

The Wagon Wheel

Idaho Area 18's Newsletter

Editor, Karen F.

March 2007

DISTRICT DONATIONS TO AREA

July 30, 2006--March 10, 2007

District 1	\$1,511.99
District 10	314.00
District 11	495.00
District 2	1,163.62
District 3	156.05
District 4	500.00
District 5	1,255.31
District 6	202.05
District 7	379.00
District 8	1,629.43
District 9	484.15

EDITOR'S NOTE

It is time for another edition of the newsletter. What an awesome experience this has been; to be of service to my friends and family in alcoholics anonymous.

I want to send out a big thank-you to all of you who actually take the time to be of service to others in and out of the rooms of A. A. Those people who read this newsletter really do enjoy it.

I announce in meetings that I need people to be of service and write a story or send a poem for our newsletter all

the time and what I find amazing is how many say they don't have time or they don't know what they would say. Writing your story is just like talking in a meeting. It's service; when we share our experience, strength and hope.

Amazing how some of you can talk for 15 minutes or longer in a meeting, but to ask you to put it on paper is just like telling someone they need to do some writing of inventory, journaling, or to work with a newcomer.

If you are still unsure of what to write about, you could share, with the readers, what your last drunk was like in a general way and what it took for you to come into AA. I would drink over the slightest issues and then I would drink over big things.

Someone reading this right now could use your encouragement. Please think about sharing apart of you with us and submit your stories for the next issue. Start writing today and submit it online via the website or you can send it to me in the mail.

Remit to: Idaho Area 18
Newsletter 10007 West

Lancelot Ave. Boise, Idaho 837 or the website address is

www.Idahoarea18aa.org.

Hit the newsletter link to view last issues and a link to submit your story to the newsletter. It will be forwarded to me.

Thanks again for all of you who have taken the time to share a part of you with us.

Karen F. Boise,
Newsletter Editor

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Today I asked for a blessing in my life and went to a fellowship meeting. The leader spoke about being thankful for having a personal testimony of our father in heaven, after listening to all that was said my joy was so great. I received this blessing too.

My history in drinking goes back to when I was 16 years of age. The pain was both physical and emotional; all I wanted to do was bury it so I did not have to deal with life.

By the time I was 17; I was so far gone into alcohol and drugs I did not love anyone or anything.

I got married at the age of 19. There was eight years of alcohol and drugs during my marriage before I started having children. Even then I could not get sober and by God's grace I did not lose my children to the state, however, it was close.

In 1994, our family moved to Boise. I got months, I got 2 yrs, and I got months again. I worked with a sponsor up until step 7 then refused to do the work, I quit going to meetings and got drunk again. I stayed drunk for several more years.

When I came back this time, I knew I had to stay sober because I really wanted a different way to live. There are several key women in my life today who loved me until I could love myself told me to keep coming back, don't leave before the miracle happens. They showed me that life happens and there are pitfalls and hurdles to go through with the help of a higher power and a sponsor and the steps.

I am so grateful to be a member of AA.

**Love to all
Kathleen B., Boise**

A YOUNG PERSONS JOURNEY IN RECOVERY

My name is Andy and I am an Alcoholic and an Addict. I know that now. Not because I drank and did drugs but because I had to have them. This is sad but true. I was drinking and using even with

facing the consequence of going to Montana to a boys home; where I would shovel cow manure, and sing hymns all day. It's not like that does not sound fun... but I just do not want to it.

I found my self drinking and using no matter what the cost I didn't care. I can't explain why I didn't care; it to me was just a symptom of it all.

It did not matter who I hurt, who would be affected, or whom I had to step on among the way. I just wanted that drink.

I am often asked, "how could you do that?" To be honest, I did not care at the time. Now I am trying to clean up the wreckage that I have caused and I have had to swallow a lot of truth about myself. I have to accept the fact that I am a cheating, manipulating, lying, thieving, horrible careless kid.

However, I was told that I do not have to be that way forever, if I do not want to. I can not do it alone. I have to lean on other people and a power greater than myself if I am going to make it in this world. And my life depends on it.

I was born in Pocatello Idaho. My first experience with alcohol was with my brother and an older friend. We all stole a beer from my dad and went out into our back yard and popped the top and started drinking. I did not care much for the taste and almost everyone in my whole extended family drank. I

found that out later down the line. I would become fond if drinking and I thought that was normal.

I did not feel anything the first time, but I knew what it did to people so I thought that the feeling would soon come for me in time. I was born in 1990; by 1997, my parents had divorced. And in 1998, we moved to Boise where we would venture to find a place to live. Until then, my older brother, my younger sister, and I would go back to Pocatello to see our father.

While I was there I would get into his liquor cabinet below the counter and steal swigs from different bottles. I would never tell anyone because I then knew that my brother and sister would squeal like a stuffed pig; so I kept my mouth shut.

When I was about eight or nine, I would break into peoples' garages and steal alcohol. I heard the girl down the street say that her boyfriend did it, so I thought what I was doing was the cool thing to do. I would wait until the sun would go down until I made my run. I would walk by, locate the fridge, look around for anyone, and then I would quickly run in open the fridge grab whatever was there and run off down the street. I would figure out ways to get it back to my house without anyone knowing.

I did that until about a year ago when another person and I was chased down the road. I jumped into the bushes;

saying to myself that I am glad I can run and I would never do that again. I guess you could say that stealing alcohol was a habit of mine. But do not ask me why I did it because I could not tell you. I often use the phrase young and dumb. However, when can I stop saying that?

I drank as often as I could, I would steal it as often I could, and I just wanted to drink. I saw that it was the life style of so many people. So I thought that why not get an early start so I can do it better than others when I'm older.

That was until I found my other love, Marijuana. My first experience was when I was about 11 when my brother and a bunch of his friends all went to one of their friends' house and one of his friends Jake had a little black case, he had about 10 dollars worth and a pipe. I remember it coming to me about 5 times and not knowing how to rip it but they showed me. I didn't feel it as much as alcohol but the next time hit me hard. I was with the same guy who brought it and we smoked it and we went for a walk. My throat burned so bad but I couldn't do anything about it. I was high and stumbling around looking at all the cars zooming around. I was scared.

I had never felt that very ever. Who would have known that what I was doing was insane? I sure did not. Down the road from me, lives

a kid that smoked a lot. I remember calling him and asking if he wanted to hang out, he said, "Yeah, I'm over at this Jakes house."

They were out back in a tent-smoking weed, a lot of weed. I rolled up to their house at about 9 o'clock and they kept passing me the bong. I must have ripped it at least 20 times it was so bad I could barely stand; let alone walk. It was an experience I will never forget.

I think I liked it because I did not feel, I did not feel scared, sad, hurt, angry, nothing, I was just chilling in my own world, and that feeling of not feeling would be the cause of my using and drinking. It did not matter what had happened to me, what I have done, nothing, I had nothing to fear.

This whole time I never realized what I was doing, hurting my parents especially, and doing what was terribly wrong in many perspectives. I was drinking, smoking weed and stealing from people who I did not even know.

I hear the phrase "Cunning, Baffling, Powerful." In addition, I can attest to that. I then started hanging out with those people a lot because I was a fan of what they did. I also met through them and school the party boys. The people who would go out every weekend to drink and smoke weed. I loved them immediately. We drank all the time and it was killing my school grades, I would drink

and think of nothing else, I still do not know algebra. I cannot remember all the times I drank with them and I hope I never do. I have to make many amends to people because of the crap I pulled while thinking I was invincible with those people and girls. I had the mindset I was the coolest dude just because I could drink, smoke, and get girls. I was the man. I had a few jobs throughout my high school years, its weird how, but it seems as though there is always someone who smokes weed and drinks at work, I was attracted to them immediately.

I remember one particular day, where I took viacodin at work. I was working at a car was at that time and I left a car in drive throughout the tunnel. I could have hurt or killed anyone in there at the time but I was lucky someone caught the car before it ran into a busy road or someone just walking along.

Yeah I was fired, I was lucky I left without someone's life no longer breathing, I was close.

I got into a lot of trouble during those years, my parents knew I was using and drinking but when they tried to talk to me about it, it would go in one ear and out the other. I was drinking, smoking weed, taking painkillers, but it was not enough. I then tried cocaine at work one day and I loved it, I loved the feeling of anxious for anything, I was also scared because I was

scared of me getting hooked, but what was one more addiction? I was sold!

I still believe it was my first line of coke that caught me. I did it often and as much as I could. It was taking me down, but I did not care, I had what I wanted, I regret that the most, I wish I could have seen where my life was going. I lost my job, my grades in school were horrible, I had a family who did not trust me, old friends who would never talk to me again, and about 30 pounds lighter than I was before, but I thought everything was dandy.

It still hurts me to think of all the wreckage I have caused. I can still see the hurt in my parents' eyes when I look at them. That thought of "Wonder if he is lying to me?" and "Is he going where he says he is?"

I was then put into an Intensive Outpatient rehabilitation center where I attend four out of the seven days of the week. It has changed my life immensely. It has opened my eyes to how much damage I have created and that I am not the victim in this world, my family and friends are, because of me.

I now attend the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and I love it. I have now found the people who actually care and love me, not because they think I have alcohol or drugs, but because they like Andy. That right there means the most to me

they like me, for me. You cannot put a price on that.

My sober date is September 24, 2006 and I have a journey ahead of me that I am eager to travel. I have to take it one day at a time, because that is all I can take. I wish I could tell you about the people that have changed my life now, but this is not a novel. I just wish I could give back what I have gotten, but until the day that I am able to help another struggling person from this disease, I have to take this program selfishly, until I am asked to give what I have gotten. My life is better now, it is not perfect, but it is better. I was told in a meeting once that "You don't have to drink if you don't want to." Now I do not, I know where it will lead it and me until take me down quick. If I put my guard down even for a second, it will sucker punch me in the face and beat the heck out of me, because that is what it does. My addiction is patient, it is just waiting for me to slip into a sticky situation or when I am in the presence of alcohol or anything and I do not have the program to say "No."

That is why I need my higher power to help guide me through that. The day will come where it will happen and I cannot do it alone. I do not have to do it all by myself, no one does. My will got me here; gods will keeps me here, sober.

**Andy H,
Boise 9-24-06**

I THOUGHT I WAS TOO YOUNG TO BE AN ALCOHOLIC

When I was in the 7th or 8th grade, I stated experimenting with alcohol. My friend and I would sneak sips of her parent Amaretto. One weekend we went to a cattle branding with her family and were driving the 4-wheelers around, there was a cooler on the back so we figured we would drink one between the two of us, so we did. I never really got drunk until my first year in high school.

That year my 19-year-old sister had been living with us. I got to stay the night with her, she took me to a party, and that was the first time that I really got drunk. I like it, but I did not really care to do it all that much.

While we were in Mexico over the summer, it was legal for me to drink so I took advantage of that and I got drunk. Blacked out, and do not remember what else happened. I did not look at this as a revelation to where drinking would lead me; I just thought it was normal.

My first year was also the year that I smoked pot for the first time. It was okay, but I did not really care to do it again. I went my whole sophomore year clean and sober.

During the summer of my sophomore year and my junior year is when I started drinking and drugging more regularly. I began sneaking out every night and either drinking or smoking or both. Once school started, I kept on doing it. My grades started to dropping and I was always sleeping in class. That turned into skipping class and then eventually I had stopped going to school all together.

I felt my parents were getting onto me so I got very defensive and decided the best solution would be to runaway. It was a failed attempt but I had kept using and drinking. My mom started giving me drug tests so then I said I would just bet the alcoholic who had her water bottle full of vodka. I not only said that, but I did it. I had been suspended from school, and lost a good job that I was supposed to start that same day. My parents had had enough so they put me into rehab, called recovery solutions. This was good for me. I did not like it at first.

However, after awhile when I had been off the drugs for a while I began to enjoy the group. Even when I was in hot water because I knew that, they would call me on my bullshit. I started getting some sobriety and it felt good.

The feeling of having true friends that really cared

about me was an amazing difference from the people that I had been around before. I liked these new friends and I had accountability between my rehab and A. A.

I have found out that life is a blast when you live it! Before today I was not living life, I was just wasting it. I have learned to have fun in my sobriety and I am truly happy. I have an amazing relationship with my parents today and it is remarkable.

Today, I have a little over four months of sobriety and it has been a rough, but happy experience. I have spent days looking at myself and working on getting my emotions back. I am still getting there, one day at a time.

Everyday I look forward to my next milestone, because I enjoy that far more than my actual birthday. It is an accomplishment and it gives me one more reason to stay sober and clean for the next 24 hours.

If I could give, anyone a word of advice it would be to just do what is suggested. Worry about today, today. In addition, tomorrow, tomorrow. It is definitely worth it.

**Lindsey W. Meridian,
10-25-06**

GOD REALLY DOES WORK MIRACLES

My name is Troy L. and my story goes like this. I started drinking when I was thirteen years young. When I got drunk, I got drunk. I could not remember what happened. I usually was carried home and I remember waking up in the back yard many times. I drank like that for many years. I also found dope; I did dope to accent my drinking.

Later I got into trouble when I was 21 I committed armed robbery on a drug dealers house. I did a rider in Cottonwood, Idaho. That lasted 6 months. I was on Felony Probation and they made me go to A. A. I did not adhere to the 12-step program and every time I could between P.O. meetings, I was drinking and getting high. Needles to say I was violated and went to prison; I did 8 years in an Idaho prison on the installment plan.

Every time I got parole, I was violated until I finally had to top my time. In 2001, I was free and I drank again until 1007. I got into more trouble for a misdemeanor and the judge sentenced me to a treatment program. By this time, I was pretty fed up with drinking and the drug seen. I figured I might as well look and see what A. A. has to offer. So I got me

a sponsor, I attend meetings and so many doors have opened up for me. Before, I could not even pass a U.A. to get a job.

So many positive things have happened for me that I get overwhelmed. I never thought so many good things could happen. If I would have known, I would have been big on A. A. sooner in my life. A. A. has given me a life. Thank you to all who participate in A. A. God really does work miracles.

**Troy L., Boise
1-8-07**

PASSING OF NELL WING

Dear Friends:

It is with great sadness that we share the news that Nell Wing died on Wednesday, February 14, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. after a lengthy illness. Nell was 89 years old. As most of you know, Nell was Bill W.'s secretary and assistant for 17 years and a close friend and long-time companion to Lois W.

She worked at the General Service Office of A. A. from the beginning of 1947 until her retirement at the close of 1982, starting as a receptionist and later becoming secretary of A. A. World Services, Inc. additionally, she served as G.S.O.'s first archivist for the last ten of her years at

the office. The Archives opened in 1975.

We would like to take a moment to celebrate Nell's life and share the following, which our G.S.O. Archivist, Amy Filitreau, provided: From Markings, November/December 1983, when Nell announced her retirement in print: "I hope to stay nearby; and never lessen interest in this fellowship, nor loosen the close bonds of friendship with my A. A. and Al-Anon friends.

I am forever grateful for a marvelous experience that began for me on March 3, 1947, at 415 Lexington Ave., New York City, in three small rooms of the Central Terminal Building.

I have enjoyed and treasured every moment of it. I won't say 'goodbye:' just want to extend my love and thanks to each one of you dear friends."

**In fellowship,
Eva Sanchez,
G.S.O. Staff
Assistant Secretary
General Service Board**

WHAT IS A ROUND UP?

What is a Roundup? (Also known as conventions or conferences)

Roundups are large get-togethers beyond group level. It is about fellowship

and sharing in a much larger forum, a coming together of members' local regional and afar.

Last years Gem State Roundup had participation from as far away as Melbourne, Australia.

Last August was the first annual Gem State Roundup held at the Doubletree Riverside in Boise and this was a smashing success. Not just because of style and form but because of the spirit and the feeling behind it. The 399 registered AA/Alanon participants was the measure of its success.

The second annual Gem State Roundup will be held on August 3rd, 4th and 5th at the Doubletree Riverside. Planning for this event is coming together nicely. There will be a golf tournament, banquets, and marathon meetings 24/7, a dance and the ever-popular comedy night and three out of town AA speakers with their remarkable stories. Registration fliers are available and coming soon to a meeting near you. You can always pick one up at Central Office! Paying the bills there is no substitute for a common sense business like approach to finances. The cost of the 2006 Roundup was \$29,915.00. With no seed money from any source, the committee took the risk for any financial shortfalls. It is with great pleasure and

relief to inform you that after Alanon received their share, we netted just over \$7,000. The committee voted to split revenues as follows: G.S.O. and Area 18 to each receive \$2,005 and \$3,000.00 seed money set aside for the 2007 Roundup. It is clear that the seventh tradition and registration dollars are necessary to ensure a lasting Roundup tradition in our beautiful state and to fund the Alcoholics Anonymous service structure. The 2007 Roundup is autonomous from last year. Committee members will vote on distributions for this year's event, assuming it too operates in the black.

The word in the rooms this years committee dynamic is remarkable and they are putting together a powerful weekend of fellowship. This year's theme is A New Freedom and a New Happiness. I hope to see you there with old friends and new on August 3rd, 4th and 5th at the Doubletree Riverside in Boise.

**In love and service,
2006 Gem State
Roundup Chair Richard
M.**

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

There is a small difference between the Idaho Area Guidelines and Roberts Rules of Order under CALL OF THE QUESTION. The Area Guidelines state that Call of the Question does need a SECOND where Roberts Rules say it does not. However, the Area Guidelines has more influence over Roberts Rules so there-fore, Call of the Question does need a SECOND and does need a 2/3rds majority even if no person is standing at the mike. The MINORITY OPINION will not be heard as CALL OF THE QUESTION is not DEBATABLE.

Keep up the Service Work, Area 18 as well as AA as a whole needs you.

**Jim McDonald Past-
Delegate panel 54**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT
SOME ITEMS LISTED
UNDER AREA
ASSEMBLY
MEETINGS MAY
HAVE BEEN
CHANGED VIA
GROUP CONSCIOUS
SINCE I WAS THE
AREA CHAIR, YOU
MIGHT REFER BACK
TO YOUR COPY OF**

THE IDAHO AREA GUIDELINES FOR COMPARISON.

Area Assembly Meetings
Service Structure Guidelines
Area 18 Idaho Area Group
Conscience May 13, 1995.
G.S.R.'S, D.C.M.'S elected
and Appointed Idaho Area
Committee Members, Past
Delegates, General Service
Board Trustees, Or Non-
Trustee Directors and G.S.O
Staff Are the Only People at
Business Meeting to
Address the Assembly. Page
7 & 8 of 19 of the Idaho
Area 18 Service Structure
Guidelines

Quorum--The Number
Of Voting Members
Present.

At The Beginning of the
Area Assembly, The
D.C.M.'S Will Provide A
Current List Of Voting
Members Present And The
Groups They Represent To
The Area Chairperson.

Sense Of Meeting-- Used
By The Chairperson In
Order To Establish
"Informal Rules" For Use
During The Meeting, Such
As, How Much Time Each
Speaker Will Have To
Debate A Motion That
Those Wishing To Address
The Assembly Will Line Up
Behind The Microphone
Etc.

Point Or Order--Any
Member Of The Area
Assembly (As Defined On
Page 4 Of The Area
Guidelines As Well As

Above) May Address The Chairperson With A "Point Or Order" To Point Out Proper Procedures As Defined By Area Guidelines, A. A. Service Manual, Or Robert's Rules Of Order.

Point Of Information--Any Member Of The Area Assembly May Address The Chairperson With A "Point Of Information" To Address A Question Or To Make A Suggestion Pertinent To The Matter At Hand.

Motion to Table--Any Voting Member of the Area Assembly (As Defined By Items 1.1 And 11.6 Of the Area Guidelines) May Call For A "Motion to Table".

A Motion To Table Can Be Can Be Made Only After A Motion Has Been Made And Seconded And Debate Has Begun. If The Motion To Table Receives A Second, It Over Rides Any Other Motion, All Debate Ceases, And The Assembly Votes On The Motion To Table. A Motion To Table Requires Only A Simple Majority To Pass And No Minority Opinion Will Be Heard. If The Motion To Table Is Defeated Or Fails To Receive A Second, Debate On The Previous Motion Is Continued.

Call Of the Question--Any Voting Member of the Area Assembly (As Defined By Items 1.1 And 11.6 Of the Area Guidelines) May Call For the Question. Call

The Question Can Be Used After A Motion Has Been Made And Seconded And Debate Has Begun. Call the Question Requires a Second, Is Not Debatable and Requires a Two-Third Majority to Pass. If Passed, Debate On The Issue Before The Assembly Ceases And The Assembly Proceeds To Immediately Vote On It. If The Call For The Question Is Defeated, Debate Is Continued.

Minority Opinion--In Keeping With Concept 5, The Minority Opinion Will Always Be Heard On Any Motion Requiring A Two-Thirds Majority To Pass (With The Exception Of A "Call For The Question". Whether The Motion Passes Or Is Defeated, Those In The Minority Will Be Given The Opportunity To Give Their Reasons. It Must Be Noted That This Is Not A Debate And Those That Voted In The Majority Will Not Be Heard.

Reconsideration--After The "Minority Opinion" Is Heard, The Chairperson Will Ask If Anyone Who Voted With The Majority Wishes To Change Their Vote. If Anyone Who Voted In The Majority Wishes To Change Their Vote, The Motion Is Re-Stated And Another Vote Is Taken. It Must Be Noted That The Motion Will Not Be Debated Further And The Minority Opinion Will Not

Be Heard After The Second Vote.

Robert's Rules of Order For Parliamentary Procedure. Which Should Be Used To Help, Not Hinder Decision Making.

The Basic Rules:

1. The Rights of the Organization Supersede the Rights of Individual Members.

2. All Members Are Equal and Their Rights Are Equal.

Those Rights Are: To Attend Meetings; To Make Motions and Speak In Debate; To Nominate; To Vote; To Hold Office.

3. A Quorum Must Be Present To Do Business.

4. The Majority Rules

The Minority Has The Right To Be Heard, But Once A Decision Has Been Reached By A Majority Of The Members Present And Voting, The Minority Must Then Respect And Abide By The Decision.

5. Silence Is Consent

Those Members Who Do Not Vote Agree To Go Along With The Decision Of The Majority By Their Silence.

6. Two-Thirds Vote Rule

A Two Thirds Vote Is Necessary Whenever You Are Limiting Or Taking Away The Rights Of Members Or Whenever You Are Changing Something That Has Already Been Decided.

7. One Question at a Time and One Speaker at a Time

No Motion Is In Order Which Does Not Directly Relate To The Question Under Consideration.

8. Debatable Motions Must Receive Full Debate.

9. Once a Question Is Decided, It Is Not In Order To Bring Up the Same Motion or One Essentially Like It at the Same Meeting.

10. Personal Remarks in Debate Are Always Out Of Order.

Debate Must Be Directed To Motions and Not Motives; Principles or Personalities.

How a Motion Is Made and Acted Upon:

1. A Member Requests the Floor.

2. The Floor Is Assigned.

3. The Motion Is Made.

4. The Motion Is Seconded.

5. The Chair States the Motion.

6. Debate Is Held.

7. A Member Will Call For the Question.

8. The Chair Puts the Question to a Vote.

9. The Chair Announces the Vote.

Rules That Govern Motions:

Motions

A. Cannot Interrupt a Member Who Has Been Assigned the Floor.

B. Require a Second, Unless the Motion Is From a Committee.

C. Can Be Debated.

D. Can Be Amended.

E. Require a Majority Vote.

Other Points:

--The Chair Can Require a Long Motion to Be Submitted In Writing.

--The Maker of a Motion Has the First Right to Speak To It.

--A Member Can Vote against His Own Motion, but Cannot Speak Against It.

--A Member Can Modify His Own Motion Before It Is Stated By The Chair.. The Member Can Also Offer an Amendment after His Motion Has Been Stated By the Chair.

--A Member Can Withdraw His Motion Up To the Time It Has Been Stated By the Chair, and After That He Must Have Permission of the Group.

Motions That Are Considered Out Of Order

--Conflict with the Law or With the Bylaws.

--Repeat the Same Question on the Same Day.

--Conflict with an Already Adopted Motion.

--Operate Outside the Scope or Object of the Organization.

--Motions That Appear Dilatory, Incorrect, Frivolous, or Rude.

Amend a Motion:

To Amend A Motion Means To Change The Wording Of A Motion; To Make It Clearer, More Complete, Or More Acceptable Before The Motion Is Voted On.

There Are Three Ways To Amend A Motion:

1. To Add Words or Phrases

2. To Strike out Words or Phrases

3. to Substitute By:

A) Striking Out and Inserting Words;

B) Substituting an Entire Motion or Paragraph.

There Can Only Be One Question On The Floor At A Time.

There Can Be No More Than 2 Amendments On The Floor At Any One Time.

When A Motion Is Being Debated For Amendment, The First Amendment Is Called A Primary Amendment.

And The Amendment To The Amendment Is Called A Secondary Amendment.

--An Amendment Must Be Germane To The Motion On The Floor. No New Business May Be Introduced Under The Pretext Of An Amendment.

To Amend A Motion Takes The Same Procedure As An Actual Motion, Must Be Seconded, Can Be Debated, Can Be Amended One Time, And Requires A Majority Vote, Even If It Is Applied To A Motion That

Requires A Two-Third Majority Vote.

Process of Amending an Amendment:

First, Vote On the Amendment to the Amendment (Secondary Amendment).

Next, Vote On the Original Amendment (Primary Amendment).

Finally, Vote On the Main Motion (Which May or May Not Have Been Amended).

Friendly Amendment: A Friendly Amendment May Be Defined As A Change In The Wording That Enhances And Strengthens The Original Motion. When Such A Change Is Proposed And No One Objects, The Amendment Is Adopted By General Consent.

Hostile Amendment: May Be Defined As One Which Gives A Very Different Meaning To A Motion. The Amendment May Defeat The Intent Of The Main Motion.

Commit Or Refer A Motion Sends The Question On The Floor To A Small Number Of People So That It Can Be Carefully Studied And Put Into Proper Form For The Group To Consider. (This Is A Very Useful Motion When All Of The Facts May Not Be Known. It Prevents Long And Pointless Debate And Protects The Group From Making A Poor Decision.)

Parliamentary Rules Of Commit: The Motion To Commit Can Be Applied To Any Main Motion With Any Amendments That May Be Pending. The Amendments Go With The Motion To The Committee; It Must Be Seconded, It Can Be Debated (However, Debate Can Only Go Into The Desirability Of Committing And Not Into The Main Question), It Can Be Amended As To Which Committee, What Size Committee,

The Instructions, Etc.; It Requires A Majority Vote.

Postpone a Motion

A Motion to Postpone Delays Action on a Question until Later In the Same Meeting or Until the Next Meeting. A Motion Cannot Be Postponed Further Than The Next Regular Meeting.

To Postpone A Motion Takes The Same Procedure As An Actual Motion.

If The Motion to Postpone Is Postponed To the Next Regular Meeting It Is Listed On the Agenda as Unfinished Business.

Previous Question (Call for the Question).

Is The Motion Used To Cut Off Debate And To Bring The Group To An Immediate Vote On The Pending Motion? It Is Out Of Order To Call When A Member Has The Floor. It Does Not Need A Second And Does Not Get Debated.

This Motion May Require A Two-Thirds Majority Vote Because The Right Of Members To Debate Is Being Curtailed. If This Motion Defeated, Debate Is Continued.

Jim Mc. Past Delegate

GOD FISH

A friend of mine badgered me into coming to Alcoholics Anonymous and after going to a few meeting I joined a home group, bought a big book, and asked for a temporary sponsor. They gave me to a guy named Mike. I told Mike I could go along with all these steps except for that God stuff (which I did not use the word stuff).

I had a hard time with God, as the God of my understanding was a very cruel and punishing God. I kept going to meetings for about the next 30 days trying to do what was suggested and was even forced into service making coffee for these people I didn't know. I was trying to figure out about this God.

Well on my 30 day AA Birthday, myself and another AA member went to my dad's place for the weekend to go trout fishing. My dad always told me he caught some pretty good-sized trout out of the lake near where he lived. As things would go everyone was catching more fish than I was and all of a sudden my

fishing pole took a big dip and started shaking. What you have to remember is I have an 8' 6" fly rod blank made into a spinning rod with 6-pound test line. I picked up the fishing pole and started reeling. This fish took off for the middle of the lake and all the line on my reel was disappearing fast! I thought the fish was going run me out of line, break it, and disappear, but the fish slowed down and I start reeling it back toward the bank. When it got back toward the bank someone yelled "I think you could put your fist in its mouth", and about that time the fish took off for the middle of the lake again. This happened 3 times before the fish finally gave up and by the time I got it up to the bank where this older gentleman, Bud, could help me get it on the bank; I was surrounded by people trying to look at this fish. Bud grabbed the line real genteelly and I stepped in the edge of the water and used the side of my boot to scoot it up on the bank. I was afraid to us my hands, as I was afraid it would flip out of my hands, break the line, and fall back in the water. As soon as I got the fish on the bank, the hook broke, not the line, but the hook!

Before I could get to the fish one of the people that had been surrounding me

grabbed it. By the time I got to the fish someone had a tape measure and scale out. It weighed 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds and was 26 inches long! The thought that went through my mind "There must be a God! I've never caught a fish like that off the bank before"!

Someone suggested that it should be mounted and I thought, "I can't afford to do that".

You know how it is when you first come to AA; most of us are not doing to well financially. We took it to the local convenience store; they weighed it on their produce scales, and took pictures to pin on the wall. It did weigh 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds on real scales and everyone made a fuss about it and kept saying I should have it mounted. I took it home with me and called a taxidermist the next day to see what it would cost to have it mounted. To my surprise, the taxidermist said, "I heard about that fish, I heard it was a really nice looking fish". I told him it was and I wondered what it would cost to have it mounted. I also told him I had a problem, that I didn't really have any money to have it mounted and was there something we could work out. I was surprised one more time!

He told me he entered competitions showing his work at different shows and

as long as he was allowed to display it he would put my name with it and it would not cost me anything and if I ever wanted to buy the fish he would charge me the mounting fee. Fortunately later in my sobriety I was able to purchase the fish from him and it now hangs above my fireplace reminding me of the gift God sent me on my 30 day AA birthday and all the little miracles that go along with my God Fish and so begin the journey with the God of my understanding on April 5, 1987.

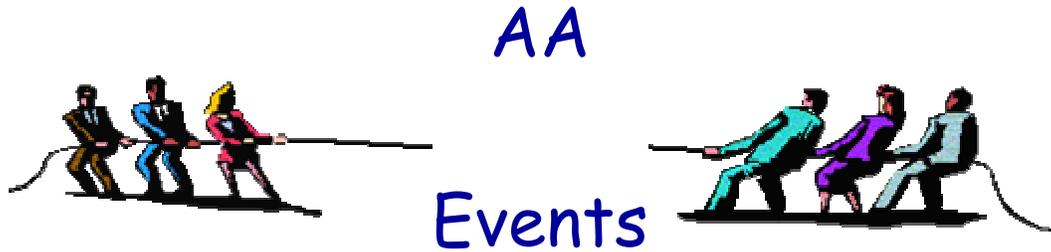
The story could end there, but while the taxidermist had the fish in his possession, it was used in some shows, hung in the convenience in the little town where it was caught, and hung in the sporting goods section of a drug store. I use to tell the story and tell people to go look at the fish. One day I went to the drug store and no fish, all the guy's fish were gone! I called him and ask him where my fish was because I wanted to buy it. He told me it was at the drug store! I told him it was gone; all the fish he had on display were gone!

I tried for about 2 years to get in touch with the taxidermist, found out he no longer did taxidermy, and he would never answer his phone or return messages, and would hang up on me if

he did answer. I finally decided I would try one more time to call. He answered and told me the story of what had happened to the fish. The drug store had changed managers and the new manager took it upon himself to sell all the fish the taxidermist had on display without asking anyone. The taxidermist told him to get the fish back they were not for sale! The manager said he couldn't get them back and the taxidermist and the manager went round and round for almost 2 years before my fish was found and bought back.

Who says God doesn't look out for us!

Tom Z., Meridian



1st ANNUAL The Steps Come Alive

The Twelve-Step Workshop from the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous

Presented by

"PATTI O."

from Laguna Niguel, CA

June 2nd, 2007

Saturday 9:30 - 12:00 - 1:00 - 4:30

Encouraging our Sister Program Al-Anon to participate in this workshop

Registration Fee: \$10.00 if postmarked on or before May 2, 2007; \$15.00 at the door.

REGISTRATION will not be accepted without payment.

REFUNDS Are NOT AVAILABLE. If you have registered and are unable to attend, give or sell your registration to a friend.

Registration will begin at 9 am.	Pot Luck Breakfast	Lunch 12:00- 1 :00 (included in registration)
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Questions? Contact Cindy H.

Or e-mail us at: stepsalive@hotmail.com. Mail your check and registration form to:

The Steps Come Alive PO Box 7134 Boise, Idaho 83707

Name:

Email Address:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Daytime Phone:

Evening Phone:

Registration Fee: \$10.00 postmarked on or before May 2, 2007 \$15.00 after May 2, 2007

Idaho Area 18 2007 Spring Assembly

May 4-6, 2007 - Pocatello, Idaho

Our 12th Step Responsibility,

Are we going to Any Length?

(Hosted by District 1 at the Pocatello Red Lion Hotel)

Friday, May 4, 2007

- Golf Scramble (see other side)
- 12:00 PM- Registration
- 6:00 PM- Al-Anon Meeting (open) –

“A Spiritual Awakening”

- 7:00 PM- AA Opening Meeting

Speaker: Wendy K., Blackfoot, Idaho

- Area Inventory

Saturday, May 5, 2007

- 7:00 AM- Registration open until 6 p.m.
- 9:00 AM- AA & Al-Anon Area Business Meetings
- Panels/Meetings
- 11:30 AM- Al-Anon Luncheon Speaker: Betsy P., Hailey, Idaho
- 6:00 PM- AA Banquet Speaker: Matt G., Fresno, California

Sunday, May 6, 2007

- 9:00 AM- Spiritual Breakfast Speaker: Sharon M., Firth, Idaho
- Alkathon throughout assembly

Please consider making donations of snacks for hospitality room.

For more information contact: Jim D. 208-684-9376; 208-682-0207; dowaja@onewest.net

Detach form and mail with check or money order to:

Idaho Area 18 2007 Spring Assembly P.O. Box 2838 Pocatello, ID 83202

For registration information contact:

AA-Pam J., 208-238-1007; jenjopam@aol.com or Ron F. at 208-237-4338

Al-Anon- Veloy F. at 208-237-4338; nerdbirder@msn.com

Forms are also available at www.idahoarea18aa.org

Contact Mike B. at 208-251-9424 or beersgolf@hotmail.com or 3595 Johnny Creek Road, Pocatello, ID 83204.

H & I PICNIC—JUNE 2, 2007 @ 1:00 P.M.

VETERANS PARK--\$5.00 ENTRY

Boise, Idaho

Idaho Falls AA 12 Step Volunteer Sign-up Form

Please fill out the information asked for below and put in the volunteer box in Serenity Hall, give to your Intergroup Representative or call Buttons.

Name (First & Last)

City you live in

Phone

Cell phone

Sobriety Date _____ Home Group

Are you available () Daytime () Nighttime () anytime

Remember the AA Declaration of Responsibility:

I am responsible ... When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A. A. always to be there.

And for that: I am responsible.

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Gem State Roundup 2007

FRIDAY August 3, 2007

Golf tournament - River Birch Golf Course Shotgun
 Registration Noon—10pm
 Hospitality Room 3pm—10pm
 Archives 2 pm—6 pm
 Panel discussions/workshops
 Kickoff Meeting 6:30—9pm

Al-Anon Speaker: TBA

A.A. Speaker: Cliff R.
 (37 yrs) Oceanside, Ca.

Comedian: Steve Smith

(as seen on HBO, Comedy Central and MTV) 10pm

SATURDAY, August 4

Registration 7am—7pm
 Hospitality Room 7am—11pm
 Archives 10 am—??
 Panel discussions/workshops (AM)
 Al-Anon Luncheon 11:30a.m.

Speaker: Dawn C. (48 yrs) Chicago, IL.

Panel discussions/workshops (PM)

A.A. Banquet/ Speaker Meeting 6:00pm

AA Speaker: Tom I. (50yrs) Pinehurst, N.C.

Raffle

Dance w/ Rock'n Rooster 10pm — 1:30am

SUNDAY, August 5

Hospitality Room 8am—Noon
 Archives
 Spiritual Breakfast 9 am
 Closing Meeting 10 am

AA Speaker: Sandy H. (23 yrs) Pocatello, Id

Name	_____
Address	_____
City	_____ St _____
zip	_____
Email for confirmation:	_____
Badge Name:	_____
Home	_____
Group	_____
AA	_____ Al-Anon _____ Alateen _____ (check one)
Guest under 12	_____
Registration*	\$22.00 _____
*Required for meal purchase	
Before July 1 for only	
	\$15.00 _____
Scholarship (help another)	_____
Alateen or guest under 12	\$ 5.00 _____
Al-Anon Luncheon	\$16.00 _____
Banquet	\$24.00 _____
Chicken	_____
Check one Beef	_____
Special Diet	_____
Breakfast	\$16.00 _____
3 Meal Deal (all 3 meals)	\$49.00 _____
Comedy Night per person	\$ 7.00 _____
Dance per person	\$ 7.00 _____
Couple	\$12.00 _____
T-Shirts	\$15.00 _____
Size	_____
Coffee Mug	\$ 5.00 _____
Golf Tournament**	\$65.00 _____
**I limited to the first 60 registrants	

Online Registration information: www.gemstateroundup.org and further information

Make check payable to and mail form with check, money order or cc info to:

Gem State Roundup

P.O. Box 44176

Boise, Idaho 83711-0176

For more information call:

Karen F. 208-713-2150, Kathy G. 208-323-0967, Mark P 208-340-5777 or for **Golf Pat**
 W. 208-830-5517

Listed are more events that I have heard
of but need further information please
email to me: boisekaren@hotmail.com

If you're having an event and would like it to be listed please send me a copy of your flyer via email.

Wacypaa Committee meeting is every Sunday at 2 p.m. at West Boise - need volunteers. For more information contact Casey L. at 713-0302. kc_lamm@hotmail.com or Teresa at 353-4981.

Bridge the Gap really needs volunteers. They are trying to put a committee together. Gina (chair) meets the 2nd Mon. of every month at 6:30 in the Boise Alano Club.

H & I Picnic - Committee meeting is last Wed, of every month at Alano Club in Nampa on (I think) 12th St. and 2nd Ave at 6:30. Needs volunteers. Contact Mike 890-0588 or Pam 703-1721. Need raffle and auction items. Ask each home group to put together a basket and donate.

District 2 is having an H & I BBQ at Shoshone Falls in the park. Kerry from H & I is the speaker this is sometime Mid July.