

District 12 Newsletter

August 2019

Step 8

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.



Stick and stay,
make the miracle a reality.

This is a program of ACTION, it takes work to succeed in this wonderful program.

It Works if you Work it!

One Day at a Time!

Let Go and Let God!

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

Here I am again like in the big book, pounding my fist on the bar wondering what the hell happened. On my way to rehab for the third time. I took my will back again, I got what I always have, misery and despair. Racking my brain around were I went wrong and wallowing in my own self delusion. I've been doing the recovery dance for almost five years now, trying to cut every corner possible and never truly conceding to my inner most self and really being honest with myself about what I need to do to stay sober. The first time I thought the drinking was my big problem and after about four months started using drugs again, didn't drink for over a year and half but developed a horrible cocaine and acid cocktail habit. All it took was one big hick up and boom back to drinking and unmanageability. Off to rehab. Next I thought my friends were the problem so went back to the same job where everyone was using, to the same small town where I knew everyone, and went to some meetings and just isolated myself from the world, because it was the problem not me right. Still having many reservations for weed started the marijuana maintenance program. I thought it was working for awhile until I wanted to go out and test

My disease for shits and gigs. Boom at the coke dealers house for three days, quit my job, drank and isolated for a month with barley any food or water. I almost died, and I guess I finally had the proof I needed that I was messed up as I thought I was. I finally conceded. Now in treatment for the third time I was to do what I had to do to save me for myself. I finally realized I only had to do one thing to stay sober, and that was to change my whole life. People, places and things. While in treatment a guy told me about oxford houses, I thought what the hell I fought so hard against do that type of thing before why not, I was willing to try anything. So off to waukegan I was. Oxford house gave the rules and guidelines I need to start being more mindful of my day to day actions. I hit the road running and got a job in four days because I can't be in recovery if I'm just sitting on my ass. I went to meeting everyday and actually listened for the first 120 days cause that's what I felt I needed to get in the habit of going. I found a sponsor and started doing service work as a GSR and a grapevine Rep because that's what they told me to do. I've worked the 12 steps out of the Big Book with a sponsor because again that's what they told me to do. I finally was giving myself a chance at a real life, sober. I just want to say to anyone still struggling out there that you are worth, give yourself a chance, change can happen. But it doesn't happen over night or through osmosis. It takes hard work, dedication, commitment and the willingness to recognize and change our behaviors that kept us in the dark. I've been sober a little over a year now and my life is 100% better then it has ever been. I have my license back after 10 years, a car, a fantastic job and a place to lay my sober head at night. I also have people in the program that love and respect me in ways have not had in my life before. I am in charge of my emotions today, and I understand that one is to many and a thousand is never enough. Life is grand and everyone deserves a piece of it. Take it from me if I can do it so can you. We will love you until you can love yourself and trust me once you see what you can do with your life in sobriety you truly will. Go to meetings, get a sponsor, work the steps, and do service work. The promises come true I am living proof and for that I am forever grateful. May the god of your understand fill your heart and carry you into the life you deserve. Sobriety is possible and for everyone.

Sincerely Tommy (Patchouli) C.

CALENDAR IN A NUT SHELL

Date	Event
Aug 9 – 11, 2019	46th annual Illinois State conference Sheraton Lisle Naperville Hotel, 3000 Warrenville Rd, Lisle, IL 60532 Happy joyous and free state conference Hosted by district 43 area 20
Aug 16 – 18, 2019	Green lake round up Green Lake Conference Center, W2511 WI-23, Green Lake, WI 54941
Sat, August 24, 4:00pm – 6:30pm	Lifes a beach women's meeting North Point Marina, 701 North Point Dr, Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096 4:00pm fellowship 5:00pm speaker meeting Dawn O. Speaker WI. Bring lawn chair and a dish to pass
Aug 22 – 25, 2019	International Conference of Young People in A.A. (ICYPAA) Boston Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02116 Visit https://www.icypaa.org/ for further details or to register or book hotel rooms.

District 12- Business/GSR Meeting

**WHERE: Alano Club of Waukegan
2419 Washington St. Waukegan, IL 60085**

WHEN: 3rd Sunday of the Month

TIME: 4:00 pm

Want to be Published? - Send your articles to:

Dist12.Newsletter@gmail.com

Deadline for the August issue is August 17th

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

Interested in service work:
 Lakes Behavioral Hospital
 Monday-Friday 9-5
 Contact Info: Dick M 847-404-3713

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 611
Mental Health Court: 9:00am Monday Court 220
Veterans Court: 9:00am Friday Court 611
Detox: ATP 7:00 pm Wednesday, 2:00pm & 7:00pm Sunday
For Info Contact: Frank M.@ 224-730-3045

Mailing Addresses for Donations

General Service Office: PO Box 459 Grand Central Station,
 New York, NY 10163
 Northern Illinois Area 20 Ltd PO Box 524, Crystal Lake, IL
 60039-0524
 District 12 PO Box 8882, Waukegan, IL 60079-8882

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 IL Area 20 - District 12: P.O. Box 8882, Waukegan, IL 60079-8882
 Newsletter Submissions: Dist12.Newsletter@gmail.com

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

Please contact an officer if you are interest in an OPEN position.

Position	Chair	Phone	Email	Alternate	Phone	Email
DCM	Karen F.	847-609-7354	k.finkel@comcast.net	Matthew K.	224-532-6639	
Secretary	Renita D.	224-650-1359	Mommydearest.rd@gmail.com	Tracy J.	847-847-9201	Tracie.jahnke@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ken C. (Sweet Kenny)	847-693-0970	kenc693@yahoo.com	Jackie S	224-247-8963	kenc693@yahoo.com
Answering Service	Tom R.	847-804-1361	reitmeyerremodeling@gmail.com	Philip Z.	847-962-5012	pmzinc@gmail.com
Archive	John M.		Aadistrict12.com	Open		
Bridging the Gap	Julius M.	847-872-3489	juliusmarcelmartin@gmail.com	Tommy C.	1-224-287-3416	gratefulmcgeeplz@gmail.com
Corrections	Les M.	224-237-4269				
CPC / Treatment	Dick M.	847-404-3713	dick71308@ameritech.net	Byron W.	847-744-3212	byronsean15@gmail.com
Directory	OPEN	847-309-2306	mgbkperk@gmail.com			
Grapevine	OPEN	224-627-9847	calhound965@gmail.com	Open		
Literature	Chris J.	224-627-0878	cjacobsen1086@gmail.com	OPEN		
Newsletter	Aaron F.	224-627-8816	dist12.newsletter@gmail.com	OPEN		
Public Information	Mike H.	847-848-4855		OPEN		
Special Events	Kristina K.	224-456-1225	kkrause041@gmail.com	Ralph R..	224-425-1482	ralphrodriguez898@gmail.com
Webmaster	Danny K.	224-440-2024	kratovild@gmail.com	Thadonia S.	312-383-9488	