

District 12 Newsletter

April 2017

Tradition Four

“Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.”



Happy
Easter
Happy

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

On the 4th Tradition

"With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation. On such issues our common welfare is paramount."

This Tradition, Number 4, is a specific application of general principles already outlined in Traditions 1 and 2. Tradition 1 states, "Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward." Tradition 2 states, "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority--a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience."

With these concepts in mind, let us look more closely at Tradition 4. The first sentence of Tradition 4 guarantees each A.A. group local autonomy. With respect to its own affairs, the group may make any decisions, adopt any attitudes that it likes. No over-all or intergroup authority should challenge this primary privilege. We feel this ought to be so, even though the group might sometimes act with complete indifference to our tradition. For example, an A.A. group could, if it wished, hire a paid preacher and support him out of the proceeds of a group night club. Though such an absurd procedure would be miles outside our tradition, the group's "right to be wrong" would be held inviolate. We are sure that each group can be granted, and safely granted, these most extreme privileges. We know that our familiar process of trial and error would summarily eliminate both the preacher and the night club. Those severe growing pains which invariably follow any radical departure from A.A. tradition can be absolutely relied upon to bring an erring group back into line. An A.A. group need not be coerced by any human government over and above its own members. Their own experience, plus A.A. opinion in surrounding groups, plus God's prompting in their group conscience would be sufficient. Much travail has already taught us this. Hence we may confidently say to each group, "You should be responsible to no other authority than your own conscience."

Yet please note one important qualification. It will be seen that such extreme liberty of thought and action applies only to the group's own affairs. Rightly enough, this Tradition goes on to say, "But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, these groups ought to be consulted." Obviously, if any individual, group or regional committee could take an action which might seriously affect the welfare of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, or seriously disturb surrounding groups, that would not be liberty at all. It would be sheer license; it would be anarchy, not democracy.

Therefore, we A.A.s have universally adopted the principle of consultation. This means that if a single A.A. group wishes to take any action which might affect surrounding groups, it consults them. Or, if there be one, it confers with the intergroup committee for the area. Likewise, if a group or regional committee wishes to take any action that might affect A.A. as a whole, it consults the trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation, who are, in effect, our over-all General Service Committee. For instance, no group or intergroup could feel free to initiate, without consultation, any publicity that might affect A.A. as a whole. Nor could it assume to represent the whole of Alcoholics Anonymous by printing and distributing anything purporting to be A.A. standard literature. This same principle would naturally apply to all similar situations. Though there is no formal compulsion to do so, all undertakings of this general character are customarily checked with our A.A. General Headquarters.

This idea is clearly summarized in the last sentence of Tradition 4, which observes, "On such issues our common welfare is paramount."

Bill W. - March, 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
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
Saturday Jun 10th	Summer Assembly/Post-GSC Report Lord of Life Lutheran Church, La Fox, IL All GSR'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 May issue is Apr. 13th

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	OPEN		
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	OPEN.		
Webmaster	Danny K.	224-440-2024	kratovild@gmail.com	John P.	773-540-5164	john.jay.p@gmail.com