



## Step Eleven: The Answer to My Prayers

I wish you'd shared that with me sooner," my Al-Anon friend said. "I could have saved you a lot of time and trouble." I had just shared with him my recent experiences and also how I had added two verses of my own to the St. Francis Prayer, the prayer AA borrows for our Eleventh Step and quoted in the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

Several years ago, after "For it is by self-forgetting that one finds. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life," I had started praying, "It is only by being empty that one is filled. It is only by having nothing that one may have everything." It sounded so good, I don't remember giving a thought to what the answer to my prayer might look like. Then it started being answered, slowly at first and building to a crescendo.

"God help me!" was the first prayer I ever truly said; that one was answered very quickly. I was thirty-five and tired of life, a hopeless alcoholic. I screamed out that first prayer while driving around drunk one day at lunch break. Shortly after that I rear-ended an off-duty cop. Two days later I was in treatment, and three days later I was in an AA meeting. It was my second AA meeting. Eighteen months earlier, I had attended one meeting--drunk. I left with the person who twelfth-stepped me (who was the same person who would later drive me to treatment), and I told her, "I'm not religious. I can do this myself." Of course, I couldn't do it myself and when I asked for God's help (even though I didn't know that was what I was doing), God did help me. Rear-ending an off-duty cop and spending the rest of the day in the drunk tank did not seem like the answer to any prayer at the time, but it was.

I should have known from that experience that my additions to the Eleventh Step prayer would be answered. Now I was telling my Al-Anon friend that since last fall: I'd lost the business I founded and owned for thirty-one years, I had filed for bankruptcy in the spring, I'd lost my truck and car, I'd lost my job,

I'd attempted suicide, I'd buried my father a week before his birthday on Memorial Day. The week after that, my wife left me and I found out my son was in jail, and now I expected to lose my house. Shall I stop? Was my addition to the prayer being answered? Being empty. Having nothing.

Being filled. Having everything. Thank God! A new job that I absolutely love appeared recently. My daughter offered to take me into her home with her husband and my two grandkids. Her caring and compassion is truly heartfelt. My closest AA friend, who has over fifty years of sobriety and whom I see and talk to every day, has been walking with me through the pain. I have a used subcompact that gets two times the gas mileage of the new truck I lost. My wife left, but we are on good, friendly, and open terms, and I got the dogs. My life is being filled and I have been given everything that I need.

What I have been given and what I'm being filled with is God's grace. It is God's grace that I be able to share my life experience with people who truly care. It's God's grace that I be right-sized. It's God's grace that I face and live in my life's situations without a drink. (My sponsor says the miracle for a guy like me is that I haven't had to take a drink.) It's God's grace that I bear the pain and grow. It's God's grace that I am me and live one day at a time ("Un dia a la vez," has always been my favorite AA slogan).

The most recent revision I've made to my daily prayers is to change my addition to the St. Francis Prayer to, "It is only by living one day at a time that one may be filled with your grace." I also think more about what I'm praying for and try to be more attuned to the answers that may come. Every day, I ask the God of my understanding, "Let me be responsible, use my experience, find balance, express your will, and help others. For it is by doing these things and helping others that I am helped." I pray I can stay the course as the answers come.

By: Skitch F. | Albuquerque, NM | November 2005  
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## November: *Spiritual Awareness*

### Step 11

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 11

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.

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## Sobriety Birthdays



Name	Years
Sandy Jo	6
Terry R	11
Chris C.	15
Janice E.	22
Brendan G.	28
Scott S.	32
Mary F	34



If you'd like to celebrate your sobriety birthday with us in the Nameless Newsletter send details to: [NNLEditor@sloaa.org](mailto:NNLEditor@sloaa.org) or send a donation (suggested \$1.00 per year of sobriety) in a birthday envelope and mark the box if you'd like us to include it in the newsletter!

### **\*\*MEETING DIRECTORY CHANGES\*\***

- [List of Face to Face meetings](#)
- [List of ONLINE meetings](#)
- ☑ **New:** 5 Cities Group Friday 5:30 p.m. online  
Enter the meeting number: 867 7926 0060  
Enter the password: rule62
- ☑ **Cancelled:** Ranch Recovery 12x12/Big Book Study, Monday, 6:30 pm  
Location: Hilltop Christian Fellowship
- ☑ **Time Change:** All Welcome Group, Saturday, 7:00 pm, Change time to 6:00 PM  
Location: 9333 Santa Barbara Rd, Atascadero

#### **How to submit changes to our Directory**

1. Call Central Office (805-541-3211) and relay the change info to the volunteer
2. Email the change info to: [communications@sloaa.org](mailto:communications@sloaa.org)
3. Access the meeting change form online at <https://www.sloaa.org>

## 7TH TRADITION MAILING LIST for GROUP TREASURERS (Donations)

**General Service Office (GSO)**  
P.O. Box 459  
New York, NY. 10163-0459

**Area 93**  
PMB #140606  
606 Alamo Pintado #3  
Solvang, Ca. 93463

**District 22**  
P.O. Box 1891  
San Luis Obispo, CA. 93406

**Central Office Intergroup (CCCOI)**  
P.O. Box 12737  
San Luis Obispo, CA. 93406  
[VENMO @slocentraloffice](mailto:VENMO@slocentraloffice)

**Hospitals and Institutions ( H&I )**  
P.O. Box 12737  
San Luis Obispo, CA. 93406



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 8, 2020**

**Service Sunday**

8:45am COR ZID: **676 772 528** pwd: **817218**  
10:15am GSR ZID: **810-2922-8696**, pwd: **451241**

**November 13, 2020 - November 14, 2020**

**A Vision for You**

14<sup>th</sup> Annual Waves Roundup  
Cape Atlantica, NJ

<https://www.wavesroundup.net/>

**November 14, 2020 9am-3pm**

**Living Sober**

Mini-Conference

[Zoom ID 901 336 4499](https://www.zoom.us/j/9013364499)

**November 26-29, 2020**

Las Vegas Virtual AA Roundup

<https://www.lvroundup.org>

## CCCOI Service Opportunities

### Board of Directors Nominations

**Our Central Office/Intergroup Board of Directors has two openings!**

**Please attend November's Service Sunday zoom meeting if interested.**

**There are 2 Board members rotating out this December.** The way it works is that nominations will be entertained for two vacant Board positions. Who fills which position will be determined in January 2021 by the board at the Board Meeting held the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

If interested in a CCCOI Board position, please attend via Zoom either the November Wednesday 11/04/20 5:30pm Board (**Meeting ID: 411 867 015 Password: 539848**) and/or Sunday 11/08/20 8:45am COR meeting (**Meeting ID: 676 772 528 Password: 817218**) from the comfort of your own home.

Board positions include:

Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Literature Chair, Communications Chair and Member at Large. This is a 2-4 year commitment for AA members in good standing.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Office Volunteer** (currently calls are forwarded to the volunteer's home, but in the future the volunteer would answer the phones in the office and process literature sales)

**Call Forwarding Volunteer** (Calls to be forwarded to the volunteers' home)

**Please email our volunteer coordinator Chad at [chad@payatech.com](mailto:chad@payatech.com) if interested.**

#### Step 12... Carry the Message

**Tell us your Story...** Share your experience, strength and hope as a recovering alcoholic by sending it in your own words to [nnleditor@sloaa.org](mailto:nnleditor@sloaa.org) (@ 650 words)

### Curbside Literature Pickup Available

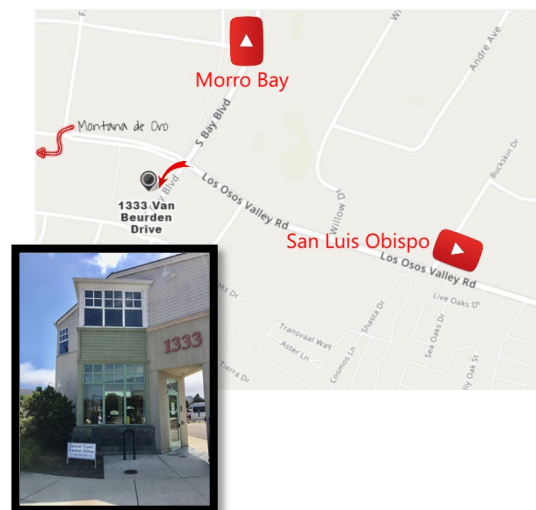
*Central Office is selling pre-ordered literature with curbside pickup Mondays and Saturdays from 1-4pm*

You must be able to order and pick up the same day. The books will be brought to the front door as the **office is not open at this time.**

#### Steps to order and pick up books:

1. Call Central Office on the day you want to pick the books up **(805) 541-3211** between 12 noon and 4 PM and place your order.
2. You will be told the amount you owe.
3. Bring the exact amount, as we cannot make change at this time. Checks (made out to CCCOI) and cash are accepted.
4. Pay for and pick up your books at 1333 Van Beurden Drive, Los Osos by 4 PM. We will bring them to the door. Van Beurden Dr. is located where South Bay Blvd and Los Osos Valley Road meet.
5. If you would like any **FREE Newcomer Packets, Meeting in a Pocket, or Birthday Contribution Envelopes** (limited to 5 each) – please let us know when you place your order.

**Thank you for your cooperation.**



### AAWS Continues to Process Literature

Please contact the Order Department at 212-870-3312 or email [orders@aa.org](mailto:orders@aa.org) or visit the online store at <https://onlineliterature.aa.org>

Alcoholics Anonymous : Meeting | Item Details | Weight Watchers | Document Verification | REAL ID

https://www.aa.org/pages/en\_US/meeting-guide

Bank of America | M: Login to Marcus | Facebook | Recovery | AHC | Fitness | Yahoo! Mail | SLO County Voter

## Meeting Guide



GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

Brought to you by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., Meeting Guide is a free of charge meeting finder app for iOS and Android that provides meeting information from A.A. service entities in an easy-to-access format.

Meeting Guide syncs with area, district, intergroup/central offices and international General Service Office websites (some of which are listed on [A.A. Near You](#)), relaying meeting information from more than 300 A.A. service entities directly to you. Over 100,000 weekly meetings are currently listed, and the information is refreshed twice daily.

This app gives A.A. service entities full control of their local meeting information while collecting it in one place, making it easy for anyone to find a meeting. Local entities provide their meeting information voluntarily. Meeting Guide users can suggest additions or corrections to meeting listings by using links provided within the app to contact the local service entity responsible for the information.

Please remember to call or send in changing meeting information so we can update our database which feeds into the Meeting Guide app used by new and traveling A.A. members to find our meetings. There is a saying in IT: "Garbage In, Garbage Out" which applies to this dilemma. If we don't have the correct info to put into the Meeting Guide, the incorrect info is garbage and the meeting information being used by our fellow A.A.s is garbage as well.

As a Central Office volunteer, I rely on the information for 12 step calls, visitors, newcomers... and it has not been guiding them to our meetings successfully as of late. PLEASE call into the Central Office 805-541-3211 or go to the website <https://www.sloaa.org> and follow instructions to fill out meeting change forms.

*thank you!*

### Word Search - Serenity Prayer

Hidden in the puzzle is the Serenity Prayer:

"God, Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference".

Start with the G in the upper left hand corner. Next find the O which is adjacent to the G. Wind your way through the puzzle to find the entire prayer. The puzzle has been started in red.

G	A	L	J	H	E	S	E	U	S	H	D
S	O	D	G	T	E	I	R	E	N	T	E
W	T	G	R	T	M	C	C	A	O	I	S
U	N	S	A	N	Y	E	H	E	T	Y	T
Y	I	I	H	T	T	P	T	W	H	D	O
A	C	H	E	N	A	N	D	I	T	I	W
N	A	T	E	T	A	C	S	O	W	F	T
N	O	A	G	H	E	I	D	N	K	F	F
F	T	H	N	H	T	S	O	O	K	E	O
P	A	C	T	I	N	G	M	T	D	R	E
C	C	D	O	A	M	C	A	I	H	G	N
E	T	G	N	N	C	I	N	C	T	C	G
T	P	E	A	E	C	S	G	E	E	L	A
E	H	R	T	C	P	R	H	Q	N	F	A
C	O	U	O	A	T	T	Y	H	A	L	P

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Passing It On - Day At A Time