

"Our primary purpose it to stay sober and to help
Others achieve sobriety."

Slippery When Wet

Treasure Valley Intergroup Newsletter



From the Editor's Desk...

A great big Kudos goes out to Jason S. for serving as the editor for this Intergroup Newsletter for the past three years! Thank you, Jason! We appreciate your time and commitment to service!

In March of 2020, our Treasure Valley Intergroup was just one of the many Intergroups across the nation impacted by the Coronal Virus pandemic. All of a sudden the world stopped. Our local AA meeting places locked their doors and our Central Office was inundated with Zoom Meeting information on a daily, constant basis as our Groups moved to Online meeting formats with ID Numbers and passwords that seemed to change by the hour! TVICO worked "beyond the call of duty" to ensure that an accurate meeting list was maintained online for all the groups. Our TVICO Trusted Servants even kept the office open 2 hours a day, for 2 days a week, to be available for any newcomer questions, or for groups to pick-up supplies.... all the while following CDC guidelines of mandatory masks. This was a demonstration of Service in Action, for Intergroup offices are usually the first place a newcomer calls for AA help and information. During this time, the AA Hotline calls arose 300 percent, and remained OPEN at all times, due to our TVICO and our Hotline volunteers! In addition, our TVICO found an innovative and creative way to reach the newcomer through Virtual meetings... the Glide App.! Yes, a Glide App. was created called, "AA Literature" in which our local groups can share in their Virtual chat rooms virtual Newcomer Packets for Newcomers! The link is: <https://chief-stream-5535.glideapp.io/> This App also gives access to the AA Big Book, the AA 12x12, AA Pamphlets, and even AA.Org AA Guidelines! What a service this is for all the groups online, and everyone, actually!

During the pandemic, Intergroup had to cancel most "Unity" events. However, throughout the past year Intergroup continued to meet monthly via Zoom to conduct business virtually. Thank you to all Intergroup Representatives who continued (and continue) to participate throughout the past several months!

Elections are coming up soon, so let's review exactly what Intergroup and TVICO do, shall we?

From Group Pamphlet page 38: "An intergroup or central office is a vital A.A. service office that represents a partnership among groups in a community — just as A.A. groups themselves are a partnership of individuals. These offices are established to carry out common functions that are best handled by a centralized office, **and it is usually maintained, supervised and supported by these groups** for their common interest. The office exists to aid the groups in carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Methods and goals vary from one area to another, but generally the intergroup or central office responsibility is to... Cooperate with local, district and area committees. (Some intergroups elect members to serve as area liaisons and welcome their participation in intergroup meetings.)" (Our local Intergroup/TVICO elects District liaisons) "Your intergroup, or central office, is often where the still-suffering alcoholic first calls or shows up for A.A. help. **Although local intergroups operate independently of A.A.'s worldwide service structure, they are a vital part of the Fellowship.** In most areas, **any group that so wishes can belong to the local intergroup**, which is supported by contributions from its member groups. These contributions are purely voluntary."

From the GSO A.A. Guidelines: "Central or Intergroup Offices": "Each group in the community is asked to send both a representative and an alternate representative to a special meeting to form a central/intergroup office committee (also called a steering committee in some places). **Local group representatives reflect the groups' conscience in the service center operations (Central Office).** In most communities, a central/intergroup office committee or steering committee is set up to handle the administrative activities of the service office. The steering committee holds regularly scheduled meetings and deals with general policy and plans. Periodically, the steering committee reports to group representatives on central/intergroup office problems and accomplishments. **It is extremely important to keep a two-way flow of information going between the central/intergroup office and groups.** ...the committee (Intergroup) takes over the responsibility for the project and outlines its aims and purposes for approval by the participating groups. Service centers (Central Offices) usually have no authority on their own account; they derive it from the participating groups." (Hence, our local Intergroup, composed of Group Reps., established a "Steering Committee" to oversee the operations of TVICO) "Central/intergroup offices are essentially A.A. service entities, 'directly responsible to those they serve,' as described in Tradition Nine."

The current Intergroup/TVICO bylaws state: " The name of the corporation is Treasure Valley Intergroup Office of Alcoholics Anonymous Inc. (hereinafter "Intergroup") located in the Greater Treasure Valley, an organization exempt from income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. The Treasure Valley Intergroup Central Office (hereinafter "TVICO") is a nonprofit retail store. **The purpose of the TVICO Steering Committee serves as a subcommittee to Intergroup and responsible to Intergroup for the operation of TVICO.** ...a. All District AA groups are eligible to send one (1) individual to participate in the monthly Intergroup Meetings. b. Each representative will have one (1) vote. a. Each District is asked to submit a nominee to be elected as the District Representative to the TVICO Steering Committee by Intergroup. **The purpose of INTERGROUP shall include:** a. Fostering and encouraging AA unity and cooperation among Idaho Area 18 AA Groups and to raise funds to provide for the viability of a Central Office. b. Guiding the operation of TVICO through its subcommittee known as the TVICO Steering Committee. c. Furthering the AA program in accordance with the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. d. Providing a 24-hour hotline Answering Service. e. Publishing a monthly newsletter. f. Maintaining a list of volunteers to accept 12-Step calls. **The purpose of the TVICO Steering Committee shall include:** a. Providing goods and services to the groups and individuals such as General Service Office (GSO) literature, recovery literature, answering service, and accurate meeting schedules. b. Furthering the AA program in accordance with the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. d. Handling all AA Hotline calls during normal operating hours. e. Aiding Intergroup in the publishing of a monthly newsletter. f. Fostering and encouraging AA unity and cooperation among Idaho Area 18 AA Groups. g. As needed, responsible for developing policies and procedures for TVICO. h. Responsible for all employment matters relating to TVICO."

As you can see, Intergroup and Central Office provide an integral element to the Treasure Valley AA Community by providing many services to help us all "carry the message". Would you like to be a "part of" to enhance your quality of sobriety? You are needed! Watching our local TVICO operate during a catastrophic event like a pandemic, step-up to ensure that the newcomer needing the AA message, found it, and watching all of our groups respond and adapt to a new way of meeting online – all this is evidence that being of "maximum usefulness to others" has not only kept us sober and unified, but has also introduced newcomers to our program who have achieved and maintained sobriety during this time. This is what it's about!

So, please consider serving as either an Intergroup Representative for your group, or as a District TVICO Liaison at District level! If interested in being District Representative, please find the District Business meeting date listed on page 14 of this newsletter, show-up at the August business meeting and let them know you are interested in serving for their District at TVICO! Also, the next Intergroup Meeting is Thursday, August 12! Everyone is invited to attend!

Beginning June 15th, with the July issue of the Online Grapevine, the AA Preamble revision that was passed at this year's General Service Conference will be seen in print! The preamble revision replaces the words "men and women" with "people". Going forward, the language will change wherever the Preamble appears.

The Idaho Area 18 Committee voted to move forward with an **In-Person Fall Assembly** scheduled for October 1-3 at the Burley Inn and Convention Center... with a stipulation, however... At the special Area Committee Meeting on June 19th, David F. proposed a "stop loss" agreement; that we need **75 paid registrations including Saturday Banquet & Sunday Breakfast by August 15th**. If this pre-registration is not achieved by Aug 15th, then the convention will be canceled, and full refunds will be returned by August 30th. This proposal is to ensure fiscal responsibility for covering the meeting room agreement and to cover the cost of hosting Pacific Region Trustee, Kathy F. as Speaker. Now, should we fail to achieve the 75 paid registrations by August 15, the Assembly will be held via Zoom. So there you have it folks! This is an Election Assembly! It will be exciting! Will it be in person or on Zoom? You decide! Please find a registration form in this newsletter, or register online at: <https://idahoarea18aa.org/2021-fall-assembly-convention>

And finally, it's good to be back! I just happened to be hanging-out at the last Intergroup meeting to see what was going on, relaxing, listening, when it was announced that the Newsletter Editor position was vacant and there was a need for help. All of a sudden, someone shouted, "Brenda! Brenda's here! She will do it!" ha ha. I think my eyes got big for a moment in surprise, but then I took a deep breath. I blinked my eyes for a few seconds, and quickly unmuted myself to say, "Sure, I can do that!". I explained I am willing to "fill-in" until elections are held and a new Editor finds us! So here I am! What a blast! I was SWW Newsletter Editor back in 2013 to 2017, and it was so FUN! I have been having a hoot putting this together for the good of the whole tribe! I will be here until the end of the year (I think) (who knows what the Universe has planned, eh?) I want to say, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for letting me be of Service. There is a lot of important information in this issue. May you find something useful to help you stay Happy, Joyous, and Free today! In Love and Service, Brenda M.

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# Treasure Valley Intergroup Central Office

"Serving the Greater Treasure Valley Area AA Groups and Fellowship!"

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Idaho Area 18 Website

[www.idahoarea18aa.org](http://www.idahoarea18aa.org)

Slippery When Wet Email

[editor.slipperywhenwet@gmail.com](mailto:editor.slipperywhenwet@gmail.com)

(Now accepting Recovery Stories, Poems, Jokes, and all things AA! Please Contribute!)

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](mailto:tvcentraloffice@gmail.com).

## Treasure Valley Intergroup Meeting Minutes 5.13.2021

(From recorded minutes transcribed by Scott H. 6/15/21)

- In Attendance . Kimmie P, Stan N, Scott H, Brian S, Chuck, Bob, Lori W, Audrey M, Margo N, Joanne E, Amelia, these are the attendees I could verify from the recording.
- Secretary – Will G., Absent no report
- Treasurer Report – Audrey M. \$1000.72 balance. Motion Scott, 2nd Kimmie. Passed. Unanimous
- Intergroup Co-Chair Entertainment Chair – Scott Founders Day picnic is scheduled June 5. Discussion for volunteers
- Intergroup Chair – Joanne. Report in Steering committee
- Slippery When Wet Editor – Jason S. absent
- Answering Service – Bill Y. absent
- TSNAC Representative: Kimmie P. \$5462.80 recommended order \$3558. Picnic Kliner Park. Discussion about Jail meeting. A report was sent to the secretary not available to me
- CPC/PI Representative: Jordan K. absent
- Group Announcements. Much discussion
- Central Office Financial Breakdown – Audrey. See attached report. Discussion about Individual donation.
- Steering Committee – Joanne. Steering Committee look at options on the \$10,000 donations. Recommend a cell phone for the TVICO. Adding new employee. TNSAC received \$1000 credit on book order
- Store Report – Margo: check your meeting schedule and news email One Hump Central
- Unfinished Business \$500 Budget for founders day motion Margo, 2nd Stan passed Unanimous
- New Business.
- 19.1 Steering committee By-Laws clarification needed. Clarification on By-laws 4.3, c, (1) Keep the minutes of all meetings and email within 10 days of the meetings. • Consensus the meaning is, 10 days after the meeting. Bylaws change to read as follows *(1) Keep the minutes of all meetings and email within 10 days Motion Margo 2<sup>nd</sup> Kimmie passed unanimous*
- Meeting in person discussed. Zoom meeting retained.
- Meeting Adjourned. Approx 7:00 pm





## Treasure Valley Intergroup Meeting Minutes 6.10.2021

1. Open with moment of silence followed by The Serenity Prayer.
2. In attendance; Amelia, Beck, Chuck, Lorrie, Will, Jason, Audrey, Scott, Melissa, Liz, Bob, Brian
3. Secretary – Will G. April minutes Motion Chuck, 2<sup>nd</sup> Audrey, vote unanimous
4. Treasurer Report – Audrey M. report motion Scott, 2<sup>nd</sup> Will, vote unanimous see attached report
5. Intergroup Co-Chair Entertainment Chair – Scott founders day picnic successful see attached report
6. Intergroup Chair – Joanne report will be in steering committee
7. Slippery When Wet Editor – Jason S. Newsletter is doing well. The next issue will be out next week.
8. Answering Service – Absent
9. TSNAC Representative: Absent
10. CPC/PI Representative: Absent
11. Group Announcements. Information shared about IGR's home groups
12. Central Office Financial Breakdown – Audrey presented the TVICO financial report. See attached report
13. Steering Committee – Joanne. We are going to buy 2 new computers and a cell phone for central office so employees do not have to use personal cell phone for business use. We are hiring new employee. Much discussion around the \$10,000 and the buying of computers. Much discussion about by-laws. Jason motion to prevent steering committee spending any money. No 2<sup>nd</sup>. Joanne asked for clarity on motion. Jason motion. That the steering committee be prevented from spending any of the \$10,000 donation until intergroup can interpret the by-laws. 2<sup>nd</sup> Beck discussion followed. Scott quoted section 5.2 c of the by-laws **Matters relating to potential financial burden (i.e. contracts) upon the fellowship of AA will be tabled for thirty days by the Chairperson and taken to Intergroup prior to determining group conscience.** Much discussion followed. Jason withdrew the motion Beck withdrew her 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion followed. Amelia motion to purchase a cell phone for TVICO 2<sup>nd</sup> Beck? Vote unanimous. Lorrie; Motion steering committee seek approval from intergroup for any capital expenditures. 2<sup>nd</sup> Liz vote unanimous I abstain vote.
14. Store Report – absent see attached report
15. Unfinished Business
- 15.1 By-laws brought up by Amelia. Much discussion followed. Updated By-laws will be out the end of the month per Joanne. Motion by Amelia that an articles and by-laws committee form. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jason. Discussion followed. Will motion to table until next meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> Audrey. Discussion followed. Vote motion carried. Discussion followed 15.2 discussion about zoom meetings
16. New Business 16.1 none
17. Audrey; Motion to adjourn 2<sup>nd</sup> unknown Meeting Adjourned.

**Treasure Valley Intergroup Central Office  
Cash Flow  
MAY 2021**

**INFLOWS**

|          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| Archives | \$ 267.30 |
| TSNAC    | \$ 50.00  |

**Gross Sales**

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| GSO Sales                | \$ 6,636.10        |
| Non-GSO Sales            | \$ 2,253.38        |
| Meeting Schedules & NCP  | \$ 15.00           |
| In House Merchandise     | \$ -               |
| Gift Certificates        | \$ -               |
| Refunds                  | \$ -               |
| <b>TOTAL Gross Sales</b> | <b>\$ 8,904.48</b> |

**Member Donations**

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Group Donations        | \$ 3,052.15        |
| Individual Donations   | \$ 154.87          |
| Donation Can           | \$ 31.08           |
| District 9 Donation    | \$ 360.00          |
|                        | \$ -               |
| <b>TOTAL Donations</b> | <b>\$ 3,598.10</b> |

**Miscellaneous Revenue**

|                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Interest Income            | \$ 3.64         |
| Shipping & Handling        | \$ 40.38        |
| Printing                   | \$ 23.40        |
| Slippery When Wet          | \$ -            |
| <b>TOTAL Misc. Revenue</b> | <b>\$ 67.42</b> |

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b> | <b>\$ 12,887.30</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|

|                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cash on Hand                         | \$ 40,367.42               |
| Less Pre-Paid Accts Payable          | \$ -                       |
| Less Liabilities Owing               | \$ (5,687.59) <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>Cash Available for Operations</b> | <b>\$ 34,679.83</b>        |
| Cash Drawer                          | \$ 150.00                  |
| <b>Prudent Reserves:</b>             |                            |
| Operations Prudent Reserve           | \$ 16,082.08               |
| Literature Prudent Reserve           | \$ 7,000.00                |
| Inventory on Hand                    | \$ 23,617.55               |
| Amounts due from Customers           | \$ 243.15                  |

**OUTFLOWS**

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Cost of Goods Sold</b> | <b>\$ 6,543.15</b> |
|---------------------------|--------------------|

**Office Expenses**

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Assembly Expense          | \$ -        |
| Bank & Merchant Serv Fees | \$ 122.34   |
| Copy Machine              | \$ 201.37   |
| Donations from TVICO      | \$ -        |
| Dues & Subscriptions      | \$ -        |
| Insurance (Liability)     | \$ -        |
| Mileage Expense           | \$ 21.73    |
| Office Expense/Supplies   | \$ (12.72)  |
| Over-Under                | \$ -        |
| Phone/Internet Service    | \$ 152.80   |
| Postage & Delivery        | \$ 93.85    |
| Printing & Reproduction   | \$ -        |
| Professional Fees         | \$ 293.25   |
| Rent                      | \$ 1,224.00 |
| Web Hosting               | \$ -        |
|                           | \$ -        |

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>TOTAL Office Expense</b> | <b>\$ 2,096.62</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|

**Payroll Expense**

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Includes Employer Taxes      | \$ 2,822.64        |
| Work Comp Insurance          | \$ -               |
| <b>TOTAL Payroll Expense</b> | <b>\$ 2,822.64</b> |

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b> | <b>\$ 11,462.41</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>NET CASH +/-</b> | <b>\$ 1,424.89</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------|

**NOTES:**

<sup>1</sup>ProC 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, W-2's, 1099's, & Reports, Preparation and E-Filing of Annual 990-EZ Tax Returns.

<sup>2</sup>Liabilities Owing includes: Vendor invoices, payroll liability, credit card balances, Idaho Sales Tax, and Gift Certificates

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



**T.V.I.C.O.  
GROUP DONATIONS  
MAY 2021**

| <b>Date</b>                  | <b>Group Name</b>          | <b>Donation<br/>Amount</b> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 05/04/2021                   | Sobriety Seekers           | 400.00                     |
| 05/04/2021                   | 7 am Zoomers               | 90.00                      |
| 05/04/2021                   | Sisters in Solution        | 41.50                      |
| 05/04/2021                   | How It Works - Nampa       | 184.00                     |
| 05/04/2021                   | AA Living Today            | 275.00                     |
| 05/04/2021                   | Alive Again                | 45.00                      |
| 05/04/2021                   | Rule 62                    | 80.92                      |
| 05/05/2021                   | Group One                  | 149.60                     |
| 05/06/2021                   | There is a Solution        | 220.00                     |
| 05/07/2021                   | New Beginnings             | 300.00                     |
| 05/10/2021                   | M-3 Men's Meeting          | 150.00                     |
| 05/12/2021                   | Seekers                    | 125.82                     |
| 05/12/2021                   | Spiritual Meeting          | 23.97                      |
| 05/12/2021                   | Lunch Bunch                | 40.10                      |
| 05/18/2021                   | Mountain Home Group        | 20.00                      |
| 05/18/2021                   | Wednesday Noon - Ontario   | 260.00                     |
| 05/20/2021                   | As Bill Sees It            | 121.00                     |
| 05/24/2021                   | M-3 Men's Meeting          | 150.00                     |
| 05/24/2021                   | Eagle Noon Women's Meeting | 40.00                      |
| 05/25/2021                   | Saturday Night Live        | 20.00                      |
| 05/26/2021                   | As Bill Sees It            | 315.24                     |
| <b>Total Group Donations</b> |                            | <b>\$ 3,052.15</b>         |

**Central Office would like to thank all the Groups, Individuals, and  
Districts for their donations last month.**

**We appreciate it so much !!!**

# 37<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 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





## *36th Annual District 9 Campout*

*Cold Springs Campground,*

*Last Valley Reservoir*

*July 30th-Aug. 1st, 2021*

*-Friday evening campfire meeting at 8p.m.*

*-Saturday Potluck Bbq (burgers and brats) 6p.m., followed by Pirate Raffle and Speaker Meeting. Speaker, Jay E., Canyon River Group. Please bring items to raffle.*

*-Sunday morning breakfast gathering (bring whatever you want to cook), followed by closing campfire meeting at 10a.m. Checkout is 12noon.*

*-Donations will be accepted to cover the cost of the Group 1 campsite reservation. The cost covers Thursday night also, for those wishing to come early.*

*-Other campground spots are on a first come first served basis for those wanting a personal site.*

*Take Hwy 95 to Pine Ridge, approximately 7 miles south of New Meadows, turn west on Last Valley Reservoir Rd. At the saddle, bear left at the fork. Cold Springs Campground is on the left about a mile before the Lake boat launch.*

*For more info call: Dennis B. (208)315-5909 or Capella P (208)630-3853*



# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual FUN at Shoshone City Park

August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 1pm-4pm

South Central Idaho  
TSNAC Awareness  
Picnic/Potluck

Join Us:

Speakers, Music by Up a Creek, fellowship, 50/50 raffle,  
Dinner ticket enters you into a \$100 door prize!  
Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Fajitas, and Water Provided

Suggested Donations: \$5.00

Please bring a potluck or raffle item along with a blanket or chair to sit on.

Just a Reminder:

Shoshone City Regulations PROHIBIT dogs.

**I am responsible when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help,  
I want the hand of AA always to be there and for that I am responsible.**

Any questions please call:  
Mark N. at 208-280-0785  
Mary M. at 360-303-7384

# AA Service Fair

Hosted by District 4

**WHEN: Saturday, August 28th**

**9 am -1pm**

- Have you been to a job fair? District 4 invites you to attend a Service Fair that will be set up in that same way!
- This is not your regular workshop, we are set up with tables for each service position, and you can walk through at your own pace, asking questions, and picking up literature.
- Learn about positions from Coffee Maker to Delegate!
- Service positions are up for rotation this year, come see where you can be of service!
- District 4 Archives and Grapevine tables will be set up to browse!

**WHERE: Caldwell Veterans Memorial Hall 1101 Cleveland Blvd., Caldwell, ID 83605**

**\*Coffee and snacks will be available!**

## DRUNKS

We died of pneumonia in furnished rooms where they found us three days later when somebody complained about the smell. We died against bridge abutments and nobody knew if it was suicide and we probably didn't know either except in the sense that it was always suicide. We died in hospitals our stomachs huge, distended and there was nothing they could do. We died in cells never knowing whether we were guilty or not. We went to priests they gave us pledges they told us to pray they told us to go and sin no more, but go we tried and we died. We died of overdoses. We died in bed (but usually not the Big Bed). We died in straitjackets in the DTs seeing God knows what creeping skittering slithering shuffling things.

And you know what the worst thing was?  
The worst thing was that nobody ever believed how hard we tried.

We went to doctors and they gave us stuff to take that would make us sick when we drank on the principle of so crazy, it just might work, I guess or maybe they just shook their heads and sent us places like Dropkick Murphy's and when we got out we were hooked on paraldehyde or maybe we lied to the doctors and they told us not to drink so much just drink like me and we tried and we died. We drowned in our own vomit or choked on it our broken jaws wired shut. We died playing Russian roulette and people thought we'd lost but we knew better. We died under the hoofs of horses under the wheels of vehicles under the knives and boot-heels of our brother drunks. We died in shame.

And you know what was even worse? Was that we couldn't believe it ourselves that we had tried we figured we just thought we tried and we died believing that we hadn't tried believing that we didn't know what it meant to try.

When we were desperate enough or hopeful or deluded or embattled enough to go for help we went to people with letters after their names and prayed that they might have read the right books that had the right words in them never suspecting the terrifying truth that the right words, as simple as they were had not been written yet. We died falling off girders on high buildings because of course ironworkers drink of course they do. We died with a shotgun in our mouth or jumping off a bridge and everybody knew it was suicide. We died under the Southeast Expressway with our hands tied behind us and a bullet in the back of our head because this time the people that we disappointed were the wrong people. We died in convulsions, or of "insult to the brain". We died incontinent, and in disgrace, abandoned. If we were women, we died degraded, because women have so much more to live up to. We tried and we died and nobody cried.

And the very worst thing was that for every one of us that died there were another hundred of us, or another thousand who wished that we would die who went to sleep praying we would not have to wake up because what we were enduring was intolerable and we knew in our hearts it wasn't ever gonna change.

One day in a hospital room in New York City one of us had what the books call "a transforming spiritual experience" and he said to himself I've got it (no you haven't you've only got part of it) and I have to share it (now you've ALMOST got it) And he kept trying to give it away but we couldn't hear it the transmission line wasn't open yet we tried to hear it we tried and we died. We died of one last cigarette the comfort of its glowing in the dark we passed out and the bed caught fire they said we suffocated before our body burned they said we never felt a thing that was the best way maybe that we died except sometimes we took our family with us. And the man in New York was so sure he had it he tried to love us into sobriety but that didn't work either, love confuses drunks and he tried and still we died. One after another we got his hopes up and we broke his heart because that's what we do.

And the very worst thing of all was that every time we thought we knew what the worst thing was something happened that was even worse.

Until a day came in a hotel lobby and it wasn't in Rome, or Jerusalem, or Mecca or even Dublin, or South Boston it was in Akron, Ohio, for Christ's sake. A day came when the man said I have to find a drunk because I need him as much as he needs me (NOW you've got it) And the transmission line after all those years was open. And now we don't go to priests and doctors and people with letters after their names. We come to people who have been there. We come to each other and we try and we don't have to die.

-Jack M.



**Idaho Area 18 Fall Assembly and Convention**  
**October 1 – 3, 2021**  
***AA Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service***



Burley Inn and Convention Center  
Burley, Idaho - Reservations 208-678-3501

**Ask for Area 18 Fall Convention Rates**

Hosted by District 2  
For Information:

Discounted Room Rates:

Burley Inn \$94.00/2 Queens or 1 King/Up to 4 guests

Budget Inn \$64.00/Up to 4 guests

David F. 208-720-1205

Earl M. 208-309-1594

Steve B. 208-720-7498

Register Online at: <https://idahoarea18aa.org/2021-fall-assembly-convention> OR send in this form:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

AA District: \_\_\_\_\_ Al-Anon District: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Position:    ☐ GSR    ☐ DCM    ☐ Delegate    ☐ Past Delegate  
                             ☐ Area Committee    ☐ Al-Anon Member    ☐ AA Member

| EVENT                   | EARLY                         | LATE                          |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Registration            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 |
| Banquet Dinner          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$34 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 |
| Sunday Breakfast Buffet | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 |

Total Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**LAST DAY FOR PRE-REGISTRATION IS AUGUST 31ST**  
**EARLY REGISTRATION FUNDS MUST BE RECEIVED**  
**BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1ST**

Please Mail Form and Payment To: Idaho Area 18, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6033, Twin Falls, ID 83303-6033



### **Area Committee Business Meetings**

- **TSNAC West Monthly Business Meeting (for district and group reps) – 3rd Saturday of the month** – 10:00 am – 324 S Meridian Rd, Room 25, Meridian, ID
- **CPC/PI West Monthly Business Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of the month** – 6:30 pm – Tree City Church of the Nazarene, 3852 N. Eagle Road, (check in at desk) Meridian, ID
- **IFYPAA Business Meeting – 2nd Sunday of the month** – 2:00 pm – 344 Park Ave. (The Villa), Idaho Falls, ID
- **EMMYPAA Business Meeting** – Sundays – 8:00 pm – Gem County Community Recovery Center, 199 S. McKinley Ave. Emmett, ID
- **BACYPAA** – 1st, 3rd and 5th (when applicable)- Sunday of each month – 5:30 pm – SNL, 5383 W. Franklin Street, Boise, ID
- **SCTI TSNAC Business Meeting – 4th Sunday of every month** – 2:00 pm Shoshone Senior Center, 218 North Rail, Shoshone, Idaho

### **District Business Meetings**

- **District 1 – 2nd Sunday of the month** – 1:00 pm – Friendship Club of Pocatello, 1st & Lovejoy, Pocatello, ID
- **District 2 – 1st Sunday of the month** – 10:00 am – Alternating Locations (Magic Valley Fellowship Hall in Twin Falls & Sun Club South In Hailey), ID
- **District 3 – 1st Tuesday of the month** – 7:00 pm – Collister United Methodist Church, 4444 Taft, Boise, ID
- **District 4 – 2nd Saturday of the month** – 4:00 pm – First Christian Church, 619 12th Av. S., Nampa, ID
- **District 5 – 1st Sunday of the month** – 3:00 pm – 324 S Meridian Rd, Room 25 Meridian, ID
- **District 6 – 1st Tuesday of each month** – 7:00 pm – Serenity Hall (downstairs), 600 S. Blvd., Idaho Falls, ID
- **District 7** – (6 times a year) January, February, March, May, August and October – 3rd Sunday of the month if there is not an Area meeting. If it lands on the same day it would be the following weekend which the 4th Sunday of the month, Rexburg, ID
- **District 8 – 4th Thursday of the month** – 7:00 pm – First Presbyterian Church, 950 West State Street, Boise, ID Zoom ID: 828 3715 2976 Passcode: 887820
- **District 9 – 3rd Saturday of the month (Quarterly Feb, May, Aug, Nov.)** – 1:00 pm – Rotating location
- **District 10 – 1st Sunday of the month** – 1:00 pm (Potluck at Noon)- Jerome Library, Jerome, ID
- **District 12 – Rotating meeting times and locations.** For more information please email [district12@idahoarea18aa.org](mailto:district12@idahoarea18aa.org)

### **Treasure Valley Intergroup Business Meetings**

- **Intergroup** – 2nd Thursday of the month 6PM. 1111 S. Orchard Street, Suite 180, Boise ID (Central Office) Zoom ID: 833 3194 0106 Passcode: 164
- **TVICO Steering Committee** Tuesday prior to Intergroup meeting at 6pm. 1111 S. Orchard St, Suite 180, Boise, ID (Central Office)