

PENN VALLEY GROUP

Date Founded: Circa 1983

Prepared by: Sarah McT*

GSO#: 136094

Revised: May 2020

Founding Member: Jerry D

Original Location: Beauty Parlor in Penn Valley

Current Location: Buttermaker's Cottage in Western Gateway Park, Penn Valley

Meeting Day and Time: Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

*Prepared by Sarah based on a telephone conversation with founder Jerry D. on 10-22-16 and from info taken by Bob V., Mayor of Mooney Flats (Sarah attended the first meeting)

The Penn Valley meeting was started by Jerry D. after he received an AA hot-line call from Hilda who did not want to go to Grass Valley to attend meetings. Hilda was the owner of a local beauty parlor in Penn Valley, so they decided to start a meeting in the beauty parlor. Jerry told Sarah that Hilda moved to Utah and did call Jerry at one time to let him know that she had two years of sobriety.

After Hilda sold the beauty parlor and moved to Salt Lake City, the meeting had to move. There followed several locations, in order: Ready Springs School, the recreation building in the Penn Valley Mobile Home Park and then in 1991 the meeting was moved to its present location at the Buttermaker's Cottage in Penn Valley Park.

The Penn Valley group started as a small meeting but grew into a rather large group. Many members have made it their home group over the years. Jerry D. did inform Sarah M. that there had been a former meeting in the Penn Valley area possibly started in the late 1970's by Tom S. and held at a real estate office where Tom worked. Sarah remembers Tom, but doesn't remember this meeting, but remembered Bob V. speaking of an earlier meeting in Penn Valley.

A special Birthday Party was held at the PV group possibly on September 30, 2003 for Dan Dean who celebrated his 50th AA birthday. The evening consisted of a dinner and then Dan said a few words with his wife, Fae at his side. Dan wanted to live to see his 50th birthday and got his wish as he died around a month later. Dan only spoke a few words that night as he was tired, but he spoke about LOVE. He talked about loving God and forgiving others.

Some of the old-timer members at this party were: Clayton G., Glen S., Bud T., Bruce J., Earl M., Lou, Bill S., Cassie K., Bernie and Pat, Sarah and Mick M., Roger F., Beth M., Rita B., Arlene, Mitch W., Jim and Mae K., Dave K., Carl H., Mike and Kit W., Annette M., and others. These names the author got from looking at photos taken at the event.

The Penn Valley Group is a strong group. The secretary asks speakers to come chair the meeting every week and on the last Tuesday it celebrates member's birthdays. The meeting runs one hour except birthday meetings run 1 1/2 hours.