

# District 12 Newsletter

May 2014

## Step Five

**“Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.”**

*“All of A.A.’s Twelve Steps ask us to go contrary to our natural desires...they all deflate our egos. When it comes to ego deflation, few Steps are harder to take than Five. But scarcely any Step is more necessary to longtime sobriety and peace of mind than this one.” (12 x 12 p. 55)*



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It Works if you Work it!

One Day at a Time!

Let Go and Let God!

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

## UP IN SMOKE

*On a quiet back road in Louisiana, he lit a flame that celebrated a brand new man.*

I've never really understood the difference between regular honesty and rigorous honesty, but I'm pretty sure it has something to do with disclosure. I recently completed my Fourth and Fifth Steps with my new sponsor, a man I've come to trust enough to reveal my deepest, darkest secrets to. Larry is a real “nuts and bolts” kind of AA old-timer, who demands that his sponsees do things his way.

One of the first things he said to me was, “Pat, you've been trying to do things your way for quite a while now, and what has it gotten you? Why don't you try doing things my way just this once and see what happens?”

I couldn't argue with his reasoning at all, because I'd been in and out of AA for 40 years, and I was still trying to achieve “long term sobriety.” My main problem was that I never had a sponsor I trusted completely and so I'd never done a fearless and thorough Fourth and Fifth Step. The challenge of baring my soul completely to God and another human being and revealing the exact nature of my wrongs was going to take the kind of rigorous honesty that I'd never had the courage to attempt before.

I think God put Larry in my life for a reason because I knew I that could trust him and that he wouldn't be shocked or judgmental about any aspect of my past. Once I had committed myself to being rigorously honest, I was surprised at how fast and easy the work actually was. When we did my Fifth Step, I had the distinct feeling that God was right in the room with us. I also felt a wonderful sense of love and forgiveness.

The next morning when I awoke, I felt there was something missing. It suddenly dawned on me that all the stress and anxiety and guilt I had been living with for so long was gone.

I rent a townhouse on the edge of town, and out back is a paved road about a half mile long that doesn't go anywhere. Someone had planned to develop the property a long time ago, but for some reason they never did. It's where I go to exercise and pray and listen to music with headphones. It's perfect for that because there is never any traffic or distractions — just the beautiful fauna of Southern Louisiana.

The morning after my Fifth Step I gathered up the paperwork of my Fourth Step, my first ever attempt at complete and rigorous honesty. I took it out to the end of the road that leads to nowhere, crinkled it up and set it on fire. As I watched the smoke rising from the mud-hole that contained the putrid essence of my past life, I felt the presence of God smiling down on me from the beautiful blue Louisiana sky. I knew without a doubt that God was filling that void inside me with love and forgiveness and the strength and desire to help others. Then I turned around and walked back down that road toward home, a new man.

Patrick K.  
Baton Rouge, LA  
Grapevine, May 2013

*3rd ANNUAL  
(BUT WE'VE BEEN AROUND 9 YEARS)  
BUNCH-O-NUTS  
ANNIVERSARY DINNER*

**Saturday, April 26, 2014**

4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M

ST MARK'S CHURCH in WADSWORTH, IL  
CORNER OF DELANEY & YORKHOUSE

**SPEAKER: Denny M.**

**Guest Speaker: Rich H. - Past Delegate**

**Pasta, Salad, Garlic Bread, and more**

**DOOR PRIZES**

**FOOD-FUN-FELLOWSHIP**

**BRING A DESSERT TO PASS**

**ALL THIS IS FREE FOR NUTTIN'**

*Districts 10 & 12*

*SPRING BREAKFAST*

*Sunday, May 18, 2014*

*Bonnie Brook Country Club*

*2800 N. Lewis Avenue*

*Waukegan, IL*



*Cost: \$16.00*

*Coffee: 8:00 a.m.*

*Breakfast 9:00 a.m.*

*Speaker To Be Announced*

*Tickets on Sale Now*

*The Twelve Traditions*

*Our A.A. experience has taught us that:*

*Tradition Five (Long Form)*

*"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." (12 x 12 p. 180)*

# **EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Waukegan Alano Club presents our

## **61st Anniversary Dinner Celebration!**

**Sunday, May 25, 2014  
2:00 P.M.**

**Waukegan Alano Club  
2419 Washington Street  
Waukegan, Illinois**

**Cost: FREE**

**Come and Enjoy the Laughter, Food, Fun, and  
Fellowship**

**Bring a Dessert**

**Come Learn About Our Club's History  
See You There**

### **Women's A.A. Meeting**

Monday 6:00 pm  
Alano Club of Waukegan  
2419 Washington St.  
Waukegan, IL

**Come Share Your Experience, Strength & Hope**

### **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.

## **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  
Or LaVonne 224-440-2834

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 12 STEP WORK**

### **St. Therese Psych Unit Meeting**

Sunday 10 am Tues 7 pm

### **Sponsor Panel - ATP**

1st and 3rd Saturdays 12:45 til 2 pm

### **Drug Court**

1:30 pm Fridays Court 202

### **Mental Health Court**

9:00 am Mondays Court 220

### **Veterans Court**

1st and 3rd Friday at 9:00 am Court 220

### **SAP**

SAP Bldg. 1:00 pm Thursdays

### **Detox**

ATP 7:30 pm Wednesday

**For Info Contact:** Frank M.@ 847-336-2775

### **Step Study**

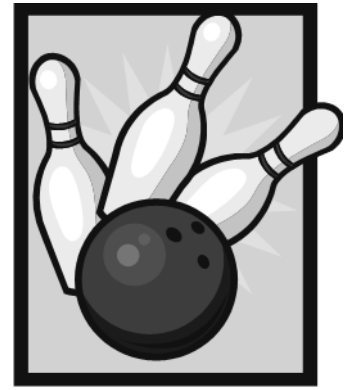
Wednesdays @ 7 pm  
St. Mark's Church  
Yorkhouse & Delany Rd., Wkgn.

### **The District 12 Open Speaker Breakfast**

Victory Hospital  
(also known as Vista Medical Center East)  
Cost: \$7.00  
Start time is 8:30 AM  
1st Sunday of every month

# Waukegan Alano Club Bowling Party

**1st Friday of Each Month  
At 9:00 P.M.  
Bertrand's Bowl  
2616 Washington Street  
Waukegan, Illinois 60085**



**Cost: \$6.00  
Includes 2 Games and Shoes  
Pizza and Soda on the Club**



## 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, Illinois 60079-8882

## 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.	847-848-4855	Mike.henneberry@gmail.com	Paul P.	224-280-0356	paulperini@att.net
Secretary	Bonnie P.	224-440-3620	bonnieloripink@gmail.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Treasurer	Ron K.	847-623-0953	ronkdist12@att.net	Sue D,	847-502-1007	susie12956@aol.com
Answering Service	Berto G.	224-280-5235		<b>OPEN</b>		
CPC / Treatment	Frank M.	847-336-2775		Francis K.	847-744-0793	
Corrections Grapevine	Pete O.	847-662-8737	Peter.ochoa73@yahoo.com	Lavonne G.	224-440-2834	lavonnegreen60@gmail.com
Public Information	<b>OPEN</b>			<b>OPEN</b>		
Literature	<b>OPEN</b>			<b>OPEN</b>		
Newsletter	Felicia H.	224-717-2424	felicia2657@gmail.com	Nick P.	847-872-6727	nicholas_prins@sbcglobal.net
Directory	Martin C.	773-870-4010	claussenmartin@aol.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
Archive	John M..		Contact through District 12 Website	<b>OPEN</b>		
Special Events	Terry V.	847-650-2251	enchantedattic@hotmail.com	<b>OPEN</b>		
District Breakfast	Jimmy F.	847-609-7354		Jimmy P.	224-538-1689	jimipinkstaff@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Beth B.	224.522-1676	pollockburke@gmail.com	Brian M.	847-736-0403	brianm959@yahoo.com