

Too Young?

AA can work for anyone who has an open mind and a desire to stop drinking.

I don't think I've ever really forgotten anyone I twelfth-stepped in AA. Sometimes, I pause and wonder what ever happened to so-and-so. It's a lot easier to stay in touch with sober members and those who go on trying than it is to keep track of those who come around for a time and vanish. The human mind must repress some things, or we would all go mad. So it's sometimes good that we forget. Still - I think all the people I've tried to help are still in the back of my mind.

Like Larry. Larry was twenty-seven when we met. He was sent to AA by his employer. His job performance was erratic because of his drinking. When he arrived at the meeting, he admitted to drinking some, smoking pot some, and stealing from the boss some. He allowed as how he had been an all-around rascal for many years. Larry had a twinkle in his eyes, spoke like a dese-dose-and-dem guy, and was shy about the fact that he loved poetry. Though he hadn't had much formal education, it was obvious that he was intelligent. He agreed to attend AA, but swore he was no alcoholic. Larry thought he was too young to be an alcoholic.

He listened only to the harshest stories about cirrhotic livers and delirium tremens. He saw a few people with red noses and talked to members with half a century of drinking behind them. He did not pay attention to younger people or to members with less harrowing stories. He claimed he was in trouble only because he was young and blond, and envious people at work held him back. He said all this with a boyish grin. The group hoped he would eventually get the program.

Bills, summonses for parking violations, and pressure from his wife forced Larry to take action. He told his wife he would go to another state to make a fresh start. Even though the group advised against it, he insisted that the answer to trouble and the road to young dreams lay in geography. . . .

Statistically, it is hard to prove whether there actually are more young alcoholics today. But common sense tells us AAs to get set for such a development, even though the need isn't yet indicated by hard facts. A lot of the younger people I have met in AA have had the guts and good sense to stop drinking before they fit into the stereotype of the late-stage lush. They still have the open-mindedness of youth. Also, we see people coming in earlier in their drinking careers because there is more education than ever about alcoholism. Thanks to the work begun by Bill W. forty years ago, there has been a steady lessening of the stigma surrounding our disease.

Does age really make any great difference? Older members take a slow local and arrive in AA after well-defined stopovers in bad situations. Younger members arrive on an express, but they have packed just as much sorrow into the trip. Older members may simply want to hold on to what they have or to regain responsibility. Younger people have yet to chart the courses of their lives. Our program helps people of any age make free choices.

The language at meetings is the language of the heart. It is sober talk with which young or old can identify. Ego problems are alike for the alcoholic at nineteen and at ninety. A young person claiming to have years of drinking left sounds very like the older person who claims he has handled it

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E.V.I. News

May 2003

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Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette St. Eugene, OR
97401-3509
(541) 342-4113

AA Meetings: My Name Is Tom



New:None!

Changed:None!!

Canceled:None!!!

Please remember to let us know if your group stops meeting. It's a lot easier to remember when you are starting a meeting, but if you stop meeting remembering to remove it from meeting lists may save someone frustration and more when they really need a meeting. To submit changes of any kind please fill out a form in the "Meeting Book Changes" book at the EVI office. Ask a volunteer at the front desk for it. Thanks!

Have you seen "Daily Meditations With Attitude"?

See "What's New" on our website:
www.efn.org/~eviaa

Do you have an event, but no web page to post it on? Contact our Web Master - eviaa@efn.org

Do you have an event AND a web page but would like a link from the EVI website? Contact our Web Master - eviaa@efn.org

Do you have an event with a flyer, and want to post a printable version (PDF) on a website? Contact our Web Master - eviaa@efn.org

I don't remember my first drink, but I'll never forget my first drunk. It was in Vancouver, B. C., in the early 1930s, and I was a very new and inexperienced ship's radio operator, back in my home port after a long voyage. The Third Mate had suggested that I might like to go on a double date with him that evening, and I was flattered that a man of his experience would condescend to put up with the company of a green kid like me.

We collected our pay, dressed up in our best go-ashore clothes and headed for the nearest government liquor store. We then rented a cheap hotel room, so we could have a few drinks in preparation for our big evening. I realize now that the Third Mate, who was all of twenty-two years old (to my nineteen) was probably no more experienced with booze than I was. Anyway, as soon as we were in the room, we opened a bottle of Scotch and a bottle of wine, mixed the wine and liquor fifty-fifty and toasted each other with the resultant mixture. Within a very short time, the cheap hotel room became a luxurious suite to me, the Third Mate was my everlasting very best friend, and the whole world took on a rosy glow.

It was early evening when we got into the taxi to pick up our dates. The street lights all sparkled like stars in a tropical sky, and we floated, rather than drove, through the beautiful city. The girls, when we met them, were two living dolls, and after a few drinks of our Scotch and wine mixture, which we had thoughtfully brought along with us, they, too, seemed to acquire the same debonair, devil-may-care spirit with which the Third Mate and myself were already well filled. The rest of the evening was perfect. We danced, dined, drank, and the feeling of mutual admiration ran high. I was to spend about thirty years trying to recapture the magic of that one evening.

During the next ten years or so at sea, the liquor itself became the important thing. Every invitation to a party was assessed in terms of how much liquor would be available. Every foreign port was assessed by the quality and quantity of its bars, the cheapness of the booze, and the ease of procuring a drink at any and all hours of the day.

A hasty marriage somewhere along the line ended in an equally hasty divorce, and when World War Two came along I was accepted by the Royal Air Force Transport Command as a radio officer, and soon found myself flying the Atlantic in bombers being delivered to Britain from the United States and Canada.

At first, I eased up considerably on my drinking, but soon found the old pattern recurring. If anything, I found that flying with a hangover was worse than being at sea in the same condition. I managed to keep out of serious trouble, but I did get to be known on both sides of the Atlantic as an irresponsible drinker. By the end of the war, I had acquired a wife and two children, a taste for high living, and, if possible, a still more unquenchable thirst.

In 1946, I was offered a two-year contract to go to South America, to act as an instructor and help to organize an airline. The place was an alcoholic's paradise. Bars were open twenty-four hours a day, and if you wanted to drink at home, liquor was on sale at the corner grocery store. My job was far from demanding, so the two years went by in an alcoholic daze, with no thought of the future. My contract was not renewed (need I say?) when the two years were up, but I flew back to Canada full of optimism.

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Emerald Valley Intergroup

Business Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2003

Meeting opened at 6:30 by Harold B. with Serenity Prayer. Twenty-two EVI representatives on hand for a quorum.

Announcements:

EVI reps check the "BIG ASS" calendar in the office for current and up coming events, also check the printed announcements.

Committee Reports:

Outreach: Annie B. Doing very well. Lots of meetings with various groups.

H&I: Larry W. H&I needs women volunteers. To read complete H&I minutes go to EVI website www.efn.org/~eviaa/hinotes.htm or read the in the office - H&I last Wed. of month @ EVI 6pm.

Speaker Meeting: Angie E. Doing great. Good turnout.

Treasurer: Tom L. - P/L doing well for March.

Office: Bill B. Office running well. Still need to relocate wall switch.

Literature: Report given by Harold B. Order on its way from N.Y. via slow boat, interim order from Portland Intergroup.

Communications:

Website: Jessie R - Up and running. Working with Activities and link to Newsletter.

Newsletter: Tefany - Would like more articles/stories submitted for the newsletter.

Meeting Directories: Elisabeth R. Go back to 2000 directory order.

Answering Service: Jana P. Running smoothly and doing well.

Public Information: Bob P. Carrying the message.

CPC: Carola K. Progressing well. Need a hand stamp for pamphlets with AA phone number on it.

Activities: Mindy - Looking for permanent site for dances. Fourth of July Picnic at River Road Park, more to come. Needs volunteers to help out.

Steering Committee: Harold B. While EVI is doing fine for keeping up with expenses for now, there may be a time to explore fundraising ideas for the future when we may not be doing as well as we are now. One idea is Birthdays in the newsletter. All ideas welcome, as are contributions.

Need to bring the rural/out of town meetings back into the fold of EVI. This may prove difficult because of past dealings with EVI.

Members at Large are attending varies meetings and reporting back very good info. Check the calendar section of the newsletter for meeting dates and times for various committees if you would like to volunteer for one.

New Business:

Motions:

John G.: To allow District Representatives to sit in and have a voice and a vote on EVI business meetings. To act as an EVI Representative from their respective District. Seconded and Passed. EVI Reps statements - None.

Old Business:

CPC: Co-Chair open.

AIS (Alanon): Has accepted our invite to hold meetings at EVI office on the fourth Tuesday of the month. They will most likely start in June or July.

Submitted by Roger H. Secretary



EVI Office

1259 Willamette
Eugene, OR 97401-3509
Monday-Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Drop by for a visit!

EVI Web Site

www.efn.org/~eviaa

Meeting schedules, business meeting minutes, and much more.

The little squiggle in the address is found right next to the exclamation point on the keyboard. Save a book mark or favorite and check back often!

E.V.I. News

Emerald Valley Intergroup's Newsletter for the A.A. Community in Lane County

EVI News is a monthly newsletter of the Emerald Valley Intergroup. It is about, by, and for the members of Alcoholics Anonymous fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article or event or notice imply endorsement by either Alcoholics Anonymous or EVI. (Exceptions: Quotations from A.A. books or pamphlets which are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.) EVI News is produced to support communication within the fellowship; please respect the anonymity of any A.A. member mentioned herein. EVI News reserves the right to edit any submissions for clarity, length, language, and editorial policy. Contributions gratefully accepted for consideration for publication.

Submissions due last Monday of each month. To submit articles or event information, mail them or drop them off at the EVI office c/o EVI Newsletter. Submissions can also be e-mailed to: eviaa@efn.org

Communication Committee (Newsletter & Web Site, Meeting Book) meetings are held at 6pm the first Friday of each month at the EVI office. Call John G (686-5602) with any questions.

Contributions:

continued from page 2 (My Name Is Tom)

(April/year to date)

Anonymous/Unknown 0/10.00
Attitude Adjustment 101.40/672.23
Autumn Group 0/0
Brown Bag Group 100.00/100.00
Caduceus 0/113.00
Cottage Grove Noon 0/2.00
Courage to Change 78.00/78.00
Downtown AM Group 81.48/381.01
Freedom of Choice 0/296.00
Friday Night BB Study 0/119.22
Friday Night Stag 0/0
From The Heart 0/100.00
Get Well Group 0/20.00
Gratitude Group 50.00/50.00
The Great Fact Group 5.00/10.00
How It Works 133.00/258.00
Last Chance Study Group 0/60.00
McKenzie Bridge Group 0/0
Men's Daily Reflections 0/0
Monday Mens Stag 0/131.50
Monday Night Beginners 0/0
New Freedom 117.00/207.00
New Freedom II 240.00/240.00
Primary Purpose 0.50/0.50
Recovery By the Big Book 0/0
Recovery By The Steps 0/65.00
Rush Hour Group 0/20.00
Saturday Morning Steps 0/220.00
Search For Serenity 76.00/298.36
Serenity Seekers West 0/0
Sober Awakenings 0/300.00
Sobriety for Life 0/90.00
Springfield Monday Night 0/6.00
Sponsorship 0/0
Stairway to Sobriety 25.00/75.00
Sunday Morning B.B. 117.81/517.75
Sunday Sunshine 185.00/185.00
Sunlight of the Spirit 0/0
Sunday Night 12x12 0/0
SW Sunset 0/0
Thursday Men's Book Study 0/0
Thurs. Men's Spons. Group 0/0
Try God Group 245.00/536.70
Tuesday Men's Sponsorship 0/0
Tuesday Beginners 0/0
Veneta Gratitude Group 30.00/30.00
We Need Each Other 0/0
Wednesday Mens Noon 0/0
Wednesday Men's Stag 0/0
Women's How It Works 0/10.66
Women's Monday Night 0/0
Womans Rd. to Recovery 0/205.25
Total Contributions (month/year to date)
Group month/ytd 1585.19/5408.18
Contributions/Individual
Anonymous/Unknown 0/152.00
Faithful Fivers 85.00/319.40
Ind. Contributions/Other 63.11/89.40
Total Contributions/Ind. 148.11/560.80

Gossip travels fast in the airline business, and my drinking reputation had reached Canada ahead of me. I found all doors closed, and as saving money had never been one of my strong points, I was broke in a very short time.

A series of low-paid, unskilled jobs followed, with intervals of no job at all, but somehow I could always find money for a bottle of cheap liquor. Finally, through a lucky break, I secured a modest office job, where I was paid a half decent wage every second week. The drinking pattern now changed a little. I became a periodic "binge" drinker, staying sober for as much as a month at a time, but hoarding up every penny I could lay my hands on for the glorious binge that was inevitable.

Then one day I had a marvelous, undeserved break. A large aircraft manufacturer needed flight radio operators for test-flight work, and offered me a job. I was terribly afraid that I would not pass the necessary medical exam, but somehow or other I got through it, and the job was mine.

Any sane person, at this point, would have realized that something would have to be done about the drinking problem. But I figured that at last people had realized my sterling worth and, as money was going to be a bit more plentiful, I would be able to continue my drinking, as long as I could keep it under cover.

For almost two years I was able to do just that. I think the Higher Power that we learn about in AA must have been working for me even then, because somehow I was never required to fly when I was suffering from a hangover. Of course, I was frequently absent from work altogether, but managed to get away with the usual lame excuses.

Then one morning, after a protracted drinking bout, shaking, miserable, plagued by nameless fears and physically and emotionally exhausted, I decided that I no longer liked the way I was living.

It was as simple as that.

I phoned the Montreal Central Office of AA, and that evening two members came to my house. I don't remember half of what they told me, but I can never forget the feeling of being able, for the first time since I had started drinking, to talk to people who really understood exactly how I felt. The following evening I attended my first meeting, and again the feeling of "belonging" was immediate. Hope that I could become like these good people, contentedly sober, quietly happy, made life seem worth living again.

Over four years have passed since that first meeting and, thanks to my Higher Power, I have never since felt the desire to take a drink. I cannot begin to detail the benefits that have come to me as a result of my association with AA. Financially, physically, morally and spiritually, I am a new person. AA, from being, at first, a means of attaining and keeping my sobriety, has now become a new way of life. I find that by applying the AA philosophy to my daily affairs, I *get* along with people I formerly hated, and they even seem to like *me!*

I feel that as long as I ask help from my Higher Power each morning, and give thanks to Him each night for my continued sobriety, I need never fear again.

T. F. C., Ste. Dorothee, Que. From the April 1964 Grapevine. Reprinted with permission of The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

May Calendar

- 1st Mon Steering Committee 6:30PM
Tue District 20, 6:30PM 418 A St. Ken L. 747-8270
Tue District 33, 6:30PM Allen U. 741-2617
Wed District 19, 5:30PM Jennifer W. 937-1070
Thur Speaker Mtg Committee, 7:00PM Angel 431-4924
Fri Communication Meeting, 6:00PM John G. 686-5602
Sat Cooperation with Professional Community, Noon
Sun Activities, 5:00PM Mindy 954-2048
2nd Mon EVI Business Meeting 6:30PM
Wed District 6, 6:30PM Tim A. 726-8558
Sat Answering/Diverter, 9:00AM
Sat EVI Speaker's Meeting 7:30PM Country Club Rd.
3rd Wed Public Information, 6:00PM Bob P. 434-1045
Last Wed H& I Committee, 6:00PM
Last Day Literature Committee, 6:30PM



Fellowship Events

May 15-17, 2003, Portland, Oregon. Oregon Area Quarterly Assembly. Holiday Inn, 8439 NE Columbia Blvd. Contact info and reservations - (503) 256-5000.

May 24, 2003, Eugene, Oregon. Recovery Riders - Five Bridges Bike Tour. 1PM at Alton Baker Park. Contact info Tom S. (541) 343-3699. www.geocities.com/recoveryriders

June 1, 2003, Eugene, Oregon. 1:30pm - 3:00pm. 1st Sunday Speaker Meeting. 2580 Hilyard Street. Real time captioning for deaf and HoH. Wheel chair accessible. Child care provided. Speaker - Vicki C., Eugene, Oregon.

June 13-15, 2003, Yamhill, Oregon. 17th annual Recovery at the Ranch. Flying M Ranch (www.flying-m-ranch.com). Contact Jeff or Susan (503) 560-5999 or (503) 472-4948.

July 11-13, 2003, Springfield, Oregon - Summerfest. Doubletree Hotel, 3280 Gateway St. 97477. Hotel contact (541) 747-8181. Summerfest contact - Lori L (541) 688-3352 or info@aa-summerfest.org. See the website - www.aa-summerfest.org

Gratitude:



Currently Available Service Positions:

Other volunteer opportunities: H&I has a constant, and varied need for people willing to do a little to a lot of service work. There is also a special need for women volunteers for Lane County Jail, CCC, Willamette Valley Treatment, etc. The opportunity for this type of service has really expanded, and H&I has been doing a great job, but they need the AA community to step up and volunteer. This is real service work.

CPC, Cooperation with the Professional Community, is looking for a co-chair. For more information come to the EVI business meeting.

The Promises

If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we are half way through. We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness. We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it. We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace. No matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others. That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear. We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows. Self-seeking will slip away. Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will change. Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us. We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us. We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.

Are these extravagant promises? We think not. They are being fulfilled among us, sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly. They will always materialize if we work for them.

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People:

OFFICE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
Bill B. (685-9216), Martha S. (687-9569)
ACTIVITIES
Mindy H. (954-2048), Valerie Z. (683-1936)
ANSWERING SERVICE
Jana (431-3839), Bob E. (747-2246)
ARCHIVIST
Linda (345-5827)
COOP. PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY(CPC)
Carola K. (736-8041), Open
E.V.I. COMMUNICATIONS:
John G. (686-5602)
Newsletter: Tefany H. (746-1438),
John G. (686-5602)
Website: Darren(485-3474), Jessie(485-3474)
Meeting Books: Elisabeth R.(747-5814),
Lee P.(741-9824)
E.V.I. SPEAKER MEETING
Angel (431-4924), Angie E. (606-6433)
LITERATURE
Letha M. (687-6623), Todd P.(689-4646)
OUTREACH
Ted H. (338-8380), Annie B. (431-6610)
PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)
Bob P. (434-1045), Bill D. (741-8041)
HOSPITALS & INSTITUTIONS (H&I)
Chair: Larry W. (513-5626)
HOSPITALS
Chair: Steve S.(914-9258), Todd (302-6377)
COOP. TREATMENT FACILITIES(CTF)
Janis B. (935-8833), Cayce (520-5635)
CORRECTIONS
Chair: Tom R. (465-1832), Bob L.(689-6960)
H&I Coordinators
Lane County Jail: Brenda K. (342-1668),
Ted H. (338-8380)
C.C.C. (Women's): Open
C.C.C. (Men's): Tom R. (465-1832)
Alma Work Camp: Bud W. (935-8833)
Pathways: Kenny (461-2937)
Serbu Detention: Jack C. (463-1040)
Carlton House: Joe C. (554-3558)
W.F.T.-Friday Night: Janis (935-8833)
W.F.T.-Book Study: Leslie B. (606-5776)
Serenity Lane-Speaker: Cayce (746-6990)
Serenity Lane-B.T.G.: Gus P. (463-1691)
Serenity Lane-Sat. Kurt J.(747-8925)
L.C.P.H.: Todd J. (302-6377)
Johnson Unit: Jill S.(302-1311)
V.A. Meeting: Dennis (607-5127)
E.V.I. STEERING COMMITTEE
Chair: Harold B. (579-8087)
Vice-Chair: Kurt J. (747-8925)
Secretary: Roger H. (688-3641)
Treasurer: Tom L. (683-7706)
Vice Treasurer: Lori B. (684-8670)
At-Large: Amanda W. (988-9656)
At-Large: Bob T. (342-1588)
At-Large: Steve O. (431-1205)
At-Large: Jenne B. (688-1189)
BOOKKEEPER: Kurt

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for thirty-five years and can still handle it. Yet each thinks he is unique.

I know one young person who resumed drinking so he could “enjoy” a skiing weekend. He ended up with both legs in casts. He still can’t admit he made a mistake. In some strange way, he thinks what he did is part of being young. Actually, he is growing old extra fast. There is no joy left in drinking for this young alcoholic.

People give a long list of reasons in claiming that AA won’t work for them. They say it won’t work for the minority group they belong to. They say it won’t work because they are rich or poor or too old or too young. I knew an experienced member who, when he heard these remarks, would grumble, “It’s all baloney, no matter how you slice it.”

There are many sober young people in AA. Why does the program work for some and not for others? Probably for the same reasons it doesn’t work at first for some older people.

One of the great comforts of AA is the lifetime follow-up it provides. Alcoholism doesn’t just vanish after a few months of sobriety. It’s nice to know that AA will be there anywhere we go in life. Some day, we will be hearing about people who have a half-century of sobriety in AA.

Several years ago, I met a twenty-nine-year-old at his first meeting. The physical ravages of alcoholism were not evident. I talked to him after the meeting. He was overwhelmed to find people who understood his problem, and he told me a story that any older member could relate with. He has been sober many years now. He has had a lot of growing-up problems, but the way has all been upward since he joined AA.

A sixteen-year-old girl I knew re-entered high school after getting sober. She was delighted to find herself going to school and doing things just like other respectable people. This would have sounded strange at an AA meeting years back.

And on and on the list goes. . . . Larry, however, had trouble. He went to Texas to work. He wrote me after two months and said our group had been right. He was homesick and unhappy. We mailed him a list of meetings near his new home, and he attended for a week. before drinking again. He phoned me and said that it wasn’t working out too badly, and that maybe he wasn’t an alcoholic at all. He was about to hitchhike back to New York. He got as far as South Carolina before being killed in a head-on collision.

Everyone who heard about Larry was saddened. We had tried to deliver the AA message, and that was: all we could do. I hope I have more insight when I try to help the next person like Larry.

E. S., Manhattan, N.Y. From the June 1976 Grapevine. Reprinted with permission of The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.



GOLDEN, COLORADO (August 2000)— An employee of Coors Brewing Co. flipped the wrong switch and sent 77,500 gallons of beer into a creek, killing thousands of fish and prompting health warnings. The beer, which was in fermenting tanks, washed through a wastewater-treatment plant before ending up in Clear Creek on Friday, said Coors spokeswoman Aimee St. Clair. The fish likely suffocated from the alcohol - among other things - produced in the tanks. “Somebody made a mistake,” she said. Officials with the state Division of Wildlife estimate the number of fish killed at 50,000.

Echoes in the Valley

(Echoes in the Valley is a collection of wit and wisdom heard in and around the valley. While not always original, they are shared by local folk at local events. If you hear anything at a meeting that you think others would enjoy or benefit from, please drop it off in the Newsletter Box at EVI. Quotes are credited to the speaker with permission, otherwise they are anonymous.)

Bill B - "Would you like a bag for your 12&12?"

Tammy M - "No thanks. I'll wear it."

Tammy M - EVI Office

"It's a mystery that some of us have to die."

Steve S - Friday Night Stag

"Just like the sun, I open the blinds and God comes in."

Ray B - Language of the Heart

"If you don't feel close to God today, who do you think moved?"

Grant - Language of the Heart

"My fear is directly proportional to the stupidity of the act I'm about to perform."

Jeanette P - One Day at a Time

"If it said 'Half measures would get us half there', that would have been good enough."

Ben F - Wednesday Night Stag

"I didn't ski, I liked drinking in ski bars. I didn't like camping, I liked drinking in the woods ..."

Susan J - Primary Purpose

"If you want a really good 4th step, go talk to your ex!"

Jerry H - Wednesday Night Stag

A newcomer to Eugene arrives on a rainy day. She gets up the next day and it's raining. It also rains the day after that, and the day after that. She goes out to lunch and sees a young kid and, out of despair, asks, "Hey, kid, does it ever stop raining around here?" The kid says, "How should I know? I'm only six."

This 8 year old little boy saddles up to the bar. "Hey, sweetie," he says to the well endowed waitress, "how about a Scotch on the rocks?" She says, "Uh huh. Are you trying to get me in trouble?"

"Maybe later, honey - but right now I could really use that drink."



MY DRIVER'S LICENCE HAS BEEN SUSPENDED, MY UTILITIES HAVE BEEN TURNED OFF, AND MY ENTIRE DIET COMES IN RETURNABLE BOTTLES - YEP, I'M REALLY DOING MY BIT FOR WORLD ECOLOGY



Seems a certain lush had been arrested and hauled in to see the judge. The beak asked him sternly, "Have you ever been up before me previously?"

"I dunno," replied the miscreant. "What time do you get up?"

Maybe the chap above was like the famous comedian W.C. Fields, who once remarked that it was a woman who drove him to drink, and he didn't even remember to thank her.

On another occasion, he stated that he had read so much about the evils of drinking that he had given up reading.

We'd say he did the wrong thing for the right reason, unlike a certain other lush. The latter was reading a newspaper in the subway, holding it with both hands, when he felt a clumsy pickpocket reaching in his pocket. The dipso went on the wagon, figuring he must have the DTs if he thought he had three hands.

But enough of that. Let's finish with a story about two bombed pedestrians who came upon a reproduction of "The Thinker," by Rodin. As they gazed at the statue of the naked man, one of the luses said, "I wonder what he's thinking about."

"That's easy," answered his friend. "He's trying to remember where he left his pants."

From the June 1976 Grapevine. Reprinted with permission of The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

Faithful Fiver Pledge:

Emerald Valley Intergroup
1259 Willamette
Eugene, Oregon 97401

GET THE NEWS!

- I pledge \$5 per month to support EVI and service work in my community
- I'm feeling grateful, I can send _____ per month
- I will mail or drop off my contribution: Monthly
- Four times a year (\$15 each)
- Once a year (\$60)

Name:

Address:

when you acknowledge my contribution, please list me as (first name, Initial, or nickname):

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stamp

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