

Slippery When Wet

Vol 21 Issue Four April 2021

"To Carry This Message To Alcoholics And To Practice These Principles In All Our Affairs"

Bill D. AA's Number 3

On a Friday night, September 17, 1954, Bill D. died in Akron, Ohio. That is, people say he died, but he really didn't, wrote Bill W. His spirit and works are today alive in the hearts of uncounted AAs, and who can doubt that Bill already dwells in one of those many mansions in the great beyond. Bill D., the Man on the Bed, was AA number 3. At his death, he had not had a drink in more than nineteen years. His date of sobriety was the date he entered Akron City Hospital for his last detox, June 26, 1935. Two days later occurred that fateful day when he was visited by two sober alcoholics: Dr. Bob S. of Akron, Ohio, and Bill W., a guest of Dr. Bob's from New York. A few days before, Dr. Bob had said to Bill: "If you and I are going to stay sober, we had better get busy". Dr. Bob called Akron's City Hospital and told the nurse, a Mrs. Hall, that he and a man from New York had a cure for alcoholism. Did she have an alcoholic customer on whom they could try it out? She replied, "Well, Doctor, I suppose you've already tried it yourself?" Then she told him of a man who had just come in with DTs, had blacked the eyes of two nurses, and was now strapped down tight. He's a grand chap when he's sober, she added. Dr. Bob prescribed some medications, and then asked her to transfer him to a private room. He also put him on a diet of sauerkraut and tomatoes. That's all he was allowed to eat during his hospitalization. The nurse told Dr. Bob and Bill that Bill D. had been a well-known attorney in Akron and a city councilman. But he had been hospitalized eight times in the last six months.

Bill W. sometimes said six times. Following each release, he got drunk even before he got home. Bill's wife, Henriett D., had talked to Dr. Bob and Bill earlier. When she told her husband she had been talking to a couple of fellows about drinking he was furious at her disloyalty. When she told them that they were a couple of drunks Bill didn't mind so much. Henrietta apparently

Bill D. AA #3



had quite a conversation with the two men, and she told her husband that their plan for staying sober themselves was to tell their plan to another drunk. Years later, Bill D. reflected on the jumbled thoughts in his mind as his wife left and he began to lapse back into withdrawal stupor: All the other people that talked to me wanted to help me, and my pride prevented me from listening to them, and caused only resentment on my part, but I felt as if I would be a real stinker if I did not listen to a couple of fellows for a short time, if that would cure them. So

Dr. Bob and Bill talked to what may have been their first man on the bed. They told them of the serious nature of his disease, but also offered hope for a recovery. We told him what we had done, wrote Bill, how we got honest with ourselves as never before, how we had talked our problems out with each other in confidence, how we tried to make amends for harm done others, how we had then been miraculously released from the desire to drink as soon as we had humbly asked God, as we understood him, for guidance and protection. But Bill D. was not impressed. He said, "Well, this is wonderful for you fellows, but can't be for me. My case is so terrible that I'm scared to go out of this hospital at all. You don't have to sell me religion, either. I was at one time a deacon in the church and I still believe in God. But I guess he doesn't believe much in me". But he did agree to see Dr. Bob and Bill again. They came again the next day, and for several days thereafter. When they arrived on July 4, they found Bill's wife, Henrietta, with him. Eagerly pointing at them, he said to his wife, "These are the fellows I told you about, they are the ones who understand". Before they could say anything, he told them about his night, how he hadn't slept but had been thinking about them all night long. And he had decided that if they could do it, maybe he could do it, maybe they could do together what they couldn't do separately. It was apparently on that day that he admitted he couldn't control his drinking and

Continued on pg. 2

Bill D. – AA's Number 3 continued from pg. 1

had to leave it up to God. Then they made him get down on his knees at the side of the bed and pray and say that he would turn his life over to God. Before the visit was over, he suddenly turned to his wife and said, "Go fetch my clothes, dear. We're going to get up and get out of here." He walked out of that hospital on July 4, 1935, a free man, never to drink again. AA's Number One Group dates from that day. That fourth of July they had plenty to celebrate. So they had a picnic. Dr. Bob and Anne S., Bill W., Bill and Henrietta D., and Eddie R., the first alcoholic they tried to help were there. (Eddie didn't get sober at first, but later he did, and Eddie said in a talk that there were two firsts in A.A. – the first one who accepted the program and the first who refused it.) Within a week, Bill D. was back in court, sober, and arguing a case. But at first his wife was doubtful. He had previously gone on the wagon and stayed sober for long periods. But then he drank again. Would this time be different? And he hadn't had that sudden transforming experience that Bill W. talked about. When Lois W. visited Akron in July of 1935, Henrietta shared these fears with her, and asked Lois whether she ever worried about her Bill drinking again. Lois answered without hesitation, no. Never. The message had been successfully shared a second time. Dr. Bob was no fluke. And apparently you did not have to be indoctrinated by the Oxford Group before the message could take hold. The three worked with scores of others. Many were called but mighty few chosen; failure was our daily companion. But when I left Akron in September 1935, two or three more sufferers had apparently linked themselves to us for good, wrote Bill. Bill D.'s story was not included in the first edition of the Big Book. Kurst seems to think it was because Bill D.'s credentials, were apparently too blatant: highly respectable upper middle-class background, above average education, intensive youthful religious training which had since been rejected, and former social prominence recently nullified by such behavior as his assault on two nurses. But most believe it was because Bill D. had insisted on being paid for his story. Bill W. wrote his story for the second edition after Bill D.'s death. It appears in the Big Book as "AA Number Three." He based the story on tapes of Bill D.'s talks, and

on his own memory. Old timers in Akron, according to Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers, recalled that Bill D., was indeed a grand chap when sober. They remembered him as one of the most engaging people they ever knew. One said: "I thought I was a real big shot because I took Bill D. to meetings". Another noted that, though Bill D. was influential in the area he was not an ambitious man in AA. He wasn't aggressive, just a good A.A. If you went to him for help he would give you help. He would counsel with you. He never drove a car, but he went to meetings every night. He'd stand around with his thumbs in his vest like a Kentucky colonel. And he spoke so slow, you wanted to reach out and pull the words from his mouth. I loved to be around him. He put you in mind of a real Easy Does It guy – Mr. Serenity. His wife, looking back in 1977, described him as a great alcoholic who, like other alcoholics, didn't want to get drunk. She reportedly remembered telling her pastor, "You aren't reaching him. I'm going to find someone who can if I have to see everyone in Akron", and she prayed with the pastor of another church that someone her husband could understand would visit him in City Hospital, where he had been admitted with some kind of virus. I have found no reference to his age when Bill and Bob found him, but Bill keeps referring to him in the literature as old Bill D. In a memorial to Bill D., Bill W. wrote: "The force of the great example that Bill set in our pioneering time will last as long as AA itself. Bill kept the faith – what more could we say?"

SOURCES: Alcoholics Anonymous, Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers, The Language of the Heart, Bill W's Grapevine Writings, Bill W., by Robert Thomsen, Not God, by Ernest Kurtz, Bill W., by Francis Hartigan



*P*ractical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail.

- Pg. 89, Working With Others.

BE THERE WHEN THE STILL SUFFERING ALCOHOLIC CALLS.

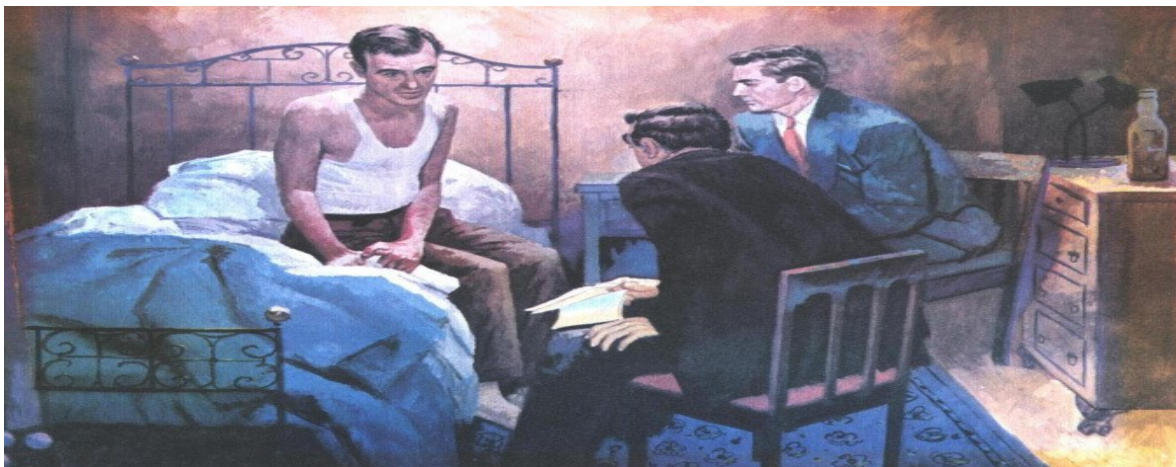
SIGN UP NOW TO BE ON THE 12TH STEP CALL LIST FOR THE TREASURE VALLEY.

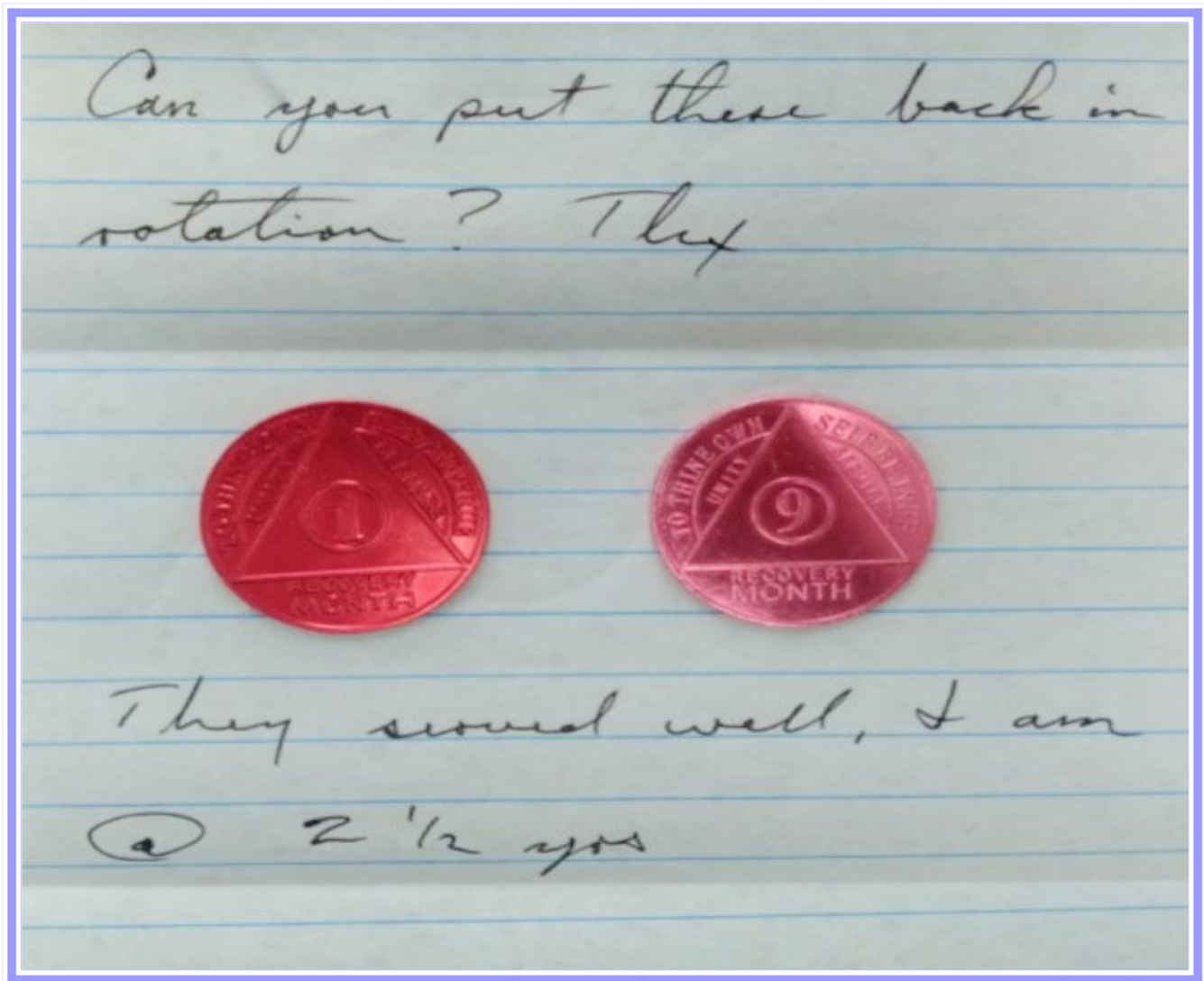
When a still suffering alcoholic reaches out for help, hotline volunteers need someone in the fellowship to take their experience, strength and hope.

Sign up today!

Email the hotline chair: treasurevalleyhotline@gmail.com

Call the Central Office: 208-344-6611





We received this letter anonymously at the Central Office last month.

It asks that we place the two anniversary chips back into rotation.

As we know...."You can't keep what you don't give away"

FULLY RECOVERED ALCOHOLIC

(What does *that* mean?)

I am a fully recovered alcoholic. This means if I throw God and AA under the bus tomorrow morning, I could be "boiled as an owl" by midnight. This is because I am helpless and hopeless over drink, save for the grace of God and AA. You may think: "What an oxymoron! How can an alcoholic be helpless and helpless, yet claim to be recovered? Well, one happy ingredient of my recovered status is that "if I should drink" has not occurred to me for many years—it seems to have been removed from my emotional vocabulary! But for a better detailed description, here are a few promises from pages 84 & 85 of the Big Book:

We will seldom be interested in liquor.

If tempted, we recoil from it as from a hot flame.

We will see that our new attitude toward liquor has been given us without any thought or effort on our part.

We are not fighting it, neither are we avoiding temptation.

We have not even sworn off. Instead, the problem has been removed (*This means the mental obsession—not the physical allergy*). It does not exist for us.

Not so fast, there is a prerequisite! "*That is how we react so long as we keep in fit spiritual condition.*" How? By living in the spirit of Steps 10, 11 & 12. Non-Big Book readers might state: "*If I were recovered, I'd start drinking again.*" This is logical thinking using the normal definition of the word "recovered." However, those who have studied the Big Book can easily see the folly in that sort of thinking because they understand the allergy/obsession syndrome. The Big Book uses the recovered word in a *special and technical sense* that readers can easily understand. I often use the phrase "*release from the mental obsession*" at meetings to avoid controversy.

Bob S





Macks Creek Campout Lucky Peak Reservoir

******JUNE 11-13th******

**Begins at noon on the 11th and
ends at noon on the 13th**



**THIS IS A MIDTOWN GROUP SPONSORED EVENT, PROCEEDS WILL BE SPLIT TO GENERAL
SERVICE COMMITTEES**

SAVE THE DATE

RV CAMPING MUST RESERVE AND PAY IN ADVANCE

- **First come, first serve for camping spots. *\$10 Suggested Donation for camping however any amount would be welcome.***
- **Come for the weekend or come for the day or evening**
- **Boat ramp and docks available, boats and water toys are welcome!**

If you have questions, please call Lisa P. at (208) 577-0303 or Mark S. at (208) 559-5891.



DIRECTIONS

Macks Creek Campground and Picnic Area are located on Forest Service Road 268/Arrowrock Road just 4.5 miles from Highway 21. The campground is above the road with the picnic area/docks below against Lucky Peak Lake.

18 miles north on Highway 21 from Boise. Turn right onto Road #268/Arrowrock Road for 4.5 miles.



TREASURE VALLEY INTERGROUP
INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL

FOUNDERS DAY PICNIC



BILL W. and Dr. BOB

**Celebrating 86 Years of
Recovery**

Saturday June 5 2021

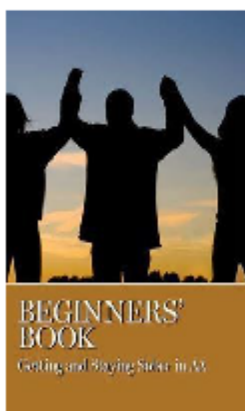
12 noon to 4:00PM

Veterans Memorial Park

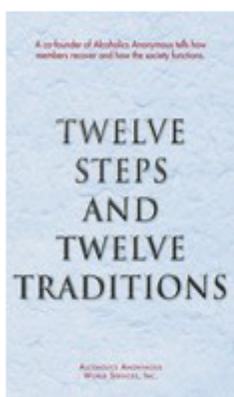
36th Street and State Street Boise

Food 🍔 Games 🏀 Fun 😄

Save the date



CARRY THE MESSAGE— LITERATURE EVENT FOR ALL OF AREA



The April event will be facilitated by Mary M. She will present a comparison on Bill W's communication styles from his writing in *Language of the Heart* to his talks as presented in *Our Great Responsibility*—April 27th

Sponsored by TVICO

Monthly events—4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM via ZOOM.

**ZOOM Meeting ID 834 4239 4760
Password 164**

Themed meetings ideal for:

- Those wanting to start literature centric meetings,
- Literature Reps to find out what 's new and what's in many of the AA publications,
- Anyone wanting to get more from their sobriety in service to others and Carry the Message

37th Annual District 10 A.A. Campout



Out of District
10 AA'ers are
welcome and
encouraged to
attend!!

On the Beautiful Boise River

When: July 22nd – 25th, 2021

Where: Elks Flat Group Campground (Loop #2), Boise National Forest, Pine, ID

Friday Night: Campfire Meeting at the Pavilion

Saturday: Enjoy fellowship in the campground, on the river, or in the hot springs.

Saturday Night: Potluck dinner at the Pavilion at 6PM followed by a Campfire A.A. Meeting. Please bring a potluck dish or desert to share with everyone. Coffee, Hot Dogs and Hamburgers will be provided by Dist 10.

Sunday Morning: Breakfast at the Pavilion at 8AM. Please bring eggs, bacon or sausage for group cooking. Coffee and Hotcakes will be provided by District 10.

Sunday after breakfast: Clean up the campground and head home, Checkout time is 1PM

7th Tradition: This AA event is self-supporting and a donation can will be available at meals and meetings.

Directions: Take Hwy 20 East from Timmerman (near Bellevue, ID north of Shoshone) or Hwy 20 West from Mountain Home to Louise Creek Rd. Then proceed north on Louise Creek Rd for 18 miles, past Anderson Reservoir, to the Boise River Bridge at Pine. Then proceed 4.5 miles north on FH61 to the campground.

Note: Space at the group campsite is usually available for early arrivals on Tuesday and Wednesday. If you want to arrive early you just have to pay the Forest Service for the extra nights.

PS: Let us know if you're planning to attend so we can plan for hamburgers and hot dogs....Thanks!

For more information please call:

Cheri V. @ 208-490-7752

or

John S. @ 208-320-2388

Treasure Valley Intergroup Central Office

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Boise Idaho 83705

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TVICO Website

tvico.net

Idaho Area 18 Website

www.idahoarea18aa.org

Slippery When Wet Email

editor.slipperywhenwet@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 10am to 5pm

Saturday 10am to 3pm

If your meeting has been canceled due to Coronavirus let us know and if you've set up a tele-conference meeting or a zoom video meeting we will post it here.

Let us know by emailing tvcentraloffice@gmail.com.

[FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF TREASURE VALLEY AA IN-PERSON MEETINGS CLICK HERE](#)

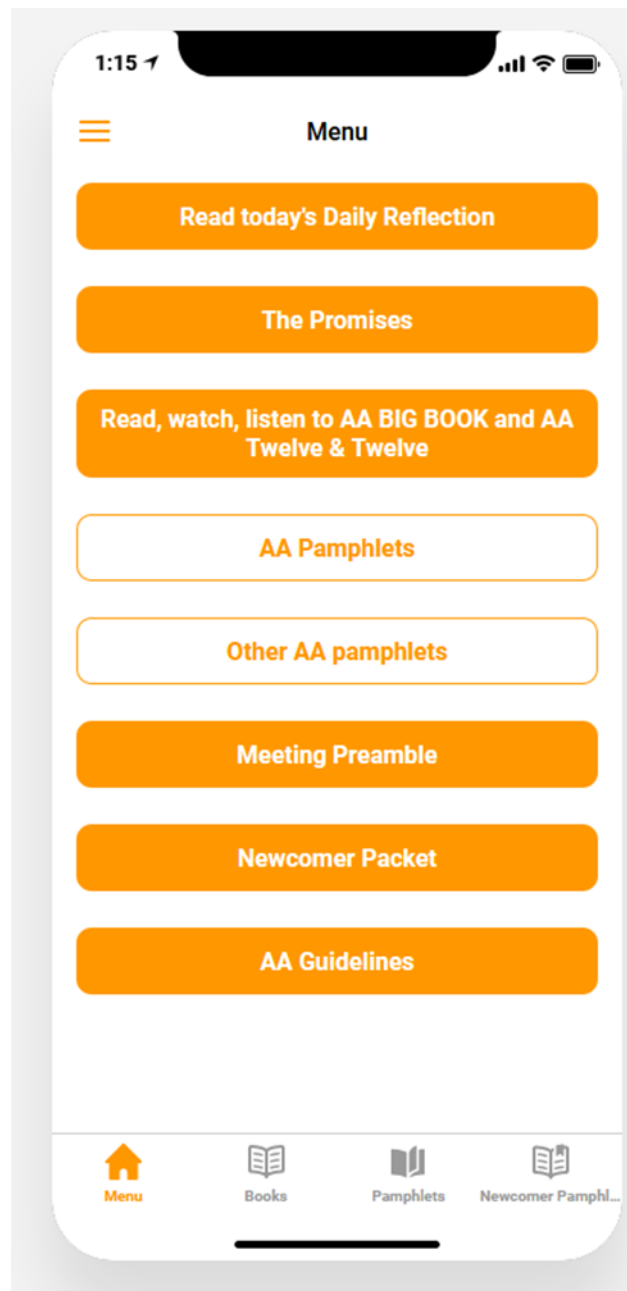
NOW AVAILABLE An App for literature.

Get it on the TVICO.net website. Simply scan the QR code.

Have immediate access to **AA pamphlets, The Big Book and the**

12 x 12 plus more! [Link to website here](#)

Brought to you by your Treasure Valley Intergroup Central Office.



Treasure Valley Intergroup

Meeting Minutes

The Second Thursday in the Month of: March 2021

I. Opening

- Moment of Silence
- Serenity Prayer
- Twelve Traditions-
- Statement of Purpose-

II. In attendance:

- Scott H., Will G., Stan N., Joanne E., Jordan K., Barbara U., Audrey M., Margo N., Jason S., Lori W., Brenda M., Kimmie P., Chuck C.

III. Birthdays: 🎂 🍷 🎂 🍷

- Will G – 5 Years!

IV. Secretary's Report- Will G.

- Barbara pointed out a mistype and it was corrected immediately.
- Scott motioned to accept the minutes
 - Kimmie seconded the motion
 - Motion passed unanimously

V. Treasurer's Report- Audrey M.

- Intergroup has \$1313.72

VI. Assistant Intergroup Chair/Entertainment Chair – Scott H.

- Date is still set for Founders' Day

VII. Intergroup Chair- Joanne E.

- Renewed store insurance policy

VIII. Slippery When Wet Editor- Jason S.

- March issue ready to publish.
- *To subscribe to the newsletter, please email:*
editorslipperywhenwet@gmail.com

IX. Hotline- Bill Y./ Brad M.

- 5th Saturday of the month needs a volunteer.

X. T.S.N.A.C. Representative- Kimmie P.

- Treasure's Report
 - Beginning balance - \$5294.14
 - Pink Can - \$219.17
 - Donations - \$779.73 (25% diverted to Pink Can)
 - 1st Qtr. Book Order - \$3049.93
 - Ending Balance - \$3193.11
- Question about our prudent reserve amount; nothing in bylaws about one. A committee will be formed to review our bylaws, overall.
- Literature Report
 - Question about submitted book order.
 - Answer: we submit with volumes & an estimated amount, which is adjusted based on the actual fulfilled order.
- Corrections Report
 - Continues to work on the possibility of virtual meetings.
 - Robert can send out a quarterly email to those interested, to keep everyone in the loop.
- Picnic - play things by ear; possibly begin planning in May or June.

XI. C.P.C./P.I. Representative- Jordan K.

- Treasurer's report
 - 2 donations from How It Works
 - Total \$2103.28
 - Linda: motion to accept, Ana: second, passed

- Discussed distribution
- Prudent reserve in the account, for office supplies, sending someone to area meetings, church
- Need a literature chair - Linda volunteered
- Call for reports
 - Mark asked for the Treasurer's report, for District 4 - How it Works
 - TSNAC report - meeting is this week
- Upcoming events:
 - PRAASA
 - Hannah will attend part of it.
 - Ana: motion to pay for CPI registration (for Hannah and anyone else attending from CPI group), Mark: second, passed
 - Dist 4 having a gathering for event, round table. Veteran's Hall in Caldwell.
 - International Women's Convention coming up weekend of Feb 20th
 - <https://internationalwomensconference.org>
 - ICAN conference in May. Registration not open yet, but Linda will watch for this. Conference for drug and alcohol counselors, usually an exhibit. May 17-20.
 - CPC North America Group meeting this weekend.
 - Group makes a lot of info via google
 - To attend the CPC North America workshop this Saturday, Feb 20, at 10:00 to 11:30am Mountain time: Zoom ID 998 938 7691 Password: 714921
 - <https://chief-stream-5535.glideapp.io/> app for AA pamphlets link and audio
 - Avalon might be making cards and we could add the link above, Linda showed the group business card sized cards with AA hotline and message. There is still a good amount (boxes) in supply. Jordan will take some for distribution.
 - Will look to see if area18.org CP/CPI has link to app or audio book

XII. B.A.C.Y.P.A.A. Representative- Vacant

XIII. Individual Group Announcements

XIV. T.V.I.C.O. Financial Breakdown- Audrey M.

- See attachment

XV. Steering Committee Report- Joanne E.

- No report

XVI. Store Report- Margo N.

- “Everything is just fine.” -Margo
- Still looking for volunteers to man the Central Office on Saturdays. April is covered.

XVII. Unfinished Business

- None

XVIII. New Business.

- A concern was voiced by an AA over an article that was published in Slippery When Wet.
 - This story is not in the 4th edition of the Big Book
 - A confusion on who wrote the story was cleared up.
 - The newsletter is reviewed by another member of Intergroup before its publication
 - The editor maintains editorial choices over content

XIX. Adjournment

- Motion: Will
- Second: Kimmie
- Meeting Adjourned at: 6:53pm

Attachments: TVICO Financial breakdown

Treasure Valley Intergroup Central Office

Cash Flow

MARCH 2021

INFLOWS

Archives	\$ 534.60
TSNAC	\$ 100.00

Gross Sales

GSO Sales	\$ 3,806.20
Non-GSO Sales	\$ 2,747.34
Meeting Schedules & NCP	\$ 25.00
In House Merchandise	\$ -
Gift Certificates	\$ -
Refunds	\$ -

TOTAL Gross Sales	\$ 6,578.54
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Member Donations

Group Donations	\$ 3,784.68
Individual Donations	\$ 448.38
Donation Can	\$ 171.01
District 5	\$ 1,250.00
	\$ -

TOTAL Donations	\$ 5,654.07
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Miscellaneous Revenue

Interest Income	\$ 1.61
Shipping & Handling	\$ 67.50
Printing	\$ 1.14
Slippery When Wet	\$ -

TOTAL Misc. Revenue	\$ 70.25
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TOTAL INFLOWS	\$ 12,937.46
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Cash on Hand	\$ 24,992.56
Less Pre-Paid Accts Payable	\$ -
Less Liabilities Owing	\$ (1,436.46) ²
Cash Available for Operations	\$ 23,556.10
Cash Drawer	\$ 150.00
Prudent Reserves:	
Operations Prudent Reserve	\$ 16,076.39
Literature Prudent Reserve	\$ 7,000.00
Inventory on Hand	\$ 22,550.39
Amounts due from Customers	\$ 1,456.00

OUTFLOWS

Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 3,945.57
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Office Expenses

Assembly Expense	\$ -
Bank & Merchant Serv Fees	\$ 126.99
Copy Machine	\$ 214.22
Donations from TVICO	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ -
Insurance (Liability)	\$ 609.00
Mileage Expense	\$ 20.36
Office Expense/Supplies	\$ 78.24
Over-Under	\$ -
Phone/Internet Service	\$ 152.22
Postage & Delivery	\$ 37.65
Printing & Reproduction	\$ -
Professional Fees	\$ 722.32 ¹
Rent	\$ 1,224.00
Web Hosting	\$ -
	\$ -

TOTAL Office Expense	\$ 3,185.00
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Payroll Expense

Includes Employer Taxes	\$ 2,448.19
Work Comp Insurance	\$ -

TOTAL Payroll Expense	\$ 2,448.19
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TOTAL OUTFLOWS	\$ 9,578.76
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NET CASH +/-	\$ 3,358.70
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NOTES:

¹Prof. Fees for include reconciling previous month bank statements, preparing payroll & making payroll tax deposits and/or reports, reporting & paying sales tax, review who owes money on customer accounts & outstanding account payables, W2's, 1099's, & Reports. Preparation and E-Filing of Annual 990-EZ Tax Return.

²Liabilities Owing Includes: Vendor invoices, payroll liabilities, credit card balance, Idaho Sales Tax, and Gift Certificates

Thank you for supporting Central Office, we couldn't do it without you!

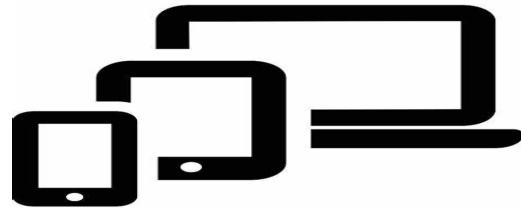
**GROUP DONATIONS
MARCH 2021**

Date	Group Name	Donation Amount
03/01/2021	No Mo Stinkin' Thinkin'	30.00
03/01/2021	As Bill Sees It	809.60
03/01/2021	As Bill Sees It	67.35
03/02/2021	Meridian Sunrise	250.00
03/02/2021	Rule 62 Group	77.73
03/02/2021	How It Works - Nampa	159.00
03/04/2021	Attitude Adjustment	250.00
03/08/2021	7am Zoomers	20.00
03/09/2021	Sobriety Seekers	312.00
03/09/2021	Eastwind Group	29.00
03/10/2021	As Bill Sees It	350.00
03/10/2021	Wednesday Night Men's Solutions	63.00
03/15/2021	Saturday Night Live	20.00
03/16/2021	Welcome Home Nampa	60.00
03/16/2021	Linder Group	53.61
03/16/2021	Emmett AA	500.00
03/22/2021	Seekers	238.39
03/22/2021	Women's Connection	100.00
03/22/2021	Women's Connection	160.00
03/23/2021	No Reservations	85.00
03/24/2021	M3 Men's Meeting	150.00
Total Group Donations		\$ 3,784.68

**Central Office would like to thank all the Groups, Individuals, and
Districts for their donations last month.
We appreciate it so much !**

Thank you for supporting Central Office, we couldn't do it without you!

Get the *Slippery When Wet*
Newsletter on your
computer screen, mobile
phone, tablet!



Have the monthly issues emailed
to you directly,
no cost, no trouble.

Just send your email address to
the editors desk.

Editor.slipperywhenwet@gmail.com