

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!



A Front Row Seat to the Miracle How Service Work Changed this Man's Life

I was trying to remember the other day: what was the actual turning point for me in the program? I think it was when I really started to get into service work, and specifically, taking meetings into institutions.

I remember the first time I got tricked into going into a prison to attend an AA meeting. This old timer, Vick, asked me if I would like to go with a group of guys from my home group to an AA meeting at Sheridan Federal Prison. I, of course, declined saying I'd rather eat glass in a snow blizzard, but thanks for the offer. He just smiled and shook his head (The old guys did that a lot to me back then). Then he said something that I hope I never forget. He asked me if I knew the secret yet. I replied, "The secret to what?" He said, "The secret to staying sober." I'd actually been waiting for the real damn secret, being in AA almost two years by this time, but they always said something stupid like "work the steps" or "pray" or worse yet "just surrender," but now I was ready for the real scoop. All Vick said was, "Do The Hard Thing". I asked him what he meant by that? He said that the next right thing to do in sobriety was usually the hard thing. If you don't like to shake people's hands, or give folks a call, you should probably shake some hands and call some people. If you don't want to do an inventory or make an amends, you should probably get busy doing just that. And if you don't want to go to an AA meeting in a prison, you might want to get your butt in the car and go to the damn meeting. Vick always did have a way with words. And off to the meeting we went.

I remember being really surprised at how good an AA meeting it was. I mean, there was a clear topic, everyone seemed to take it pretty seriously, all the guys seemed to be very versed in the program, and I got a lot out of everyone's talks. I probably was the only weak link in the whole thing. Come to find out, with two years sober, I was one of the newest guys to AA at that meeting. Since most of the guys in Sheridan were doing pretty long stretches of time and a lot of the guys started going to AA not too long after they got in, there were several guys with 5 to 10 years of sobriety in there. And I thought I was going to be schooling the poor inmates on how to stay sober. Man, I had a lot to learn.

Every meeting I went to I would gain more respect for the guys at the meetings. They had their own secretary and chairperson. They were sponsoring each other and going through the steps. And come to find out, it wasn't a real popular decision to go to an AA meeting in a Federal Prison. I guess it made the guys suspect you of being a narc. If you were trying to change your life for the better, and in the process you were refusing to drink any homemade pruno or take any yard drugs, all the other inmates thought you might be the kind of guy who would rat them out. So a lot of the guys were walking the yard pretty much alone. But yet they still came. And they taught me so much. I tried to show them that a guy could stay sober out on the streets, and they showed me how to live an honorable life even in a place where they just considered you a number.

I started to go in fairly regularly with my buddy George, who was the Oregon Area Coordinator for Sheridan. That was until George started to get very sick and the meetings out at the prison began to fall off. George ended up in the hospital with cancer and end stage diabetes a couple months later. I remember getting guilt-tripped by one of the guys in our group to go visit him in the hospital. Man, I hated hospitals – all those sick people. But I went, and there was George with his foot half amputated in the cancer ward, with only a month or so given to live. Angel, a friend of ours who helped start the AA meetings out at Sheridan from the "inside", and had since gotten out and now was a big part of our local AA community, was also there visiting George. It was all a bit too gloomy for my taste as memory serves. Then George commenced upon giving me a classic deathbed request. He asked if I would take over for him as the Coordinator for Sheridan. He went into a long dialogue about how it had been his life's work for the past 8 years, how I was the only one who really knew the clearance system, and how it would put him at ease to know someone who really cared was taking it over.blah, blah, blah. Of course I fell for it, not being nearly as savvy as I had thought I was, and they both started laughing hysterically. The worst part of it all was bumping

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E.V.I. News

April, 2002

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Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

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

People:



OFFICE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Bob E. 747-2246

ACTIVITIES

Leetha 687-6623, Mindy H. 687-9369

ANSWERING SERVICE

Carola K. 736-8041

ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN

Linda 345-5827

COOPERATION PROFESSIONAL

COMMUNITY

Frank K.

COOPERATION W/ TREATMENT

FACILITIES (CTF)

Laura K. 345-5788 Cathy B. 342-6675

E.V.I. COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter: Kurt 747-8925, Teffany 746-1438

Website: Michael S., 349-0504, Darin 342-1098

Meeting Books: Amanda W.

E.V.I. SPEAKER MEETING

Angel 439-4924, Mary Jean 485-7854

LITERATURE

Adrian 485-0607

OUTREACH

Bill N. 747-7486

PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)

Brad M. 685-0122, Tom S. 686-8388

HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS (H&I)

Chair: Karl B. 688-1047 karl@rpginvest.com

HOSPITALS

Larry W. 334-3609

CORRECTIONS

Ron B. 988-1827, Tom R. 465-1832

H&I Coordinators

Lane County Jail: Carl D. (942-4799)

C.C.C. (Women's): Kari M. (344-8147)

C.C.C. (Men's): Chris D. (349-0923)

Alma Work Camp: Ron B. (988-1827)

Pathways: Glen B. (689-8539)

Serbu Detention: Jack C. (463-1046)

Carlton House: Joe C. (554-3558)

W.F.T. - Friday Night: Janis. (935-8833)

W.F.T.- Book Study: Cindy. (988-0183)

Serenity Lane - Speaker: Bill B. (434-6563)

Serenity Lane - B.T.G.: Gus P. (463-1691)

Serenity Lane - New: Tim A. (726-8558)

L.C.P.H.: Todd J. (302-6377)

Johnson Unit: Steve S. (683-3564)

V.A. Meeting: Ray T. (689-8429)

E.V.I. STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair: Jim P. 688-7915

Vice-Chair: Harold B. 579-8087

Secretary: Tom A. 349-0145

Treasurer: Ryan A. 513-6498

Vice Treasurer: Tom L. 683-7706

At-Large:

At-Large:

At-Large:

At-Large: Todd 607-6349

kritler@netscape.net

BOOKKEEPER

Bev L.

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into the shift nurse as I was going out and her commenting on how George got visitors all day long, how there was this constant laughter coming from his room, and how he was the only patient they could ever remember who laughed so much being on the cancer ward. Then I knew the whole thing was a set up. I also realized years later that getting cancer was about the only damn way to rotate out of this darn Coordinator position I ended up with. Well, George finally passed away, laughing to very end, and I ended up taking a couple meetings a month into Sheridan.

It took me awhile to get the hang of this new service commitment. But I really enjoyed the meetings out at the prison, and began to develop some great friendships, both with fellow volunteers and with some of the inmates. I wasn't all that great at the politics and the red tape part of the coordinator position, but I did enjoy being a part of making the meetings happen. Oh, and there was that other little benefit, I hadn't taken a drink in quite some time. After awhile I became kind of an honorary home group member. They would give me my sobriety chip and even let me chair the meeting from time to time. This was a big deal for me, because they usually reserved that position for just the inmate members. The outside volunteers were more like guests.

After awhile I became friends with most of the regulars at the meeting, and I could spot a new guy a mile away. One in particular, Garvar, began to catch my attention. He was a real muscular guy with tattoos from head to toe (not that that really distinguished him in the joint). He was very quiet and seemed to have this constant undercurrent of anger about him. But he seemed really serious about the program and was always very attentive at the meetings. Even though he wasn't all that social of a guy at the beginning, we still seemed to hit it off right from the start. As time went on Garv, or the Hate and Pain Guy as a lot of the other volunteers called him at first because he had hate and pain tattooed across his knuckles, began to loosen up in the meetings and became a real part of the home group.

A couple of years went by and Garv was about to get out of prison. And to my surprise he decided to relocate to the Eugene area like Angel did some 5 years back. I guess it was because he had gotten to know several of us volunteers from the Eugene area, and felt it would be better to hang with us rather than his old running buddies back in L.A. I soon was bumping into him around town at the different meetings the halfway house would let him attend. A few months later he was out altogether.

Garv eventually asked me to sponsor him, and I agreed with some reservations. I had sponsored guys before, but no one with his sort of background and years in the joint. So I was bit concerned that we wouldn't be able to relate about those issues and maybe he should look for someone who had done some time in prison to sponsor him. But we figured if it wasn't working out he could find someone else down the road.

I remember, at the beginning, Garv was real uncomfortable on the outside. There were all these new personalities to have to deal with. And worse yet, all these damn details of life to have to take care of (drivers license, rent, taxes, applications, etc...). I don't think either one of us were sure he was going to make it on the outside. I think he thought more of doing some kind of crime to get put back into prison rather than drinking, but the thought of escape from this reality certainly popped up from time to time. So I suggested to Garv that the only thing I knew that worked for me when I got thirsty was to work with others. By this time I had been elected as the H & I Chair for our local intergroup, so I had lots of connections with different facilities around town. Garv and I started hitting a bunch of different meetings in treatment centers and detoxes, and things got a bit better, but not a whole lot. Then one day I got a call from the coordinator of this halfway house for youth offenders. He said that no volunteers would come in anymore because the last time they went to take a meeting into the kids, they all started throwing the big books back at the volunteers that were handing them out. He said that it was nearly impossible to hold a meeting for these kids cause they were mandated by the facility to go and they would constantly act out. He recommended that we discontinue the meeting there. I told him I thought I might have someone I could bring to the meeting that they probably wouldn't throw Big Books at, and maybe we should give it one more try.

So off to the halfway house Garv and I went. Now I knew that none of these kids

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experienced in the program can never be taken away, not even with a drink. They happened, and no one can say this thing doesn't work.

I remember my sponsor, Jack, giving me a pep talk some time ago when I was all bummed out about the progress of some sponsee I had at the time. He told me that all you can do is tell him what worked for you and the rest is up to him and God. And every once in a while, the guy "gets it" and then you get a front row seat to the miracle.

Harold B., Eugene, Oregon

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room whom he knew.

So who am I? You don't know, because you didn't bother to find out. Although yours was a closed meeting, you didn't even ask if I belonged there.

It might have been my first meeting. I could have been full of fear and distrust, knowing AA wouldn't work any better than anything else I'd tried, and I would have left convinced that I was right.

I might have been suicidal, grasping at one last straw, hoping someone would reach out and pull me from the pit of loathing and self-pity from which, by myself, I could find no escape.

I might have been a student with a tape recorder in my pocket, assigned to write a paper on how AA works - someone who shouldn't have been permitted to sit there at all but could have been directed to an open meeting to learn what I needed to know.

Or I could have been sent by the courts, wanting to know more, but afraid to ask.

It happens that I was none of the above.

I was just an ordinary drunk with a few years of sober living in AA who was traveling and was in need of a meeting.

My only problem that night was that I'd been alone with my own mind too long. I just needed to touch base with my AA family.

I know from past experience that I could have walked into your meeting place smiling, stuck out my hand to the first person I saw and said, "Hi. My name is - . I'm an alcoholic from - ."

If I'd felt like doing that, I probably would have been warmly welcomed. You would have asked me if I knew Old So-and-so from my state, or you might have shared a part of your drunkalog that occurred in my part of the country.

Why didn't I? I was hungry, lonely, and tired. The only thing missing was angry, but three out of four isn't a good place for me to be.

So I sat silently through your meeting, and when it was over I watched enviously as all of you gathered in small groups, talking to one another the same way we do in my home town.

You and some of your friends were planning a meeting after the meeting at a nearby coffee shop. By this time I had been silent too long to reach out to you. I stopped by the bulletin board to read the notices there, kind of hanging around without being too obvious, hoping you might ask if I wanted to join you, but you didn't.

As I walked slowly across the parking lot to my car with the out-of-state license plates you looked my way again. Our eyes met briefly and I mustered a smile. Again, you looked away.

I buckled my seat belt, started the car, and drove to the motel where I was staying.

As I lay in my bed waiting for sleep to come, I made a gratitude list. You were on it, along with your friends at the meeting place. I knew that you were there for me, and that I needed you far more than you needed me. I knew that if I had needed help, and had asked for it, you would have gladly given it. But I wondered . . . what if I hadn't been able to ask?

I know who you are.

Do you remember me?

Fran D., New Orleans, Louisiana, *Reprinted from The Grapevine, March, 1991*

Intergroup:



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

Meeting schedules, late breaking news, 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

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:

(March/year to date)
 Anonymous/Unknown 2.90/102.90
 As Bill Sees It 0/0
 Attitude Adjustment 0/225.94
 Autumn Group 0/75.00
 Backwoods Bunch 0/0
 Brown Bag Group 0/205.00
 Cottage Grove Noon 20.00/35.00
 Courage to Change 0/141.00
 Creswell Steps & Traditions 0/0
 Downtown AM group 48.19/354.04
 Fireside group 0/0
 First Monroe Group 0/0
 First Things First 0/0
 Freedom Of Choice 0/0
 Friday Night Stag 0/150.00
 Friday Physical Awakening 0/0
 From the Heart 0/0
 Get Well Group 0/10.00
 Gratitude Group 0/0
 Last Chance Study Group 0/0
 Language of the Heart 0/0
 Lowell Lakeside 0/0
 McKenzie Bridge 0/0
 McKenzie River Group 0/0
 Monday Mens Stag 0/100.00
 Monday Night Cont. Study 0/0
 Monday Night Beginners 3.00/3.00
 New Freedom 180.00/180.00
 New Freedom II 300.00/300.00
 Plug in the Jug 0/0
 Recovery By the Big Book 0/30.00
 Saturday Night Womens 0/0
 Search For Serenity 0/295.00
 Serenity Seekers West 0/50.00
 Sober Awakenings 300.00/300.00
 Sobriety for life 0/0
 Springfield Monday Night 0/0
 Springfield Study Group 0/0
 Stairway to Sobriety 0/250.00
 Sunday Morning Big book 0/100.00
 Sunlight of the Spirit 25.00/75.00
 Sunday Night 12x12 0/0
 SW Sunser 34.50/34.50
 Try God Group 132.00/132.00
 Tuesday Men's Sponsorship 0/50.00
 Tuesday Beginners 0/11.50
 Thursday Voyagers Group 0/0
 Thurs PM Rush Hour 0/0
 Tuesday Night Book Study 0/0
 Veneta Gratitude Group 65.39/65.39
 We Need Each Other 0/100.00
 Wednesday Mens Noon 45.00/120.50
 Wednesday Men's Stag 0/60.00
 Who am I Group 20.00/60.00
 Womans Road to Recovery 0/60.00
 Women's Bedrock 0/0
 Total Contributions (month/year to date)
 Group month/ytd 1173.08/3672.87
Fundraising:
 EVI Speakers Meeting 0/0
 Faithful Fivers, individual 85.00/396.00

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were going to mess with Garv, but I doubted that either of us was going to have much of an impact on any of these juvenile delinquents. I couldn't have been any more wrong. They took to Garv like bees to honey. Acting tough around Garv just didn't make sense, and those kids knew it. He had been every place they had been and probably every place they were going to go. And he had this incredible way with them. He knew the pecking order of the kids right away and could win over the "Top Dog" in a matter of minutes. And in the cases where a kid, no way no how, was going to go along with Garv, he could put him in his place and pretty much eliminate that kid's influence on the rest of the group. Those kids actually started to look forward to the weekly AA meetings, because that's when Garvar was coming. He began to sponsor half the little hoodlums. The facility even gave him permission to take the kids out for meetings and movies and stuff in the evenings. He seemed to be the only one, at the time, that was really getting through to these kids, so everyone wanted him as involved with their recovery as possible.

All these developments started having an incredible effect on the rest of Garv's life. He, in a short amount of time, was asked to become a live-in house president for one of the larger recovery houses in town. He also decided that youth counseling was the direction he wanted to go as a career and applied for grants and loans and registered for college. Up until that time he was working in manual labor jobs like roofing and landscaping because those were the only jobs he could get so soon out of prison. So he figured he had nothing to lose by becoming a full time student. He eventually started taking meetings into the lock-down treatment center attached to the youth jail in town, and the results were pretty much the same. He seemed to have the gift with any group of young men he worked with.

I tagged along with him to these different youth meetings for about 8 months or so but eventually burned out on those types of facilities. I just didn't have the patience needed for those groups of kids. But I really did enjoy watching Garv work with them. I'd have to say that has been one of the highlights of my sobriety.

After about a year of taking the meeting into the youth treatment facility and going to college, Garv got offered an entry level counseling job there. And probably not more than a year later, the After Care Counseling position opened up. The problem with that position was that it required a bachelors degree and/or equivalent years experience in the field. But Garv figured, what the heck, and put in for it anyway. Come to find out, all the kids in the facility went into the director's office and told him that they all wanted Garv to be their after care counselor, and that was that. So here he was, just three years out of prison, with his own office, computer, and even business cards. Watching Garv hand out his business cards to some of his buddies at our home group had to be one of the prettiest sight I've ever seen. One of the neatest things about all these developments with Garv, was that he became sort of a hero to all the guys still locked up in Sheridan. I mean, the first thing they wanted to hear about when I would show up was the latest news on Garv. A lot of the guys who had been around for a while could remember Garv coming into the meeting and how angry he was. Hell, he was angry for an inmate let alone us sweet folk on the outside. And hear stories about him becoming this professional, and working with these kids was down right inspirational. They all started thinking they had a chance to make it on the outside. I'm telling you, hope can be pretty damn contagious.

Garv is still working as a counselor and I'm still going into facilities. I really feel like H & I work is some of the purest twelve-step work out there these days. There's just not as many of those classic twelve step calls of old. Most people find out about AA and recovery through treatment facilities, psych wards, or jails these days, and there just aren't as many calls down at the AA office of people who haven't already had some experience with AA. But in facilities, you get that rare chance to talk to someone who doesn't know anything about AA and desperately wants to get sober. It is a great feeling to let them know that there is a way out.

I'm not here to just tell some kind of fairy tale either though. We all know that there are no guarantees that Garv or myself will stay sober. And we both certainly have our good days and bad. But I do know that these incredible events that both of us have

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April Calendar:

E.V.I. and District Committee Meetings:

All meetings at EVI office unless otherwise noted.

- 1st Mon Steering Committee 7:00
- Tue District 20, 6:30 418 A St. Ken L. 747-8270
- Tue District 33, 6:30 Pam G. 895-5478
- Wed District 19, 6:30 Tracy R. 338-4320
- Thur Speaker Mtg Committee, 7:00Angel 431-4924
- Sat Cooperation w/Prof. Community, Noon
- 2nd Mon EVI Business Meeting 6:30
- Wed District 6, 6:30 Gus P. 463-1691
- Sat Answering/Diverter 9AM
- EVI Speakers Meeting, 7:30 Country Club Rd
- 3rd Mon Communication Cmte., 7:30, 2495 Columbia
- Mon Public Information, 6:30
- Tue Office Volunteer, 5:30
- Wed Activities, 6:30
- Last Wed H& I Committee, 6:00
- Last Day Literature Committee, 6:30

Fellowship Events:

Sponsorship Workshop, sponsored by District 20, April 20, (Saturday) 10-2. First Christian Church, 418 A St., Springfield.

45th All-Ireland Convention, Galway, Ireland, April 26-28. GSO, 109 South Circular Rd., Dublin 8, Ireland.

27th Annual Rogue River Roundup, May 3, 4 & 5th, Grants Pass, Oregon. AA and Alanon speakers, dance and more. Register early, seating is limited. Contact Eileen B. 541-476-4715, or www.rogueroundup.com.

Oregon Area 58 Quarterly Assembly, May 17, 18 & 19, Klamath Falls, Oregon. Steve L., Committee Chair, 541-884-4080. Registration forms are available at the EVI office.

Third Annual Olympic Round-up, May 17-19, Port Angels, Washington. AA, Al-Anon, Speakers, Workshops. Pick up registration form at EVI office.

Summerfest, Eugene, Oregon, June 28-30.

Gratitude:

Currently Available Service Positions:

Website: is in special need of women to respond to communication from women.

The **EVI office** volunteer co-coordinator has moved into the coordinatoir position so there is now an opening for a co-coordinator. Also, volunteers are needed at the office, especially Wednesdays and Thursdays. It's lots of fun and yuu get to meet new people.

Still some openings at different shifts for the **Diverter**. Contact the diverter coordinator at your home group and see if there's a spot that might work for you.

Other volunteer opportunities:
H&I has a constant, and varied need for people willing to do a little to a lot of service work. There is also a special need for women volunteers for Lane County Jail, CCC, Willamette Valley Treatment, etc. 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.

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.

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.

AA Meetings:

Changed:

Sobriety For Life-has changed from Saturday to Friday and has a new location. Friday, 6:30-7:30p (O)
First Baptist Church
868 High Street Eugene (new location)

Closed:

Veneta Coffee Club
Friday 7:00pm
Veneta

Please remember to let us know if your group stops meeting - it's a lot easier to remember when you are starting a meeting, but if you stop meeting remembering to remove it from meeting lists may save someone frustration and more when they really need a meeting.

Emerald Valley Intergroup

Business Meeting Minutes-March 11, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and opened with the Serenity Prayer. An agenda for the meeting was not available, Vice Chair Harold B. facilitated meeting as Jim P was ill.

Old Business; Elections

Position for **Secretary** opened to nominations:

Tom A. stepped forward. Tom gave a verbal resume. Sobriety date 1985. Tom A. elected with no dissent. Thanks Tom. Tom's phone; 349-0145.

Position for **CPC Chair** opened to nominations: Frank K. stepped forward. Frank K. elected without dissent. Thanks Frank. Frank's phone: 345-7131

Position for Vice-Chair **CPC** opened to nominations: Lisa S. stepped forward and gave verbal resume. Lisa S. elected with no dissent. Thanks Lisa. Lisa's phone; 461-0946.

Position for Vice-Chair of **Outreach** opened to nominations: Ted H. stepped forward and gave verbal resume. Ted H. elected with no dissent. Thanks Ted. Ted's phone: 338-8380.

Adrian has rotated from Vice-chair **Literature** to Chair position vacating the Vice-Chair position. Position for Vice Chair Literature opened to nominations: Michelle H. stepped forward. Verbal resume given. Michelle elected as Vice-chair Literature with no dissent. Thanks Michelle.

New Business: None reported.

Committee reports:

H&I: (Karl B.) Three page H&I committee minutes was distributed. New application datasheets are available for all positions. Overall, a "ton" of service positions available through H & I. Critical shortage of women volunteers at the Lane County Jail, CCC, Willamette Valley Treatment, Alma camp was reported. One year continuous sobriety required for all facilities. Thanks Karl

Treasurer: (Ryan A.) Month end profit & loss statements were distributed to those present. Ryan requested groups please identify their contributions when given, so that they can be recognized.

Ryan reported roughly \$2,404 net income for the month and distributed February profit and loss accounting printouts. The total current inventory is at \$4,247.00. Total assets at \$21,556. Current liquid accounts at \$17,309.00. Thanks Ryan.

Volunteer Coordinator: Harold B. reported that Judy will be away a good portion of the summer, and that Bob B. will step in to fill the position. Bob could sure use a co-coordinator, so spread the word. A few more volunteers (with some time) would be appreciated. Openings are available Thursday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. Anyone is welcome any time! Thanks Harold.

Literature: Adrian Z. Literature is going well. Please contact Adrian prior to arranging large Big Book, 12&12 sales so that inventory can be maintained. Thanks Adrian.

Website: Michael S., Super committee chair. Website up and running and doing well. There is data space room on the website for any committee information anyone would like to contribute/distribute. Thanks to all the volunteers who are participating. Thanks Michael.

Meeting Books: Amanda W. (Chair) New directories for April 2002 will be reviewed and created soon. Please amend any information for your group soon. A new meeting book amendment "book" will be at the EVI front counter for changes to Meeting Directory. Thanks Amanda.

Newsletter: Kurt J. Newsletters were available and distributed to EVI Reps present. Can always use new viewpoints and topics for and in articles. Let's hear from the fellowship. Committee meets 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 2495 Columbia, Eugene. Thanks Kurt

Answering Service: Linda L., (rotating out) Carola K. is new Chair Phone # 736-8041. Still some openings for different shifts so see your group to participate. Linda

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requested the committee receive more money for budget. It was suggested that new chairperson re-submit a budget request at next months meeting for approval. Thanks Carola.

Public Information: Brad M., PI is busy contacting and presenting AA to the local school systems. PI sent a filled literature rack to a U of O student in Germany. Currently running ads in all local papers. Thanks Brad.

Activities: Mindy, (co-chair) Mindy reported that the Valentine's Day dance went well. More fun coming. Thanks Mindy.

Speaker Meeting: Angel, Last months meeting went well. Would still appreciate volunteer help for takedown and cleanup. Many stayed later than anticipated to help out and close the doors. Thanks to all of you who are helping. Flyers are out for April's Meeting, and speakers are lined up through October. Thanks Angel

Outreach: (Bill N, not present) Harold B. reported that Steering Committee members are continuing to attend group "business" meetings to encourage participation at EVI. Steering Committee members still dedicated to assisting and participating. Bill is recruiting additional committee members from fellowship, and will hopefully have a vice-chair candidate at next months meeting for approval. Thanks Harold.

Archivist: (Linda L.) Linda reports that the archivist has produced 100 copies of "old-timer" tapes, and they will hopefully be in a new display case at the EVI office in April. Thanks Linda.

Steering Committee: (Jim P., not present)

Tom L. gave overview of Steering Committee session.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM

Closed with Serenity Prayer

Respectfully Submitted

Tom L.

Rule 62:

AT ONE FAVORITE former hangout, one of the patrons succeeded in making a nuisance of himself and was thrown out by the bouncer. Staggering back in again, he was tossed out once more. When it happened for the third time, a barfly who had been watching the ejections with interest spoke up.

"Friend bouncer," he said, "your problem is that you're putting too much backspin on him."

A SOMEWHAT despondent dipso was walking through the skid-row section one day, when he came upon a fiery-eyed, evangelistic type of fellow who was jumping up and down on a manhole cover, clapping his hands over his head and shouting with each leap, "Fifteen, fifteen, fifteen. . ."

The dipso asked what was going on, and the jumper informed him that he was curing drunkenness. "Let me try it," said the lush.

As he leaped up and down, clapping and crying, "Fifteen, fifteen. . .," the reformer suddenly jerked the manhole cover away, and the tosspot dropped down into the sewer.

Whereupon the evangelist put the cover back and started jumping again, crying, "Sixteen, sixteen, sixteen. . ."

Who's Sitting Next To You?

I know who you are. You are "X" who attends the ABC Meeting at the XYZ Club where AAs meet in Anywhere, U.S.A.

I saw you there the other night at the eight o'clock meeting. I don't know how long you've been sober, but I know you've been coming around for a while because you spoke to a lot of people who knew you.

I wasn't one of them.

You don't know who I am. I wandered into your meeting place alone the other night, a stranger in a strange town. I got a cup of coffee, paid for it, and sat down by myself.

You didn't speak to me.

Oh, you saw me. You glanced my way, but you didn't recognize me, so you quickly averted your eyes and sought out a familiar face.

I sat there through the meeting.

It was okay, a slightly different format but basically the same kind of meeting as the one I go to at home.

The topic was gratitude. You and your friends spoke about how much AA means to you. You talked about the camaraderie in your meeting place. You said how much the people there had helped you when you first came through the door - how they extended the hand of friendship to make you feel welcome, and asked you to come back.

And I wondered where they had gone, those nice people who made your entrance so welcoming and so comfortable.

You talked about how the newcomer is the life blood of AA. I agree, but I didn't say so. In fact, I didn't share in your meeting. I signed my name in the book that was passed around, but the chairperson didn't refer to it. He only called on those people in the