

## Faithful Fiver Pledge:

Emerald Valley Intergroup  
1259 Willamette  
Eugene, Oregon 97401

- 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
- Four times a year (\$15 each)
- Once a year (\$60)

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

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

when you acknowledge my contribution, please list me as (first name, Initial, or nickname): \_\_\_\_\_

"Faithful Fivers" are individuals who donate \$5 or more per month to help support Intergroup. We will post your nick name on a board in the office, with a little red dot placed for each months contribution, so you can track of your contribution. (We don't remind you, or otherwise keep track of it for you, and we will send you a newsletter whether or not you have remembered to send in your pledge.) You can contribute monthly, quarterly or yearly, and if you check the receipt box, and are on the News mailing list, we will send you a receipt at the end of the year. (If you want a receipt, but would like to save EVI postage by picking up the News at the Office, or the EVI Business Meeting, fill out your nickname and address, but write "no news" next to your address.) Our "Faithful Fivers" Program is new this last year, and was a great help. The idea came from an article in the G.S.O. Newsletter "Box 4-5-9 on similar programs at other Intergroups.

**GET THE NEWS!**



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## View From the Office Door

It's time once again for me to rotate out of one service position and into another one. The Office Volunteer Coordinator job has been both fun and a learning experience for me. We have started some new procedures regarding office staffing as well as faithful fiver and group contributions. Judy B. is rotating in as the new Coordinator after serving as the Vice-Coordinator. Interesting title, don't you think? Well, it got my twisted mind going for a moment! Was it good for you too? Anyway, back to business. We are still looking for a new Vice-Coordinator. There it is again!

The office volunteer staff has been a great bunch. We come from all segments of our fellowship and for many various purposes and lengths of service. Some come for a REASON, some for a SEASON, some for a LIFETIME. We are newcomers and old-timers and some-timers. We are retirees, students, employees, employers, self-employed, displaced workers, part-time workers, in between jobs, or maybe just resting. We are men and women who share their time with others so that we may solve our common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. We are service work volunteers.

My deepest appreciation goes out to Gene C., Stan C., Roger B., Jim K., Judy B., Mark K., Bob S., Pat D., Aaron A., Jackie O., David B., Martha S., Bruzz J., Mike N., Matt D., Craig L., Steve S., Angel L., Jim F., Vince H., Mike R., Greg S., Bill B., Cara F., Barbara B., Gabriel M., Kathy C., Nancy C., Vikki, Airline Dave, Christina G., Dave B., Ed R., Patty W., Cindy K., Mike T., Nikki B., Teri G., Kathy Z., Donna, Patt O, Shirlie McK., Karen M., Jim G., Bobbi H., Abigail M., Sylvia W., Dan M., Betsy M., Myron M., Terry B., Adrian McC., Bill A., Aaron J., Dann L., Sandi P., Mike A., Kurt, Mel M., Maggie F., Vic W., Mark R., Lynn S., Jana P., Hellen and others unnamed who volunteered. Thank you for being there and helping. You were great! I love you all.

Thank you Emerald Valley Intergroup for giving me the opportunity to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

*Yours in love and service,*

*Gus P.*

*Outgoing Office Volunteer Coordinator.*

## The Miracle Lady

**Local author!**

It was my first sober New Year's Eve. I was miserable, as miserable as I had ever been.

My friend Sara had asked me to attend her AA group's New Year's dance. I hated the idea, but I was supposed to be sober now after 16 years of drinking. What else could I do? Where else could I go? When I arrived at the dance hall, everyone was laughing and having fun. Any kind of fun had been long gone in my life. I was sure they were drinking. They were trying to fool me. I just couldn't figure where they were hiding the booze. I felt so lost and full of fear. I did not belong there—I could not drink anymore—I did not belong anywhere. It was hopeless.

I ran from the room crying. Heading for the restroom, I tried to sneak into the toilet without being seen. When I got in the stall, a woman, who I had never seen before, pushed the door open and entered. I said, "I am in here." "I know you are in there," she replied. She came in, held me in her arms and I sobbed.



# E.V.I. News

April, 2001

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Emerald Valley Intergroup  
1259 Willamette Street  
Eugene, Oregon 97401

Emerald Valley Intergroup  
1259 Willamette St. Eugene, OR  
97401 (541) 342-4113



OFFICE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR  
Judy B. 687-9389

LITERATURE  
Dave S. 465-1767 Kathy C. 747-5222

ANSWERING SERVICE  
Linda 345-5827

ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN  
Linda 345-5827

PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)  
Brad 744-3861

COOPERATION PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY  
Cathy B. 343-1962/ Alan 988-3595

ACTIVITIES  
Sandi D 463-0586

E.V.I. COMMUNICATIONS  
Newsletter: Robert S. 684-9439  
Website: Michael W. 343-2566  
Meeting Books: Doc M. 461-4800

E.V.I. SPEAKER MEETING  
AI D. 345-2058/ Gaylene G. 953-3425

OUTREACH  
open

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS (H&I)  
Chair: Karl B. 688-1047 karl@rpginvest.com  
Secretary: Gus P. 463-1691

COOPERATION W/ TREATMENT FACILITIES (CTF)  
Laura K. 345-5788

HOSPITALS  
Bruce P 338-9892

CORRECTIONS  
Ron B. 988-1827

H&I Coordinators  
Lane County Jail: Paul C. (747-3928)  
I.T.U.: Jack C. (463-1040)  
C.C.C. (Women's): Bev L. (349-0145)  
C.C.C. (Men's): Steve G. (915-1933)  
Alma Work Camp: Karl B. (688-1047)  
Pathways: Ron B. (988-1827)  
Serbu Detention: Gary R. (485-7777)  
Carlton House: Mike L. (485-6153)  
W.F.T. - Friday Night: Laura K. (345-1788)  
W.F.T. - Book Study: Wendy W. (431-6920)  
Serenity Lane - Speaker: Duane F. (726-8434)  
Serenity Lane - B.T.G.: Gus P. (463-1691)  
Serenity Lane - New: Gus P. (463-1691)  
L.C.P.H.: Todd J. (302-6377)  
Johnson Unit: Steve S. (683-3564)

E.V.I. STEERING COMMITTEE  
Chair: Chris H. 517-7021 chelmers@efn.org  
Vice-Chair: open  
Secretary: Tom L. 343-2465  
Treasurer: Mel M. 345-4450  
At-Large: Michael W. 343-2566m@mlwebb.com  
At-Large: Dann 484-2330 Dann@lowinsure.com  
At-Large: Gary R. 485-7777  
At-Large: Todd 607-6349 kritler@netscape.net  
Vice Treasurer: Vince  
BOOKKEEPER  
Bev L.

## EVI Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. Those present introduced themselves. New EVI Representatives: Brian C., Try God Lori, Bedrock Women's Meeting Bob L., Springfield Men's Stag A quorum of 20 EVI Reps were present to conduct business. (15 required per amendment to by-laws) Chris H., Chair, suggested starting the meeting with new business. No dissent

New Business:  
Elections for Vice Chairs of the following Committees were required in March for rotation.

- 1. Diverter Coordinator (Answering Service and 12 step list):** Frank K. rotating out as Chair, Linda L. rotating in as Chair. No nominations.
- 2. Public Information (PI):** Jim P rotating out as chair, currently no Vice Chair to step in. No nominations. (Brad M. later elected to this position. Brad's phone 541-913-0652/541-741-2579 **Thanks Brad** see later entry)
- 3. Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC):** Currently no Vice Chair (or committee members for that matter). Cathy remains standing Chair. No nominations
- 4. Cooperation with Treatment Centers (CTF):** Tim A standing Chair, currently no Vice Chair. Laura K. nominated, and was willing and elected with no dissent. Laura's phone: 541-345-1788, **Thanks Laura.**
- 5. Corrections Co-Chair** (a sub committee of Hospitals and Institutions): Karl B. Standing Chair. Currently no Vice Chair. Ron B. was nominated by standing H&I Chair (Harold B.) Ron B. submitted written request for the position, which was read aloud. A motion was made to waive Bylaw for this election only. Discussion followed, with mostly arguments in favor, as committee positions need filled, and volunteers few and far between. Harold B. rotating out as H&I chair indicated reports will be given as usual. One opposing argument, "rules are rules". Motion to waive bylaws voted on. 2/3 majority required to modify bylaws. 20 votes in favor, none opposed. Motion Carried. Nominations closed, and Ron B. elected with no dissent. Ron's phone 541-988-1827 **Thanks Ron.**
- 6. Hospitals Co Chair** (a sub committee of Hospitals and Institutions): Bruce P. standing Chair. Currently no Vice Chair. Larry W. nominated. Larry was not present, but had submitted written request for the position, which was read aloud and Larry elected with no dissent. Larry's phone 541-513-5626. **Thanks Larry**
- 7. Office Volunteer Coordinator:** Gus P. will be rotating out, Judy B. will rotate in as Chair. No nominations.
- 8. Activities:** Sandi standing Chair. Currently no Vice chair. No nominations. End Elections

Chris H. announced that Bruce P., standing EVI Vice Chair, has resigned his position. Recommended that elections for a new Vice Chair be held in April, to give members of the fellowship an opportunity to consider the position. No dissent. Position has a suggested length of sobriety of two years. Committee Chair and Vice chair positions have no suggested length of sobriety. Any member of the AA fellowship with an interest may serve. Please carry this message back to your groups and bring interested individuals with you. Vacant positions will continue to be filled on a monthly basis until Committees fully complimented. A member requested information as to what exactly the roles of the various Chair/Vice Chair positions available entailed, and a request for names, as opposed to the initial abbreviations used, of the different committees.

- 1. Diverter Coordinator.** Outgoing Chair Frank K. described role as facilitator of the after hours answering service being accomplished by volunteers. Scheduling individuals and groups into shifts, and "putting out fires" (filling shift holes) when for whatever reason, diverter system not going.
- 2. Public Information.** Outgoing Chair Jim P. explained that PI (public information) contacts groups in the community (schools, etc) by mail, and coordinates and schedules volunteer speakers to inform the community just what AA is and what it does. Chair person schedules events and responds to inquiries from the public. At this point, Brad M. stepped forward as Vice Chair volunteer/nomination. Elections reopened and Brad M elected with no dissent.
- 3. Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC).** Cathy not present.
- 4. Office Volunteer Coordinator.** Outgoing Chair Gus P. described role as scheduling and coordinating volunteers at the EVI central office. Maintains lists for newsletters, performs tasks for various committees, stocks shelves and literature racks, and acts as conduit for AA activities and events from community inquiries to the various committees.
- 5. Literature.** Dave S. informed the group that Rich (standing chair) had rotated out in March, and that he had rotated in as Chair. Committee bylaws had Literature as a September rotation. Motion made by Dave S. to have literature rotation changed to March. No discussion. Motion passed with no dissent. Dave S. nominated Kathy C. as Vice Chair. Kathy C. elected with no dissent. Kathy's phone 541-747-5222. **Thanks Kathy**

*continued on next page*

*Continued from page 4*

if I really learned the lesson which God intended for me, I would not have to repeat the problem. It was hard work to learn to really listen to God. There have been miracles in my marriage. Just recently, in November of 1997, my husband and I celebrated 21 years of marriage in sobriety.

So, I kept coming back. I had my man and my sponsor. The miracles just kept coming. My husband and I stayed in service to other recovering alcoholics, especially women. I spent eight years working with women in a recovery home. What miracles those women were. So many got sober despite long and sometimes impossible odds.

Working with those women, I often became confused or discouraged. So I would tell my higher power that I did not know what to do next. I was always given direction, sometimes very clear direction. I do not know how many women came there and received the gift of sobriety during those years. I do know there were more than 200 women who came through the doors. Today I hear from many women who did receive a whole new life. Each one is a miracle.

Today, I know that my alcoholism is a disease that can be progressive, compulsive, addictive and fatal. I understand that abstinence is a required ingredient, but unless the recovering person finds a "God of Her or His own understanding" it is improbable he/she will remain sober. Earlier in the book you read: "Of alcoholics who came to A.A. and really tried, 50% got sober at once and remained that way; 25% sobered up after some relapses, and among the remainder, those who stayed on with A.A. showed improvement." That, too, is a miracle.

I deeply believe had it not been for the program of AA and the fact that I had put God in my pocket, trusted Him, got a sponsor, worked the steps, cleaned house, did inventories and prayed, all these miracles would not have happened. After more than two decades of sobriety, I pray every morning to stay sober. I was told early in the program, "Just put your slippers away under the bed. In the morning you have to get down on your knees to get them. So...that is the time to pray." I am still working the steps and sponsor women when they ask me. That is what keeps me sober. At night I thank my "Higher Power" for keeping me sober that day. What happens in between those two prayer times, is my Higher Power's will for me.

*Abigail M.  
Eugene, OR*

"This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come."

*A.A. Service Manual*



## EVI Office

1259 Willamette  
Eugene, OR 97401  
Monday-Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm  
Thursday 9:00am- 8:00pm  
Saturday 9:00 am - noon  
**Drop by for a visit!**

## EVI Web Site

[www.efn.org/~eviaa](http://www.efn.org/~eviaa)

Meeting schedules, business meeting minutes, and much more.

The little squiggle in the address is found right next to the exclamation point on the keyboard. Save a book mark or favorite and check back often!

## E.V.I. News

*Emerald Valley Intergroup's Newsletter for the A.A. Community in Lane County*

EVI News is a monthly newsletter of the Emerald Valley Intergroup. It is about, by, and for the members of Alcoholics Anonymous fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article or 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.) EVI News is produced to support communication within the fellowship; please respect the anonymity of any A.A. member mentioned herein. EVI News reserves the right to edit any submissions for clarity, length, language, and editorial policy. Contributions gratefully accepted for consideration for publication.

Submissions due last Monday of each month. To submit articles or event information, mail them or drop them off at the EVI office c/o EVI Newsletter. Submissions can also be e-mailed to: [eviaa@efn.org](mailto:eviaa@efn.org)

Communication Committee (Newsletter & Web Site, Meeting Book) meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at 2495 Columbia St. Eugene. OR 97401 (call and check 343-2566)



**Contributions:**  
 (Mar/year to date)  
 As Bill Sees It 0/50.00  
 Attitude Adjustment 0/208.84  
 Autumn Group 0/0  
 Backwoods Bunch 0/0  
 Brown Bag Group 0/100.00  
 Cottage Grove Gratitude 0/0  
 Cottage Grove Noon 0/0  
 Creswell Steps & Traditions 0/0  
 Downtown AM group 113.73/481.49  
 Drop The Rock 0/0  
 Fireside group 0/60.00  
 First Monroe Group 0/0  
 First Things First 0/0  
 Four Corners 0/0  
 Freedom Of Choice 0/0  
 Friday Big Book Study(M) 0/0  
 Friday Physical Awakening 48.00/48.00  
 Fri night young people 0/0  
 From the Heart 0/0  
 Gratitude Group 0/0  
 Harrisburg Group 0/0  
 Jasper Group 0/0  
 Last Chance Study Group 0/0  
 Language of the Heart 0/10.00  
 Lowell Lakeside 0/0  
 McKenzie Bridge 0/2.00  
 McKenzie River Group 6.00/6.00  
 Monday Mens Stag 0/0  
 Monday Night Cont. Study 0/0  
 Monday Night New Group 0/20.00  
 New Freedom 200.00/300.00  
 New Freedom 20/0  
 Physical, Mental, Spiritual 0/0  
 Plug in the Jug 0/0  
 Recovery by Big Book 0/15.75  
 Saturday Night Beginners 0/0  
 Saturday Step 0/259.20  
 Sober Awakenings 300.00/300.00  
 Sobriety for life 80.00/80.00  
 Springfield Monday Night 0/0  
 Springfield Study Group 40.00/40.00  
 Stairway to Sobriety 25.00/75.00  
 Sunday Morning Big book 120.00/240.00  
 Sunlight of the Spirit 0/18.60  
 Sunday Night 12x12 0/0  
 Men's Sponsorship 20.00/20.00  
 Sunday Women's Step Stdy 0/0  
 Thursday Voyagers Group 0/0  
 Thurs PM Rush Hour 0/20.00  
 T.G.G. Speakers Mtg 0/120.00  
 Tuesday Night Book Study 0/0  
 We Need Each Other 0/0  
 Wednesday Mens Noon 0/0  
 Wednesday Men's Stag 252.000/252.00  
 Who am I Group 20.00/40.25  
 Womans Road to Recovery 0/60.00  
 Women's How It Works 0/0  
 Women's Bedrock 0/60.00  
 Ya Po Ah 0/40.00  
 Total Contributions (month/year to date)  
 Group ytd 1224.73/2,962.13  
**Fundraising:**  
 EVI Speakers Meeting 0/0  
 Faithful Fivers, individual 170.00

# April Calendar:

## E.V.I. and District Committee Meetings:

1st	Mon	Steering Committee 7:00
	Tue	District 20 418 A St. Karla B. 744-0509
	Tue	District 33 6:30 EVI office. Pam G 895-5478
	Wed	District 19 6:30 Tracy R. 338-4320
	Thur	Speaker Mtg Committee 7:00 EVI Office
	Sat	Cooperation w/Prof. Community, 12N EVI Office
2nd	Mon	EVI Business Meeting 6:30
	Tues	Activities 7:00
	Wed	District 6 6:30 Larry W. 334-3609
	Sat	Answering 9AM EVI Speakers Meeting, 7:30 Country Club Rd Sun
3rd	Mon	Public Information 6:30
	Tue	Office Volunteer 5:30
	Tue	Communication Committee 7:30 2495 Columbia
	Thur	Cooperation Prof. Community
Last	Wed	H&I Committee 6:00
Last	day	Literature Committee 6:30

## Fellowship Events:

- April 21 Cottage Grove Speaker's Meeting @ 7:00 pm. \$ 4.00/adult and \$2.00 /child for potato dinner @ 6:00. 519 E. Main St. 942-9361
- April 21 SSAL Speakers' Meeting @ 7:30 pm. St. Philip Neri Church SE 18th and Devision St. in Portland. Steve L. 503-492-6237.
- April 22 Old Timer's Meeting and potluck @ 1:00 pm-3:00 pm. North Clackamas Park Senior Center. 5540 SE Kellogg Crk. Dr. Milwakee OR. SE of Portland. Bonnie B. 503-230-0861.
- April 28 AA Access Workshop @ Portland Intergroup Office. 1650 NW Front Avenue, Suite 300. 9:00am- 1:00pm. Mike 503-202-4096

The 2001 Summerfest will be July 6th-8th this year. Registration forms will be available by mid April.

Fliers for these events provide more information and are available at EVI.



Whenever anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. to be there. For that, I am responsible.

Minutes Continued

### Committee reports:

**Treasurer: Mel M. :** Profit & Loss statements are available in the office and distributed to all present. \$ <236.00> Net Income for the month. Book order income of \$1,800 offset by meeting book printing costs of \$600 and Insurance premium of \$300 due. Current assets only down \$70.00. **Thanks Mel**  
**Volunteer Coordinator: Gus P. :** "Its Happening". Gus is pleased to report double coverage for all shifts. Shift training going well, and some "veteran" volunteers returning, helping with the training process and just doing a good job. Volunteers are always welcome, and Gus indicates there is always something to do. **Thanks Gus**  
**Literature Chair: Dave S. :** "We have books for sale". Literature is going well. Have received orders for 10 cases of Big Books and lots of meeting books from Serenity Lane. **Thanks Dave**  
**Website: Michael W. :** Website up and running. The website committee could use any/some/maybe/please volunteer help. Any updates need to be emailed to EVI. **Thanks Michael**  
**Meeting Book committee: Doc :** New meeting directories updated and sent off to the printer. Expected to be available later in the week. Will coordinate with Literature Chair as to how many Serenity Lane has ordered, and possible additional printing needs. **Thanks Doc**  
**Newsletter: Robert S. :** The newsletter is available in the office each month. Multiple copies were available at the EVI meetings for reps to take back to their meetings. Robert (541-684-9439) is always looking for area member's articles and additions. Committee meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month @ 2495 Columbia, Eugene. **Thanks Robert**  
**Answering Service (Diverter Coordinator): Linda L. :** The new 12<sup>th</sup> Step list was distributed to the group, and EVI reps were encouraged to take multiple copies back to their groups. New individuals are always encouraged to participate. We need your help to insure that **someone is always there to help those who call**. Having problems with Saturday and Wednesday night coverage. Diverter volunteers are reminded to "call the EVI office prior to 5:00 PM on the day of your shift to verify diverter service". Please call Linda, 541-345-5827, if you have difficulty working with the Diverter system. **Thanks Linda**  
**Public Information: Jim P. :** Jim reported that PI was very busy in the community. A Register Guard contact has opened up a possibly long term liaison with Well Springs Alternative School, and that the committee had a fulfilling speaking session with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at one of the local elementary schools. **Thanks Jim**  
**CPC: Kathy :** NO REPORT : Committee distributes AA materials to the professional community, and meets at the EVI office the first Saturday of the month. Still in need of a vice chair.  
**Activities: Sandi :** Sandi reported that EWEB contracts do not allow any fees or donations to be collected at events scheduled at their facility. Currently looking for other facility to schedule future dances or speakers meetings at. Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the EVI office. Sandi could sure use some committee members, or at least some volunteer help at the Dances (setup/takedown).  
**Speaker Meeting: Gaylene G. for AI :** Going well. Committee could use assistance for setup at the meeting. Please show up at 6:00 pm to help. Susan B. is next scheduled speaker. Gaylene will be out of the area with work, so please help AI out. The correct E-Mail address for Gaylene is: ggilde@svdplanecounty.org This committee meets at the EVI office on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. This committee continues to contribute financially, on a regular basis, to EVI with proceeds from meetings over costs. **Thanks Gaylene. Outreach: David B. :** NO REPORT  
**Archivist: Linda L. :** A case box has been purchased for tapes. These tapes should be available for "rental" in the near future. Continuing collection of "old-timer" tapes and interviews. Copies of written materials can be made out of the office (no copier in office) of any materials one would wish to share with others. Linda pointed out that the Archivist position is strictly voluntary, and if anyone was wondering why she held two committee positions, that is why. **Thanks Linda**  
**H&I: Harold B. :** " WE NEED WOMEN" (for meetings that is). The committee is in desperate need of women volunteers for the Johnson Unit and Lane County Jail meetings. Amanda has stepped forward as Call Reminder, contacting individuals and reminding them of appointments and meetings. **Thanks Amanda.** A three (3)-page Minutes handout was presented to the inter-group, and copies may be made out of the office from the EVI office (no copier in office). The Looking Glass Panel Meeting is no longer in service. **Thanks Harold, we are going to miss your reports.**  
**Steering Committee Minutes: Chris H. :** gave the Steering Committee Report. Motion to adjourn at 8:05 PM Respectfully Submitted Tom L.



Bill drove better after a few drinks



# Gratitude:

## Currently Available Service Positions:

### EVI Service Committees:

**Vice-Chairs** for the following committees:  
**Newsletter** the thing in your hands! Some computer experience helpful.

**Hospitals.** Coordinates bringing meetings and info into local hospitals, Lane Psychiatric, and the Johnson unit. You don't have to be crazy to do this.

### Other volunteer opportunities:

**H&I** has a constant, and varied need for people willing to do a little to a lot of service work. The opportunity for this type of service has really expanded, and H&I has been doing a great job, but they need the AA community to step up and volunteer. This is real service work.

H&I is looking for a few good women! See meeting book for details.

**Public information** - takes speakers into schools, and in general lets the public know that AA didn't die out in the '40's, and is, in fact, alive and well. We could particularly use someone with some enthusiasm for getting some public service spots on local TV and radio.

relaxing, enjoyable, rewarding service work? volunteer at the Office!

**EVI Office Volunteers** work a four hour shift, once a week, or every two weeks. Not very demanding, bring a good book; but you do get to answer the phone, talk to folks who stop by, etc. If you have a little time available, whether you are a year sober, or twenty, this can be pleasant service work, and worth doing.

**Twelve-Step list.** If you would like to be on the list that is called by the office or the diverter for twelve step calls, there are sign up sheets going around, or stop by the office. People available during the day, and folks willing to give rides are particularly helpful.

# AA Meetings:

New:  
Veneta Coffee Club Fri 7:00-8:00 PM (S) Hwy 126  
at Territorial rd, Biggs Hy-Yu-Hee-Hee Veneta8

Moved:

T.G.G. 5/10 Speakers Meeting has moved to  
4110 River Road, Eugene,  
Friday's 8:00 - 9:30 pm (O)(WCH)

Women's How it Works Wed 12:00-1:00  
has moved to 1166 Oak St., First Christian  
Church, Eugene

Expect a Miracle Group Tue 7:00-8:30 PM has  
moved to LCC Main Campus, Rm 420 (W) (WCH)

Thurs Night Candlelight Thurs 8:00-9:00 PM has  
moved to 1031 Mill St. Eugene

Still going  
Women's Continuous Study Mon 7:30-9:00 PM  
3935 Hilyard St. Church of the Resurrection

Want to get the  
word out on your  
fellowship  
event?

Put it in  
the EVI News.

Read by more  
local sober  
alcoholics than  
any other  
newsletter!

*continued from page 1*

She told me: "You know, Jayne, you never have to be alone again." She was right. I just didn't know it yet. I never saw this lady again— miracle No. 1.

Just a few short weeks earlier, driving, I saw red lights flashing in my rear-view mirror. The bull horn was blaring: "Pull over, stop the car, get out." I pulled over, but I did not get out. The officers approached me and once again told me to get out of the car. I refused. They opened the door, pulled me out, and put me in handcuffs. My wrists were bruised from the cuffs and my legs were scraped. (Did I kick them—or did they kick me?) "How dare you put your hands on me." I growled. Obviously, they didn't know who I was. Obviously, they didn't care. That was in 1973 in Walnut Creek, Calif.

I was pushed into the back of the police car and was taken off to jail. How could this happen to me, I thought? I had spent years working, going to school, getting an education and trying to be a lady. My daddy called me "his princess." Now I was being treated like a criminal. I was fingerprinted and was told that I had one phone call to make. I could leave in the morning. It was now about 3:30 a.m. I called the husband of one my best friends and asked him to come and get me. I was so embarrassed, I wanted to die. That man did come and get me. He looked at me and said, "You look awful. What happened to you?" I didn't know. How could I?

(When I was four years sober, this man's wife called me and asked for help. He had received his third DUI and his employer had threatened to fire him if he did not get help. My friend reluctantly agreed to talk to me. I told him what I had learned in AA about my allergy to alcohol, how I had become hopeless. He listened and fearfully agreed to be admitted to a recovery hospital and attended his first AA meeting. Another miracle.)

My drinking had progressed very rapidly from the time my first husband and I had divorced. My new "single life" forced me to work and raise three children alone. I had come to crave the atmosphere of the night life that allowed me to escape my "at home" problems. I especially enjoyed going into a bar just down the street. It was like a dear friend: safe, warm, and comfortable. Because I didn't drink everyday, I fooled myself into thinking that as long as I worked and could feed my children, I was not an alcoholic. But after several years, my drinking became more often, more intense, and more compulsive.

Later, much of the glamour of the bar scene had disappeared. My favorite place even looked dreary, and the fun had gone too. I was turned down for another job. Never mind, a couple of drinks, in my comfortable, safe bar, would fix me. I'd get the next job.

I was drinking martinis by then. I could remember when I choked on that kind of drink. Now, it slid down quite easily, warm and soothing. I remember during one spree, looking across the bar to see a very handsome man sitting down to order a drink. He pulled out a hundred dollar bill, sat it down on the bar and ordered a straight shot with a beer backer. Now, that was my kind of man—liked to drink, and had money. He dressed nice. Even his coat and tie were color coordinated. He ordered another drink. Suddenly, he got up and went to the restroom. He came back to the bar with his coat off, his tie loose and slung over his shoulder and his hair was in

disarray. He ordered another drink and then headed back to the restroom. When he came out this time his zipper on his pants was undone. His shirttail was hanging out, and he was slurring his order for still another drink. I observed him carefully. I said a prayer, "Please God, don't let me be like that—he is so out of control and is behaving so horribly."

4

5

I was lonely, frightened, and confused. Getting up, I decided to phone my friend who I usually drank with. I had two friends left, Ginny, and Sara. I had heard that Sara had joined a strange cult called A.A. So, I was going to call Ginny, of course. I dialed and Sara answered. I was stunned. She recognized my voice and said, "Where are you? What are you doing in that place? I will come down and get you—wait there for me." Well, this was an awful turn of events. Now I would be preached to or bored to death, which was even worse. Finally, Sara came in and sat by me. I noticed something different about her. She was calm and had a look of peace in her eyes I had not noticed before. We began talking, and she finally said to me, "Did you ever think you might be an alcoholic?" This was too much. I said, "Well I might drink a little too much sometimes. I like wine a lot—could be a 'Winette,' but I am certainly not one of those drunks or an alcoholic."

Sara just smiled knowingly at me and asked, "Why don't you come home with me and have dinner. We can talk better there." I agreed to follow her to her house just to get her off my back. When we arrived at her apartment, I met her husband, John, who had received his sobriety in jail. He started trying to convince me I should go to my first A.A meeting. John told me I was a "drunk". He said, "And you think you are better than we are, don't you?" I heartily agreed with him. I was not like them, I was sure of that. However, reluctantly, dragging my feet, I finally agreed to go to my first meeting.

I wish I could tell you that I liked it—felt like I had come home or something marvelous like that. I hated it. I may have had a little problem, but I certainly didn't belong at AA or that meeting. The room was filled with men still in dirty work clothes, many unshaven, shoes muddy. I did not hear anything—but at the end, we held hands and everyone looked at me and said, "Keep coming back." I heard that.

So that's how I ended up at that New Year's dance. I did not realize it at the time, but I was already in the AA fold. Now, I just had to find something called a sponsor. That happened right after I moved to a small town on the California coast and started going to meetings at an Alano Club that just happened to be two flights up. For months I could not understand why everyone had trouble with the steps to that club. They also seemed to have trouble counting because everyone kept saying there were 12 steps, but I had counted and there were a lot more than that. Those darn drunks couldn't get anything right, I thought. But I kept coming back.

I met a woman in this meeting hall, after a few months who later became my sponsor. Her name is Julie, and in 1997 she celebrated 50 years of sobriety. Early in our relationship she told me: "I know you are an educated woman, but you have no idea how to live." How right she was. Eventually, reluctantly, I began to like those meetings, I did want sobriety—I was ready and willing to work those 12 Steps, wherever they were.

At four months sober I told Julie. "I know what I need to make my life better. I need a man." She laughed and said, "You certainly do not need a man, that would really complicate your problems." However, I prayed, and being sure that God answered prayers for "good girls" who were trying to get sober, I knew he would send me just the right man. He did. He even sent him to "my" Alano Club. As soon as Mitch walked through the door, I just knew "he was the one!" After my new-found love had his second birthday and I had a year of sobriety under my belt, we felt it was time to get married.

I had so many lessons to learn in living the sober life. Julie told me that

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# Rule 62:

From the State where drunk driving is considered a sport, comes a true story from Mid NW, Wisconsin.

Recently a routine police patrol parked outside a local Neighborhood tavern. Late in the evening the officer noticed a man leaving the bar so intoxicated that he could barely walk. The man stumbled around the parking lot for a few minutes, with the officer quietly observing. After what seemed an eternity and trying his keys on five vehicles, the man managed to find his car which he fell into. He was there for a few minutes as a number of other patrons left the bar and drove off.

Finally he started the car, switched the wipers on and off (it was a fine dry night) flicked the blinkers on, then off, honked the horn and then switched on the lights.

He moved the vehicle forward a few inches, reversed a little and then remained still for a few more minutes as some more vehicles left. At last he pulled out of the parking lot and started to drive slowly down the road.

The police officer, having patiently waited all this time, now started up the patrol car, put on the flashing lights, promptly pulled the man over and carried out a breathalyzer test.

To his amazement the breathalyzer indicated no evidence of the man having consumed alcohol at all! Dumbfounded, the officer said "I'll have to ask you to accompany me to the Police station- this breathalyzer equipment must be broken."

"I doubt it," said the man, "tonight I'm the designated decoy."

More comfortable  
writing than  
speaking in  
public?

- If you have a story  
about getting sober, or AA  
service work, or how a  
particular step made a  
difference in your life -  
contribute to the EVI News!