

Step 9: Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Tradition 9 (long form): Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principle newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

Concept IX: The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

September Events Calendar:

available on JCOAA.ORG in greater detail

Sunday, September 1st:

5-7 pm: Bingo Nite - Hosted by The Alano Club
Games/Prizes/Raffle
1921 Elm Avenue, Medford

Tuesday, September 3rd:

7-8 pm: 12 in 4 Back to Basics Step workshop
(1 of 4) Over 4 weeks we will work all 12 steps as
was done in Back To Basics meeting since the 40's
Church of the Nazarene Life Path
1481 S Columbus Ave, Medford

Saturday, September 7th:

9 am: JCCOAA - Steering committee meeting
group reps welcome
116 E. 6th street, Medford

6 pm: Potluck and Fellowship
Hosted by "Saturday Night Live"
First Presbyterian Church
121 W 2nd Street, Phoenix





September Events Calendar:

available on JCOAA.ORG in greater detail

Sunday, September 8th:

2 pm: SORYPAA Officer elections
(Southern Oregon region of young people in AA)
and “YPAA has a pizza my heart” - Shares on
YPAA event organization and experiences
Pizza and fellowship - Get a position!
456 W Pine St, Central Point

Tuesday, September 10th:

7-8 pm: 12 in 4 Back to Basics Step workshop
(2 of 4) Over 4 weeks we will work all 12 steps as
was done in Back To Basics meeting since the 40's
Church of the Nazarene Life Path
1481 S Columbus Ave, Medford

Wednesday, September 11th:

6 pm: District 16 Monthly General Service
Meeting - Via Zoom or by Phone
More details at JCCOAA.Org/events

Friday, September 13th-15th:

Rogue Men's Fall Retreat
Focusing on the 'Big Book
\$40 registration includes tent site
or \$110 for an RV site
Lake Selmac Park
500 Reeves Creek Rd, Selma
Contact Terry K. for more info
541-727-8166

Saturday, September 14th:

7-9 pm: A.A. Bingo Fundraiser Hosted by
Hi-Lo Club in Grants Pass
Prizes awarded - Proceeds benefit Hi-Lo Club
668 Lincoln Rd. Grants Pass

Tuesday, September 17th:

7-8 pm: 12 in 4 Back to Basics Step workshop
(3 of 4) Over 4 weeks we will work all 12 steps as
was done in Back To Basics meeting since the 40's
Church of the Nazarene Life Path
1481 S Columbus Ave, Medford

Tuesday, September 24th:

7-8 pm: 12 in 4 Back to Basics Step workshop
(2 of 4) Over 4 weeks we will work all 12 steps as
was done in Back To Basics meeting since the 40's
Church of the Nazarene Life Path
1481 S Columbus Ave, Medford

Wednesday, September 25th:

11:30 am - 1:00 pm: Women's A.A. Potluck Fellowship -
hosted by Keepin' It Simple
First United Methodist Church
607 W Main St, Medford

Friday, September 27th:

7:00 pm: Birthday Night - hosted by No Name Group
The First Presbyterian Church
456 W Pine Street, Central Point

Sobriety By The Sea - 37th Annual Rally

September 27th, 28th & 29th
Del Norte County Fairgrounds
Crescent City, California
\$30 for preregistration ticket
\$35 for Prime Rib dinner
Get tickets here: <https://sobrietybythesearally.com/shop/>

Saturday, September 28th:

10:00 am - 12:00 pm: GSR School hosted by District 16
Ascension Lutheran Church
675 Black Oak Dr, Medford

Sunday, September 29th

11:30 am to 12:30 pm: All 12-steppers Women's
Camp Out Planning Meeting - Via Zoom
Meeting ID : 860 7286 8040
Password : recovery

"The Child Inside"

by Zac W

What I think I liked most about the early effects of alcohol was that it helped me feel and act like a child. I could be carefree, spontaneous and wild just like I was when I was a mindless kid. However, that process of childishness kept going in the wrong direction until I was soon acting like a slobbering baby, unable to take care of even the simplest task and eventually rolling around in my own filth, physically and emotionally. Alcohol was so attractive at first because it helped me take life less seriously and it helped me escape momentarily from the adult world I really had no interest in being a part of. But alcohol is such a cruel master because once it had me in its care it turned my life into an immature nightmare. This is why the AA mantra is so true: alcohol begins as a solution, becomes a solution with problems and eventually becomes only problems.

Thankfully, the program of AA allows me to learn how to be "a part of" things today. Before I found Recovery (or Recovery found me!) I had no interest in being a part of anything because I wanted to be the whole thing myself. Much like an egocentric baby who really does think the entire world revolves around him, I was incapable of seeing myself as one small piece in a universal whole. I thought such thinking was foolish and useless. Now, however, I know that my previous way of thinking about the world was childish make-believe, a dark fairytale in which I am a god who decides how and why the world works. And thanks to AA and my brothers and sisters in the program, I have no interest today in make-believe because the real and true world of gratitude and service is far more interesting and worthwhile.

The Big Book puts it this way, "Those of us who have spent much time in the world of spiritual make-believe have eventually seen the childishness of it. This dream world has been replaced by a great sense of purpose, accompanied by a growing consciousness of the power of God in our lives" (130). When I was a practicing alcoholic I was obsessed with escape, oblivion and the childish games of ego and control. Today I am blessed to know that there is nothing to escape from, that today is just a day that comes one decision to be grateful at a time. Today there is no craving for oblivion because the love of this program and the people I've met in it has taught me that all I need to do is be here now, and to remember the good news that I am not and cannot be in control, thank God. Today we need not be slaves to our own delusional egos that tell us we need to rule the day because a power greater than ourselves already made the day and has much better plans.

While I was living as an angry child (long into my late 30's) I found gratitude to be stupid and acceptance dangerous. I thought willingness and openness were code words for weakness and foolishness. Today, graciously, I am no longer a child thanks to this program. I am able to experience true gratitude and thankfulness today for all I've been saved from, and I am able to accept the healing offered in the wisdom of our literature and in the strength I find in the rooms of AA. May it be true for you today as well. May gratitude and acceptance rule the day, and may we all be able to put childish things aside, day by day, step by step.

