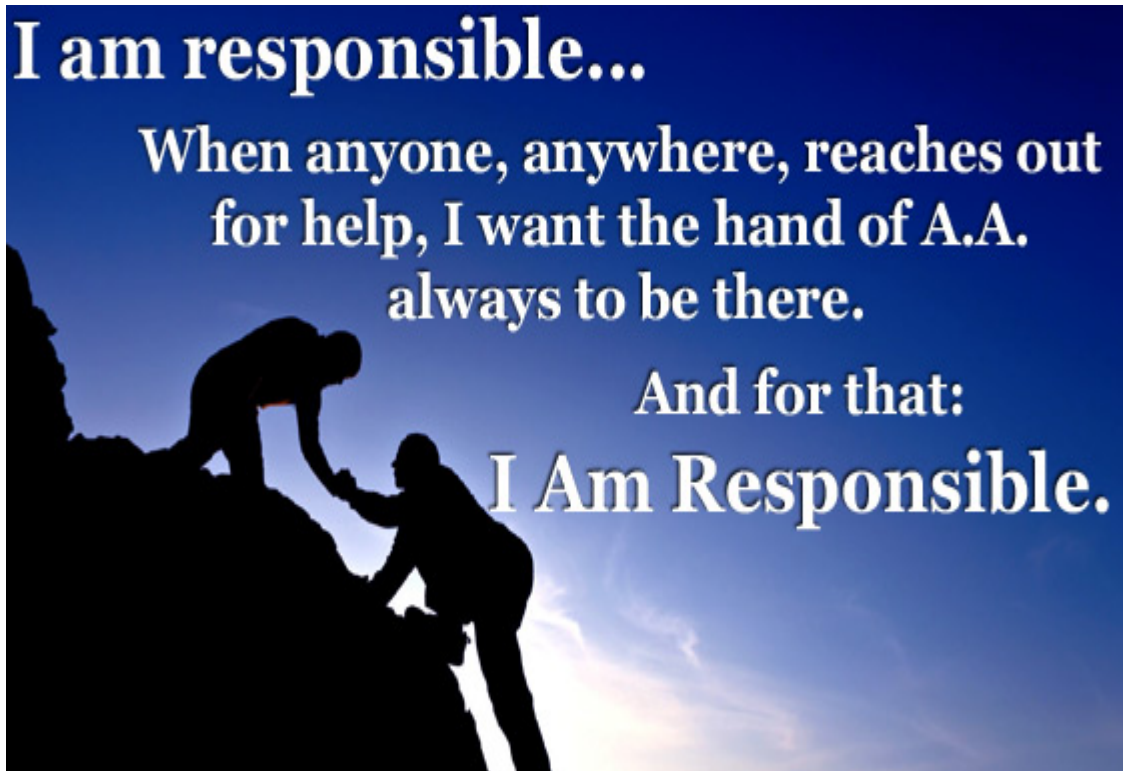


The Wagon Wheel

Idaho Area 18 Newsletter

May 2021



Editor, Margie P.

Back again! General Service keeps coming up repeatedly. I am so thankful for the service others give behind the scenes so that we can keep this thing going. Thanks for the responsibility you have taken on so that we can all be there for the alcoholic that still suffers.

Margie P.
Idaho Area 18 A.A.
Newsletter Editor

Some thoughts from your Idaho Area 18 Alt. Delegate Candice C.

I attended my first Idaho Area 18 Assembly/Convention in 1993 in Idaho Falls at the Shilo. Actually, I attended the Convention and had no idea what they were doing in the “boring” room. Little did I know there was vital work being done for Alcoholics Anonymous in the “boring” room. In the late 90’s, I served as a General Service Representative and had no clue why people were so wrapped around the axle about these “Guidelines”. I began to gain greater understanding during an assembly where one of my friends sat in the back of the room, listening intently. I sat down next to her and asked, “Can you explain to me what is going on?”, to which she responded with a twinkle in her eye, “Of course. I love to poison the minds of young GSRs!” I didn’t know it yet, but that was to be the beginning of a beautiful service sponsorship.

When I was elected Area Chair in the Fall of 2017, my service sponsor, who by then had served as a Pacific Region Trustee, continued to “poison” my mind. As I fretted over a heavy agenda for an assembly, wondering how we would ever get a budget passed and several guideline amendments addressed, I was given the most important piece of wisdom my service sponsor has ever given me. She said to me, “Now, Candice. Remember that the most important thing is not what we get done, but how we treat each other”. This piece of wisdom shifted my service tremendously and it is in the forefront of my mind to this day in my service.

Recently, I’ve had the opportunity to make some mistakes. Nothing earth-shaking, but enough of a mistake to feel publicly embarrassed in an AA service arena. As I had to admit in front of a group of my peers that I hadn’t fulfilled a task to the best of my ability, all I could think was, “I can’t believe I let so many people down”. I was very disappointed in myself and my alcoholic mind thought that I had disappointed all of you as well. As we took a break from our meeting and I had a little cry, my phone started to blow up. Text

messages heavy with phrases like “we love you” and “you’re doing great” began to pour in. I was overwhelmed with the love and affection that was given so freely.

My friends in service put into action that piece of wisdom my sponsor taught me. How they treated me meant so much more than what we got done that day. I can’t express how grateful I am to be in service in Idaho Area 18. Thank you for enriching my life with gratitude and service.

In Grateful Service,

Candice C.





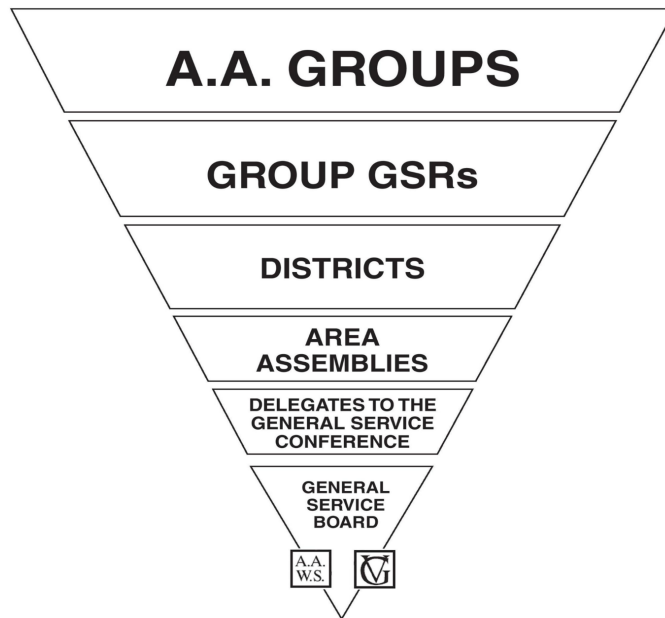
Big Book & A.A. History Quiz #3

1. Did Ebby Thatcher get royalties from Big Book sales?
2. What does G.S.R. stand for?
3. Where was Bill W.'s birthplace ?
4. How many chapters are in the Big Book?
5. Who was Ebby Thatcher's sponsor?
6. What was the name of the hospital where Dr. Silkworth worked?
7. What was the name of the person who wrote the chapter "To Employers"?
8. One of the Twelve Traditions was born from the reason why Bill W. and Dr. Bob broke off from the Oxford Group and formed A.A. Which one was it?
9. On page one of "Bill's Story", he writes of a church, outside of which was the doggerel about the Hampshire Grenadier. What was the name of the church?
10. Name Bill W's first love who died.
11. On page 160 in "A Vision For You", a man and a woman are mentioned as making their house available for meetings in the early days of A.A. Who were they?
12. What are the Three Legacies?

Answer Key

- 1. Yes - till his death**
- 2. General Service Representative**
- 3. East Dorset, Vermont**
- 4. Eleven**
- 5. Roland Hazzard**
- 6. Townes Hospital**
- 7. Henry "Hank" Parkhurst**
- 8. Tradition Three**
- 9. Winchester Cathedral**
- 10. Bertha Bamford**
- 11. T. Henry and Clarace Williams**
- 12. Recovery, Unity, & Service**





Representing General Service in A.A.

When I came into the rooms of A.A. back in 2006, I was stinky I wore an old, ragged black T-shirt most of the time, had blood-shot eyes and even had D.T.'s! I didn't even notice the coffee or the free snacks! If someone would have mentioned the word, "G.S.R." (General Service Representative) to me I would have asked, "What?", all blurry-eyed. Then I would have said, "Who the ____ cares? I'm dying here! I just need to know how NOT TO DRINK ALCOHOL, please...". And seriously, I was in no condition to do any "service" at all those first 30 days... I could barely see, kept my head down, and was petrified of humans. Unbeknownst to me, there was a whole world behind the scenes of an A.A. meeting - stuff I felt I didn't need to know. I just wanted to make sure those doors were open at noon, that there were people there, and there was a space where I could share my problems and learn ways to deal with life without having to need a beer! Never once did I wonder where that money in the basket went - or who opened the doors that day, or who wrote the meeting script. I was so self-centered, all I wanted was to GET SOBER! After a few days I decided I wanted to STAY SOBER, so I did everything my sponsor suggested. The day she told me, "You need to make coffee", I looked at her with scrunched eyebrows, and asked, "What does making coffee have to do with staying sober?" (and thought to myself, "can't you see I'm having a nervous breakdown here?") She replied, "Brenda, it's not about asking questions, it's about following direction." I just shook my head and reluctantly said, "Okay," and I DID IT. For me it was really

scary because the day I had signed up to make the coffee, there was an oldtimer who showed-up early and had the coffee already made. The first day I showed up for my day, he was there, coffee was made, so I left! I told my sponsor about it and she said, "You need to tell him that your sponsor said that you need to make coffee." So, practically shaking in fear, the next week on Monday, I went in and walked straight up to him and said, "My sponsor says I need to make coffee, so can you please not make coffee on Mondays?" He said, "Okay", and I started making coffee. It was in that very first service position that as I would clean-up afterwards, my head started to lift-up, my eyes started to clear-up, and I noticed there were other people in the room! Gradually I grew to look forward to Mondays (my day to make coffee). I was driving taxi at the time and I remember driving until 4 a.m. on Friday and Saturday Nights and when someone reeked of alcohol, or threw-up in the taxi, or were just plain rude, I would think to myself: "Monday I make coffee... Monday I make coffee", as I would hold onto the steering wheel real tight working until the streets were empty and all the active drunks were home safe I made it home sober, and worked all day Sunday sober, because "Monday I make coffee." I took it so serious! I showed-up early - made the coffee, and I also placed out all the snacks - Man, I LOVED cutting those cheese pieces and presenting them so "pretty" on the plate! I acted as if that table was being set-up for Royalty. I was responsible for "The Presentation", and I'm telling you, that table looked GOOD! (ha) Now, I felt that I had "something to do" in life, I was needed! I was gradually able to open my mouth and say really soft, "Hi" to people. And before I knew it, somehow, the days, weeks and months passed and I built up some sobriety! My eyes got even more clear and my ears opened-up too! I started attending the group business meetings - and at first I did not understand a single thing - it felt pretty "over my head". All of a sudden, however, I became "The Coffee Chair" for the group, then "The Literature Chair", The Grapevine Chair, the "Intergroup Representative", where I also served as the "TVICO Newsletter Editor" for 3 years. Finally, I was elected as our group's "General Service Representative" (G.S.R.). This is when the technicolor vision appeared! I am not kidding! It was like a Whole New World... seeing how Alcoholics Anonymous works "As a Whole". This was BIG. I remember attending the first Area Assembly for our Group, and being given an index card to hold while raising my hand to have our group's vote counted! I remember looking around at about 150 of us in that room - most of us G.S.R's from different Districts, all gathered together, and we were sitting in this room all day, in hard chairs, making decisions - being Productive - All of us - with the primary purpose of keeping our doors open for the next suffering alcoholic. It was a spiritual experience for me! The idea that each one of us, at one time in life, were passed-out, drinking and driving, or who knows what, harming ourselves and others... that we were all there today - sober - alert - aware - VITAL - and doing something useful to help the still suffering alcoholic! What a miracle! That just was BIG to me! I will always remember the first time I felt that, and of course that feeling is with me anytime I

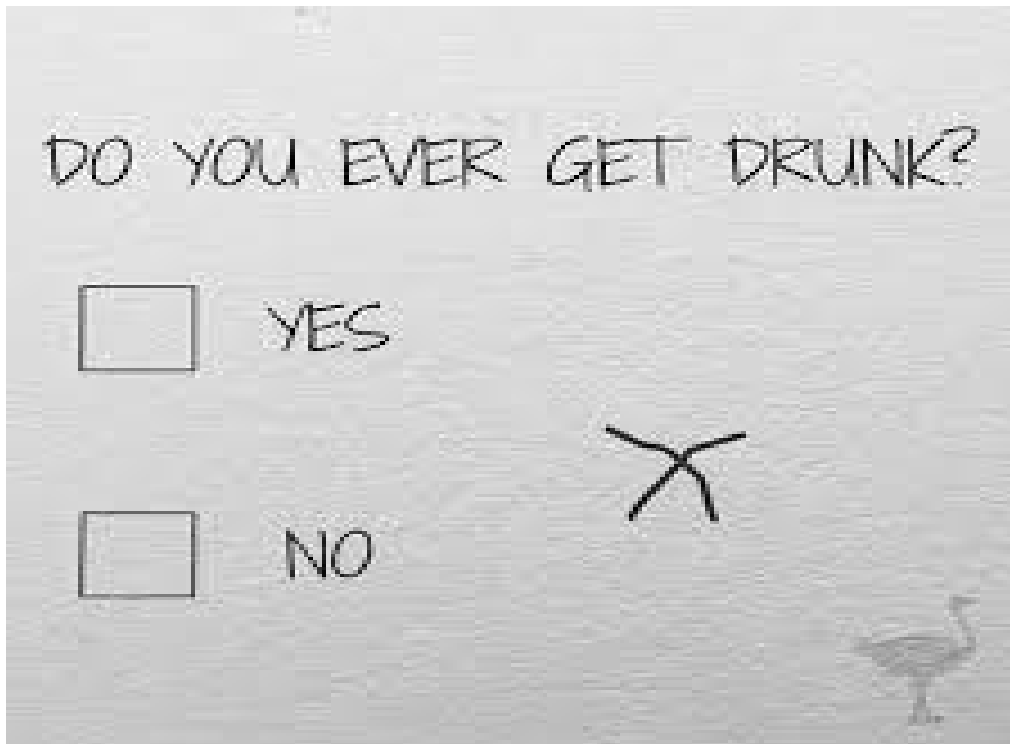
am with a group of sober drunks doing A.A. Business, but it always amazes me, more, at assemblies when we all behave and work together! There's just something about all 150 of us – in democratic action! We are so democratic that the last Area Business meeting I attended lasted from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on a Saturday with ½ lunch! (Because issues like to Zoom or not to Zoom for the Fall Assembly were discussed, and a budget needed to be approved!) It is absolutely amazing to witness the devotion, the passion, the stamina of Trusted Servants who show-up to give service for “A.A. as a whole”, which brings us back to the Group – and the G.S.R....

Tradition Four states: “Each group is autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.” What's important to note is that there are some groups who focus on the first part of this Tradition, the “autonomous” part and decide: “Hey, we're autonomous – we don't have to go to District meetings, we don't need a G.S.R, we don't want to be involved in ‘politics’.” This is a problem, right now, in our fellowship. Why? Because when a group does not elect a G.S.R., or enables an “Inactive G.S.R.”, this affects A.A. as a whole. How? Well, Tradition Five states: “Each group has but one primary purpose: to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers”. For a group to “carry the message”, they need to have current literature available, they need to know of innovative and creative ways to reach the newcomer, they need access to current information about local Area A.A. Workshops and events, and finally General Service is based on Recovery (As outlined in the 12 Steps), Unity (As outlined in the 12 Traditions), and Service (As outlined in the 12 Concepts of World Service). Now, it is true, a group can practice the legacy of Service by simply providing a meeting space, providing coffee, or offering a phone list to newcomers. However, the ONLY way for a group to practice General Service (Activities within the conference structure carried out by Area Committees, Assemblies, Delegates, Trustees and the General Service Office Staff), is for a group to elect a G.S.R. who REPRESENTS the voice of the group's conscience to the A.A. General Service Conference by participating at local Area Assemblies and electing District Committee Members and Area Delegates. The G.S.R. is the vital link between their group and A.A. as a whole. An active G.S.R. will ensure that A.A. will be here for future suffering alcoholics searching for a solution. Without a G.S.R.'s dedication and service, there would be no way to operate our Service Structure. When the G.S.R. participates in electing the Area Delegate at Area Assemblies as part of their District, the Delegate in turn REPRESENTS the Area (comprised of Active Districts, and Active G.S.R.'s) at the annual General Service Conference, when the Delegate votes on Conference Agenda items. This is how the groups and their G.S.R.'s become a voice at the Conference... through their Area Delegate!

The A.A. Service Manual under World Service Concept IX states: "Groups who name no G.S.R.'s should be encouraged to do so. In this area a degree of weakness tends to persist. The needed improvement seems to be a matter of increased care, responsibility, and education."

So, in a demonstration of care, responsibility, and education... District 8 is presenting an "Interactive G.S.R. Workshop", June 19, 2-4 p.m! Zoom ID: 696 313 0890 Password: 342027 We are so excited to have a once in a lifetime line-up of 3 excellent speakers for this event! Our speakers will share for 20 minutes, and then there will be 20 minutes for questions! Kade W. will be sharing on the G.S.R. and Group Dynamics. Candice C. will share on the G.S.R. and District Dynamics. Barry S. will share on the G.S.R. and the Area Dynamics and Beyond! This event is not to be missed! Please mark your calendars now!

Brenda M.





W.G.W.

Box 459 Grand Central Annex

New York 17, N. Y.

May 24, 1960

Dear Folks

Memories of your visit here are still green and most enjoyable to think on.

My hopper is pretty full just now. Founders Day is coming up, I'm trying to finish those Twelve Concepts, and Long Beach is just in the offing. I haven't begun to get ready for that, at least so far as what I am to say is concerned. However, I have very little luck in preparing that kind of thing in advance.

I wish we had thought of an old timers meeting earlier. I'm taking this up with the office, but I imagine the schedule is pretty tight, as matters now stand. I don't how we would go about getting such a crowd together – where and how we would find them and so forth. But I'll inquire.

Meanwhile, all the best,

Ever devotedly,

Bill

MGW/nw

Mr. and Mrs. James Burwell

4193 Georgia Street

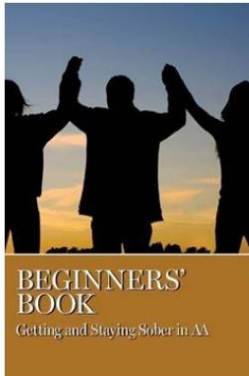
San Diego, California



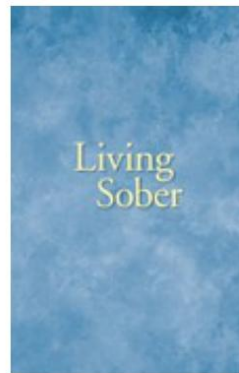
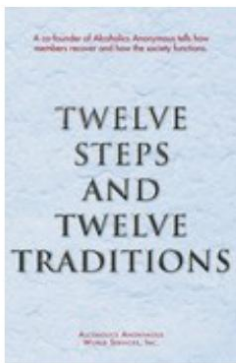
Send Stories and announcements to :
newsletter@idahoarea18aa.org

Upcoming 2021 Events

Because of the COVID-19 Virus, Please Check Area Website to Make Sure the Event is not cancelled



**CARRY THE MESSAGE—
LITERATURE EVENT FOR
ALL OF AREA 18**



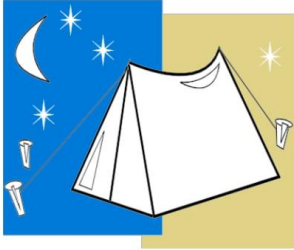
Sponsored by TVICO

Monthly events—4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM via ZOOM.

**ZOOM Meeting ID 834 4239 4760
Password 164**

Themed meetings ideal for:

- Those wanting to start literature centric meetings,
- Literature Reps to find out what 's new and what's in many of the AA publications,
- Anyone wanting to get more from their sobriety in service to others and Carry the Message



**Macks Creek Campout
Lucky Peak Reservoir**

******JUNE 11-13th******

**Begins at noon on the 11th and
ends at noon on the 13th**



**THIS IS A MIDTOWN GROUP SPONSORED EVENT, PROCEEDS WILL BE SPLIT TO GENERAL
SERVICE COMMITTEES**

SAVE THE DATE

RV CAMPING MUST RESERVE AND PAY IN ADVANCE

- **First come, first serve for camping spots. *\$10 Suggested Donation for camping however any amount would be welcome.***
- **Come for the weekend or come for the day or evening**
- **Boat ramp and docks available, boats and water toys are welcome!**

If you have questions, please call Lisa P. at (208) 577-0303 or Mark S. at (208) 559-5891.



DIRECTIONS

Macks Creek Campground and Picnic Area are located on Forest Service Road 268/Arrowrock Road just 4.5 miles from Highway 21. The campground is above the road with the picnic area/docks below against Lucky Peak Lake.

**18 miles north on Highway 21 from Boise.
Turn right onto Road #268/Arrowrock Road for 4.5 miles.**



WANT TO HELP ANOTHER ALCOHOLIC?

2021
CARRY THE
MESSAGE
PROJECT



GRAPEVINE & LA VIÑA are Great Twelfth Step Tools!

Give a gift subscription to an alcoholic who needs it. Great for:

- Sponsees • Newcomers • Prisons • Detoxes • Doctor's Offices
- Group Celebrations • District and Area Events • Giveaways

Get your group, district, area or AA friends to join in.

Carry the Message, it's easy!

Go to aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message to get started and see our new Carry the Message video at www.youtube.com/c/AAGrapevine

TREASURE VALLEY INTERGROUP INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL FOUNDERS DAY PICNIC



BILL W. and Dr. BOB

Celebrating 86 Years of
Recovery

When 📅

Saturday, June 5, 2021 Noon to 4:00
Where: Veterans Memorial Park
930 N Veterans Memorial Pkwy Boise

Food 🍔

Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Bake Potato, Cole Slaw, Chips
You: Bring a side dish or dessert
Suggested donation \$5

Games 🎮

Ladder Golf and Corn Hole. Bring you own frisbee

Fun 😊

50/50 Raffle & Free Prizes
Grand Prize gas BBQ

Please call Scott 208 867-3428 or TVICO 208
344-6611 to Volunteer or for any questions.
See You There 👁️

14th Annual FUN at Shoshone City Park

August 21st, 2021 1pm-4pm

South Central Idaho
TSNAC Awareness
Picnic/Potluck

Join Us:

Speakers, Music by Up a Creek, fellowship, 50/50 raffle,
Dinner ticket enters you into a \$100 door prize!
Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Fajitas, and Water Provided
Suggested Donations: \$5.00

Please bring a potluck or raffle item along with a blanket or chair to sit on.

Just a Reminder:
Shoshone City Regulations PROHIBIT dogs.

**I am responsible when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help,
I want the hand of AA always to be there and for that I am responsible.**

Any questions please call:
Mark N. at 208-280-0785
Mary M. at 360-303-7384

District 7 AA



**JUNE
18-20**

GREEN CANYON CAMPOUT



PAVILION A

Reserve your
campsite today
by calling Green
Canyon @
208-458-4454

more information about Green
Canyon can also be found @
greencanyonhotsprings.com

FOOD

FUN

FRIENDS

For more info about the campout
call Ken M @208-821-1173

37th Annual District 10 A.A. Campout



Out of District
10 AA'ers are
welcome and
encouraged to
attend!!



On the Beautiful Boise River

When: July 22nd – 25th, 2021

Where: Elks Flat Group Campground (Loop #2), Boise National Forest, Pine, ID

Friday Night: Campfire Meeting at the Pavilion

Saturday: Enjoy fellowship in the campground, on the river, or in the hot springs.

Saturday Night: Potluck dinner at the Pavilion at 6PM followed by a Campfire A.A. Meeting. Please bring a potluck dish or desert to share with everyone. Coffee, Hot Dogs and Hamburgers will be provided by Dist 10.

Sunday Morning: Breakfast at the Pavilion at 8AM. Please bring eggs, bacon or sausage for group cooking. Coffee and Hotcakes will be provided by District 10.

Sunday after breakfast: Clean up the campground and head home, Checkout time is 1PM

7th Tradition: This AA event is self-supporting and a donation can will be available at meals and meetings.

Directions: Take Hwy 20 East from Timmerman (near Bellevue, ID north of Shoshone) or Hwy 20 West from Mountain Home to Louise Creek Rd. Then proceed north on Louise Creek Rd for 18 miles, past Anderson Reservoir, to the Boise River Bridge at Pine. Then proceed 4.5 miles north on FH61 to the campground.

Note: Space at the group campsite is usually available for early arrivals on Tuesday and Wednesday. If you want to arrive early you just have to pay the Forest Service for the extra nights.

PS: Let us know if you're planning to attend so we can plan for hamburgers and hot dogs....Thanks!



For more information please call:

Cheri V. @ 208-490-7752

or

John S. @ 208-320-2388

2021 Events

2021 Grapevine & La Vina Carry the Message Project

See new Carry the Message Video: www.youtube.com/c/AAGrapevine

[\(Link to Flyer\)](#)

TVICO – Monthly Carry the Message – Literature Event

4th Tuesday of the month – Tuesday, May25, 2021 / 6:30 pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 834 4239 4760 Password: 164

[\(Link to Flyer\)](#)

Founder’s Day Picnic

Saturday, June 5, 2021 – Noon – 4:00 pm

Veterans Memorial Park – 930 N Veterans Memorial Pkwy, Boise

[\(Link to Flyer\)](#)

SAVE THE DATE:

Mack’s Creek Campout

Begins at Noon on Friday, June 11, 2021

Ends at Noon on Sunday, June 13, 2021

[\(Link to Flyer – English\)](#)

[\(Link to Flyer – Spanish\)](#)

District 7 Green Canyon Campout

Friday, June 18, 2021 – Sunday, June 20, 2021

[\(Link to Flyer\)](#)

2021 Events Continued

37th Annual District 10 AA Campout Thursday, July 22 – Sunday, July 25, 2021

Elks Flat Group Campground (Loop #2), Boise National Forest, Pine ID

[\(Link to Flyer\)](#)

Districts 2 and 10 – 14th Annual TSNAC Picnic

Saturday, August 21, 2021 – 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Shoshone City Park, Shoshone, Idaho

[\(Link to Flyer\)](#)

**See You in October
2021!**