



Conscious Contact

Prescott Area Intergroup: Serving Central Yavapai County

December 2019

240 S. Montezuma St. # 108 Prescott, AZ 86303 Phone: (928) 445-8691 Open Weekdays 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Website: www.prescottaa.org Email: prescottaa@prescottaa.org

Ah, the Holidays

We've all heard the joke: The holidays are a time of celebration, a chance to be with those we love and who love us, those who know us better than anyone else and who care about us most. But instead, we spend them with our families.

Hey, it's just a joke, people. Sort of. Most of us love our families and many of us even feel close to them, drawing comfort and joy from the remarkable result of genetics and affection and happenstance combining across generations beyond number. We are all of us miracles, and every family proves this. Of course, some miracles are more comfortable than others.

Tolstoy famously said that every happy family is the same, but every unhappy family is different. Now that's a good line and made a perfect beginning for *Anna Karenina*. It's also been a staple of family therapy ever since. But it is worth remembering that Tolstoy was writing fiction: Surely joy and misery, whether familial or individual, are equally multifarious. And anyway, most holiday gatherings demonstrate that happiness and unhappiness most often exist side by side, their strands woven together.

For many people, of course, the Family Holiday is just a cliché. They may be just another day — or worse, another day dimmed by separation from one's family or the absence of friends. Many just won't care, but others will care a great deal.

At some point in the past few decades, counselors, employers, ministers and others charged with being alert to the moods of their flock (editors and feature writers spring to mind) became specifically concerned about "holiday stress" and "holiday depression." Workshops and articles with names like Coping with the Holidays are now commonplace, and we have all been told that unhealthy behaviors and feelings spike from Halloween through New Years Day.

To the alcoholic of course, holidays often meant primarily a heightened impulse toward anesthesia and marginally more access to free booze. Also, the holidays presented a paradox.

On the one hand the holidays meant more "cover." It seemed like everybody was drinking more, so you didn't stand out so much. (I remember one Christmas sitting on

my front porch, drinking single-malt from the bottle and singing "'God Bless Ye Merry Gentlemen" to the neighborhood. That's not something I would have tried in May, even if I knew an appropriate song.)

On the other hand, the holidays also meant, for me, a kind of exposure. The rest of the year I could be The Loved One in Another Town as far as my family was concerned—pretty much the boy of their memories. But come the holidays, I was this aging man in their homes, right across the table from them exhibiting all the signs of a life in disarray and the habits of a daily drunk. This was in fact quite stressful for me, as it was for my family. And as the day wore on, I dimly recall, I would get progressively merrier and the smiles of my family progressively more strained.

Ah, well. Happily that is no more. Today, thanks to Alcoholics Anonymous and my family in the program those problems are gone. (Well, gone for me: Possibly my nieces and nephew were scarred for life by the sight of Uncle Bert careening with periodic bursts of bad manners between grandiose and comatose. I hope not. I would hope they may have learned from my wretched example.)

Today I am sober and greet the holidays with just that mixture of happiness and dread that they deserve. No more, and no less. Comfort and joy indeed.

Bert W.
2008

Step Eleven:

"Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out."

Tradition Eleven:

"Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films."

Concept Eleven:

"The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern."



**Prescott Area Intergroup's
2019 Christmas/Holiday Alcaathon**

**Tuesday, December 24th
Wednesday, December 25th**

**Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds
840 Rodeo Drive, Freeman Building**

Marathon Meetings on the Hour.
Groups are needed to lead meetings.
Call office by 12/19 to schedule day and time.

Tuesday, 12/24

**2:00 pm - Setup, Decorate
4:00, 5:00 pm - Marathon Meetings
6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner**

Please bring food to share!

**7:00 pm - AA Speaker Meeting followed by Fellowship Time
9:00, 10:00, 11:00 pm, Midnight - Marathon Meetings**

Wednesday, 12/25

**6:00 am - Continental Breakfast by: Sunday AM Men's Stag
7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00 am - Marathon Meetings
11:00 am - 50/50 Raffle (Need not be present to win)
12:00, 1:00, 2:00 Marathon Meetings**



Prescott Area Intergroup's October 2019 YTD Treasurer's Report

GROUP DONATIONS	YTD
4 Directions Grp	\$400.00
A Way Out Group	\$153.15
Afterwards Group	\$1,154.30
Alternatives	\$165.50
Amity Group	\$40.00
ASCYPAA	\$408.43
Bradshaw Seniors Meeting	\$644.35
Candlelight Meeting	\$42.00
Carry This Message	\$753.00
Chino Valley AA	\$200.00
Coming Home	\$65.00
Cordes Lakes Group	\$20.00
Cordes Lakes Whatever Grp	\$40.00
Crazy Birds	\$441.03
District 14-140	\$150.00
Early Risers	\$171.00
Freebirds	\$262.00
Friday Big Book Solutions	\$105.00
Girlie Birds	\$1,025.00
Healing the Hole in the Soul	\$478.29
Humboldt Men's Stag	\$500.00
Intergroup Meeting	\$371.41
Noon BB Discussion	\$1,195.87
Old Shoe (Skull Valley)	\$272.00
Open AA Meeting	\$500.00
Park Avenue Group	\$1,374.14
Prescott Group	\$485.00
Prescott Shoestring Roundup	\$4,500.00
Principles B4 Your Personality	\$1,200.00
PV As Bill Sees It	\$274.00
PV Friday Night Speaker Mtg.	\$720.00
PV Gut Rap Group	\$250.00
PV Keep It Simple	\$392.55
PV Lushes t' Ladies	\$464.70
PV Men's Book Study	\$300.00
PV No Name Group	\$104.00
PV Noon Group	\$540.00
PV Roadmap To Recovery	\$125.00

GROUP DONATIONS	YTD
PV Sunday Nooners	\$400.00
PV Wed Step Study	\$140.00
Rarely Group	\$250.00
Round Table Meeting	\$792.00
Seniors In Sobriety	\$471.76
Serenity At Sunrise	\$1,509.00
Sisters In Sobriety	\$60.00
Step Stories	\$300.00
Sun. AM Men's Stag	\$1,260.00
Sunday Morning AA Solutions	\$125.00
Sunny Days	\$373.93
The Great Fact	\$1,143.47
The Slice Of Life	\$1,050.00
Thurs Men's Stag	\$33.71
Toolbox Group	\$893.00
Tues Night Book Study	\$450.00
Tuesday Night Step Study	\$270.00
Walking Through Hell	\$100.00
Whipple Group	\$41.00
Women's Gratitude Luncheon	\$50.00
Working Girls	\$135.00
Yarnell On the Mtn Grp	\$70.00
Young Peoples Meeting	\$300.00
TOTAL GROUP DONATIONS	\$30,504.59
OTHER INCOME	
AA Birthday Gratitude	\$405.00
Anonymous IG Donation	\$237.36
Literature Sales	\$10,103.25
Chips Etc.	\$2,851.00
Meeting Directory Sales	\$331.00
Newsletter Sales	\$150.00
Picnics	\$1,492.67
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$15,570.28
TOTAL INCOME	\$46,074.87
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$51,001.23
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	-\$4,926.36
Total Monies 10/31/19	\$34,029.77
Literature & Chips Value	\$7,782.00



**December AA Birthdays
CONGRATULATIONS!**



The Great Fact Group
Phyllis H. 12-25-86

Diamonds in the Rough
Barbara H. 12/07/90

Humboldt Men's Stag
Jim C. 12/11/74

PV Saturday Night Live
John R. 12/29/92

The Slice of Life
Don H. 12/12/92

PV Wed Night BBS
Terry D. 12/03/08

Tues. Night Step Study
Art A. 12/26/07

PV Lushes t' Ladies
Deb M. 12/26/85

Intergroup
Sue B. 12/19/97

One Step Forward
Amy M. 12/30/07
Megan A. 12/23/04

Toolbox Group
Nick P. 12/28/15
Brent I. 12/01/14

Afterwards
Deborah F. 12/22/14
Michael G. 12/19/01
Tom M. 12/09/83

Wilhoit
John S. 12/07/93
Rita S. 12/08/75

PV Men's Book Study
Dave L. 12/10/12
Rick P. 12/27/08
Willie P. 12/17/87

Sunday Round Table
Deborah F. 12/22/14
Mike C. 12/20/03
Tom W. 12/27/02

Chino Valley
Mark B. 12/01/94
Mike L. 12/18/94
Linda 12/05/84

Welcome Valley
Michael G. 12/19/15
Cory P. 12/25/14
Kendra W. 12/20/79

Home Group?
Sean D. 12/29/06
Donald N. 12/06/86
Shawn B. 12/10/80

PV Sun. No Name Group
Brad T. 12/20/09
Mike W. 12/08/09
Doug S. 12/26/08
Sam B. 12/15/05

Crazy Birds
Alex W. 12/04/06
Asya P. 12/12/05
Byron A. 12/16/02
Linda T. 12/05/84

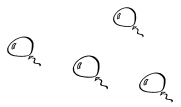
Girlie Birds
Haley H. 12/26/18
Linda H. 12/21/18
Miriell M. 12/12/18
Jess C. 12/11/07
Jennifer S. 12/20/04

Serenity@Sunrise
Bob C. 12/27/17
Lucas F. 12/18/17
Nick P. 12/28/15
Josh D. 12/05/11
Jess C. 12/11/07
Dean T. 12/01/78

PV Keep It Simple
Brian K. 12/13/18
Meg M. 12/28/17
Sherri C. 12/07/17
Eli R. 12/01/17
Mark D. 12/11/06
Harold F. 12/22/80

P.V. Noon Group
Susan C. 12/06/11
Mary P. 12/09/10
Christine G. 12/10/87
Jim N. 12/27/80
Bob G. 12/19/79
Ron K. 12/13/75

Prescott Group
Sarah F. 12/28/09
Sadie B. 12/23/09
Mike C. 12/20/09
Manda S. 12/05/09
Andrew W. 12/30/08
Aaron A. 12/27/08
Phil L. 12/29/05
Emily L. 12/28/04



Service Corner

**Look back and be grateful.
Look ahead and be hopeful.
Look around and be helpful.**

Next Intergroup Meeting:

6:30 pm, Wednesday, December 11, 2019
(the second Wednesday of every month)
at the First Christian Church, 1230 Willow Creek Rd.

Next District 14-140 GSR Meeting

6:30 pm, December 4, 2019
(the first Wednesday of the month)
at the First Christian Church, 1230 Willow Creek Rd.

Next District 14-142 GSR Meeting

6:30 pm, Tuesday, December 3, 2019
(the first Tuesday of every month)
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 7763 E. Long Look, PV

Prescott Shoestring Roundup Committee

5:30 pm, Friday, January 17, 2020
(no meetings in November & December)
Unity Church, 145 S. Arizona Ave. @ Goodwin

PI / CPC Committee

(Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community)
Meetings scheduled as needed
Prescott Area Intergroup, 240 S. Montezuma #108
Contacts: Larry W. (928) 499-2936 or the
Prescott Area Intergroup Office (928) 445-8691.

The Prescott Area Intergroup's
Treatment Facilities Committee Meeting

6:45 pm, December 4 & 18, 2019
(the first and third Wednesday of the month)
Treehouse, 635 1st St., Prescott
For information on how you can be of service on this
committee please call Tom M. (561) 389-3232

The Prescott Area Intergroup's
Correctional Facilities Committee

For Yavapai County Juvenile Justice Center AA meeting
information call Jerry D. 928 636-9343



Conscious Contact

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Make checks payable to: Prescott Area Intergroup and mail to 240 S. Montezuma #108, Prescott, AZ 86303