

District 12 Newsletter

April 2016

Step Four

“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves”



Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

The purpose of a searching and fearless moral inventory is to sort through the confusion and contradiction of our lives so that we can find out who we truly are. We are embarking on a new way of living and, in order to do that, we need to rid ourselves of the burdens and behaviors that kept us trapped in our old ways and prevented us from growing into the people we were always supposed to be.

As we approach this step, most of us are terrified that there is a monster within us, and if released, it will destroy us. It is this fear that often causes the alcoholic to put off this essential phase of recovery—and some are never able to muster enough courage to attempt Step 4 at all! To them, our hearts are heavy because we know that this can be, and many times it actually is, deadly.

Fortunately, those of us who face our fear and complete Step 4 discover that not only has a tremendous weight been lifted from us but that the fear was unfounded anyway. When we decided to turn our wills and lives over to the care of God in Step 3, we began to realize that fear is unwarranted. But, for the average alcoholic, the idea of relinquishing control of *anything* is scary and rather uncomfortable, but we try it to the best of our ability. Once we begin work on the 4th Step, however, we discover that fear is derived from a lack of faith and that now we have found a personal and loving Higher Power to whom we can rely upon.

Prior to recovery we were experts at self-deception and rationalization, but by putting the pen to paper and thereby learning about our many character defects, we are able to overcome them. This process will unlock those parts of our subconscious that would not be reached if we were to take a short-cut by not writing them down, as outlined in the Big Book. Once we place our inventory on paper, it becomes virtually impossible to deny those things about ourselves that we previously had refused to acknowledge or address.

An honest self-assessment is one of the keys to obtaining a new way of living. Let's face it, when we were drinking we were not only dishonest with others but just as deceptive to ourselves. When we finally get honest with ourselves we finally accept that alcohol has defeated us and that we need help. For most of us, it took entirely too long for us to realize that alcohol had beaten us.

We found that we do not recover physically, mentally or spiritually overnight. Why would we? It took us a long time to become as sick as we were when we finally entered the rooms of AA, why should the recovery process be any different?

Ask anyone who has worked all of the 12 steps a simple question: What did completing the 4th Step do for you? The healthy alcoholics will tell you that the 4th Step was the defining moment in their recovery, and the turning point in their lives.

Byron W.

Step 4, just do it!

One Day at a Time!
Let Go and Let God!
Get a Sponsor don't go
it alone....

Mark your calendar

Districts 10 & 12 Spring Breakfast
Sunday, April 10th, 2016

Bonnie Brook Country Club

2800 N. Lewis Avenue, Waukegan, IL

Coffee: 8:00 a.m. Breakfast: 9:00 a.m.

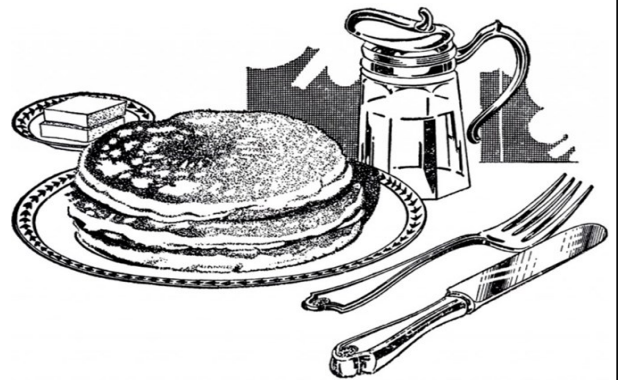
Speaker: Michelle D. (McHenry)

ISCYPAA

Cost: \$18.00

Dist. 10: Kristina K. @ 224-456-1225

Dist. 12: Terry V. @ 847-650-2251



District 12 Business/GSR Meeting.

WHERE: Vista West Medical Center

2615 Washington St

Waukegan, IL 60085

WHEN: Every 3rd Sunday of the Month

3:30pm Traditions Meeting

4:00pm Business/GSR Meeting

All A.A. Members are invited to attend.

Learn about what is happening in our district and the many types of services that we offer.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALENDAR IN A NUT SHELL!

Date	Event
Weekend Apr. 1st-3rd	43 rd NIA Spring Assembly & Conference Holiday Inn Rock Island, 226 17th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201 For more information check out the website—niaspringconference.com
Saturday Apr. 9th	Pre-General Service Conference Workshop, Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL Let's send our delegate to New York with a valid group conscience on the agenda
Sunday Apr. 10th	Districts 10 & 12 Spring Breakfast, Coffee: 8:00 a.m., Breakfast: 9:00 a.m. Bonnie Brook Country Club, 2800 N. Lewis Avenue, Waukegan, IL, Cost: \$18.00 Dist. 12: Terry V. @ 847-650-2251 Dist. 10: Kristina K. @ 224-456-1225
Sunday Apr. 17th	Dist. 12 Business Meeting, 3:30pm Traditions Meeting, 4:00pm Business Meeting Vista West Medical Center, 2615 Washington St., Waukegan, IL 60085 All GSR's should attend; All A.A. Members are welcome
Friday May 9th	1st Planning Meeting for the Annual District 12 Summer Bash on July 24th 7:00 p.m. at the Waukegan Alano Club, 2419 Washington St., Waukegan, IL 60085 Come and help make this Summer Bash, one of the all time best
Sunday May 15th	Compass Group will celebrate it's 30th anniversary at the 10:00 a.m. meeting A Complimentary Breakfast will be served after the Speaker At the Waukegan Alano Club, 2419 Washington St., Waukegan, IL 60085
Sunday May 15th	Dist. 12 Business Meeting, 3:30pm Traditions Meeting, 4:00pm Business Meeting Vista West Medical Center, 2615 Washington St., Waukegan, IL 60085 All GSR's should attend; All A.A. Members are welcome
Saturday Jun. 11th	District 43 Hosts the Summer Assembly at the Lord of Life Church in La Fox, IL Registration 8:00 a.m., Meeting 9:00 a.m., Lunch will be available All GSR's should attend; All A.A. Members are welcome
Sunday Jun. 12th	Quarterly Luncheon at Waukegan Alano Club, 2419 Washington St. 847-662-9640 Luncheon serving at 1:00 PM; Members, \$3.00, Nonmembers, \$5.00

New Sober Living House for Women

Leah's House is now open near Vista East in Waukegan. We are conducting interviews with prospective residents. Women 18 years and older, who have completed the initial detox and desire structured living in recovery from alcohol or substance abuse are eligible. Must be continuously clean and sober for a minimum of two weeks . Call (847) 722-4841

Spanish Speaking AA Meetings

Where: Alano Club of Waukegan 2419 Washington St, Wkgn IL
 When: Every Tues morning, 10 am & every Thurs night, 8 pm
 These are two new Spanish Speaking Groups of the Alano Club of Waukegan. Please, let's do our part by reaching out to the large Latin Community & help carry the message to them. Questions? Call: Pete O. at 1-224-381-9992 or Jaime G at 1-224-861-3189

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

12 STEP WORK

Sponsor Panel: ATP 1 st & 3rd Saturdays 12:45-2pm
Back to Basics: ATP 2nd & 4th Saturdays 12:45-2pm
Drug Court: 1:30pm Fridays Court 202
Mental Health Court: 9:00am Mondays Court 220
Veterans Court: 9:00am Fridays Court 202
SAP: SAP Bldg. 1:00pm Thursdays
Detox: ATP 7:30pm Wednesdays
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: Pete 224-381-9992
Email copy of forms to: paulperini@att.net

SPEAKER TAPE MEETING

EVERY THURSDAY 6pm
Waukegan Alano Club, 2419 Washington St
Listen to speakers from all over
& eat desserts!
Contact Karen F. 847-609-7354

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	Ken C..	847-693-0970	kenc693@yahoo.com	Paul P.	847-505-4656 paulperini@att.net
Secretary	Kris M.	224-627-9768	kris.miller30@yahoo.com	OPEN	
Treasurer	Dave H.	224-627-5153	dhall711@att.net	Ron K.	847-623-0953 ronkdist12@att.net
Answering Service	Steve N	847-623-5076	stephenmordstrom@gmail.com	Byron W.	847-744-2325
CPC / Treatment	Bill W.	224-456-9455	whwoolridge@msn.com	Dick M.	847-404-3713. dick71308@ameritech.net
Corrections	Frank M.	224-730-3045	aboutme615@gmail.com	Les M.	847-336-3275
Grapevine	Jackie S	224-247-8963	spencerjackie61@yahoo.com	Pete O.	224-381-9992 peter.choa@73.com
Public Information	Francis K.	847-505-2555		OPEN	
Literature	Patrick M.	224-501-5650	flathead_3888@yahoo.com	John M..	TBA Contact thru District 12 Website
Newsletter	Mike H.	847-848-4855	dist12.newsletter@gmail.com	OPEN	
Directory	Karen F.	847-609-7354	k.finkel@comcast.net	OPEN	
Archive	Tom B.	847-363-4363	tomhat6098@gmail.com	Roy K.	847-293-4616
Special Events	Terry V.	847-650-2251	enchantedattic@hotmail.com	OPEN	
Webmaster	Rob S.	847-322-0264	r.a.smith3530@gmail.com	OPEN	