

# District 12 Newsletter

February 2018

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## *Tradition Two*

*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.*



### **Step 2:**

Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

In believing in something greater than ourselves, We start the process of having a spiritual connection with the higher power of our understanding.

It Works if you Work it!

One Day at a Time!

Let Go and Let God!

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

## **Tradition Two**

**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.**

**Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?**

**Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?**

**Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?**

**Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?**

**Although I have been sober a few years, am I willing to serve my turn at AA chores?**

**In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?**

## **On Tradition 2**

**“For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—A loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience”**

**Editorial by Bill W.     A.A. Grapevine, January 1948**

**Sooner or later, every AA comes to depend upon a power greater than himself. He finds that the God of his understanding is not only a source of strength, but also a source of positive direction. Realizing that some faction of that infinite resource is now available, his life takes on and entirely different complexion.**

**He experiences a new inner security together with such a sense of destiny and purpose as he has never known before. As each day passes, our AA reviews his mistakes and vicissitudes. He learns from daily experience what his remaining character defects are and becomes ever more willing that they be removed. In this fashion he improves his conscious contact with God.**

**Every AA group follows this same cycle of development. We are coming to realize that each group, as well as each individual, is a special entity, not quite like any other. Though AA groups are basically the same, each group does have its own special atmosphere, its own peculiar state of development. We believe that every AA group has a conscience. It is the collective conscience of its own membership. Daily experience informs and instructs his conscience. The group begins to recognize its own defects of character and, one by one, these are removed or lessened. As this process continues, the group becomes better able to receive right direction for its own affairs. Trial and error produces group experience and out of corrected experience comes custom. When a customary way of doing things is definitely proved to be best, then that custom forms into AA Tradition. The Greater Power is then working through a clear group conscience.**

**We humbly hope and believe that our growing AA Tradition will prove to be the will of God for us.**

**Many people are coming to think that Alcoholics Anonymous is, to some extent, a new form of human society. In our discussion of the First Tradition, it was emphasized that we have, in AA, no coercive human authority. Because each AA, of necessity, has a sensitive and responsive conscience, and because alcohol will discipline him severely if he back slides, we are finding we have little need for manmade rules or regulations. Despite the fact that we do veer off at times on tangents, we are becoming more able to depend absolutely on the long-term stability of the AA group itself. With respect to its own affairs, the collective conscience of the group will, in the end, prove a far more infallible guide for group affairs than the decision of any individual member, however good or wise he may be. This is a striking and almost unbelievable fact about Alcoholics Anonymous. Hence we can safely dispense with those exhortations and punishments seemingly so necessary to other societies. And we need not depend overmuch on inspired leaders. Because our active leadership of service can be truly rotating, we enjoy a kind of democracy rarely possible elsewhere. In this respect, we may be, to a large degree, unique.**

**Bill W.**

**The A.A. Grapevine, January, 1948**

## CALENDAR IN A NUT SHELL

Date	Event
Feb 4th	Super Bowl Party, Waukegan Alano Club 2419 Washington St. Raffle every Quarter!! 50/50 Raffle at half time!! Bring a dish to pass.
Feb 3-5	The Usual Suspects Men's Retreat, Inspiration Center in Walworth, WI. Contact Joe H. (815) 728-1281, George H. (262)521-2419 for more info. \$165.00 Per person includes 2 nights lodging and 5 meals.
Feb 10-12	Heart to Heart Womens Retreat, Inspiration Center in Walworth, Wi. Contact Debbi H. (815)728-1281, Jane S. (815)338-5183. \$165.00 Per person includes 2 nights lodging and 5 meals.
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	36 <sup>th</sup> Annual A.A., Alanon, Alateen Tri-County Spring Conference U.A.W. Hall, 3615 Washington Rd. Kenosha, Wi. 53144 Registration opens at 8am, Kick Off at 9am.

### District 12 - Business/GSR Meeting

**WHERE:** Vista West Medical Center  
2615 Washington St  
Waukegan, IL 60085

**WHEN:** 3rd Sunday of the Month

**TIME:** 3:00 pm GSR Orientation  
3:30pm Traditions Meeting  
4:00 pm Business/GSR Meeting

**Want to be Published** - Send your Traditions articles to [Dist12.Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Dist12.Newsletter@gmail.com)

Deadline for the February issue is Feb. 15th

**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

**Help Needed**

**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

**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  
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 Newsletter Submissions: [Dist12.Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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