

# District 12 Newsletter

April 2013

## Step Four

**“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”**

*Demands made upon other people for too much attention, protection, and love can only invite domination or revulsion in the protector themselves. Page 44 12 x 12*



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Martin C., Waukegan, IL

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 mastery of the fellowship in the whole scenario. The **Second Step**: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity. Okay, I did the same thing over and over again while maintaining that this time it would be different. And the **Second Tradition**: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority -- a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. Our chosen leaders are encouraged to lead by example and are discouraged from anything beyond the slightest hint of bossiness. Now **Concept Two**: When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference -- excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter -- the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society. That's a mouthful, but I think it boils down to, we've made it this far, let's follow through. **Step Three**: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him. I turn over my thoughts and my actions over to my higher power. I don't create a new Supreme Being -- I simply fine tune or update my understanding. **Tradition Three**: The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking. Again I wanted to stop drinking and couldn't seem to it on my own. So I sought the support of a group of like-minded folk. I was overawed. I



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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The **Third Concept**: As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision." One way or another we've chosen from a field of candidates these individuals to be our leaders. Now we should allow them to do their jobs to the best of their abilities. **Step Four**: Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves. We have to make an assessment of who we are and what we are and where we are. Along the way we consider and reconsider how we got here and where we might be going. **Tradition Four**: Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole. We can do whatever we choose, as long as we don't endanger ourselves or others. **Concept Four**: Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge. No taxation without representation! Sound familiar? **Step Five**: Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs. We've made an examination of conscience, now we make a confession. Three times we do this -- to God, to ourselves, and to another. It's a cathartic experience. **Tradition Five**: Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose -- that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers. **Concept Five**: Throughout our world service structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion be heard and that petitions for redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered. I'm not sure that this one works on the Grand Scale, but it does work at every other level. **Step Six**: Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character. This is easy enough to say, but it seems to take a long time and a lot of hard work. **Tradition Six**: An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose. I probably shouldn't try to wear two hats with any forcefulness. I might want to drop the notion of killing two birds with one stone. Not multi-tasking. **Concept Six**: On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. Just as the A.A. groups find themselves unable to act decisively respecting world service affairs unless they delegate a great amount of active authority and responsibility to their Conference, so must the Conference in turn delegate a liberal administrative authority to the General Service Board, in order that its Trustees may act freely and effectively in the absence of the Conference itself. **Step Seven**: Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings. Like the Sixth Step just an ongoing chipping away at character flaws. **Tradition Seven**: Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. Just as the Rockefeller Dinner seemed to be a devastating defeat initially, it proved to be a blessing in disguise. **Concept Seven**: The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness. There has to be a mutual respect between the groups, the Conference and the Trustees. That's how it works -- if it works at all. (Eight through Twelve to be continued in May)

“My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do Your bidding. Amen.”

# **EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **Daytime Women's Meeting**

Thursdays

1pm

Zion Benton Alano Club

Contact: Kim W. 847-815-3316

## **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

## **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

Contact: Karen F. - 847-609-7354

Tickets—\$16.00

## **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

## **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

## **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.

## **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

## Tradition Four

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

Autonomy is a ten-dollar word. But in relation to us, it means very simply that every A.A. group can manage its affairs exactly as it pleases, except when A.A. as a whole is threatened. Comes now the same question raised in Tradition One. Isn't such liberty foolishly dangerous? (Read the rest in the 12x12 page 146)

### *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**

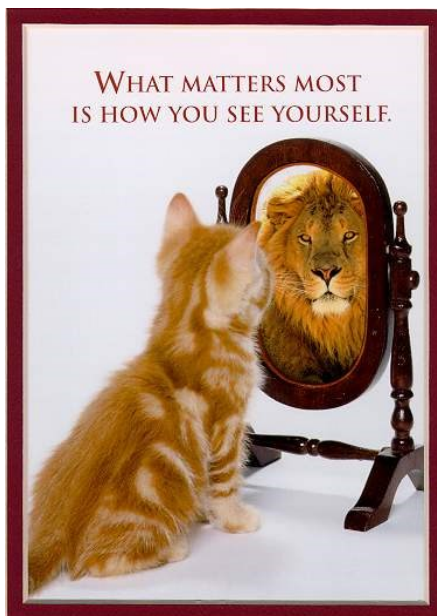
**50/50 raffle**

**Food Fun Fellowship**

**Speaker: Mike H.**

**2013/2014 DCM Dist. 12**

**All This For NUTTIN (free)**



### **BUNCH O NUTS**

#### **ST MARKS LUTHERN CHURCH**

**YORKHOUSE**

**AND**

**DELANY**

**7 PM**

**TUESDAYS**

**SEE YOU THERE!**

### **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.henneberry@gmail.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Secretary	Terry V.		enchantedattic@hotmail.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Treasurer	Ron K.	847-623-0953	crkytasaari@att.net	Sue D.	847-502-1007	susie12956@aol.com
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.ochoa73@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	clausenmartin@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	jimipinkstaff@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Beth B.	<b>224.522-1676</b>	pollockburke@gmail.com	Brian M.	847-736-0403	brianm959@yahoo.com