0.00	0.00	
<b>Total New Year's Day Gala</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>250.00</b>
Halloween Party			
4425 - Expenses	-21.52	0.00	-371.52
<b>Total Halloween Party</b>	<b>-21.52</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-371.52</b>
Speaker Meeting			
4440 - Revenue	0.00	569.00	2,749.47
4445 - Expenses	-366.30	-75.00	-1,785.96
Speaker Meeting - Other	0.00	0.00	420.95
<b>Total Speaker Meeting</b>	<b>-366.30</b>	<b>494.00</b>	<b>1,384.46</b>
Founders Day Picnic			
4470 - Revenue	0.00	0.00	1,274.00
4475 - Expenses	0.00	0.00	-1,032.08
<b>Total Founders Day Picnic</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>241.92</b>
Corned Beef & Cribbage			
4480 - Revenue	0.00	0.00	4,695.53
4485 - Expenses	0.00	0.00	-2,770.88
<b>Total Corned Beef &amp; Cribbage</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,924.65</b>
<b>Total Event Revenues</b>	<b>-387.82</b>	<b>494.00</b>	<b>3,429.51</b>
<b>Total 4002 - Income - Event Revenues</b>	<b>-387.82</b>	<b>494.00</b>	<b>3,429.51</b>
<b>4004 - Income - Merchandise Sales</b>			
4700 - Merchandise Sales	4,328.75	5,082.60	63,748.18
4004 - Income - Merchandise Sales - Other	0.00	0.00	15.00
<b>Total 4004 - Income - Merchandise Sales</b>	<b>4,328.75</b>	<b>5,082.60</b>	<b>63,763.18</b>
4900 - Interest Income	0.00	0.00	11.66
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,006.39</b>	<b>7,095.71</b>	<b>113,697.13</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>			
5000 - Cost of Goods Sold	2,427.19	2,723.32	35,591.24
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>2,427.19</b>	<b>2,723.32</b>	<b>35,591.24</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>5,579.20</b>	<b>4,372.39</b>	<b>78,105.89</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
5100 - Bank Fees and charges	0.00	3.00	9.00
5120 - Professional Fees	0.00	0.00	3,460.00
5150 - Cash Over/Short	0.00	0.00	20.00
5180 - CC Service Fees	443.83	122.92	1,746.10
5181 - Convention expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
5210 - Storage Unit	0.00	80.00	610.00
5220 - Shipping Charges	84.30	61.60	394.67
5230 - Alarm System	0.00	0.00	913.13
5235 - Committee Expenses	0.00	192.55	130.97
5240 - Compensation			
5240.1 - Wages - Director	81.25	0.00	23,790.30
5240.2 - Wages - Assistant	606.00	0.00	8,286.45
5240 - Compensation - Other	0.00	3,698.00	420.00
<b>Total 5240 - Compensation</b>	<b>1,487.25</b>	<b>3,698.00</b>	<b>32,496.75</b>
5241 - Dental/Vision Plan	0.00	77.02	77.02
5250 - Computer expenses	0.00	0.00	285.54
5260 - Copier Lease	737.55	327.77	3,635.06
5270 - Insurance Business/Workers Comp	0.00	0.00	1,158.00
5285 - Mileage Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	70.00
5290 - Office Supplies	76.47	216.62	1,270.10
5310 - Paper	7.19	0.00	340.77
5320 - Payroll Tax Expense	111.48	279.82	2,839.52
5325 - Payroll Processing Fee	58.58	80.61	668.94
5330 - Postage	0.00	46.00	152.26
5340 - Rent	0.00	758.00	7,029.00
5350 - Repairs & Maintenance	326.00	0.00	814.81
5360 - Taxes & Licenses	0.00	0.00	320.00
5370 - Telephone	685.82	473.53	7,878.56
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>5,579.20</b>	<b>4,372.39</b>	<b>78,105.89</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>1,852.85</b>	<b>-2,180.89</b>	<b>10,728.89</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Expense</b>			
5400 - Physical Inventory adjustment	0.00	0.00	-8.75
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-8.75</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8.75</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,852.85</b>	<b>-2,180.89</b>	<b>10,737.64</b>

Pink Can Contributions - Hospitals and Institutions

Group Contributions 2018 YTD		Group Contributions 2017 YTD	
Group	August YTD Total	Group	August YTD Total
4th Dimension	92.37	654.23	
A Way Home		0.00	
Alano Afternoon Serenity		314.85	
Alano Brown Buggers		65.00	
Alano Club Jay Walkers	123.87	581.98	
Alano Dawn Patrol	62.00	356.00	
Alano Sunday Morning Speaker	100.00	100.00	
Alano Sunshine Group	45.63	456.86	
Alano Women in Recovery		67.87	
Back Room Group	44.66	126.59	
Serenity on Sunday		125.00	
Battle Mountain Group	25.00	243.00	
Caring and Sharing Stead	46.09	291.58	
Carson After Shifters	285.74	777.65	
Carson Big Book Babes		0.00	
Carson City Early Birds	646.85	2062.10	
Carson City Sunday Fire station	109.00	814.00	
Carson City Happy Hour	107.00	995.00	
Carson Sand Buggers	600.00	600.00	
Carson Men's No BS		50.72	
Carson Sisters in Sobriety		26.00	
Corner Stone Group		249.00	
Carson City Women's Down & Dirty		23.00	
Dayton Sunday Morning		134.66	
Diarks Keep it Simple		0.00	
Early Birds		0.00	
End of the Road Group		115.00	
Eye Opener		667.00	
Fernley Groups		148.00	
Fireside Group		53.63	
Graveagle	69.00	69.00	
Happy Hour		892.10	
Individual		33.00	
Incline to be Sober		0.00	
Kings Beach AA Golden Group	116.00	475.00	
Knuckle Heads		0.00	
Ladies of the Evening		113.00	
Minden Gardnerville Group	391.33	3231.27	
Minden Wednesday Night Live		52.00	
Minden Stephanie Way Group		97.25	
Minden Saturday Night Fever		360.49	
Mount Rose Recovery Group		197.89	
Northern California H&I		0.00	
Out and Sober		43.00	
Portola Group	338.00	338.00	
Positive Step		0.00	
Pyramid Way Group		122.96	
RTC Almost Heaven		175.00	
RTC ALOHA	50.00	15.00	
Staying Sober		23.00	
Seniors in Sobriety		127.00	
Serenity Night Owls		0.00	
Sierraville Book Study		19.00	
Slide Mountain Serenity		126.75	
Support Hope		0.00	
South Reno on Sunday		87.81	
Southside Group	115.00	732.92	
Step 1		43.91	
Sunnyside	49.30	6717.71	
The Rock Group		47.00	
Truckee Bookies		9.65	
Truckee River Men's		692.00	
Verdi Bookies		300.43	
Verdi Greener Pastures	50.00	160.96	
Virginia City Plug in the Jug		227.02	
Wednesday Night Live		41.00	

Group Contributions 2018 YTD		Group Contributions 2017 YTD	
Group	August YTD Total	Group	August YTD Total
Women's Just For Today		94.00	
Women's New Beginnings		144.43	
Women's New Harmony	50.00	143.39	
Women's Night Out		14.06	
Women on Wednesday			
Women's 24 Hours A Day		44.48	219.48
Young At Heart			0.00
<b>August Income/YTD</b>	<b>3597.55</b>	<b>26285.20</b>	
July 2018 Balance Forward	4028.25		
Account Balance	7589.57		
August Lit Distributed	2715.18		
Ending Balance	4910.62		

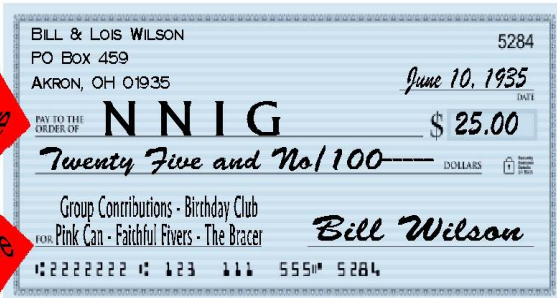
  

Distributed Literature 2017 YTD		
Facilities	August YTD Total	
<b>JAILS &amp; CORRECTIONS</b>		
Carson City Jail	1298.00	
Carson City Warm Springs	865.60	
NNCC Carson Prison	50.00	
Douglas County Jail	0.00	
Church Hill County Jail	312.00	
Lander County Jail	0.00	
High Desert State Prison	2163.05	
Humboldt County Jail	0.00	
Jan Evans Detention Center	630.00	
Lakes Crossing	0.00	
Lovelock Prison	0.00	
NN Transitional Housing	48.00	
Stewart Corrections Camp	634.84	
Washoe County - Parr	758.00	
Washoe Courts - 58277	0.00	
Wells Conservation Camp	0.00	
<b>TREATMENT &amp; HOSPITALS</b>		
Bristlecone - Residential	26.30	
Carson Behavioral Health	120.00	
Center for Hope	120.00	
Carson Tahoe Detox	0.00	
Crossroads - Main Campus	24.45	
Crossroads - River House	837.55	
Empowerment Center Women	0.00	
Gospel Mission	0.00	
New Frontiers - Fallon	0.00	
NN Adult Mental Health Services	528.25	
Renown Behavioral Health	1.20	
83.35		
Ridge House	0.00	
Saint Vincent's	0.00	
Salvation Army	890.00	
Step 1 - Men	820.00	
Step 2 - Women	507.00	
Sun Shine Committee - Hospitals	0.00	
VA Hospital	0.00	
West Care	550.00	
West Hills	7.00	
AA GRAPEVINE/LA VINA	88.31	
Office Supplies	13.08	
13.08		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2715.18</b>	<b>15,711.08</b>

NNIG ENDING CASH BALANCES  
August 31, 2018

	Balance	Goal Reserve	Difference
<b>Administrative Funds:</b>			
Cash on Hand	300.00	300.00	-
General Checking	21,946.02	9,000.00	12,946.02
Administrative Balance	22,246.02	9,300.00	12,946.02
<b>Interest Bearing Accounts (Prudent Reserve)</b>			
Savings	25,837.60	26,000.00	(162.40)
CD 1	5,026.05	5,000.00	26.05
CD 2	5,146.70	5,000.00	146.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,010.35</b>	<b>36,000.00</b>	<b>10.35</b>
Hold for Capital Expenditures			10.35
<b>Other Checking Balances:</b>			
Events Balance ***	19,237.00		
<b>Total Cash on Hand (A)</b>	<b>77,493.37</b>		
12 months operating expenses (2017)			108,000.00
Monthly Average			9,000.00
4 months prudent reserve (Rounded UP)			36,000.00
<b>*** Events Funds</b>			
General Events Reserve	4,000.00		
CornedBeef & Cribbage			
Founders Day Picnic			
Halloween Event			
Gratitude Dinner	15,237.00		
New Year's Party			
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,237.00</b>		

Always write NNIG here  
Where it goes here



# Bedtime Story

Through sadness and joy, a sober mom is grateful to be present for her life



Two days ago, my kids watched me cry. One of my best friends lost her son to cancer. I got the news on my phone while I was standing in the toy store with my two sons, ages 8 and 10, my daughter, 12, and my 16-year-old cousin visiting from England. I looked down and saw my two "master builders" making large toy creations. One of my sons has brown hair with a tiny bit of red. My other is a total redhead. I'll never forget how I looked at them and felt so grateful—a frozen moment in time. My daughter put her arm around me and said, "I'm so sorry, Mom."

I had called my friend numerous times that morning to check in and say, "I love you." I missed her return call at 9:51 a.m. saying she loved me too, and that they were all hanging in there. Her son passed four minutes later.

That night my youngest son prayed for my friend. And strangely enough my 12-year-old daughter came in for "snuggle time" to read one of her weird Percy Jackson stories to her brothers. I don't remember this ever happening before. She's not had snuggles for quite a while because she stays up later than I do now.

While she read to them, I went looking for a childrens' book called *The Bora-Bora Dress* to show my sons a picture of a beautiful jungle-print

dress in the story because I had just bought my very own Bora-Bora dress with my mom, daughter and cousin in New York City. I couldn't locate the book but I did find our beautifully illustrated copy of *Puff, the Magic Dragon*. I used to sing the song to my youngest when he still slept in his toddler bed.

So we opened up the book and sang the story. When we got to "Jackie Paper came no more," my voice began to crack. My son turned his sweet face to mine and kept on singing. I teared up and started to cry—not enough to stop singing, though. I looked over and my daughter was tearing up too. We sang all the way to the end. Even my middle son who was playing on the floor sang along. As we finished, he came over and said, "That's not how the story ends, Mom. Let me see."

In this particular book, the illustrator has drawn Jackie Paper's daughter in the last verse. She's going off to play with Puff. They've only ever known that version of the story—the one that continues on.

That's my recovery. My children know me. They hear me yell when I'm mad (my neighbor probably does too). They see me dance to "Everything Is Awesome" and laugh at silly jokes like "because seven ate nine," kiss my husband when he does the dishes (which he does a lot), chant "Maaa" during my meditation, get messy when I'm painting (especially with the purple) and pant through my "breath of fire" yoga.

The only reason my children know me this way is because I'm sober. The woman whose son died was the first sober woman I heard in an AA meeting admit that she'd been a horrible mother. This woman watched her son die a terrible death with grace and dignity. As she's practically lived by his bedside this year, I've witnessed forgiveness, light, love and deep healing. This woman loved me when I was unlovable. She reminds me that I can't "do it wrong," and continues to teach me about mothering. She shows me that our divine mother holds us close always.

Our program speaks of being rocketed into the 4th dimension. As I approach my own 40th belly-button birthday with 14 years of sobriety, I'm grateful to be a real 4-D mother, with the stretch marks and scars to prove it.

Catherine R., Taylor Lake Village, Texas

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# NNIG BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

## Business Meeting Minutes September 4, 2018 @ Alano Club in Sparks, NV

Open with Serenity Prayer - 6:33 PM - Read Preamble of NNIG By-Laws; Read Twelve Traditions

Approve August 2018 Minutes. Unanimously Approved.

### Treasurer's Report – Kathy A

July treasurers Report approved, unanimously.

**MONTHLY REPORT** Central office report from Ronda H. September 4, 2018

Volunteer hours- 116.5

Calls into Central Office:

Calls for AA help – 10; Calls for Alanon/Alateen -0; Meeting information- 45; Retail / merchandise-12; Other 12 step programs-0;

Events – 31; Business/Central office- 74; **Visitors – 292**

We are looking to replace the floor in the bathroom at the office but first we must wait for permission from the property management.

Previously we were responsible for the floor if that is to be the case we would like some bids from the fellowship, please call the office. The open house is set for the 15<sup>th</sup> of September, hope to see some of you there.

### Central Service Committee Reports

#### Activities Chair – Kris H. –

Halloween event is coming along we're asking the groups to help out with donations for the Raffle, we could also use candy! The pumpkins have been distributed and we just ask that the group's return them and all other donations to Central Office by October 15th. Thank you so much! The committee now meets every Sunday at 6 p.m. The Gratitude dinner speaker meeting portion is free. Please come and hear Quincy share. Also participate in the raffle and amazing fellowship. New Year's Eve Gala: we are still moving forward with the 50s theme at the auto museum. Just a super fun party! Here are the changes as follows: tickets will be \$20 this includes: ENTRANCE into the museum, Speaker meeting, dance with (hula hoop contest), Our own parking, with security, Amazing raffle, We will provide the drinks. There will also be fireworks at midnight. However there will be NO FOOD at the event. We need to sell 300 tickets to make this event happen. The committee is asking for you to let us know if you would like to participate in this event with the changes. We will discuss this at the next Intergroup meeting with your representatives.

Answering Service – Mark Z. – All thirty-two 4-hour shifts are currently manned and we say a big “THANK-YOU!” to everyone who helped get the word out in July and August that we needed volunteers. However, there are still a few people who are covering two shifts. So we could use another volunteer to cover the Wednesday, 1-5 AM shift. We'd also like to have at least two more Alternate volunteers to cover shifts when the regularly assigned person is out of town or sick. Six months of continuous sobriety is required to be an Answering Service volunteer. Please help us get the word out. Anyone interested in being a volunteer should call the Central Office. They can also call or text Mark Z (775-342-7506) or Mark U.

Susanville, CA and the surrounding area (District 20) is now part of the NNIG Answering Service. Mark Z will meet with Ronda next week to find out what this will entail. The District 20 Meeting Schedule is in the Directory and on the NNIG web site.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service.

Mark z & Mark U

Bracer – Emily – if there's anything you'd like to see in the Bracer, please email it to Emily at nningbracer@gmail.com.

#### Cooperation Professional Community – Position Open.

Public Information – Tom B. – All the high schools have been contacted. We are going to Reno HS on September 10th. Sparks and Damonte will probably have us do presentations in October. All of the schools like to plan our being there during the week they discuss alcohol. We have a scripted presentation and do not discuss any of our personal stories. So far it has been well received and we hope to get to all schools by the end of the year. We will probably also go to some middle school.

If interested in being involved with the presentations please contact me. Tom B. P I chair 775 848 5997

Corrections –position is vacant at the moment, if interested in this position, contact Central Office for more information. 2 year sobriety requirement.

#### Treatment – Rob L

Empowerment Center's Thursday night meeting has now been filled. We have meetings going in on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, these are all filled. West Hills Detox has granted us seven days a week and we still need Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday to be covered. CrossRoads is in need of a secretary for their Wednesday 12\*12 meeting. NNAMHS is in need of a secretary for their Thursday meeting. Lakes Crossing has granted us a meeting @ The Annex. This position has been filled. Ridge House is in the process of changing their Sunday open meeting to a closed H&I meeting. There is a new treatment facility called "Genesis". I am in the process of getting H&I set up for this facility. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

#### Bridging the Gap Cyndy M.

Currently, the Bridging the Gap committee goes into five facilities in the Reno area and at least one facility in the Carson City area to present to clients of these facilities the Bridging the Gap program. In the month of August, all the commitments were filled by our presenters and speakers, with the exception of one commitment which I had to fill. We also had several women from the Sisters of Sobriety Group sign up following my presentation to the group at the beginning of August to become speakers and potential presenters

and, as of this report, one has completed the observation process and will be speaking at Bristlecone this week. If you would like more information about the Bridging the Gap program, please do not hesitate to contact me @ [faithgrows95@gmail.com](mailto:faithgrows95@gmail.com)

## SPEAKER COMMITTEE CHAIR BRIAN

Monthly Speaker Meeting; Doors open at 6:30 PM and Speaker at 7:00 PM.

September 8, 2018 Host Group — Keep It Simple Driar's Speaker — Tom H. (Reno NV) Location — Silver Baron C, D & E

October 13, 2018 Canceled due to fall Round-Up

November, 2018 Canceled due to Gratitude Dinner and no availability at Silver Legacy

December 8, 2018 Host Group—A Way Home Good Shepard Church 5:30pm Friday Speaker Wesley I( Calabasas, CA)

NNIG Speaker Chair: Brian A. Speaker Co-Chair: Open Need more info call: Central Office – (775) 355-1151

Join us for dinner at Millie's 24 inside the Eldorado @ 5 pm with the speaker

## Sunshine Committee – Stacy P.

Hi I'm Stacy your Alcoholic Sunshine Committee Chair. I arranged 3 visits for 1-member last month. I had another member call for someone that was in the hospital and when I contacted that member they did not want a visit. It is very important to have the member that I am going to be visiting call me themselves. I don't want to show up somewhere and that member does not want to see us. Some members might think someone want or needs a visit but the members doesn't feel like having visitors. I know there are more members out there that could use this service so I need your help in getting the word out there. Thank you for allowing me to serve

Web Site Chair – Ollie—If you have comments or suggestions, email NNhIGwebmaster@gmail.com

Northern Nevada Area 42 Liaison – Chris S. Intergroup report for NAGSC Intergroup Liaison Sept 2018

The weekend of Sept 14-16 Area 42 which is Nevada will be gathering in Tonopah Nevada for the Area Assembly. At this assembly we will be voting in all the Area officers for the next 2 year rotation starting in Jan. 2019. Being that Nevada is split up between the north and south due to size and the amount of time it takes to get anywhere all of the officers and there alternates will come from the north and south. For example this last rotation the Delegate came from the north and the alt. Delegate came from the south. Next weekend September 7-9, 2018 Pacific Regional Forum in San Jose, CA. For more information:

[https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/regional-and-local-forums](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/regional-and-local-forums). Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

## RENVYPAA Liaison – Open

### New Business

Operating -Employee Handbook was not brought up do to late hour of meeting.

### Old Business

Open positions for CPC. Corrections remains open. Discussion and review of proposed by-laws changes which were posted on the NNIG website for public review. A vote to implement the proposed changes was called and seconded- and failed to pass with a 2/3 majority. A new revision will be available for posting and review by the next meeting to be voted on again in November. **Meeting closed 8:10pm**

## **NNIG STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**July 31, 2018** held at Central Office. \*Serenity Prayer; Roll Call: Paul M ,Jamie F , Jeff J, Kathy A , Ron T , Chris G , Kris H , Ronda H ,Tom PI chair , Approve , June Steering Committee Minutes

Treasurers Report – Kathy A – reported on the current status of the bank accounts, as reflected in a present printout from our account's webpage(s).

Old Business Agenda Items – None

New Business Agenda – P I chair Tom to present budget for finger printing volunteers. Traditions workshop, Womens Just for Today, to be announced in Bracer

### New Business

Operating -Employee Handbook

### Meeting Old Business

Open positions for CPC , Corrections

**\*Motion to Close the meeting**

# Sharing Her Gifts

## Once "miserable beyond description," an AA lives life on life's terms

I started drinking at the age of fourteen, thirty-three years ago, in the quiet kitchen of my grandmother's house. Under the lower sink was a cupboard with a huge bottle of cooking wine. I siphoned off some of the wine and drank it, and I knew right then and there I would be back for more. A warm, soft glow relaxed my muscles, and I smiled and grinned to myself. It was a wonderful feeling, and I felt truly right with the world. I didn't know it at the time, but I was already predisposed, through intense emotional instability and painful shyness, toward alcoholism. The first drink just sealed my fate.

From that moment on, it became okay in my mind to drink. As a very young African American female, I saw nothing wrong with a little partying. At first, it was only light wine coolers (I loved the sweetness), but slowly bottles of beer and harder liquor began to fill my days and nights. By the end of high school, I was showing signs of trouble and depression, but the real drinking didn't start until I entered college at age eighteen. On my own, and excited, I left my hometown in St. Louis, Missouri, to attend school at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, a small, academic community a good distance to the southwest.

In college, I had no restraints. There were no younger siblings to look after (I was the oldest of seven children), no perpetually sick mother to tend to, and no menacing father to avoid (he had a drinking problem, too, and was often very angry and abusive with his kids when drunk). At last I was free to be me, and for the next three years, I drank, smoked weed, and studied poetry, majoring in English literature. The alcohol made me more social and less shy. On weekends, I played many a game of Dungeons and Dragons with fellow inebriated students in the dormitory. Secretly, I dreamed of becoming a famous black writer like my heroines, Nikki Giovanni and Alice Walker.

By the time I was twenty-one, I had hit a brick wall. I had flunked out of college after my junior year, alienated all my teachers and friends, and was shipped back home to my folks, barely coherent. I was subsequently put on a locked psych unit with a diagnosis of "chronic schizophrenic." On the ward, I wept uncontrollably. I just couldn't believe what had happened to my life. It didn't occur to me at the time that alcohol might be responsible.

Slowly, I tried to pull myself together. I eventually left the hospital ward and went to live with my grandparents. We weren't getting along that great, so I began looking elsewhere for love and affection. Like many abused, attention-starved young women, I turned to men, and had a brief relationship with a welder who lived near my grandparents. Unfortunately, he was married, and I knew we had no future together. But before I could permanently end the relationship, I became pregnant, and that definitely ended everything. In order to avoid child-support and other legal hassles, he quit his job and skipped town, leaving me and the baby to care for ourselves.

I was devastated. I didn't know what to do. I was twenty-three, pregnant, confused, and scared. I considered abortion. I considered suicide. I considered adoption. I just didn't know what to do. I knew I wasn't mature enough or emotionally stable enough to raise a child. I had no money, and was working only part-time as a secretary for the local community college. Finally, my mother and sisters intervened and agreed to help raise the baby.

A serious depression took over after that. I continued working and trying to raise my baby, but the drinking became steadily worse. Eventually, I could not cope anymore, and tried the first of several geographic cures, packing my bags and getting on a bus to California. I left my two-year-old little girl, "Pantha," with her grandmother and three aunts, and really couldn't have said whether I would ever see her again. Out West, I spent the next five years in and out of hospitals and

homeless shelters. My depression was just overwhelming. I was thirty years old.

At thirty-one, I hit rock bottom. I had returned home and was living with my brother, who was kind enough to help me out with a place to stay. It was late December, I was sick with the flu, and had just drunk half a bottle of cold medicine containing alcohol. The patterns of my life began to unfold before me, and I knew I couldn't go on like this. I was miserable beyond description. I prayed a desperate, heart-felt prayer and slept. When I woke up, I called AA. That was January 1, 1991.

Fast forward fifteen years. Today, I have been sober sixteen years and have no regrets about stopping drinking. I fully accept that I'm an alcoholic, and even though I've made many mistakes along the way, I've tried to learn from them. Life has not been a bed of roses.

For example, a good friend of mine in the program overdosed and died after years of sobriety. He suffered horribly from depression, and could not accept help in time. His situation broke my heart and taught me the necessity of not giving up hope, and continuing to reach out.

My mental illness of schizophrenia never got substantially better. I have good and bad days, ups and downs. It is extremely hard to sit through most meetings or other social gatherings, because my brain conjures hostility and fear, where I should feel love and connection. I am always afraid fellow AA members will attack, hurt, and reject me for having this illness, and so I feel unbelievably self-conscious and sometimes disoriented, actively hallucinating. The media coverage of my disease is less than enlightening and often harmful. Schizophrenics are seen as mostly dangerous murderers who should be feared and locked up. The social stigma of mental illness seriously compromises my ability to communicate how I feel and what I'm going through. It is a dilemma I constantly struggle with.

Life continues to be life in other ways, too. I met a sober man in AA and we persevered through a ten-year relationship before he chose to relapse and drink again. He is now in prison, and I can only pray that he finds his way back to sobriety.

I have since moved on, and am currently in a loving, interracial relationship with another man I met in AA. We've been together five years and live in a small, neat apartment, where we are teaching each other how to live as companions one day at a time. I am learning to cook from him; he is learning to write poetry and short stories from me. It is a wonderful relationship, and we are both grateful.

Because my drinking was extensive and did a lot of mental damage, I remain on disability and can no longer attend meetings. But I subscribe to both the Grapevine and the Al-Anon Forum, read all the AA literature I can, and try to let our various disabled members know that they can still be connected and work a program, even though making meetings may be difficult, or seem impossible.

"Marcus" and I are a modest little couple now. Though we're not rich, we live simply, calmly, and comfortably. My daughter is all grown up, living her life, and soon will be married. I have a very good relationship with her, and have also made amends to other family members.

Life is still sometimes hard. Recently, my brother died of a heart attack, and I was a mess for a while. But my Higher Power keeps me on track. I still struggle with depression and schizophrenia, but I no longer "chase" my medication with booze. And no, I didn't become a famous author (at least not yet!). But if this story can inspire any of my fellow sufferers to get and stay sober, it will all have been worth it. And that's sharing my "gift" for writing, where it really counts.

Anonymous, St. Louis, Missouri

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