

# July 2023 - Picnic Season

## District 12 Newsletter



**24/7 Hotline:**  
**920-474-6262**

**Support your**  
**District:**

**Please mail checks to:**

**NIA District 12**

**PO Box 8882**

**Waukegan, IL 60079**

**Checks payable to:**

**NIA District 12**

**or donate online**

**using PayPal at**

[www.aadistrict12.com](http://www.aadistrict12.com)

**District Meeting:**

**Third Sunday of the**

**month 4-5pm**

**at the Waukegan**

**Alano Club with a**

**3 pm GSR meeting**

**ALL are welcome.**

**District chairs and**

**District 12 GSR's**

**encouraged to**

**attend.**

**Scan QR for**  
**District 12 Website**



**Step 7:** "Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings."

**Tradition 7:** "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

**Concept 7:** "The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness." (Short form. Simple form: The board has the authority to veto the conference)

### **District 12 Annual Picnic**

**Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 4 pm**

**District meeting to follow picnic at 4 pm**



**\$5 Suggested Donation**

**Raffles, Games, Food and Fun for the whole family**

**Speaker at 1:00 pm**

**Join the fun at:**

**Greenbelt Forest Preserve, 1110 Green Bay Road,  
North Chicago, IL. \*\* Shelter B**

**Please support our newsletter's ongoing need for content**

**You may submit your work the following ways:**

**Email: [district12newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:district12newsletter@yahoo.com)**

**Mail: NIA District 12, PO Box 8882, Waukegan, IL 60079**

**In-person drop off: Waukegan Alano (coffee bar safe)**

**Handwritten submissions gratefully accepted.**

### Upcoming Events\*\*

#### **District 12 Picnic**

Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> 11- 4 pm  
Greenbelt Forest Preserve- North Chicago, IL  
(See page 1)



#### **Waukegan Alano Club Garage Sale**

Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 9-2 pm  
Want to sell your stuff? Buy at table \$15/ \$25  
Contact Jessica 847-293-2395

#### **Panel Meeting on Steps 8-12**

Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> Food at 6pm & Panel at 7pm  
Zion- Benton Alano Club

#### **Zion Benton Alano Club Summer Picnic**

Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 pm  
Zion Benton Alano Club  
Food, DJ, Games. Speaker at 3pm  
\$5 Suggested Donation

#### **Life's a Beach Open Women's Meeting**

Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>  
Northpoint Marina in Winthrop Harbor, IL

#### **Green Lake Round-Up in Green Lake, WI**

August 18<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> (Find a flyer for information!)

#### **Illinois State Conference 2023**

August 18<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Hyatt Regency in Schaumburg, IL

\*\* Events may be hosted by private entities

Please email events to:

[district12newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:district12newsletter@yahoo.com)

## **26<sup>th</sup> Annual Life's a Beach Women's Meeting**

Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Fellowship starts at 4:30 pm  
Speaker at 5:30 pm with more fellowship to follow

Speaker: Jeanne- Zion, IL

Location: North Point Marina in Winthrop Harbor  
*Signs will direct you!*

Bring a chair and a dish/ dessert to share

Contact: Colleen M. 262-331-0276 or [colleenseep@yahoo.com](mailto:colleenseep@yahoo.com)

When ready, we say something like this: "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." We have then completed *Step Seven*.

*A.A. Big Book, p. 76*

### **Step 6**

According to Bill P Todd W and Sara S in their book *Drop the Rock* "Step 6 is where we stop struggling" The truth is that through abstinence the alcohol and drug obsession and compulsion is arrested however we never fully recover from the Spiritual malady many 12 step members consider the following list of attributes:

Step One	Honesty
Step Two	Hope
Step Three	Faith
Step Four	Courage
Step Five	Integrity
Step Six	Willingness
Step Seven	Humility
Step Eight	Brotherly Love
Step Nine	Justice
Step Ten	Perseverance
Step Eleven	Spiritual Awareness
Step Twelve	Service

Editor's note:

Life has been busy and one month of our newsletter was missed.

Getting back on track ☺

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### **Step 5- Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs**

I was nervous about doing the fifth step with my sponsor. I don't know why, I had done steps 1-4 with her already. But for some reason this session seemed different to me. Boy was I nervous...God already knew these things about me and I of course knew these things about myself, but to tell them another person was something that I would never imagined that I would have to do. It's a good thing that my sponsor suggested to me to write these things down first before we meet. I had buried these memories so deep in my mind that at first I couldn't remember much of anything. But once I started writing, the memories just started flooding back into my mind. My thoughts just began flowing onto my paper. But as I saw the harsh realities of my past actions written down on paper I wanted to go somewhere and hide. God and I knew all of these things about me, why did I have to tell someone else these things? The Big Book tells me on pages 72-73 says " If we skip this vital step, we may not overcome drinking. Time after time newcomers have tried to keep to themselves certain facts about their lives. Trying to avoid this humbling experience, they have turned to easier methods. Almost invariably they got drunk." I did not want this to happen to me. It was time for my sponsor and I to have 5th step meeting. This was one time that I was super excited that my sponsor had given me homework. I am thankful to my sponsor for helping me prepare for step 5. I didn't have anything to be nervous or ashamed about, all I had to do was to just be honest. And I had to be more honest with this person who I had known less than a year (I believe) with some of the most personal details about my life. My sponsor just listened. I could not read her face to see if there was any judgment or disapproval. Her facial expression did not change one time while I was talking. She just listened. And the more that I talked the more comfortable I became with talking to my sponsor. After the meeting with my sponsor, I felt better than I had felt in a long time. I would actually have to call it freedom. I felt that I had nothing hanging over my head that would interfere with my sobriety. Step 5 and each step that I have worked since step 5, has opened the door for me to have more honesty, humility, and a closer relationship with the God of my own understanding. This has helped me to have a better relationship with my friends and my family and my grandchildren can have a sober Grandmother.

And for that I am humbly grateful.



Darlene F.  
Waukegan IL

### **Step 6 (Continued from previous page)**

With that in mind, after beginning the Spiritual Experience through completion of Step 5 we have a clear view of our character defects and if we are serious about the living the program (identifying causes and conditions) we should be the most Willing as we begin our Journey.

One should be aware we will be living between Step 6 and Step 7 all of our lives; therefore, it is not necessary to spend much time here at this juncture in fact after 30 days, I advise to make the list and begin on Step 8. Step 6- requires Willingness to seek alignment with God as we understand HIM and Humbly asking HIM to remove our short comings.

My personal experience is that time constraints placed on Steps 4 and 8 should enable the sufferer to experience the life changing experience of Step 9 (of which we will also continue throughout all our lives. My journey has allowed me to only take one pass through the steps in the past two decades. Steps 10 and 11 keep me in connection with Steps 4 – 9 and Finally 12 will allow one to carry the message as an individual and segue the individual into the Traditions in preparation for an introduction to or third legacy of AA World Service – the Concepts. Consider how many die before a real introduction in the three legacies because of necessary time spent pontificating on individual steps in fact one is fortunate indeed to get through the Traditions with a sponsor in wasted time.

Bernard W.- Waukegan, IL

**Mailing Addresses for Donations:**

**NIA District 12**  
**PO Box 8882,**  
**Waukegan, IL 60079-8882**

**Or donate using PayPal at**  
[www.aadistrict12.com](http://www.aadistrict12.com)

**General Service Office Contributions (Updated)**  
**PO Box 2407 James A Farley Station**  
**New York, New York 10116-2407**

**Northern Illinois Area 20 Ltd:**  
**PO Box 808**  
**Streamwood, IL 60107-2971**

**Helpful Links:**

[www.aadistrict12.com](http://www.aadistrict12.com)

<https://district10nia.org/>

[www.aa-nia.org](http://www.aa-nia.org)

[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

[https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/meeting-guide](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/meeting-guide)

[www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org)

**District 12 Answering Service: 920-474-6262**

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are of the author and do not reflect directly upon Alcoholics Anonymous, District 12 or the officers.

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

<b>Position</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
<b>DCM</b>	Bonnie P	Jessica
<b>Secretary</b>	Angela	Renita D.
<b>Treasurer</b>	Laura J.	John M
<b>Answering Service</b>	Betty	OPEN
<b>Archives</b>	Roy K. (Archives chair and trusted servant) recently passed away and is looking over us from the great beyond. Rest in peace and keep a watch on us all.	
<b>Bridging the Gap</b>	Scott E.	
<b>Corrections</b>	Les	Jackie S
<b>CPC / Treatment</b>	Dick M.	Robert B
<b>Directory</b>	Cindy W.	OPEN
<b>Grapevine</b>	Barbara	OPEN
<b>Literature</b>	Ken C.	OPEN
<b>Newsletter</b>	Colleen M	Bernard
<b>Public Information</b>	Nancy	Francelia K.
<b>Special Events</b>	Gimel T.	Billy S
<b>Webmaster</b>	Ted T.	OPEN

Interested in an open position?

Please attend the monthly District meeting for more information.

We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month at 4:00 pm (GSR meeting at 3:00 pm) at the Waukegan Alano Club.