

Faithful Fiver Pledge:

- I pledge \$5 per month to support EVI and service work in my community.
- I'm feeling grateful. I can send _____ per month.
- I will mail or drop off my contribution monthly.
- I will mail or drop off my contribution quarterly (\$15 each).
- I will mail or drop off my contribution once a year (\$60)

Name: _____

Address: _____

When you acknowledge my contribution, please list me as (first name, initial or nickname): _____

Receipt

“Faithful Fivers” are individuals who donate \$5 or more per month to help support Intergroup. A Faithful Fiver pledge is recognized by a mailed subscription to the EVI Newsletter. We will post your nickname on a board in the EVI office. We don't remind you or otherwise keep track of your contributions, and we will send the Newsletter whether or not you remember to send in your pledge. You may contribute monthly, quarterly or yearly. If you check the “Receipt” box, we will send you a receipt at the end of the year. If you would like to save EVI postage, write “No news” next to your address, and pick up your copy of the Newsletter at a meeting or at the EVI office.



Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

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1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

A Sponsor Is...

Reprinted with permission from *The Grapevine*, August 1985

The kind of question I like to hear from a newcomer is “What’s a sponsor?” It shows he’s been listening, and I am happy to respond. Secretly, I hope he thinks he already knows the answer and is introducing the subject in order to find out if I am willing to become his sponsor.

My own sponsor has a good way of putting things. His definition: “A person whose opinions you have learned to trust; someone whose advice you know you are going to follow before you get there to state the problem.”

Another friend says, “Someone you tell your ideas to see how they sound, and he remembers past conversations and recognizes patterns in your thinking and unkept past promises, and points them out.”

Still another has a broader view: “It depends on how long you’re sober; in the beginning, everything your sponsor says sounds perfect. Later, you begin to think more about what is being said. After five or so years, the two of you become co-seekers after the truth--you learn together.”

Various members of my home group have defined a sponsor as:

- 1 Someone who knows you better than you know yourself.
- 2 Someone who knows all about you; you don't have to fill in all the details when you want to discuss a problem.
- 3 Someone with happy sobriety; you want what this AA has and are willing to ask how he or she got it and to follow the suggestions made in reply.
- 4 Someone who knows all there is to know about you--and still cares about you.
- 5 Someone who is able to recognize by the way you talk that you are in trouble even before you are aware of it yourself.

A member who is very active in sponsoring women in our daily early morning Attitude Adjustment Group feels that asking someone to be your sponsor makes you a part of what is going on in AA. “It’s a commitment,” she says, a tie that “binds you to what’s going on in your life.”

Another definition: “Someone who has been sober awhile, has worked the Steps, and shares personal experience, strength, and hope, rather than just stating opinions. Having a sponsor gives me just one person to talk to, rather than a whole group. Some of the people I sponsor think it’s a social thing and I should go to social functions and such with them; I don’t particularly agree with that.”

Perhaps we could agree to define a sponsor as a person who is comfortably sober, enthusiastic about the Steps and Traditions, active in AA, and easy to talk to, one you can confidently walk up to and ask, “Will you be my sponsor?”

If the person doing the sponsoring is known as the sponsor, then the one being sponsored should be the sponsee. But I seldom hear that word used, and in our area one rarely hears the pejorative terms “pigeon” and “baby.” We don’t really have a good name for the person being sponsored.

Sponsorship is one of those things many AAs talk about but few can define or explain. (The pamphlet “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship” shares a great deal of individual and group experience.)

It was a twelfth-stepper, rather than a sponsor, who first brought me to AA, from a psycho unit. I didn’t consider myself “one of those alcoholics.” Even if I was, I was certainly too intelligent to need a sponsor. Besides, I had no intention of continuing with AA; I was only checking it out to keep my psychiatrist happy. I had discovered that happiness on a psycho unit is having a happy psychiatrist.

I didn’t ask anyone to be my sponsor until the men’s stag group got after me for thinking myself too highbrow to need one. Since then, I have had absolutely fabulous experiences both in having a sponsor and in being a sponsor to others. I’m not sure which has been of greater value and have no intention of giving up either.

Who should have a sponsor? Our group thinks everyone should. Since we are all equal, how could it be otherwise? Obviously, persons new to the program need more frequent contact with their sponsors than those with years of happy sobriety, but we all need a confidant. We once had a group member with almost thirty years of sobriety. He prided himself on the amount of time he spent daily talking to the newcomers at the club. But he

Continued on page 2

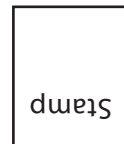


July 2006

Contents:

A Sponsor Is...	1
AA Meeting Changes	2
Intergroup News	3
May EVI Business Meeting Minutes	3
Contributions to EVI	4
How It Looks to a Sponsor	4
Calendar and Events	5
Service Opportunities	5
What a Sponsor Is and Is Not	6
People	6
Young America	7
Rule 62	7

Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401-4113
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AA Meetings:

New

Sober Bucks in Veneta (Men's)

Friday 7:00-8:00 pm
25133 Broadway
Valley Methodist Church
(Downstairs), Veneta

Changed

We Are Not a Glum Lot

Koinonia Center
1414 Kincaid, F 6:00-7:00 pm
Changed from book study
to open format

One Day At a Time

M 5:30-6:30 am
418 N. A Street, Springfield
Now signs attendance slips

Please remember to let us know if your group changes its schedule. To submit changes of any kind, please notify the EVI office. Thanks!

A Sponsor Is...

Continued from page 1

insisted he couldn't talk about his problems or how he felt because it would upset them. He had no sponsor, because he thought he had been sober too long for that. One day, he picked up a gun and blew his brains out.

Who should be a sponsor? "I haven't been on the program long enough" and "I'm just not ready for that yet" are common excuses for refusing to be a sponsor. Such statements imply that one has to be very wise and know all the answers in order to be a good sponsor.

Probably, this idea evolved because people quoted their sponsors as having said profound things that changed the course of their lives. Often, what was heard wasn't quite what the sponsor said. Besides, at the time the sponsor said it, it seemed a profound thing to the person who was doing the talking. It was probably just simple, basic, everyday AA talk.

It isn't necessary to be all-wise in order to be an AA sponsor, thank God, Advice-giving isn't a requirement; people who are unable to manage their own lives often find they are both uncomfortable and ineffective in trying to manage someone else's life. In spite of what you hear, being a good listener may be more important for a sponsor than being a good talker.

Who shouldn't be a sponsor? I haven't heard any answers to this question other than that, in general, men should sponsor men and women should sponsor women. But under the right circumstances, it seems almost anyone could be a satisfactory sponsor, at least temporarily. Maybe sponsors are like AA meetings: They are all good; it's just that some are better than others.

Can you have more than one sponsor? Who's to say you can't? But when you do, you are likely to play one against the other in such a manner that when you have a problem, you will go to the one you know will give you the answer you want to hear.

"The group is my sponsor" or "Everyone's my sponsor" are ways of saying, "I have no sponsor." Such statements mean the person has a "sponsorship relationship" with many people, but has not asked any one person to serve as sponsor. The opposite situation occurs when an alcoholic asks someone to be his or her sponsor, but then never calls, never establishes a "sponsorship relationship" with that person.

Can I change sponsors? Certainly. It's considerably easier than getting a divorce. But just as you don't usually get a divorce without notifying your about-to-be-ex-spouse, so, too, it is nice to notify your ex-sponsor that you are making a change. A simple statement will usually suffice; extensive apologies are unnecessary.

How much authority does a sponsor have? Precisely as much as you give him, says an AA who sponsors a monumental number of alcoholics. He points out the obvious: Sponsors derive all of their authority from the people they are sponsoring. An alcoholic can, without even giving an explanation, walk away from a sponsor at any time under any circumstances, at such times, one's sobriety can be at great risk. And the sponsor, when uncomfortable in a sponsorship, may inform the other person of cancellation of the relationship. While such actions are not particularly common, it is nice to know that neither party is permanently trapped.

Of course, if there is ever serious disagreement with other members of AA, I have heard an experienced sponsor say that sometimes his technique is to just wait them out: "Whoever gets drunk first loses!"

How often should we call our sponsors? Often. Daily until we're accustomed to the idea, then often enough to maintain the habit. If we wait until there is a problem before calling that may be the time when we the least like making the call. At such times, we are quite likely to think, "I know what he would say, so why should I bother him by calling?" That's the kind of thinking that precedes drinking.

How does one stay sober? A frequently heard answer in this part of the country is: Read the book; work the Steps; talk to your sponsor; go to lots of meetings; and don't drink. Since the Big Book doesn't have a chapter on sponsorship etiquette, we just pick up ideas as we go along. The most important considerations about a sponsor are: to have one, to use one, and when asked, to agree to be one.

There isn't any single "right" answer to the question "What's a sponsor?" But an entirely appropriate answer to the question "Will you be my sponsor?" is "Sure! Let's have some coffee and talk about it."

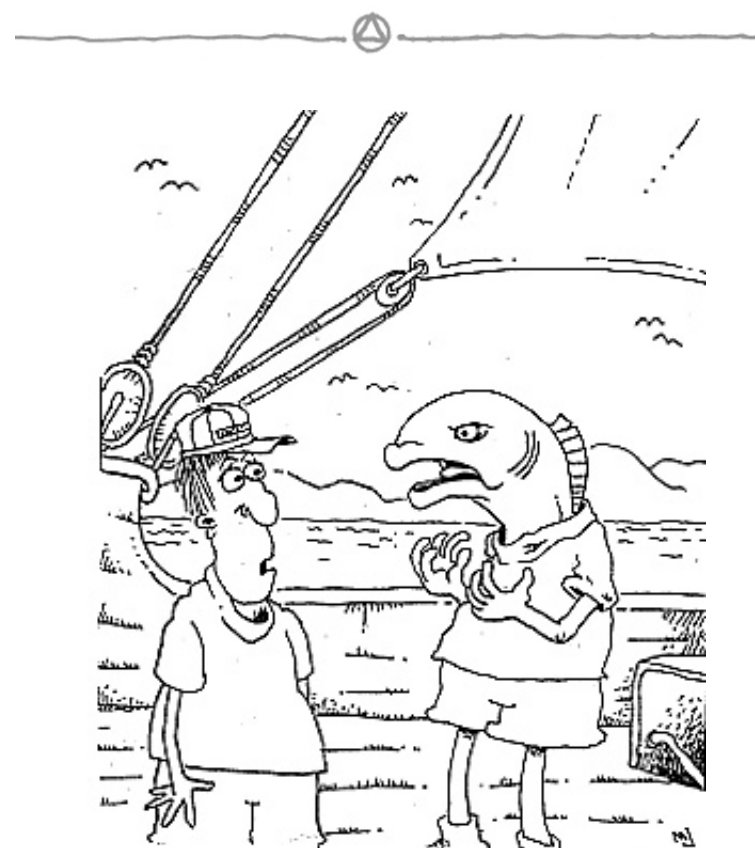
*P. O.
Claremont, California*

Young America

Reprinted with permission from The Grapevine, July '87

In the American Colonies, newer approaches to the problem of damaging drinking were attempted. A growth of inebriety here has been attributed to the development of the rum trade but, in fact, the colonists had brought their native drinking and carousing customs with them. Centuries passed before the Puritan settlers' "Good Creature of God" was metamorphosed by their descendants into the Demon Rum. Contemporary drinking ways are a mix imported by successive waves of immigrants from different geographic areas and ethnocultural backgrounds. In time, some indigenous customs developed in the particular American situation, notably the reckless frontier drinking in the 18th and 19th centuries and, later, the cocktail hour.

The gross excesses of the frontier drinking style, as well as waxing industrialization, aroused the concern of leaders of public opinion, including Benjamin Franklin, over the growth of problems associated with the common copious intake of spirits. The Quaker, Anthony Benezet, campaigned in a private pamphlet against the use of spirits, emphasizing their harmful effects on health. He was soon followed by Dr. Benjamin Rush, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a Surgeon-General in the Continental Army, who denied the value of spirits for preserving the health of soldiers. In 1785, Rush published his classic *Inquiry Into the Effects of Ardent Spirits on the Human Body and Mind*. In it, Rush explicitly called the intemperate use of distilled spirits a "disease," referred to it as an "addiction," and was the first to estimate the rate of death by alcoholism in the United States: "Not less than 4,000 people" per year in a population then less than 6 million. Thus at the very formation of the United States of America, its foremost physician recognized the abuse of alcohol as a public health problem.



This, sad to say, is no mask.
I've been drinking like a fish for years.

Rule 62:



The patient was lying in bed, still groggy from the effects of the recent operation. His doctor came in, looking very glum.

"I can't be sure what's wrong with you," the doctor said. "I think it's the drinking."

"All right," said the patient. "Can we get an opinion from a doctor who's sober?"

Two drinking buddies meet on the street one morning.

"Had breakfast, yet?" one inquires.

"Nope, not a single drop!" replies the other.

First drunk: You want to go for a walk?

Second drunk: Isn't it windy?

First drunk: No, it's Thursday.

Second drunk: Me, too. Let's get a beer!

"So home is the best place after all?" snarled the alky's wife at 3 A.M.

Alky: "I don't know about that--but it's the only place that's open."

After the husband's fifth trip to the bar for a refill, his wife said "Aren't you embarrassed to go back so many times?"

Hubby: Nope. I keep telling them it's for you.

"Since I have three speakers tonight," said the leader at an open meeting, "I'm not going to spend time qualifying myself. I think you can assume I'm an alcoholic, because damned if I've ever heard of anybody getting up here by mistake!"

While attending the 1985 Alcoholics Anonymous International Convention in Montreal, Quebec, a member recalls checking into the hotel across the street from the offices of a well-known Canadian whiskey distillery. She looked out the hotel window and saw that their flags were flying at half mast. Next to the lowered flags, they'd hung a large sign that read: "WELCOME AA."



ACTIVITIES
Sylvia (913-7115), Denna (344-7996)

ANSWERING SERVICE
Joe H. (337-6565), Dave W. (653-1788)

ARCHIVIST
Johanna (302-9086)

BOOKKEEPER
Kurt J. (747-8925)

COOP. PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)
Bill H. (653-1474)

DIVERTER COORDINATOR
David W. (653-1788), Mike B. (607-0910)

E.V.I. COMMUNICATIONS
Meeting Directories: Odessa Q. (513-1914)
Bill (915-9633)
Newsletter: Greg W. (349-0294)
Website: Bill (914-5351), Bill H. (517-3067)

E.V.I. OFFICE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
Karen S. (484-5299, cell 913-0664)

E.V.I. SPEAKER MEETING
Karen H. (688-2189), Janet

E.V.I. STEERING COMMITTEE
Chair: Angel (543-6977)
Co-Chair: Bill (653-1474)
Secretary: Darrell B. (515-3593)
Treasurer: Brad (968-5399)
At-Large: Cress B. (913-1791)
At-Large: Frank K. (345-7131)
At-Large: Linda K. (741-7845)
At-Large: Lori P. (343-2515)

HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS (H&I)
Chair: Annie (342-4690)
Cooperation with Treatment Facilities:
Kurt J. (747-8925), Brenda K. (968-6680)
Hospitals: Open position
Johnson Unit: Jill (302-1311), David L. (335-1145)
VA Clinic: Jack H. (689-4681), Ray T. (607-2090)

Corrections: Lee H. (689-0570)
Alma Work Camp: Lee H. (689-0570)
C.C.C. Women: Paula L. (689-6458)
C.C.C. Men: Scott H. (688-5220)
Lane County Jail (Men): Lee H. (689-0570)
Lane County Jail (Women): GayLynne M. (914-2313)
Hallie E. (954-0763)
Serbu Detention: Tanya E. (510-9031)

Treatment Centers:
Carlton House: open
Pathways: Doug R. (461-3872)
Serenity Lane:
B.T.G.: Kurt J. (747-8925), Karen S. (913-0664)
Fri. Speaker: Mark Z.. (344-4329)
S.N.L.: Darian M. (345-3532), Cathy (870-5845)
W.F.T. Friday Night: Michelle W. (461-7246)
Denna S. (344-7996)

LITERATURE
Rick S. (465-1053), Rich (431-1037)

OUTREACH
Bob S. (915-2929), Angela D. (683-6551)

PUBLIC INFORMATION
Deb B. (520-7503), Pam (747-4731)

What a Sponsor Is and Is Not

Reprinted with permission from The Grapevine, December 2004

The opportunity to help another alcoholic work the Steps and live in the solution keeps me in the heart of what recovery is all about. It has helped me to feel a “part of”--something I had tried to do for years. But it turned out to be as simple as sharing my experience, strength, and hope with another drunk.

The Twelve Steps have the answers to all of the riddles life throws at me. Other drunks took the time to show me, not only by sharing their time and lives, but by living in the solution and dealing with whatever came along with faith and trust. This truly is attraction versus promotion. The “winners” worked the Steps and stayed involved in service--those were the people I wanted to hang out with; that is where I looked for a sponsor.

Today, I sponsor five women who are five reasons for my growth. I met four of these women in a Step meeting--the same meeting that laid the foundation of the Steps for me. I think that spending time at the same Step meeting listening to people share and getting to know them is the place to look for a sponsor. The Steps offer the solutions, and that was what I was looking to learn.

Spiritual fitness is required if I am to be of service to anyone. Without a connection to my Higher Power, I am the same old person with the same old defects, causing the same old pain in my life and others’. So often I have found myself at a complete loss of thought and words for a sponsee who is struggling with life, and then an intuitive thought comes to me and offers a new perspective for consideration. When I wonder where the thought came from, I feel the warmth in my heart, and I know that once again God has done for me what I can’t do myself.

As a sponsor, I neither expect nor desire to make decisions for people. I just ask some extra questions about motives, honesty, and spiritual contact. I was taught to make informed decisions and stand ready to accept responsibility for those decisions. I was also taught that Steps Six and Seven come into play when fear is running those decisions. This was a big factor for me when I first started sponsoring--fear that I would mess it up and harm someone as well as the fear that I wouldn’t know the “answers” and be viewed as a dope.

Thank God that today I have a clearer perspective on what my role as a sponsor is and isn’t. It is to stay sober, be available to listen, share my thoughts, pray for others, and let them live their own lives. It is not to “fix” anyone, get them sober, make them happy, demand they conform, or make their decisions.

My God has blessed me with some incredible role models in sponsors and friends. What a lesson in humility and gratitude sponsorship has given me. I have grown so much in this program and in life. The Promises have come so true in my life--all from cleaning house, trusting God, and working with others.

*Hilary T.
Berlin, Connecticut*

How It Looks to a Sponsor

Continued from page 4
opinion carries considerable weight. Another responsibility of a sponsor, particularly of the fairly new member, I think, is to encourage the new man to try a few decisions for himself. Too great a dependence can blight both parties.

Sponsorship is a never-ending need for most of us. In spite of a dozen years of sobriety in the Fellowship I’ve found I gain strength--and God knows I need it--in an effort to reinforce another member in times of stress.

The interpersonal relationship of sponsor and sponsee can be greatly rewarding but never static. We sometimes miss, but the growth is all in the trying.

*Anonymous
Rochester, New York*

EVI Business Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2006

6:30 Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. A quorum was present.

6:36 OLD BUSINESS

Open Positions. CPC has not been filled.

After Hours Book Sales. There are to be no after hours literature sales. Literature must be bought during normal office hours.

EVI Job Descriptions. Cress has found that there are few length-of-sobriety requirements written in the Bylaws. This will be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting.

6:50 NEW BUSINESS

None

6:52 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities. No report.

Archivist. Johanna is conducting an inventory of 387 speaker tapes plus albums, photos, glasses and other Buckley personal items. A donation of these items to Willamette Treatment Facility was discussed and tabled.

Diverter. Updating lists and some groups taking on complete night shifts.

Meeting Lists. Still having software problems.

Newsletter. No report. Please give Greg any newsletter phone list changes ASAP.

CPC. No report

H&I: Two new volunteers and a coordinaor are needed.

Literature. Small inventory problems are being solved.

Office. Office running very well. Need a few more volunteers who are reliable. No after hours book sales. Make sure your information in the newsletter is correct. There are too many keys out.

Outreach. No report.

PI. Public service announcements have been distributed to radio stations and news papers. A workshop is planned.

Speaker Meeting. Over 100 attended the last meeting. The meeting is growing. Raffle donations are needed. It should be stressed by reps that speakers are coming to Eugene from long distances with long term sobriety and they need your support.

Treasurer. Income is \$400 ahead for the year. Prudent reserve is up. Donations a little slow.
Steering Committee. Angel reviewed last Steering Committee meeting.

8:00 Meeting closed with the serenity prayer.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Darrel B., EVI Secretary
(Edited by Newsletter Chair)*

Two prisoners are locked in adjacent cells. One is lucky enough to have his cot next to the only window in the prison. He constantly remarks on the beauty of the day, the changing seasons, the exquisite sunsets. For years his less fortunate neighbor has resented his vantage. Every night the bitter neighbor goes to bed hating the man with the view, counting the days until he will have the cell with the window.

After several years, the inmate with the window is released. Now the bitter neighbor’s wish comes true: He will be able to move into the adjacent cell and have the object of his obsession. Upon entering his new cell, the man rushes to the window. He stops abruptly, shocked to see that beyond the window is nothing but a solid brick wall.



EVI Office

1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, OR 97401-3509
Monday-Friday 9:00 am -5:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Drop by for a visit!

EVI Web Site

www.efn.org/~eviaa

Meeting schedules, business meeting minutes, and more. (The tilde is found next to the exclamation point on the keyboard.) Save a book mark of a favorite and check back often.

EVI News

Emerald Valley Intergroup’s monthly newsletter for the AA community in Lane County.

E.V.I. News is about, by and for the members of the Alcoholics Anonymous fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article, event or notice imply endorsement by either Alcoholics Anonymous or EVI. (Exceptions: Quotations from A.A. books or pamphlets, which are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.) E.V.I. News reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, length, language and editorial policy.

Contributions gratefully accepted for consideration for publication. Submissions are due by the last Monday of each month. To submit articles or event information, mail them or drop them off at the EVI office c/o E.V.I. News. Please include a contact phone number. Submissions may also be sent by e-mail to: EVINews@comcast.net.

Contributions:

June, 2006

Group Contributions (month/ytd)
 Attitude Adjustment 344.40/1271.00
 Autumn Group 00/100.00
 Brown Bag Group .00/15.00
 Cottage Grove Gratitude .00/50.00
 Cottage Grove New Beginnings .00/10.00
 Cottage Grove Noon .00/10.00
 District 19 .00/100.00
 Downtown AM Group .00/904.89
 Drop the Rock .00/337.00
 Early Firehouse Group .00/92.00
 Freedom of Choice .00/106.00
 Fresh Start at Noon. .00/30.00
 Friday Night Men's .00/200.00
 Gratitude Group, Venetta .00/48.00
 Great Fact Group .00/20.00
 Host of Friends .00/120.93
 How It Works, Tuesday 00.00/100.00
 How It Works, Women's .00/100.00
 Keep it Simple .00/37.23
 Language of the Heart .00/165.00
 Men's Daily Reflections Group .00/1.00
 McKenzie River Group .00/25.00
 Monday Men's Stag .00/306.25
 Monday Night Get Well Group .00/20.00
 Monday PM St Jude .00/100.00
 New Beginning .00/20.00
 New Freedom 60.00/120.00
 One Dat at a Time .00/105.00
 Pass It On .00/39.00
 Search for Serenity 72.00/159.00
 Serenity at Noon .00/50.00
 Simply Red 75.11/75.11
 Sober Awakenings .00/675.00
 Sobriety for Life .00/80.00
 Spirituaal Approach .00/25.00
 Stairway to Sobriety .00/50.00
 Sunday Morning Big Book .00/552.00
 Sunday Night Book Study .00/90.00
 Sun. Night Women's Step Study .00/120.00
 Sunday Sunshine .00/60.00
 Thurs. Men's Book Study .00/50.00
 Try God Group .00/1224.13
 Tuesday Night Book Study .00/15.00
 Tuesday Night Young People .00/135.50
 Wednesday Men's Noon 120.00/120.00
 Wednesday Night Men's .00/530.00
 Women's Courage to Change .00/75.00
 Women's Road to Recovery .00/135.00
Total Group Contributions:
 671.51/8773.04

Individual Contributions
 Anonymous: .00/50.00
 Faithful Fivers: 102.00/514.00
 Other: 29.20/108.05

Total Contributions (ytd): 9445.09

How It Looks to a Sponsor

Notes on some mischances--and some rewards--along the sponsorship trail

Reprinted with permission from The Grapevine, May 1967

First off let's distinguish between sponsorship and many other functions and attitudes that are often loosely called sponsorship. The first contact a new member has is the message carrier. If this is an AA member rather than the written word or an outside referral, the carrier may or may not become a sponsor. After listening, talking enough to establish his identification as an alcoholic, taking the prospect to some meetings, I believe the messenger has a responsibility to inform the "new man" (when he's sober enough to hear) that he should choose his own sponsor. That so frequently the initial contact does, in fact, become a sponsor is either a minor miracle or attests to our innate immature tendency to hero worship (dangerous to both sponsor and sponsoree).

Then there is the baby-sitting bit. After the bars close and the participating drunk no longer has a hired ear, he'll often remember from some prior contact with AA that here "they're supposed to listen to me." If you have the time and inclination for this sort of thing, more power to you. No doubt it's humane and occasionally even productive. Under baby-sitting, too, I classify the call from the mate who has to go to work and "poor Charlie is nervous. Won't you come over?" This bit is frequently worthwhile but I don't think it's sponsorship.

Then there is the taxi routine. How often we load up the car with good folks who need a ride--good for all of us and no special problem. But then there's the joker who lives on the other side of town, declines to make friends with near neighbors in AA, wants to get out of putting the kids to bed, and won't leave off berating his mother-in-law long enough to talk AA. This one I can do without with a good conscience after three or four tries. It took a few years to get this callous, but I'm comfortable about it now.

Enough of what is not sponsorship--let's get to the subject.

When the new member is dried out enough to see beyond his immediate disabling illness, he finds he's fallen in with many diverse personalities. He'll be attracted to some more than others, naturally. He's about ready to choose his first sponsor. Chances are that the appearance of stability, serenity, personal organization, and that ephemeral thing called "strength" will influence his choice at this stage. However, as his growth progresses, he may need to add other sponsors. Perhaps his need for a companion in spiritual growth is not met by Number One. I suggest he take on another whose qualities of spirituality attract him--the same may be true in the phases of AA philosophy, ordinary sociability and AA service. Do you begin to see why I think it's a miracle if any one person matches another's needs? Then too, let's face it, not infrequently the sponsoree has the ability to grow much faster than his initial sponsor. In this situation, moving on is highly desirable.

And what does a good sponsor do? Primarily listen--objectively if possible. Wise counselors rarely lay down the word, but rather allow one to ventilate his thinking and arrive at his own conclusions.

Second in importance is probably example. This is a tough lick since all of us have ebb and flow in our own emotional life. Rather than trying for an impossibly high plane of performance, there may be greater value in allowing a sponsoree to see that the sponsor, too, has rough days which have nothing to do with taking a drink.

In AA's current development, it must fall in the province of the enlightened sponsor to get the service message across. An attitude of gratitude practically guarantees sobriety, but demonstrating gratitude is pretty foreign to our natures by the time we're ready for AA. Most groups have a hard core of old-timers who resist any mention of service, money, organizational chores, or the many other things that AA, as a growing entity, must face realistically. So often, the newcomer is denied the privilege of hearing, at meetings, how he may help in the larger field. These reactionaries stifle such information with the well-known "let's get back to AA" hue and cry. Since they are frequently respected older members who are diligent in their personal AA work, their

Continued on page 6

July Calendar

1st	Mon	Steering Committee, 6:30 PM
	Tue	District 20, 6:30 PM, 418 A St. Teffany H. (746-1438)
	Tue	District 33, 6:30 PM, Ray B. (517-2428)
	Tue	District 19, 5:30 PM, Martha S. (687-9569)
	Wed	Speaker Mtg. Committee, 7:00 PM, Vicki (688-5042)
	Thu	Activities Committee, 6:00 PM, Sylvia (485-3482)
	Sun	EVI Business Meeting, 6:30 PM
2nd	Mon	District 6, 6:30 PM, Tim A. (726-8558)
	Wed	Answering/Diverter, 10:00 AM, David W. (653-6565)
	Sat	EVI Speaker Meeting, 7:30 PM, 2801 W. 18th Ave.
	Sat	Outreach Committee, 6:30 PM
3rd	Thu	H&I Committee, 6:00

(All meetings are held at the EVI Office, unless otherwise noted.)

Fellowship Events

Summerfest '06

June 30-July 2, Eugene Hilton

4th of July Picninc, Sponsored by EVI Activities Committee

Tuesday, July 4, 4:00-7:00 pm, Emerald Park

EVI Speaker Meeting

Saturday, July 8, 7:30-9:30 pm

2801 W. 18th, Living Hope Church

AA Speaker: Richard H. (Espanola, New Mexico)

AI-Anon Speaker: TBA

2nd Annual Old Timers Reunion and Speaker Meeting

Saturday, July 8, J.E.S.C.O. Club

Dinner: 5:00, Meeting: 6:30-8:00, Dessert & Social Hour: 8:00-9:00

Bring a salad, dessert and/or \$3.00 donation

Information: J.E.S.C.O. Club (686-0538) or Bill T. (360-433-1594)

Barbecue Fund-Raiser for the Area Quarterly Assembly, Sponsored by Districts 19 & 20

Saturday, July 15, 4:00-8:00 pm

87413 Green Hill Road (Host: Richard T.)

Silent auction & Raffle, Meats & soft drinks provided; please bring a side dish

Sisters in Sobriety Campout

July 28-31, Horse Creek Campground, McKenzie River, \$10

Potluck Saturday 5:00, Speaker meetings Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Information: Pat (302-3977) Diana (345-0436)

Gratitude:

Currently Available Service Positions:

EVI Committees: Chairs and/or Co-Chairs are needed for several EVI committes. Contact Angel (543-6977)

Hospitals and Institutions has an ongoing and varied need for people willing to do a little to a lot of service work. See page 6 for contact information for various facilities

Public Information needs people for various volunteer functions.

The EVI Office can always use people who are able to answer phones and perform office functions. Contact Karen S. (484-5299, cell 913-0664)

Newsletter needs a co-chair. Contact Greg W. (349-0294)

The Activities Committee needs volunteers to help plan and staff events. There is no minimum sobriety requirement, and the time commitment is flexible. Call Sylvia (485-3482) or Denna (344-7996).

Addresses for Group Contributions

Emeral Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, OR 97401-3509

Contributions for Districts 6, 19, 20, and 33 may also be sent to the above address. Please indicate the district on the envelope.

Oregon Area 58 Treasury
1900 NE 3rd Street, Suite 106-172
Bend, OR 97701

AA General Service Office
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163-0459