

# District 12 Newsletter

March 2013

## *Step Three*

“Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.”



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Linda, Zion, IL

I had been sober for a long time. I was sure that God had totally healed me of my alcohol problem and even made fun of those AA people who needed to go to those meetings. Little did I know what was in my future. I did not go out and drink but my thinking got so self centered and so crazy I'm still amazed that my husband didn't cut me lose.

On my way to that first meeting my mind flip-flopped between, "They will all be a bunch of bag ladies," and "What if they don't like me." I must have looked ok because everyone was so nice. They read a bunch of stuff that I'd read in the AA book I had borrowed from the library. Then one of the ladies talked a bit and looked at me. I didn't have a clue what she wanted and said so. That's when they discovered I was at my very first AA meeting and suddenly something called a "first step meeting" took place.

I felt at home and not at home all at the same time. I wanted so badly to belong and yet I was not so sure. One woman made sure I had my very own AA Big Book and her phone number. I swore I would never call her. The very next Wednesday morning I called in tears about something I felt was earth shattering at the time. She convinced me that what I needed was another meeting. I met her at the Wednesday women's meeting in Gurnee that evening. That's where I met 5 other women who were to be instrumental in my life for many years to come. Three of the five have died sober and the other two are still dear friends even though they live at opposite ends of the country. Much time has passed since that first meeting. I had a new beginning with new ways of living that changed my life in ways I could not have dreamed possible. I remember my husband asking "How long I had to go to those meetings?" I asked, "How long did he have to keep going to church?" He never said another word about me going to AA meetings. Now, when he wonders aloud if I'm going to a meeting I know I' being difficult and need a meeting:) I continue to go to meetings to keep my head screwed on right and to share my life with others. I enjoy the wild and amazing collection of people I have met and come to love and care about as a result of being a part of AA. Now I can say and mean it from deep within when I say, "I'm Linda and I'm a grateful recovering alcoholic."



It Works if you Work it!

One Day at a Time!

Let Go and Let God!

Get a Sponsor don't go it alone....

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## **STEPS, TRADITIONS AND CONCEPTS**

Pray, God, help me do this. So let's consider the steps, traditions, and concepts taken horizontally. By that I mean --- 1,1,1; 2,2,2; 3,3,3. The First Step: We admitted we were powerless over alcohol -- that our lives had become unmanageable. Here is the entry level qualification -- I couldn't handle alcohol, it handled me. The First Tradition: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity. So if I can't stop on my own, and I have to have a support group to prop me up, then I have to respect the existence of that support group. And the First Concept: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship. Having humbled myself enough to admit my lack of power and I've grasped the necessity of the group to precede me, it's not unreasonable to accept of the fellowship in the whole scenario.

### **Tradition Three**

***“The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.”***

This Tradition is packed with meaning. For A.A. is really saying to every serious drinker, “You are an A.A. member *if you say so*. You can declare yourself in; nobody can keep you out. No matter who you are, no matter how low you've gone, no matter how grave your emotional complications-- even your crimes-- we still can't deny you A.A. We don't want to keep you out. (Read the rest in the 12x12 page 139)

A.A.'s Twelve Steps are principles for personal recovery. The Twelve Traditions ensure the unity of the Fellowship. Written by co-founder Bill W. in 1962, the Twelve Concepts for World Service provide a group of related principles to help ensure that various elements of A.A.'s service structure remain responsive and responsible to those they serve. (Page 574 in the Big Book of A.A.)

### ***Bunch o Nuts***

#### **Anniversary Dinner**

**Saturday, April 20, 2013**

**4:00—8:00 pm**

**St. Marks Church, Wadsworth, IL  
Corner Delany and Yorkhouse  
Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread**

**Bring a desert to pass**

**50/50 raffle**

**Food Fun Fellowship**

**Speaker: Mike H.**

**2013/2014 DCM Dist. 12**

**All This For NUTTIN (free)**



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

***BUNCH O NUTS***

***ST MARKS LUTHERN CHURCH***

***YORKHOUSE***

***AND***

***DELANY***

***7 PM***

***TUESDAYS***

***SEE YOU THERE!***

# **EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **New Daytime Women's Meeting**

Thursdays

1pm

Zion Benton Alano Club

Starting January 10, 2013

Contact: Kim W. 847-815-3316

## **District 10 and 12 Spring Breakfast**

Sunday, April 14, 2013

Saddle Ridge @ Ramada Inn

200 N. Greenbay Rd, Waukegan, IL

Coffee and Fellowship - 8:00

Breakfast - 9:00

Speaker - 10:00 (to be announced)

Contact: Karen F. - 847-609-7354

## **Big Book Meeting**

Monday 6:00 pm

Meadow Ridge Church

Rt 173 and Green Bay Rd.

Zion

Please Bring Your Big Book

## **Jail Volunteers Needed**

For more Info contact:

Kathy

847-212-3615

## **Looking for a Sponsor/Sponsee?**

Join us at the

### **ATP Sponsorship Panel**

1st and 3rd Saturday of each month 12:45pm

Female sponsors needed!

Addictions Treatment Program

3002 Grand Avenue

Waukegan, IL 60085

## **District 12 Meeting**

Third Sunday of every month at 4:00PM at Vista Medical Center West, 2615 Washington Street, Waukegan, Illinois 60085. All alcoholics are welcome and group GSRs are strongly encouraged to attend.

## **VOLUNTEERS WE NEED A COMMITMENT!!!**

Lake County Work Release

Tuesday and/or Thursday

Once or twice a month

7:15 pm

Both men and women needed

For more info contact: Pete 224-381-9992

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 12 STEP WORK**

### **St. Therese Psych Unit Meeting**

Sunday 10 am Tues 7 pm

### **Sponsor Panel**

1st and 3rd Saturdays 12:45 til 2 pm

### **Drug Court**

1:30 pm Fridays Court 202

9:00 am Fridays Court 307

### **Veterans Court**

3rd Friday at 9 am Court 220

### **SAP**

SAP Bldg. 1 pm Thursdays

### **Detox**

ATP 730 pm Wednesday

Contact: Frank M. 847-336-2775

## **Step Study**

Wednesdays @ 7 pm

St. Mark's Church

Yorkhouse & Delany Rd., Wkgn.

## **New Time & Place!**

The District 12 Open Speaker Breakfast    Vic-  
tory Hospital

(also known as Vista Medical Center East)

Cost: \$7.00

Start time is 8:30 AM

1st Sunday of every month

**WAUKEGAN ALANO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**  
**MARCH MADNESS**

**Join Our Fellowship**

**Dues:**

**1st Month Free**

**\$8.00 per month**

**\$40.00 6 months**

**\$75.00 1 year**

**March 2nd—8:00 pm**

**Kickoff With Party at Waukegan Alano Club**

**Live Music**

**Food and Refreshments**

**Free Free Free**

**ALL WELCOME**

**A.A. Contacts**

General Service Office: <http://www.aa.org>  
 Northern Illinois Area 20: <http://www.aa-nia.org>  
 District 12 Website: <http://www.aadistrict12.com>  
 District 12 Answering Service: 847-623-9660

**District 12 Officers (Confidential – this information is for A.A. Use only)**

If you are interested in one of the positions listed as OPEN, please contact an officer.

Position	Chair	Phone	Email	Alternate	Phone	Email
DCM	Mike H.	847-533-7731	Mike.hennery@gmail.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Secretary	Terry V.		enchantedattic@hotmail.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Treasurer	Sue D.	847-502-1007	susie12956@aol.com	Ron K.	847-623-0953	crkytasaari@att.net
Answering Service	<b>OPEN</b>			<b>OPEN</b>		
CPC / Treatment	Frank M.	847-336-2775		<b>Francis K.</b>	847-744-0793	
Corrections	Pete O.	847-662-8737	Peter.choa73@yahoo.com	Kathy H.	847-731-2339	kathak@aol.com
Grapevine	James T.	224-730-2681	JamesT1956@yahoo.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Public Information	<b>OPEN</b>			<b>OPEN</b>		
Literature	John M.			<b>OPEN</b>		
Newsletter	Kim W.	847-815-3316	lakecountydistrict12aa@gmail.com	Nick P.	847-872-6727	nicholas_prins@sbcglobal.net
Directory	Martin C.	773-870-4010	claussenmartin@aol.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Archive	Marlene	224-545-1495	grubbsmarlene@gmail.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Special Events	Karen F.	847-609-7354	k.finkel@comcast.net	<b>OPEN</b>		
District Breakfast	Jimmy F.	847-609-7354		Jimmy P.	224-538-1689	jjimpinkstaff@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Beth B.	<b>224.522-1676</b>	pollockburke@gmail.com	Brian M.	847-736-0403	brianm959@yahoo.com