Point

The point is, that we are willing to grow along spiritual lines.

In January

from Chapter Five of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous

A publication of the Intercounty Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous

Intercounty Fellowship
of Alcoholics Anonymous
1821 Sacramento Street
San Francisco, CA 94109-3528

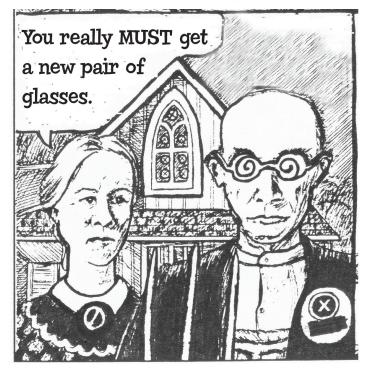
San Francisco (415) 674-1821

Marin (415) 499-0400

Fax (415) 674-1801

www.aasf.org

thepoint@aasf.org



No "Musts"

- 6 Principles of the Program
- 8 Brandy in My Tea
- 9 Humility and Tradition One
- 10 Step 1 Principle: Surrender

The Point is published monthly to inform AA members about business and meeting affairs in the Intercounty Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous (San Francisco and Marin Counties). The Point's pages are open to participation by all AA members. Nothing published herein should be construed as a statement of AA, nor does publication constitute andorsoment of AA as a whole, our Intergroup, the Central Office, or The Point Editorial Committee. Letters and articles to help carry the AA message are welcomed, subject to editorial review by The Point Committee.

January 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
1 NEW YEARS DAY Central Office closed	2 NEW YEARS HOLIDAY Central Office closed	3	4 FIRST WED Intergroup Meeting 1187 Franklin St., SF Orientation 6:15pm Meeting 7pm
8 SECOND SUN Golden Gate Young People in AA Marin Alano Club 12pm (even months at Central Office; odd months at Marin Alano Club)	9 SECOND MON SF Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) Central Office Business Meeting 7pm Technology Committee Meeting Central Office 6pm	10 SECOND TUE Marin H&I 1360 Lincoln Ave, San Rafael 6:15pm SF General Service 1111 O'Farrell St Orientation / Concept Study 7pm Business Meeting 8pm	11 SECOND WED Marin Bridging the Gap 1360 Lincoln Ave, San Rafael Orientation 6pm Business Meeting 6:30pm
15 THIRD SUN Archives Committee Meeting Central Office 2pm Business meeting followed by work day	16 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY Central Office closed Marin General Service 9 Ross Valley Rd, San Rafael Orientation / Concept Study 6:45pm Business Meeting 7:30pm	17	18
22	23	24 FOURTH TUE Marin Teleservice 1360 Lincoln Ave, San Rafael Orientation 7pm Business Meeting 7:30pm	25
29	30	31	

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5	6	7
12	13	14 SECOND SAT Access Committee Meeting Central Office 10am The Point Committee Meeting Central Office 12:30pm
19	20	21 THIRD SAT SF H&I 2900 24th St, SF Orientation 11am Business Meeting 12pm (odd months have a business meeting)
26	27	28 FOURTH SAT CNCA Meeting 320 N McDowell Blvd, Petaluma 10am



Calendar	2
Meeting Changes	4
From the Editor	5
Principles of the Program	6
Honesty	7
Brandy in My Tea	8
Humility and Tradition One	9
Step 1 Principle: Surrender	10
Bill's Story	11
Central Office's 70th Anniversary	12
January Events	13
Intergroup Meeting Summary	14
Group Contributions	16
P&L / Treasurer's Report	18
Balance Sheet	19

Persons requiring reasonable accommodations at Intergroup meetings, Intergroup committee meetings or service events sponsored by the preceding entities, including ASL interpreters, assistive listening devices or print materials in alternative formats, should contact Central Office at (415) 674-1821 no less than five business days prior to the event.









Our whole A.A. program is securely founded on the principle of humility that is to say, perspective.

~ Bill W.

January 2017 The Point $\perp 3$



Meeting Changes

New Meetings:

Mon	7:00pm	Mission	Rigorous Relapse	The Women's Building/3543 18th St. Recovery
Wed	6:30pm	Potrero	Skate Park UTM	Potrero Skate Park/1464 San Bruno Ave.

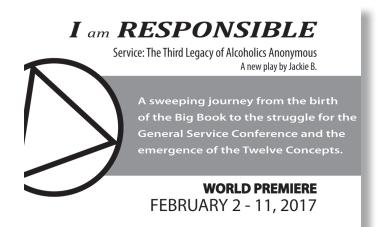
Meeting Changes:

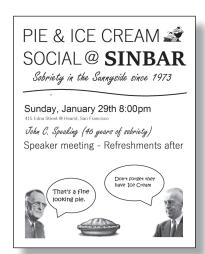
Sun	2:00pm	Castro	Goodlands, 501 Castro St. @ 18th St./above the B of A (Was at The Eureka Valley Rec Center/100 Collingwood) St.
M/Tu/W/F	7:00am	Corte Madera	Urgent Care, Marin Lutheran Church/649 Meadowsweet Dr. (Was at Holy Innocents Church)
Mon	7:15pm	Fairfax	Ross Valley-Community Church/2398 Sir Frances Drake Blvd (Changed from speaker to book study) Fairfax Group
Sun	12:00pm	Haight Ashbury	Buena Vista Breakfast, 1035 Haight St./Broderick St. (ARA House cancelled meetings in November have resumed)
Mon	7:30pm	Haight Ashbury	First Step Home, 1035 Haight St./ Broderick St. (ARA House cancelled meetings in November have resumed)
Thu	7:30pm	Haight Ashbury	Thursday Night Lights, 1035 Haight St./Broderick St. (ARA House cancelled meetings in November have resumed)
Mon	8:30pm	Mission	Spiritual Awakening, Salvation Army/1156 Valencia St. (Time was at 7:30pm)
Fri	7:00pm	Nob Hill	Beginners 12 x 12, St. Francis Memorial/900 Hyde St. (Changed name to Beginners Speaker Discussion; changed
			format from Speaker to Step Study)

No Longer Meeting:

Thu	7:00am	Fairfax	Urgent Care, Marin Lutheran Church/ 649 Meadowsweet Dr. (only Thursday meeting cancelled)
Sun	6:00pm	Haight Ashbury	4th Step Workshop, 1350 Waller St./Masonic
Wed	6:00pm	Pacific Heights	Crosstalk, Gratitude Center/2203 Sutter St.

PLEASE NOTE: We occassionally receive reports that meetings listed in our schedule are missing or no longer active. Sometimes these reports turn out to be mistaken, and sometimes not. **If you know anything about a meeting that has relocated or disbanded — even temporarily —** please call Central Office immediately: **(415) 674-1821.** This helps us direct newcomers, visitors and sober, local alcoholics alike to actual meetings and not to rooms that housed a meeting once upon a time. **Thank you for contributing to the accuracy of our schedule!**







COMMON WELFARE

Perhaps there is no society on earth more solicitous of personal welfare, more careful to grant the individual the greatest possible liberty of belief and action. Alcoholics Anonymous has no "musts."

~ Bill W., Grapevine, December 1947

With no "musts," just suggestions, Jane B. breaks down the principles corresponding to the steps on Page 6 of this month's Point. On Page 7, an anonymous member makes the principle of honesty personal (after originally thinking her mother was the alcoholic in the family, so she couldn't be). She stops dodging direct questions and finally comes clean.

Later in the issue, James Z. shares his version of the humility and individual recovery embodied in the first tradition. Claire A. rethinks her original reaction to the concept of surrender. That's only for wimps, right? Eventually she found the courage to let go and try something new.

Peter M. writes about Central Office's beginnings in January 1947 exemplifying the unity of our fellowship as expressed in Tradition 1. This month Central Office's 70th anniversary celebration at Gratitude Center will showcase home group histories, an old-timers panel with stories from the '70s, and a wall hanging memorializing Central Office's contributions to local fellowship. See page 12. As Bill observed, "Our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward."

Kathleen C.'s old habit of putting brandy in her tea before writing class reminds me of when I sloshed blackberry brandy on myself from a blackand-tan mug in art class (subtlety wasn't my strong suit). Luckily Kathleen's sister practiced promotion as well as attraction. At 30 days sober she dragged her sibling to Hollywood meetings, luring her with the promise of movie star sightings. Bree L. tells us what motivated Bill N. to start his double-digit sobriety

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Point is published monthly to inform A.A. members about business and meeting affairs of the Intercounty Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. In addition, *The Point* publishes original feature articles submitted by local A.A. members that reflect the full diversity of experience and opinion found within the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. No one viewpoint or philosophy dominates its pages, and in determining the editorial content, the editors rely on the principles of the Twelve Traditions.

This statement is a summary; for the full editorial policy, please go to **www.aasf.org**. To contact *The Point* committee directly, write to **thepoint**@**aasf.org**.



Faithful Fivers are A.A. members Who graciously pledge to contribute at least \$5 each month toward the support of Central Office. Faithful Fiver contributions go a long way in helping make our vital services possible. We thank the following members:

Aaron H. Dianne F Jules W Alan R. Don L. Julie P. Alejandro D. Don N. Karen and Stephen R. Alex L. Ed K. Karen C. Alex R Eileen M. Karen K Allison M. Emily C. Karla S. Ami and Nick H Erin S. Kate R Amy Mc. Esther R. Kathleen C. Andrew Z. Fav K. Kevin C. Anonymous Fiona N. Kim D. Barbara L. Forrest F. Kurt C. Barbara M. Forrest P. Kurt P. Becca M. Frederick D. Lance S. Gabrielle J. Ben H. Laura B. Ben W. Laura W. Lauren H. Beth N. George S. Bharanidharan A. Gerardo R. Lavon T. Blu F. Gilbert G. Lavne S. Brian C. Gladys G. Layne Z. Bruce K Hank B. Lelan & Rich H. Bruce S. Henry P. Leo G. Bruce W. Herman B. Leo H. Hilary M. Leslie G. Bruce 7. Caroline A. James P. Linda Kav D. Cathy P. Jane B. Linda L. Charley D. Jane K. Linda R. Janelle P. Lisa M. Charlie S. Chip G. Lisa T. Janet B. Chris B. Jason B. I iz M Lucy & Dennis O. Chris L. Jay F. Chris S. Jeanne C. Lucy T. Chuck S. Jeffery K. Lynn D. Claudia C. Mabel T. Jerry M. Clavton M. lim (Mac F Magadalena S. Constance C. Joanne S. Mana F. Craig S. John B. John C. Marc F. Dan B. John G. Marcus W. Daniel M. John M Mark 0 Marin Fellowship Danielle G John V David J. Joshcelyn J. Marit L. David S. Joshua B-C. Mark A.

(Continued on Page 19)

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January 2017 The Point \perp 5



Principles of the Program

January begins The Point's new topic series on the Principles of A.A.

by Jane B.

Principles? Virtues? Me virtuous? How dull can you get! When I first came to A.A. I just wanted to stay sober; I didn't even think of A.A. as a program, much less consider the depth of value you can obtain if you stick around.

In preparation for this new topic, I did some research on the internet and found several very good sources. Most of these "keep it simple" and list 12 principles to follow while practicing the 12 Steps. A few sources say there are actually 36 principles of the A.A. program, one for each of the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts.

Each month The Point invites you to follow along

I found an extensive list on The Friends of Bill W.'s website *The AA Principles & Virtues from the 12 Steps Spiritual Principles* (as found in the 12 & 12).

Bill W. considered each step to be a spiritual principle in and of itself; however, particularly in the book the 12 & 12 (*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*), he outlined the spiritual principles behind each step. "The most important of these is Humility."

The site goes on to identify willingness, open-mindedness and honesty as the program's core spiritual principles. Love and tolerance of others are viewed as A.A.'s code. See http://friendsofbillw.net/aa_spiritual_principles.

Each month *The Point* invites you to follow along with *The Point* contributors and attempt "to practice these principles in all our affairs" (Step 12).



Here's a quick list:

- 1. Honesty
- 2. Hope
- 3. Faith/Trust
- 4. Courage/Honesty
- 5. Integrity/Truth
- 6. Willingness/Acceptance
- 7. Humility
- 8. Brotherly Love
- 9. Justice/Forgiveness
- 10. Perseverance
- 11. Spirituality
- 12. Service

"The first principle of success is that you should never be angry... Patience and good temper are most necessary" (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 111).

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions waxes poetic on pages 111–112 with a

checklist on practicing the principles: "Now comes the biggest question yet. What about the practice of these principles in all our affairs? Can we love the whole pattern of living as eagerly as we do the small segment of it we discover when we try to help other alcoholics achieve sobriety? Can we bring the same spirit of love and tolerance into our sometimes deranged

family lives that we bring to our A.A. group? Can we have the same kind of confidence and faith in these people who have been infected and sometimes crippled by our own illness that we have in our sponsors? Can we actually carry the A.A. spirit into our daily work? Can we meet our newly recognized responsibilities to the world at large? And can we bring new purpose and devotion to the religion of our choice? Can we find a new joy of living in trying to do something about all these things?

Furthermore, how shall we come to terms with seeming failure or success? Can we now accept and adjust to either without despair or pride? Can we accept poverty, sickness, loneliness, and bereavement with courage and serenity? Can we steadfastly content ourselves with the humbler, yet sometimes more durable, satisfactions when the brighter, more glittering achievements are denied us?"



Honesty

All who honestly sought

by Anonymous

I cannot say that I am completely honest, even after practicing these steps for over 30 years. I really thought I would be by now but alas I remain human and my ego is alive and well. The importance of honesty is repeated throughout our text and appears three times in the first paragraph of Chapter 5 ("How It Works," *Alcoholics Anonymous*).

I was willing to admit I was a drug addict but maintained I wasn't an alcoholic

Probably the most important moment of honesty in my life was my first admission of my alcoholism and addiction after an intervention in 1984. I came to it slowly, after some therapy and some meetings. Those days are very foggy in my memory but I do

know I resisted the admission that I was an alcoholic because my mother was an alcoholic and I didn't want to be anything like her. I come from a long line of alcoholics and addicts and my denial system was in place as a child. I grew up lying and shirking responsibility and accountability. I lied about stealing money from my parents, candy from the corner store, jewelry from a friend of my sister, etc. I lied about things like my weight, how tall I was, where I had been and whom I had been with. I developed the ability to dodge a direct question and cover up almost anything.

Drinking became a daily habit early on in my 20s. I never kept track because I didn't want to know how much I was consuming. Even after my intervention I was willing to admit I was a drug addict but maintained I wasn't an alcoholic in my own mind (mother was, not me). What about champagne at my wedding?

What about wine with a good meal? What about a beer on a hot afternoon? What about vacations? What about a mimosa with brunch? I didn't really think I had a problem with alcohol-I could handle it!

I got into therapy and my therapist said that I was an alcoholic and should stop drinking as well as doing my drug of choice. I resisted and finally she said she wouldn't continue helping me unless I quit altogether. She said, "If you aren't an alcoholic, you should have no trouble quitting drinking." I had maintained that I wasn't so I had to prove it to her, and thank God I did.

The word honesty would filter up and my pride and ego prevented me from telling the truth

Admitting I was an alcoholic was a huge step for me. I continued to go to the 12 Step meetings that focused on my drug of choice and never thought about when I had taken my last drink exactly. Then the gnawing began—the word honesty would filter up and my pride and ego prevented me from telling the truth. I wasn't even exactly sure what the truth was. Then years later I found an old diary with "Last Drink" written in bold letters on March 5, 1984. When I read "How It Works" in meetings or with sponsees I would experience a physical reaction because I knew my own sobriety date wasn't the truth. I was keeping a secret. I knew I should change my sobriety date but my pride wouldn't let me. Then God, who I had been seeking as honestly as I could, did for me what I couldn't do for myself. My sponsor asked, "When is your sobriety date, I can't remember?" Then I was able to finally tell the truth and it has set me free.



January 2017 The Point | 7



Brandy in My Tea

Not whiskey in my milk

by Kathleen C.

When I was drinking I didn't pour whiskey into my milk. I poured brandy into my tea. I had a Women's Literature class in college and showed up with a thermos. When I unscrewed the cap and the aroma wafted out, my classmates demanded, "WHAT'S IN THERE?"

After reading the Big Book 30 times (that's what happens when your home group is a book study), I know back then I didn't think I was self-deluding. I didn't think I was like the salesman who went into a bar to have lunch, ordered a sandwich and a glass of milk, then poured a shot of whiskey into his milk. And repeated it until he went on another bender and lost his job.

I was self-deluding

I didn't think I was doing the same thing expecting a different result, but in fact I did, thinking each time everything was fine.

In college I reached for Mateus Rose wine, even though I needed a clear head to study. At least it was a step up from the Boone's Farm I drank in high school. In grad school, subsidized by my husband mortgaging his house for tuition, I was drawn like a magnet to the spot a friend hid his weed stash. This guy let me use his computer to write a paper. He trusted me enough to give me his house key. And I repaid him by stealing his dope. Just enough so he wouldn't notice. I thought.

After I had my twin daughters I drank Amstel Light beer while breastfeeding. I had read somewhere that beer was supposed to be good for your milk supply. I did a lot of things to get drunk, to get high, and to get what I wanted when I wanted it. I eventually fell apart, neglected my kids when I was drunk or hung over, drove drunk with them in the car, disgusted my husband, betrayed my friends, and disappointed everybody in my life.



Finally I flunked the exam to practice the profession I'd spent years in school for. My husband had mortgaged his house, and now I couldn't get a job. Fortunately my younger sister was sober. She had 30 days when she dragged me to meetings every time I visited her in Hollywood. She lured me with the promise of movie star sightings. And there were a few.

She practiced promotion, rather than attraction: "If you don't stop drinking you're going to die." She knew I had had a bad case of hepatitis and my body couldn't take much more. In a way, she also practiced attraction.

I was powerless

Her life changed when she quit drinking. No more car crashes or maniac boyfriends who held her captive in basements. She was working and getting her health back. A.A. turned her life around.

I followed her into the program. I admitted I was powerless. I went from Step Zero to Step One. I was on my way to where I am today, 30 sober years later. Those babies I neglected are now women. My daughters call or text almost daily. They don't remember Drunk Mommy, but I do. I had a rich full life with their father, who forgave me so much. I got to make amends by taking care of him for

the last year of his life, the two of us enjoying the people and places we had loved together for 41 years.

I'm still an alcoholic. Every single day. I still think about the same stupid things as before. I think a cold beer would taste great with Mexican food or sake with sushi or champagne to celebrate just about anything. Now that I'm sober, I have my A.A. routine to fall back on: Steps, prayer and meditation, meetings, service, working with other women. My A.A. program is like flu vaccine for my soul. An ounce of prevention. Brandy in my tea? Thanks but no thanks.



Humility and Tradition One

The principle of unity

by James Z.

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity." (Twelve Step and Twelve Traditions, p. 129)

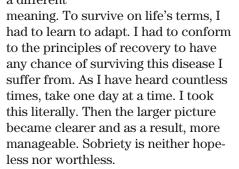
When I was asked to write what Tradition One means to me, I stared at a blank piece of paper for way too long. My expectation that my story had to be as perfect was a personal character defect which steered my mind in too many directions. It became unmanageable. So I reflected on a lesson A.A. taught me: Slow down, clear the clutter running through my head and take a step back.

To put it simply, I need to be living on life's terms, not mine

Looking at the larger picture, and the principle of unity, reminded me my recovery functions as "a small part of a great whole." (Bill W.) To put it simply, I need to be living on life's terms, not mine. If I chose to continue living life on my terms, I will never be satisfied. I am my own worst enemy. You know the saying, "left to our own devices..." At the beginning of my recovery I realized that if I had had an ounce of integrity I would not have chosen, over and over again, to lie, cheat and steal. I would not have hurt those closest to me, damaging personal and professional relationships. Now, today, I can listen with an open mind and act with integrity and conviction.

I used to think that to survive you had to be one step ahead of the other person. This was a false notion that

festered from my childhood well into adulthood. High vigilance comes with a price, a cost paid for with my spiritual well being. When I stop the negative thinking, the definition of surviving has a different



The principle of humility reminds me that I am not perfect

Tradition One's humility is a good trait to practice. The principle of humility reminds me that I am not perfect. I still have flaws. Gratitude helps me remember to accept my shortcomings and actively work to change the negative behaviors that no longer serve me. They did at some point, but I grew increasingly tired of the person I had become. And I could not do this on my own.



For me, the unity I found in the fellowship was the driving force. This is where I met others with similar if not the same issues. I remember one thing that stayed with me from reading Tradition One: My life actually depends upon obedience to spiritual principles.

I learned to be accountable for my actions. I learned to be as humble as I possibly could and admit when I was wrong. I discovered gratitude for those who have suffered before me, whom I was able to relate to, and those who continue to find their way into the fellowship. This disease of alcoholism is ruthless, consuming everything. My faith was the first thing my addiction consumed without mercy. Taking from the last part of Tradition One: Through finding faith within myself and in others, through committed measure that works to transcend all the defects of my frail craft, "every test of uncertainty, pain, fear, and despair, and even the death of one" (12 & 12, p. 131). On my path to recovery, I found faith in myself.

January 2017 The Point ± 9



Step 1 Principle: Surrender

Herein lies a source of strength

by Claire A.

Thinking about the word "surrender," I am struck by how different it seems to me now that I've been sober a while. When I first came in to A.A., I thought surrender was for wimps. I thought I had to control everything, that being out of control was bad and weak. I was often described, when drunk, as "out of control." I was. At the time though, I thought that was cool, a badge of honor. The question for me in college was how out of control could I get and still pass. I look back on that now and shake my head – it seems utterly insane to me, from where I sit.

The idea of surrender as weakness was hard for me to give up

The idea of surrender as weakness was hard for me to give up. Partly I think that's because over time I had built up such a crusty, walled-in way of thinking about my life, it felt that any crack would bring down the whole structure, and I would fall apart. This is exactly what happened. Rather than surrendering as a choice, however, and taking down the crusty old walls gently, I found myself surrendering in front of people in total humiliation, a mess of snot and tears and helplessness.

I drank alone in my bed at the end. I would have a glass of wine or two with dinner, put the kids to bed, and then "finish the job"—read in bed until I passed out. I would wake up in the morning as so many of us do, saying, "How did I do that again?" I don't

know how long this would have gone on if I hadn't had a regular check-up scheduled with my doctor. I went in to see her, and when she asked me how I was doing, the crack began. I couldn't stop crying. I felt like an idiot, trying to get myself under control, trying to be "normal," trying to "just get myself together." I had no idea this was the beginning of the end of my drinking. My doctor sent me immediately to see a mental health counselor, and from there I found a therapist, and it didn't take the therapist long before she told me I needed to go to A.A.

So, that was surrender on God's

terms, or at least, not on my terms. I feel like God gave me a million chances to get help, and finally, when I was in a safe place (at the doctor), God was like, "Hon? I love you, but you clearly are not

going to get help on your own. Here is a group of people who can help you. Today, you are falling apart." And I did. I am grateful.

Now, surrender is a daily, joyful choice. I recognize that surrendering to God's will for me is the best thing I can do each morning for a peaceful day. Instead of weakness, I see surrender as strength. I recognize that I am in control of nothing other than my own

actions. Letting go means I can stop struggling against expectations.

I still try to take back self-will. I struggle against procrastination pretty

Letting go means I can stop struggling against expectations

much every day. Intellectually, I know I need to hand that over. I tell myself that I need to surrender sloth to God. It's been a couple of years since I first recognized this, and yet I still try to will-power my way out of sloth.



And, I still see myself trying to control people, places and things. If only those darn relatives would behave right, I think, the holidays wouldn't be so hard!

And of course, there are a million other examples where my self-will is running rampant. That's OK. I just have to turn it all over, again, every day, every minute. As soon as I see it, I can surrender again.



Bill's Story

Bill's sobriety date is December 31, 1976

by Bree L.

"All of the changes in my life have been for the better," says Bill N., recounting 39 years of sobriety. Bill described a relatively happy childhood with caring parents. He grew up in Bernal Heights, San Francisco, popular in high school. Everything seemed to go well. The troubles came after high school graduation. He worked a couple of jobs at the local gas station, pumped gas and completed simple tune ups or brake jobs. As he says, cars were simpler then.

Troubles came after high school

He joined the service for six months and then the reserves for six years. He had one mix- up because of alcohol in the military but after that kept the drinking under control. Drinking increased seriously after that for the next 12 to 14 years. He calls those years the worst ones of his life. He was living on 16 th Street. There were no happy times. He got into trouble with fighting and DUIs.

His younger brother died in 1976. Around that time, Bill at 31 received his last DUI and had to attend a new program offered through the City. He thought everyone had to do it and didn't think about other options such as quitting when it got bad enough. It never seemed to get bad enough. The program allowed him to keep his driver's license. He drove for a living and was a member of the teamsters, who had helped him find the program. As long as he stayed sober he

could keep his license and his job driving a truck.

Bill finished a 28-day program in Marin, then stayed on and cooked for them another month or so. He enrolled in a year-long program offered by the City and County of San Francisco and went to meetings. When the year ended, he went back to court and explained to the judge that he'd been attending this program. He had to explain his attendance at meeting as at that time court cards were hard to get signed. Members didn't want to "babysit" newcomers. He went to many more than 90 meetings in 90 days in his quest to get the papers signed.

his life. He still has a close relationship with his twins as adults.

His hardest decision was giving up "the life."

Two things brought him into program: the threat of jail and the need to keep his driver's license for work. He changed his ways. The first thing was to stop cashing his paycheck at his favorite bar. He wasn't always broke but 90% of his check was gone early on. He also saw the importance of focusing on his children. He wanted to be a good role model. Staying in the program helped him accomplish these things.



Slowly he continued to work the program and to get back on his feet. He fathered twins, a boy and a girl. He elected not to marry their mother but began raising the children when they were 18 months old. This is where he talks about all the positive changes in

As a newcomer his hardest decision was giving up "the life." He took a pledge with that judge many years back to not drink and to attend meetings. People told him then it was not a yearlong commitment but day-to-day. As a newcomer he saw little difference in what they were say-

ing. There was little change between day-to- day or a year. He did see that he had to make a whole lot of changes all at once and he says if he'd thought about it, he might not have done it. Now he understands the one thing/day at a time concept.

January 2017 The Point \perp 11



by Peter M.

The beginnings of Alcoholics Anonymous in San Francisco appear to date from an article in Liberty magazine published in 1939 and a visit from a New Jersey traveling salesman, Ray W., who met with a small group of interested locals in his room at the Clift Hotel in downtown San Francisco. These locals, including Ted C., were asked to be available for requests for help from potential new members, and Alcoholics Anonymous in San Francisco had its start. Ted C. reportedly had his struggles with sobriety but a meeting was begun at 51 Potomac Street with the help of Ted's non-alcoholic landlady. Out of these beginnings, the San Francisco fellowship grew as more meetings were organized, and visits from A.A. co-founder, Bill W., took place in 1943, 1948 and 1951 to help provide leadership and support. In January 1947, San Francisco's Central Office was opened at 693 Sutter Street in San Francisco. From these original stages, there are hundreds of meetings currently being held each week in San Francisco. This month we are celebrating Central Office's 70th Anniversary with an event from 1:00-9:00pm at the Gratitude Center, 1320 7th Avenue at Irving Street on January 21, 2017.

A variety of events are being planned throughout the day including presentations on the history of Central Office, our Service Committees, local Home Groups, an Old-Timer's Panel, and a sneak peek at Jackie B.'s new play, *I Am Responsible*. Celebrating our Home Groups and the service that Central Office has provided since 1947 will be the main focus of the January 2017 anniversary event. This is a great chance for you and your group to be involved. There is

Celebrating Central Office's 70th Anniversary at the Gratitude Center

more information about this event in this issue of *The Point* and it's not too late to be involved.

Anniversaries and birthdays are a time to take stock and recognize just how far our groups, local fellowship, and Central Office have come. There will be time at the celebration to share your Home Group's history, and experiences with Central Office that have helped you stay sober. Maybe you came into recovery through a phone call to Teleservice, or a 12th Step visit arranged by Central Office. Sections of the day's celebration will be recorded to help the Archives Committee with their task of preserving local information, and the efforts and service of members that have come before us. There are plans for a wall-hanging at the Gratitude Center where members can post photos, and write brief descriptions of their experiences to help commemorate this important anniversary.

One highlight of the day will be our Old-Timer's Panel where we will hear from members with extensive experience of what the local fellowship was like going back to the 1970s. Our recovery is about sharing our stories, and the shared experience of our long-time members can help support us with our recovery and group unity, and maintain an important connection with the early efforts to carry the A.A. message locally.

The doors of the Gratitude Center will be open to all, and there will be fellowship and items on display throughout the day; but be sure to check the schedule for those special parts of the day that you won't want to miss. Any questions, comments or to volunteer, please contact 70thanniversary@aasf.org.



DROP IN ANYTIME!!

1:00 pm History of Central Office and AA Clubs

2:15 pm Sneak preview of new Jackie B play "I Am Responsible"

3:00 pm Meet the Meetings: Mini Histories of notable meetings

4:00 pm 70 years of Committees & Service

5:00 pm Treasures from our Archives Committee

6:00 pm Meeting and Long-Timer Panel

7:00pm Buffet, DJ, Raffle, Games

January Events

70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SAN FRANCISCO/MARIN CENTRAL OFFICE INTERCOUNTY FELLOWSHIP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

WHEN Saturday, Jan 21, 2017 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm

WHERE

Gratitude Center, 1320 7th Ave, San Francisco 70thAnniversary@aasf.org www.aasf.org

Join us in fellowship as we celebrate 70 years of **recovery**, **unity**, **service**!

Bring a bit of history (old schedules, flyers, memorabilia) to **contribute** to our Archives Committee.

Anonymously **sign our Memory Wall** with your own message to future members.

Hosted by the Intergroup of the Intercounty Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous serving San Francisco and Marin

Reasonable Accommodations Policy: Persons requiring reasonable accommodations, including ASL interpreters, should contact Central Office (415) 674-1821 no later than five business days prior to the event.

BROADS WITHOUT BOOZE #28

Semi-Annual Women's Luncheon & A. A. Speaker Meeting

WHEN: Sunday, January 29th, 2017 11:30 a.m. – Fellowship / Lunch – 12:00 p.m. Sharp Open Speaker Meeting – 1:00–2:00 p.m. (Speaker: Kathleen C., San Francisco)

NOTE: Attending meeting only? Please arrive **no earlier** than 12:45 p.m. to allow luncheon to finish. Thank you.

WHERE: United Irish Cultural Center 2700 - 45th Avenue (near Sloat & SF Zoo), San Francisco, CA

Cost for lunch - \$28.00 (includes tax & tip)

Check payable to Kathy F. must be received by January 20th, 2016

Please mail to: BWB 1909 Kitty Hawk Place Alameda, CA 94501

*POLICY: All attendees must be pre-registered; registrations cannot be accepted the day of the event.

Please indicate your choice of entrée on your check (do not return flyer):

- Shrimp Louie
- Beef Cottage Pie
- Pasta Alfredo

Entrees will be served with soup, rolls & butter chocolate mousse, coffee & iced tea

For more info, contact: Kathy F. 415-710-3026 or email me at kathymaylcsw@gmail.com

Wit's End Step Study 31st Anniversary!



Tuesday, January 31, 2017

6:30pm Potluck

8pm Meeting

2540 Taraval St., San Francisco (between 35th & 36th Ave. @ Sunset Blvd)

January 2017 The Point + 13

Intergroup Meeting Summary – December 2016

The following groups have registered Intergroup Representatives who attended the last Intergroup meeting. If your meeting was not represented, please elect an Intergroup Representative (IGR) and/or an alternate so your meeting is represented.

Marin Groups	On Awakening	Blue Book Special	Extreme Makeover: Women's Step Study	Sunset Speaker Step
Friday Night Book	Thursday Night Speaker	Cocktail Hour	Girls Gone Mild	Too Early
Girls Night Out	SF Groups	Come 'n Get It!	Into Action	Waterfront
Men's Two Plus	Any Lengths	Cow Hollow Men's Group	Koo Koo Hump Day	What It's Like Now
Mill Valley	Be Still	Cow Hollow Young People	Mid-Morning Support	
Monday Blues	Beginners Warmup	Creative Alcoholics	Reality Farm	
Sunday Night Corte Madera	Big Book Basics	Eureka Step	Sometimes Slowly	

This is an unofficial summary of the December 2016 Intergroup meeting provided for convenience; it is not intended to be the completed approved minutes. For a complete copy of the minutes and full committee reports see "Intergroup" on our website www.aasf.org.

Our intergroup exists to support the groups in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the still suffering alcoholic by providing and coordinating services that are difficult for the individual groups to execute.

The Intercounty Fellowship has been organized by, and is responsible to, the member groups in San Francisco and Marin for the purpose of coordinating the services that individual groups cannot provide.

The meeting was held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 1187 Franklin St., San Francisco.

The meeting was started with a call to order and the Serenity Prayer. Baskets for rent and dinner were passed. The November 2016 minutes and the December 2016 agenda were approved.

Standing Reports

Board Chair, Chris H. The bookstore inventory was completed. Are groups doing elections right now and turning over their commitments? The budget was approved at the last meeting. Three Board positions will be available in June and the Board is looking for a Treasurer. The Board is thinking of ideas along the lines of the Faithful Fivers for contributions,

like how much did you pay for your last drink?

Treasurer, Matt S. for Bob W. Matt read the Treasurers report included in the handout. The rating for November was GOOD.

Central Office Manager, Maury P.

Detailed financial statements are posted on aasf.org with the other meeting information. Let Central Office know about holiday meeting closures; same with alcothons. Thanks to those who helped with the inventory; we have had bookstore sales of over \$80K so far this year and an inventory adjustment of less than \$400, which is less than half a percent. The office has five open phone shifts; we need volunteers.

Intergroup Committee/Activity Reports

Access, Gabrielle M. The next meeting will focus on graphics in the pamphlets for the visually impaired, and a discussion about diversity within the committee. Also be aware of people who have trouble getting to meetings and let them know about the services of the Access Committee.

Teleservice, Pete F. There are four open shifts right now; Pete's Chair commitment will end in February. They had their first real committee meeting and tightened up things by training and editing the database.

The Point, Ken J. Looking for volunteers to assemble *The Point*. Ask your groups to volunteer and suggest to newcomers or anyone looking for a service commitment. Next month, a

list will go around for potential volunteers. *The Point* is always looking for writers to contribute. The committee will start distributing copies to halfway houses and clubs around the city to increase visibility.

Orientation, Greg M. Greg could use another volunteer to help him at the orientation. He asked for IGRs to introduce themselves to the newbies. Passing around the signup sheet for those who are willing to reach out to new IGRs.

Liaison Reports

Marin Teleservice, Trevor J.

Finances were good last month. The Spaghetti Feed went well with great speakers and turnout. Shifts are available on Mondays and Wednesdays. All positions will change at the beginning of the year.

GGYPA, Mac E. Dance of Thrones last weekend went fantastically with the Venmo presales working well. There will an be open mic with PENYPAA this Sunday in San Mateo where they will also be hosting a Public Information workshop. GGYPAA is submitting bid package for ACYPAA this February and is hoping to get a letter of support from the Board.

Presentations

2017 Budget Presentation Matt

referred to the 2017 Budget. All committees project budgets. Alan asked about the prudent reserve? Maury gave a thorough explanation of how the budget works, and a history of what brought us to the numbers on the sheet tonight.

Individual Contributions

to Central Office were made through December 15, 2016 honoring the following members:

IN MEMORIUM

Flossie N. and Ray M.
Jennifer — Say Hey
John C. — 2900 Mission Fellowship

ANNIVERSARIES

Barbara M. — 59 years Kevin C. — 30 years

70th Anniversary Party Michael P. referred to the flyer. The event at the Gratitude Center, which holds about 60 people, will be more accessible and informal than originally planned. It will include a talk about the history of Central Office and a portion of Jackie B's new play, "I Am Responsible." If your meeting that has an "interesting" history, let Michael know. Five to ten groups will be invited to talk about the history of their group. Additionally, our production of Jackie B.'s new play will premier in February and tickets are on sale now.

UX User Experience Test/Intergroup FB Page Maury reported on the annual Intergroup Seminar and the National A.A. Technology Workshop and reviewed a presentation from the NAATW called "Digital Strategy for A.A. Websites". It asks what the goals of a websites are, who is it for and how will it help users achieve their goals. Next month we will do an interactive exercise in small groups. James also reported on his experience and expressed gratitude for being able to attend. A.A. is quite behind the times when it comes to technology, so this was a good opportunity to meet people, some who are savvy and some who are just looking for answers to technology problems. They discussed digital payment strategies and determined that A.A. is very early in this stage of its development. Other topics of discussion were: What are the best practices? How can we incorporate Slack and Facebook? On a local level, this will be brought to a vote at the next business meeting.

Old Business

James reported on our Venmo test run.

Group Reports/What's On Your Mind

Alan said he has been working with archives and found a meeting schedule from the 1940s that someone turned in after a member had passed away. An interesting tidbit is that the churches at 7th and Geary, Union/Steiner have been providing meeting spaces for 60 years. Alan also shared his personal reflections on the significance of the 7th Tradition.

Pete talked about "Sobriety by the Bay" coming up in January.

Thanks to Vanessa for taking the notes at the last meeting!

Targeted Message for the month:

- 70th Anniversary Party
- Tickets to I Am Responsible on sale now
- Please send in any Gratitude Month Contributions

Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Statement at 8:31pm.

Next Intergroup Meeting: Wednesday, Jan 4, 2017, at 7pm, 1187 Franklin St. in San Francisco. Orientation is at 6:15pm, dinner is served at 7pm.

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

The following is a list of names and email addresses for our Intergroup Officers and many of the committees. Please email that committee at the address below if you are interested in doing service on a committee, or if you wish to receive more information.

BOARD OFFICERS:

CHAIR Chris H. **chair@aasf.org**

VICE CHAIR
Matt S. vicechair@aasf.org

TREASURER [open] treasurer@aasf.org

RECORDING SECRETARY Liz M. secretary@aasf.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

ACCESS COMMITTEE
Gabrielle M. access@aasf.org

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE Michael P. archives@aasf.org

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE Michael P. fellowship@aasf.org

HOMEBOUND MARIN
Jane B. & David W. homeboundmarin@aasf.org

ORIENTATION COMMITTEE Greg M. orientation@aasf.org

SF PI/CPC COMMITTEE Peter B. picpc@aasf.org

SF TELESERVICE COMMITTEE Pete F. sfteleservice@aasf.org

SOS COMMITTEE Dorothy V. sos@aasf.org

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE
David C. & Carole P. sunshine@aasf.org

THE POINT

Jane B. **thepoint@aasf.org**

January 2017 The Point \pm 15

aa group contributions

Fellowship Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD	Marin Group Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD	San Francisco Group Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD
Contribution Box		\$617.33	North Marin Speaker Sun 12pm		\$446.94	6am Dry Dock W		\$68.00
Hoedown in the Hood	*****	\$631.00	Not a Glum Lot Group F 8pm		\$200.00	6am Men's Literature Meeting M		\$134.75
Intergroup	\$64.00	\$1,105.40	Novato Spirit Discussion F 2pm		\$95.00	7am Speaker Discussion Th 7am	ć70 17	\$80.40
Novato Fellowship Group	£44.00	\$655.98	On Awakening 7D 530am		\$2,650.00	A is for Alcohol Tu 6pm	\$78.17	\$607.27
Fellowship Total	\$64.00	\$3,009.71	Pathfinders Tu 12pm		\$78.65	A New Start F 830pm		\$631.37
Maria Crassa Cantaibutiana	Nov. 16	VTD	Primary Purpose M 12pm		\$60.00	AA As You Like It Tu 530pm		\$159.34
Marin Group Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD	Quitting Time M-F 530pm		\$2,873.21	Afro American Beginners Sat 8pm	ć205.00	\$271.80
12 & 12 Study Sa 815am		\$128.00	Refugee Th 12pm		\$50.00	Agnostics & Freethinkers Su 630pm	\$285.00	\$853.00
7AM Group 7D 7am		\$256.34	Reveille 7D 7am		\$381.20	All Towards on News Th. Communication		\$497.29
7am Urgent Care Group 7D 7am	ć1 154 43	\$75.00	Rise N Shine Su 10am		\$1,140.00	All Together Now Th 8pm		\$54.30
A Vision for You Su 730pm	\$1,154.43	\$1,154.43	San Geronimo Valley Book Study F 8pm		\$122.50	Alumni W 830pm		\$45.00
AA By The Bay Tue 730pm		\$86.00	San Geronimo Valley M 8pm		\$210.99	Any Lengths Sat 930am	ć4 045 43	\$1,080.00
Attitude Adjustment 7D 7am		\$4,400.00	San Marin Step Study Sa 830pm		\$120.00	Artists & Writers F 630pm	\$1,015.43	\$2,126.18
Awakenings Sat 830a		\$43.44	Saturday Weekend Warrior Sa 830am		\$229.63	As Bill CCs It Sun 8am	\$32.50	\$192.00
Awareness/Acceptance M 1030am		\$273.69	Saturday Women's Speaker Sa 6pm		\$209.28	As Bill Sees It Th 6pm		\$481.82
Back to Basics Su 930am		\$281.13	Serendipity Sa 11am		\$838.88	As Bill Sees It Th 830pm		\$261.70
Beginner's Help Th 8pm		\$75.00	Sisters In Sobriety Th 730pm		\$101.48	Ass in a Bag Th 830pm		\$416.40
Big Book Study & Meditiation M 7p Bolinas		\$23.70	Six O'Clock Step Th 6pm		\$100.50	Atheists, Agnostics & Others Sa 11am	\$100.00	\$150.00
Blackie's Pasture Sa 830pm		\$600.00	Six O'Clock Sunset Th 6pm		\$300.00	Back to Basics Su 930am		\$126.50
Bolinas Book Study W 8pm		\$55.80	Sober & Serene F 7pm	\$255.00	\$638.58	Back to Basics Th 730pm		\$430.00
Closed Women's Step Study Tu 330pm		\$159.96	Sober Sisters W 12pm		\$92.75	Be Still AA Su 12pm		\$945.84
Corte Madera Saturday Candlelight 8pm	\$126.30	\$543.80	Spiritual Testosterone Stag Su 830a		\$500.00	Beginner Big Book Step Th 630pm		\$124.17
Cover to Cover W 730pm		\$150.00	Steps to Freedom M 730pm		\$114.50	Beginners' Step Study Sat 7pm		\$159.90
Crossroads Sun 12pm	\$129.15	\$1,327.10	Steps To The Solution W 715pm	\$167.72	\$167.72	Beginners Warm Up W 6pm		\$404.29
Day At A Time 7D 630am	\$300.00	\$750.00	Stinson Beach Fellowship Th 8pm		\$200.00	Bernal Big Book Sat 5pm		\$854.77
Fairfax 12 & 12 Tu 730pm	\$23.00	\$23.00	Streetfighters Sa 9am		\$100.00	Bernal New Day 7D	\$379.20	\$2,822.75
Fireside Fri 8pm Bolinas		\$23.70	Sunday Express Su 6pm		\$495.79	Best Damn Big Book Discussion Th 8pm		\$108.00
Friday Night Book F 830pm		\$584.33	Sunday Friendship Su 6pm		\$168.00	Between the Lines Sat 1p		\$36.00
Girls Night Out W 815pm	\$76.00	\$76.00	Sundown W 7pm		\$200.00	Big Book Basics F 8pm		\$846.59
Glum Not! Su 9am		\$400.00	T.G.I. Tuesday 6pm		\$80.00	Big Book Boot Camp 5D		\$160.00
God Could & Would 5D M-F		\$201.00	Terra Linda Thursday Men's Stag Th 8pm		\$665.30	Big Book Study Su 1130am		\$400.00
Gratitude Tu 8pm		\$200.00	The Barnyard Group Sa 4pm		\$362.25	Blue Book Special Su 11am	\$127.71	\$679.35
Greenfield Newcomers Su 7pm		\$237.80	The Broad Highway Thu 730pm San Anselmo		\$555.85	Brothers in Arms M 8pm		\$134.89
Happy Destiny F 7pm	\$200.00	\$200.00	There is a Solution Tu 6pm		\$59.48	Buena Vista Breakfast Su 12pm		\$542.00
Happy Hour (Marin) Th 6pm		\$80.00	There Is a Solution W 630pm		\$60.00	BYOL W 1pm		\$28.89
Happy, Joyous & Free 5D 12pm	\$375.00	\$1,144.93	Three Step Group Sa 530pm		\$1,161.49	Came to Park Sat 7pm		\$1,111.20
High & Dry W 12pm		\$75.00	Thursday Night Speaker 830pm		\$1,372.18	Castro Call Out Sun 830p		\$150.00
Inverness Sunday Serenity Su 10am		\$345.33	Tiburon Women's Candlelight W 8pm		\$45.41	Castro Monday Big Book M 830pm		\$172.89
Just Can't Wait 'til 8 M 630pm		\$250.00	Tuesday Chip Meeting Tu 830pm		\$1,006.00	Cocoanuts Su 9am		\$570.18
Keep It Simple Sister Thu 7pm		\$150.00	We, Us and Ours M 650pm	\$34.00	\$479.49	Coit's Quitters	\$60.00	\$513.65
Larkspur Beginners F 7pm		\$225.13	Wednesday Mid-Week W 6pm		\$80.00	Come 'n Get It! F 630pm		\$78.00
Larkspur Beginners W 7pm		\$50.00	Wednesday Night Speaker Disc 7pm	\$356.00	\$1,405.73	Compass Group W 9pm		\$410.40
Last Stop Men's Step Study W 6pm		\$250.00	What's It All About F 12pm		\$85.00	Cow Hollow Men's Group W 8pm	\$850.64	\$2,867.41
Living in the Solution F 6pm		\$650.00	Wholly Together 11th Step Med W 7p		\$224.88	Creative Alcoholics M 630pm	\$2.00	\$53.50
Living Sober M 6pm		\$33.00	Why It Works Sun 6pm		\$678.10	Design For Living - Big Book Tu, Th 730am		\$119.70
Los Ranchitos W 830pm		\$500.00	Women's Big Book Tu 1030am		\$2,010.70	Design for Living Sat 8am		\$325.08
Marin City Groups 6D 630pm		\$200.00	Women's Lunch Bunch F 12pm		\$496.50	Down and Dirty at Seven-Thirty Fri		\$63.00
Marin Teleservice		\$1,500.00	Working Dogs W 12pm	\$206.01	\$1,100.51	Down and Dirty at Seven-Thirty Mon	\$4.00	\$133.00
Marin Young People F 830pm		\$152.30	Young People's BYOB Sat 7pm	\$50.00	\$132.00	Down and Dirty at Seven-Thirty Thu	\$13.00	\$109.00
Men's 2 Plus M 7pm		\$111.00	Young People's Chopsticks Sa 1030pm	\$35.00	\$123.00	Down and Dirty at Seven-Thirty Tue	\$10.00	\$141.46
Mill Valley 11th Step Mtg Tu 730pm		\$350.00	Marin Total	\$3,987.61	\$49,410.00	Down and Dirty at Seven-Thirty Wed	\$8.70	\$155.90
Mill Valley 7D 7am		\$990.00				Each Day a New Beginning F 7am		\$2,129.60
Mill Valley Discussion W 830pm		\$248.50	San Francisco Group Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD	Each Day a New Beginning M 7am		\$642.59
Monday Blues M 645pm		\$563.95	10am Daily Reflections Th		\$23.00	Each Day A New Beginning Su 8am	\$158.40	\$572.22
Monday Night Madness M 6pm		\$50.00	11 at 6 Thu 6a		\$6.00	Each Day a New Beginning Th 7am		\$716.70
Monday Night Stag Tiburon	\$500.00	\$1,500.00	11th Step Power Power	\$58.65	\$344.45	Each Day a New Beginning Tu 7am		\$1,362.66
Monday Nooners M 12pm		\$1,117.58	20+ Sun 445pm (unlisted)		\$492.39	Each Day a New Beginning W 7am		\$1,022.84
Morning After Sa 10am		\$1,300.00	6am Dry Dock Fri		\$145.00	Early Start F 6pm		\$2,223.45
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Noon Hope		\$175.00	6am Dry Dock Mon		\$250.00	Easy Does It Tu 6pm		\$100.00

 $16 \mid \mathit{The\,Point}$ January 2017

San Francisco Group Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD	San Francisco Group Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD	San Francisco Group Contributions	Nov. 16	YTD
Embarcadero Group 5D 1210pm	\$150.00	\$675.00	Monday Beginners M 8pm		\$1,561.41	Sunday Rap Su 8pm Sunday Silence Su 730pm		\$617.02 \$128.00
Epiphany Group Th 7pm		\$293.00 \$432.53	Monday Men's Stag (SF) M 8pm		\$226.46 \$112.94	, '		\$1,461.14
Eureka Step Tu 6pm		\$619.86	Monday Monday M 1215pm Monday Night Big Book Study M 8pm		\$180.00	Sundown W 7pm Sunset 11'ers F		\$1,401.14
Eureka Valley Topic M 6pm			, , , , ,		\$318.18	Sunset 11'ers Su		\$100.00
Everyone Shares Sun Midnight		\$4.00	Moving Toward Serenity W 830pm					
Excelsior "Scent" Free For All Sa 5pm		\$300.00	New Friday Big Book F 12pm		\$106.21	Sunset 11'ers Th		\$70.00
Experience, Strength & Hope Sat 9am		\$156.60	New Light Brigade Sun 630p		\$50.00	Sunset 11'ers Tu		\$29.00
Faith, Hope & Charity F 12pm		\$120.00	Newcomers Tu 8pm		\$173.96	Sunset 9'ers M		\$125.00
Federal Speaker Su 12pm		\$617.17	No Gurus Meditation Su 7pm		\$250.00	Sunset 9'ers Su		\$157.00
Fell Street F 830pm		\$476.15	No Reservations M 12pm		\$88.00	Sunset 9'ers Tu		\$134.85
Firefighters & Friends Tu 10am		\$237.45	Noon Smokeless F 12pm Noon Smokeless W 12pm		\$40.00	Sunset Group W 730pm Sunset Reflections Th 1pm		\$8.00
Fireside Chat Group Th 8pm		\$142.80	'		\$40.00	'	ć201.2 <i>C</i>	\$9.42
Fireside Chat Group Tu 8pm		\$46.46	NYX Sat 7pm		\$280.20	Sunset Speaker Step Su 730pm	\$291.36	\$954.36
Fourth Dimension Solution Th 515pm		\$26.18	O.A.D.W. Mon 7pm		\$68.22	Ten Years After Su 6pm		\$1,470.16
Friday All Groups F 830pm		\$718.00	One, Two, Three, Go! W 1pm		\$20.00	The 4th Dimension Sa 630pm		\$150.00
Friday at Five F 5pm		\$64.59	Panhandle Th 830pm	4427.50	\$285.00	The Drive Thru W 1215pm		\$1,049.84
Friday Morning 12 Steppers 7am		\$75.00	Park Presidio M 830pm	\$137.59	\$204.91	The Leaky Cauldron Su 930am		\$951.34
Friday Smokeless F 8pm		\$169.82	Parkside Th 8pm		\$560.27	The Parent Trap 2 W 4pm		\$279.30
Friendly Circle Beginners Su 715p		\$387.00	Pax West Discussion Th 12pm		\$711.94	There is a Solution in the Bayview Tu 7pm		\$156.00
Get Up and Go Thu 7am		\$27.00	Pax West Literature Discussion Tu 12pm		\$881.53	They Stopped In Time M 8pm		\$120.77
Girls Night Out W 815pm		\$120.38	Pax West Prayer and Meditation F 7am		\$129.60	Thursday Lunch With Bill 12p		\$21.00
Gold Mine Group M 8pm		\$136.38	Pax West Prayer and Meditation M 7am		\$279.60	Thursday Night Women's Th 630pm		\$705.11
Goodlands Su 2pm		\$86.89	Pax West Speaker Discussion M 12pm		\$1,885.14	Thursday Thumpers Th 7pm		\$300.00
Gratitude Center Fellowship		\$15.00	Pocket Aces Sun 7pm		\$489.66	Too Early Sa 8am	\$183.21	\$984.60
Grouch and the Brainstorm Thu 630pm		\$120.00	Potrero Hill 12 x 12 M 630pm		\$161.73	Trudgers Discussion Su 7pm		\$360.00
Haight Street Blues Tu 615pm		\$152.00	Progress Not Perfection Tu 830pm	\$184.00	\$184.00	Tuesday Big Book Study Tu 6pm		\$284.73
Haight Street Explorers Th 630pm		\$300.02	Raising the Bottom W 8pm		\$477.00	Tuesday Downtown Tu 8pm		\$90.00
Happy Hour F 630pm	\$60.00	\$60.00	Reality Farm Th 830pm		\$658.50	Tuesday Night Lasses Step Study	\$198.00	\$374.25
Heavy Hitters		\$569.34	Rebound W 830pm		\$101.35	Twelve Steps to Happiness F 730pm		\$100.00
High Noon 5D		\$185.40	Refugee Th 12pm		\$40.00	Valencia Smokefree F 6pm	\$216.07	\$1,138.87
High Noon Friday 1215pm	\$400.00	\$483.00	Relapses, Rebounds, Retreads & Winners Tu		\$5.00	Wake Up On 3rd St Group		\$173.00
High Noon Monday 1215pm	\$432.00	\$708.20	Rigorous Honesty Th 1205pm		\$336.99	Walk of Shame W 830pm		\$169.69
High Noon Saturday 1215pm		\$752.80	Saturday Afternoon Meditation Sa 5pm		\$500.25	We Care Tu 12pm	\$241.07	\$502.86
High Noon Sunday 1215p		\$458.40	Saturday Beginners Sat 6pm		\$2,513.12	Wednesday Noon Step Study 12p		\$510.14
High Noon Thursday 1215pm		\$621.37	Saturday Easy Does It Sa 12pm		\$861.95	Wednesday Sunrise Smokefree 7am		\$60.00
High Noon Tuesday 1215pm		\$145.48	Saturday Matinee SA		\$30.00	Weekend Update Su 615pm		\$346.56
High Noon Wednesday 1215pm		\$315.02	Saturday Matinee Sa 2pm		\$67.60	Weekend Warriors Sa 830am		\$258.50
High Sobriety M 8pm		\$292.67	Saturday Night Regroup Sa 730pm		\$275.00	Weekend Worker Sat 7am		\$210.00
High Steppers W 7pm		\$288.00	Saturday Weekend Warrior Sa 830am		\$320.50	West Portal W 8pm		\$571.70
Higher Power W 6am		\$5.00	Say Hey Group T-F 6pm		\$100.00	Wharf Rats Th 815pm		\$366.78
Hilldwellers M 8pm	\$190.61	\$573.31	Serenity House	\$150.00	\$1,650.00	What It's Like Now M 6pm		\$549.69
Hoodlum Haven F 8pm		\$360.00	Serenity Now Tue 830p		\$166.80	Wholly Together 11th Step Meditation W 7p		\$98.08
Huntington Square W 630pm		\$366.34	Serenity Seekers M 730pm		\$1,003.63	Why Not Laugh Sat 6p		\$101.00
In The Solution Sa 9am	\$10.25	\$53.25	Shamrocks & Serenity M 730pm		\$702.00	Wits End Step Study Tu 8pm		\$135.74
Jaywalkers Th 10am	\$10.00	\$10.00	Sharing Wisdom Sat 730am	\$23.50	\$54.25	Women's 10 Years Plus Th 615pm	\$210.00	\$1,072.26
Joe and Charlie Tapes Fri 730am	\$5.00	\$78.40	Sinbar Su 8pm	\$182.16	\$429.03	Women's Big Book Study Tu 1150am		\$80.00
Join the Tribe Tu 7pm		\$736.00	Sober Saturday Sa 830am	\$62.80	\$662.64	Women's Came to Believe Sa 10am		\$748.44
Joys of Recovery Tu 8pm		\$18.00	Sobriety & Beyond W 730pm		\$553.55	Women's Candlelight Thu 1150am		\$40.55
Keep Coming Back Sa 10am		\$1,287.63	Sobriety & Miracles S&M Group Sa 5pm		\$156.00	Women's Kitchen Table Tu 630pm		\$410.53
Like A Prayer Su 4pm		\$180.00	Sometimes Slowly Sa 11am		\$1,170.75	Women's Meeting There is a Solution W 6pm		\$328.80
Living Sober @ Gratitude Su 4pm		\$33.00	Speaker Discussion F 1pm		\$68.19	Women's Promises F 7pm		\$1,418.30
Living Sober with HIV W 6pm		\$526.99	Spiritual Awakenings Step Study M 730pm	\$93.00	\$126.00	Work In Progress Sa 7pm		\$1,112.95
Lush Lounge Sa 2pm		\$270.83	Step It Up Tue 6pm	\$10.00	\$88.15	YAHOO Step Sa 1130am		\$324.00
Meditation, Prayer & Share Tue 730pm		\$145.00	Steppin' Up Tu 630pm		\$468.73	Young at Heart Sa 930am		\$201.00
Meeting Place Noon F 12pm		\$260.40	Steps To The Solution W 715pm		\$377.38	Young People's BYOB Sat 7pm		\$122.50
Mellow Mission Sunrise M 7am		\$54.00	Stonestown M 8pm		\$415.80	San Francisco Total	\$6,724.02	\$103,280.00
Men's Gentle Touch M 7pm		\$429.40	Sunday Bookworms Su 730pm		\$62.61		, .,, . =	,, 200, 103
Mid-Morning Support Su 1030am		\$1,209.54	Sunday Morning Gay Men's Stag Su 930am		\$801.60	YTD	\$10,775.63	\$155,699.65
Miracle (Way) Off 24th St W 730pm		\$487.33	Sunday Night 3rd Step Group 5pm	\$100.00	\$1,082.00			
Mission Fellowship		\$253.52	Sunday Night Castro Speaker Disc Su 730pm	7100.00	\$1,753.83			
		7255.52			, .,. 55.05			

January 2017 $\textit{The Point} \; \mid \; 17$

Profit and Loss Statement: October 2016

	0ct 16	Budget	Ja	n - Oct 16	ΥΊ	D Budget		_	Oct 16	В	ıdget	Jai	n - Oct 16	ΥT	D Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense							Office Supplies	\$	174	\$	174	\$	1,021	\$	1,740
Income							Paper Purchased	\$	-	\$	91	\$	1,021	\$	910
Gratitude Month	\$ -	\$ -	\$	3,205	\$	7,575	Payroll Fees	\$	11	\$	10	\$	82	\$	100
Group Contributions	\$ 18,748	\$ 10,000	\$	146,215	\$	130,400	Bank Fees	\$	-			\$	8		
Individual Contributions	\$ 1,753	\$ 3,722	\$	43,557	\$	37,220	Bad Checks	\$	-	\$	-	\$	24	\$	-
Newsletter Subscript.	\$ -	\$ -	\$	66	\$	-	Reconciliation Discrepancies	\$	-			\$	64		
Sales - Bookstore	\$ 7,353	\$ 8,387	\$	75,390	\$	83,870	Phone Book Listings	\$	93	\$	93	\$	837	\$	930
Customer Shipping	\$ 390	\$ 296	\$	3,428	\$	2,954	Postage	\$	247	\$	108	\$	809	\$	1,080
Bag Fees	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$	27	\$	30	Printing	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	695
Intergroup Event Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	\$	2,300	Professional Fees	\$	725	\$	-	\$	1,450	\$	1,425
Total Income	\$ 28,247	\$ 22,408	\$	271,888	\$	264,349	Rent - Office	\$	4,458	\$	4,488	\$	44,582	\$	44,880
Cost of Goods Sold							Rent - Other	\$	-	\$	85	\$	750	\$	850
Cost of Books Sold	\$ 5,177	\$ 4,529	\$	54,992	\$	59,351	Repair & Maintenance	\$	247	\$	269	\$	2,755	\$	2,690
COGS Shipping	\$ 46	\$ 29	\$	337	\$	290	Security System	\$	-	\$	43	\$	439	\$	430
Shipping Orders	\$ 207	\$ 283	\$	2,801	\$	2,834	Telephone	\$	179	\$	175	\$	2,164	\$	1,750
Credit Card Processing	\$ 383	\$ 325	\$	4,369	\$	3,753	Training	\$	180	\$	44	\$	219	\$	436
Inventory Adjustments	\$ (4)	\$ -	\$	(226)	\$	-	Travel	\$	1,248	\$	-	\$	1,259	\$	1,200
Total COGS	\$ 5,809	\$ 5,166	\$	62,273	\$	66,228	Total Expense	\$	20,390	\$ 1	9,195	\$	194,189	\$	204,114
Gross Profit	\$ 22,438	\$ 17,242	\$	209,615	\$	198,121	Net Ordinary Income	\$	\$ 2,048		(1,953)	\$	15,426	\$	(5,993)
Expense							Other Income/Expense								
Committees	\$ 267	\$ 71	\$	364	\$	710	Other Income								
Employee Expenses	\$ 12,026	\$ 13,364	\$	123,768	\$	133,640	Interest Income	\$	46	\$	42	\$	450	\$	416
Equipment Lease	\$ -	\$ -	\$	4,081	\$	3,675	Miscellaneous Income	\$	81	\$	30	\$	618	\$	300
Filing/Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$	357	\$	930	Total Other Income	\$	127	\$	72	\$	1,068	\$	716
Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$	2,488	\$	1,890	Other Expense								
Intergroup Events	\$ 386	\$ -	\$	3,123	\$	2,350	Depreciation Expense	\$	205	\$	205	\$	2,050	\$	2,050
Intergroup Literature	\$ -	\$ 2	\$	-	\$	20	Gain/Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	\$	136			\$	136		
Internet Expense	\$ 149	\$ 135	\$	1,493	\$	1,350	Total Other Expense	\$	341	\$	205	\$	2,186	\$	2,050
IT Hardware Purchased	\$ -		\$	326			Net Other Income	\$	(214)	\$	(133)	\$	(1,118)	\$	(1,334)
IT Software Purchased	\$ -	\$ 43	\$	705	\$	433	Net Income	\$	1,834	\$ ((2,086)	\$	14,308	\$	(7,327)

Treasurer's Report

For October 2016, Gross Profit (defined as Total Income less COGS) was \$22,438, over budget by \$5,196. Total Expenses for October were \$20,390, over budget by \$1,195 due to timing of and additional travel expenses (NAATW). The result is Net Ordinary Income of \$2,048. Net Income for October was \$1,834. Net Income incorporates other income and expenses. Net Income Year-To-Date (YTD) is at \$14,308. Net Income is \$21,635 over budget for YTD through October 2016, primarily due to strong group contributions and employee expenses under budget because of vacancies in special worker positions during the year.

Group Contributions for October were \$18,748. This is over budget by \$8,748. Group Contributions YTD at \$146,215 are \$15,815 over budget.

Total Unrestricted Cash for October 2016 was \$36,191. Total Unrestricted Cash is up \$8,373 from September 2016, primarily due to group contributions over budget. Unrestricted Cash is almost two months of operating expenses.

The rating for October is "Good", an improvement from "Poor" in September, and in good position as Gratitude Month contributions are received in November and December.

OVERALL RATING: Good

Intergroup Finance Rating System

Every month we rate our monthly finances as "Excellent", "Good", "Fair" or "Poor". Generally speaking, here are the definitions of those terms:

EXCELLENT: We exceeded our budget. Our income was greater than our expenses for the month and we have more than two months' worth of operating expenses in unrestricted cash balances. Operating expenses are roughly \$19K/month, so we'd have over \$38K in unrestricted cash balances for the month. The last time we were "Excellent" was last month July 2016.

GOOD: We are meeting our budget. Our income for the month, or for the YTD, was slightly greater than our

October 2016 Balance Sheet

	0	ct 31, 16	S	ep 30, 16	\$ Change		(ot 31, 15	\$ Change		
ASSETS											
Current Assets											
Checking/Savings											
Restricted Cash	\$	131,709	\$	132,902	\$	(1,193)	\$	162,340	\$	(30,631)	
Unrestricted Cash	\$	36,191	\$	27,818	\$	8,373	\$	7,598	\$	28,593	
Total Checking/Savings	\$	167,900	\$	160,720	\$	7,180	\$	169,938	\$	(2,038)	
Accounts Receivable											
Accounts Receivable	\$	27	\$	7	\$	20	\$	240	\$	(213)	
Total Accounts Receivable	\$	27	\$	7	\$	20	\$	240	\$	(213)	
Other Current Assets											
Inventory - Bookstore	\$	27,095	\$	28,000	\$	(905)	\$	20,099	\$	6,996	
Prepaid Literature Orders	\$	824	\$	854	\$	(30)	\$	2,102	\$	(1,278)	
Undeposited Funds	\$	365	\$	3,389	\$	(3,024)	\$	176	\$	189	
Total Other Current Assets	\$	28,284	\$	32,243	\$	(3,959)	\$	22,377	\$	5,907	
Total Current Assets	\$	196,211	\$	192,970	\$	3,241	\$	192,555	\$	3,656	
Fixed Assets											
Computers and Office Equip.	\$	1,629	\$	1,806	\$	(177)	\$	1,385	\$	244	
Leasehold Improvements	\$	14,254	\$	14,419	\$	(165)	\$	16,234	\$	(1,980)	
Total Fixed Assets	\$	15,883	\$	16,225	\$	(342)	\$	17,619	\$	(1,736)	
Other Assets											
Deposits	\$	6,698	\$	6,698	\$	-	\$	6,698	\$	-	
Total Other Assets	\$	6,698	\$	6,698	\$	-	\$	6,698	\$	-	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	218,792	\$	215,893	\$	2,899	\$	216,872	\$	1,920	
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities											
Current Liabilities											
Other Current Liabilities											
Direct Deposit Liabilities	\$	-	\$	(1,202)	\$	1,202	\$	-	\$	-	
Payroll Liabilities	\$	3,888	\$	4,009	\$	(121)	\$	3,859	\$	29	
Sales Tax Payable	\$	642	\$	659	\$	(17)	\$	556	\$	86	
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$	4,530	\$	3,466	\$	1,064	\$	4,415	\$	115	
Total Current Liabilities	\$	4,530	\$	3,466	\$	1,064	\$	4,415	\$	115	
Long Term Liabilities											
Deferred Compensation	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	30,000	\$	(30,000)	
Total Long Term Liabilities	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	30,000	\$	(30,000)	
Total Liabilities	\$	4,530	\$	3,466	\$	1,064	\$	34,415	\$	(29,885)	
Equity											
Net Assets	\$	199,954	\$	199,954	\$	-	\$	214,601	\$	(14,647)	
Net Income	\$	14,308	\$	12,473	\$	1,835	\$	(32,146)	\$	46,454	
Total Equity	\$	214,262	\$	212,427	\$	1,835	\$	182,455	\$	31,807	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$	218,792	\$	215,893	\$	2,899	\$	216,870	\$	1,922	

expenses and we'd have approximately 1.5 - 2 months of operating expenses in unrestricted cash balances.

FAIR: We are not meeting our budget. Our expenses were greater than our income for the month and for the YTD - and our unrestricted cash balance

would be somewhere between 1 and 1.5x our operating expenses.

POOR: We are not meeting our budget and our unrestricted cash balances fell below one month of operating expenses. The last time we were "poor" was in September 2016.



Faithful Fivers are A.A. members Who graciously pledge to contribute at least \$5 each month toward the support of Central Office. Faithful Fiver contributions go a long way in helping make our vital services possible. We thank the following members:

(Continued from Page 5)

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The Birthday Plan has been an A.A. tradition since 1955. Contributions to express gratitude for sobriety can be made in any amount. Some send a dollar per year; others, a penny a day. We would like to list in *The Point* your first name and last initial with number of years sober.

January 2017 $\textit{The Point} \perp 19$

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