

SUNRISE /  
SUNSET GROUP  
OF ALCOHOLICS  
ANONYMOUS



# November Newsletter



## THURSDAY SPEAKERS IN NOVEMBER

Nov 6: **Dick A.**

**Atlanta**

Nov 13: **Mike F**

**Encino**

Nov 20: **Karen G**

**West L.A.**

Nov 27: **no meet-  
ing Thanksgiving  
Day**

## SATURDAY SPEAKERS IN NOVEMBER

Nov 1: **Tim H.**

**Step 11**

Nov 8: **Tom S.**

**Step 12**

Nov 15: **Rhonda D.**

**Step 12**

Nov 22: **Yvonne S.**

**Traditions 7, 8, 9**

Nov 29: **Tim W. of  
Santa Barbara**

**Step 1**

### Editorial: On the Fifth Tradition

*Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose--that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

Says the old proverb, "Shoemaker, stick to thy last." Trite, yes. But very true for us of A.A. How well we need to heed the principle that it is better to do one thing supremely well than many things badly.

Because it has now become plain enough that only a recovered alcoholic can do much for a sick alcoholic, a tremendous responsibility has descended upon us all, an obligation so great that it amounts to a sacred trust. For to our kind, those who suffer alcoholism, recovery is a matter of life or death.

So the society of Alcoholics Anonymous cannot, it dare not ever be diverted from its primary purpose.

Temptation to do otherwise will come aplenty. Seeing fine works afoot in the field of alcohol, we shall be sorely tempted to loan out the name and credit of Alcoholics Anonymous to them; as a movement we shall be beset to finance and endorse other causes. Should our present success continue, people will commence to assert that A.A. is a brand new way of life, maybe a new religion, capable of saving the world. We shall be told it is our bounden duty to show modern society how it ought to live.

*Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose--that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

Oh, how very attractive these projects and ideas can be! How flattering to imagine that we might be chosen to demonstrate that olden mystic promise: "The first shall be last and the last shall be first." Fantastic, you say. Yet some of our well-wishers have begun to say such things.

Fortunately most of us are convinced that these are perilous speculations, alluring ingredients of that new heady wine we are now being offered, each bottle marked "Success"!

Of this subtle vintage may we never drink too deeply. May we never forget that we live by the Grace of God--on borrowed time; that anonymity is better than acclaim; that for us as a movement poverty is better than wealth.

And may we reflect with ever deepening conviction, that we shall never be at our best except when we hew only to the primary spiritual aim of A.A.--"*That of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers alcoholism.*"

Bill W.

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**Hear more on Traditions 4, 5, and 6  
on 22 November**

## WHERE WE MEET

THE SUNSET GROUP meets every Thursday night from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at 14701 Friar Street, Van Nuys, at the corner of Cedros Avenue, near Van Nuys and Victory Blvds.

THE SUNRISE GROUP BIG BOOK STEP STUDY meets every Saturday morning from 8:150-9:30 a.m. on the second floor of PINZ Bowling Center, 12655 Ventura Blvd., just east of Coldwater Canyon.

THE SUNSET GROUP BIG BOOK STUDY meets every Tuesday night from 7:00-8:00 pm. at 14701 Friar Street, Van Nuys, at the Vineland A.D.H.C. Center, 5629 Vineland Ave, just north of Burbank. Parking is in the back off Ensign Avenue.

### On the agenda for this quarter's steering committee meeting (see notice below) is a Group inventory.

1. What is the basic purpose of the group?
2. What *more* can the group do to carry the message?
3. Is the group attracting alcoholics from different backgrounds? Are we seeing a good cross-section of our community?
4. Do new members stick with us, or does the turnover seem excessive? If so, why? What can we as a group do?
5. Do we emphasize the importance of sponsorship? How effectively? How can we do better?
6. Are we careful to preserve the anonymity of our group members and other A.A.s outside the meeting rooms? Do we also leave the confidences they share at meetings behind?
7. Do we take the time to explain to all members the value to the group of keeping up with the kitchen/housekeeping chores and other essential services that are part-and-parcel of our Twelfth Step efforts?
8. Are all members given the opportunity to speak at meetings and to participate in other group activities?
9. Mindful that holding office is a great responsibility not to be viewed as the outcome of a popularity contest, are we choosing our officers with care?
10. Are we doing all we can to provide an attractive meeting place?
11. Does the group do its fair share toward participating in the purpose of A.A. — as it relates to our Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service?
12. What has the group done lately to bring the A.A. message to the attention of professionals in the community—the physicians, clergy, court officials, educators, and others who are often the first to see alcoholics in need of help?
13. How is the group fulfilling its responsibility to the Seventh Tradition?

### Steering Committee

The Sunrise/Sunset steering committee meets quarterly to deal with the annual workshop, group participation at conventions, annual elections, and financial contributions to area offices. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 10 November.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and there is no cost; a basket is passed to cover the cost of the meal. You become a voting member at your second meeting. To add an item to the agenda or get directions, please see Matt J.

