

District 12 Newsletter

March 2017

Tradition Three

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

On the 3rd Tradition



Happy St. Patrick's Day

"Our membership ought to include all who suffer alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation."

This is a sweeping statement indeed; it takes in a lot of territory. Some people might think it too idealistic to be practical. It tells every alcoholic in the world that he may become, and remain, a member of Alcoholics Anonymous so long as he says so. In short, Alcoholics Anonymous has no membership rule.

Why is this so? Our answer is simple and practical. Even in self protection, we do not wish to erect the slightest barrier between ourselves and the brother alcoholic who still suffers. We know that society has been demanding that he conform to its laws and conventions. But the essence of his alcoholic malady is the fact that he has been unable or unwilling to conform either to the laws of man or God. If he is anything, the sick alcoholic is a rebellious nonconformist. How well we understand that; every member of Alcoholics Anonymous was once a rebel himself. Hence we cannot offer to meet him at any half-way mark. We must enter the dark cave where he is and show him that we understand. We realize that he is altogether too weak and confused to jump hurdles. If we raise obstacles, he might stay away and perish. He might be denied his priceless opportunity.

So when he asks, "Are there any conditions?" we joyfully reply, "No, not a one." When skeptically he comes back saying, "But certainly there must be things that I have to do and believe," we quickly answer, "In Alcoholics Anonymous there are no musts." Cynically, perhaps, he then inquires, "What is this all going to cost me?" We are able to laugh and say, "Nothing at all, there are no fees and dues." Thus, in a brief hour, is our friend disarmed of his suspicion and rebellion. His eyes begin to open on a new world of friendship and understanding. Bankrupt idealist that he has been, his ideal is no longer a dream. After years of lonely search it now stands revealed. The reality of Alcoholics Anonymous bursts upon him. For Alcoholics Anonymous is saying, "We have something priceless to give, if only you will receive." That is all. But to our new friend, it is everything. Without more ado, he becomes one of us.

Our membership tradition does contain, however, one vitally important qualification. That qualification relates to the use of our name, Alcoholics Anonymous. We believe that any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation. Here our purpose is clear and unequivocal. For obvious reasons we wish the name Alcoholics Anonymous to be used only in connection with straight A.A. activities. One can think of no A.A. member who would like, for example, to see the formation of "dry" A.A. groups, "wet" A.A. groups, Republican

It Works if you Work it!
One Day at a Time!
Let Go and Let God!
Get a Sponsor don't go
it alone....

A.A. groups, Communist A.A. groups. Few, if any, would wish our groups to be designated by religious denominations. We cannot lend the A.A. name, even indirectly to other activities, however worthy. If we do so we shall become hopelessly compromised and divided. We think that A.A. should offer its experience to the whole world for whatever use can be made of it. But not its name. Nothing could be more certain.

Let us of A.A. therefore resolve that we shall always be inclusive, and never exclusive, offering all we have to all men save our title. May all barriers be thus leveled, may our unity thus be preserved. And may God grant us a long life --and a useful one!

Bill W. - 1948

Reprinted from the AA Grapevine

DISTRICT 10 & 12 ANNUAL



SPRING BREAKFAST

@BONNIE BROOK GOLF COURSE

2800 N. Lewis Ave, Waukegan IL 60087

**50/50
RAFFLE**

**Coffee: 8AM
Breakfast: 9AM**

\$18.00

FOR TICKETS CALL
TERRY V. (DIST. 12)
847.650.2251
JOYCE (DIST. 10)
224.202.1858
OR SEE YOUR GSR

APRIL 9TH 2017

SPEAKER TOMMY B. (CHICAGO) 36 YEARS OF SOBRIETY



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALENDAR IN A NUT SHELL!

Date	Event
Friday Feb. 24th	Spring Breakfast Planning Committee Meeting Alano Club, 2419 Washington St, Waukegan, IL 60085 From 7:00 PM to 8:00 pm
Weekend Mar. 24th to Mar. 26th	NIA 20 Spring Assembly Conference Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E Golf Road, Schaumburg, IL 60173 Visit the website for online registration and information
Saturday Mar. 25th	35th Annual Tri-County Spring Conference "Miracles Can Happen" UAW Local 72 Union Hall, 3615 Washington Road, Kenosha, WI, 53144 A.A., Alanon and Alateen Speakers, Panels, Food, Dance and more..
Friday Mar. 31th	Spring Breakfast Planning Committee Meeting Alano Club, 2419 Washington St, Waukegan, IL 60085 From 7:00 PM to 8:00 pm
Saturday Apr. 8th	Pre-General Service Conference Workshop Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 40W605 IL-38, La Fox, IL 60119 Hosted by the Report and Charter Committee
Sunday Apr. 9th	Districts 10 & 12, Annual Spring Breakfast Bonnie Brook Golf Course, 2800 N Lewis Ave, Waukegan, IL 60085 Coffee 8:00 AM, Breakfast 9:00 AM, Speaker 10:00 AM,
Saturday May 13th	Spring Committee Meeting from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Lord of Life Lutheran Church, La Fox, IL All DCM's and anyone interested in Area Service should attend

District 12 Business/GSR Meeting.

3rd Sunday of Every Month

Vista West Medical Center, 2615 Washington St, Waukegan, IL

3:00 pm Concepts/GSR Meeting

3:30 pm Traditions Meeting

4:00 pm Business/GSR Meeting

Help Needed for Vista West Psyc Ward Meeting

Meetings are Tuesday Evening & Sunday Morning

Come to the Vista West Cafeteria at 7:00pm, Tuesday to find out the times and procedures for the Sunday meeting

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 12 STEP WORK

Sponsor Panel: ATP 1 st & 3rd Saturday 12:45-2pm

Back to Basics: ATP 2nd & 4th Saturday 12:45-2pm

Drug Court: 1:30pm Wednesday Court 204

Mental Health Court: 9:00am Monday Court 220

Veterans Court: 9:00am Friday Court 201

Detox: ATP 7:30pm Wednesday, 2:00pm & 7:00pm Sunday

For Info Contact: Frank M. @ 224-730-3045

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: Les 847-336-3275

Want to be Published

Send your Traditions articles to

Dist12.Newsletter@gmail.com

Deadline for the April issue is Mar. 16th

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

Northern Illinois Area 20 - District 12: P.O. Box 8882 - Waukegan, IL 60079-8882

Newsletter Submissions should be sent to Dist12.Newsletter@gmail.com

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	Paul P.	847-849-3928	paulperini@att.net	Pete O.	224-381-9992	peter.choa73@yahoo.com
Secretary	Kris M.	224-627-9768	kris.miller30@yahoo.com	Tracie J.	847-847-9201	tracie_jahnke@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Jackie S	224-247-8963	spencerbox@comcast.net	Karen F.	847-609-7354	k.finkel@comcast.net
Answering Service	Steve N	847-623-5076	stephenrordstrom@gmail.com	Mike C.	847-942-2339	michaelcorder2016@gmail.com
Archive	Tom B.	847-363-4363	tomhat609@gmail.com	Roy K.	847-293-4616	
Bridging the Gap	Ray L.	847-917-6442	r.leeper@sbcglobal.net	Byron W.	847-744-2325	
Corrections	Frank M.	224-730-3045	aboutme615@gmail.com	Les M.	847-336-3275	
CPC / Treatment	Dick M.	847-404-3713	dick71308@ameritech.net	OPEN		
Directory	Ryan P.	630-731-5377	ryanjames.531@gmail.com	OPEN		
Grapevine	Laura J.	847-533-0895	laurajohnson3623@comcast.net	OPEN		
Literature	John M..		Contact thru District 12 Website	OPEN		
Newsletter	Mike H.	847-848-4855	dist12.newsletter@gmail.com	Jackie R.	224-610-6646	jacquelinea1241@gmail.com
Public Information	Francis K.	847-505-2555		OPEN		
Special Events	Terry V.	847-650-2251	enchantedattic@hotmail.com	Suzanne A.	224-430-7200	
Webmaster	Danny K.	224-440-2024	kratovild@gmail.com	John P.	773-540-5164	john.jay.p@gmail.com