

DISTRICT 23 NEWSLETTER MAY 2024

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DISTRICT 23 WEBSITE d23ne.org



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District 23 PO Box 27783 Ralston, NE 68127-0783 c/o Rae Lynn J.	Central Office 6831 Grover St. Omaha, Ne 68106 402-556-1880	Area 41 Treasurer PO Box 642088 Omaha NE 68134 bwray2112@gmail.com Brian R. https://www.Area41rg/seventhTrad.php	General Service Board Post Office Box 2407 James A. Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407
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YOURS IN SERVICE

Craig J.	DCM	DCM@d23ne.org	
Bob F.	Alt. DCM	AltDCM@d23ne.org	
Rae Lynn J.	Treasurer	Treasurer@d23ne.org	
Traci R.	Secretary	Secretary@d23ne.org	
Marilyn C.	Newsletter	Newsletter@d23ne.org	
Lisa T.	Events Coordinator	Events@d23ne.org	
Tim J.	Mini workshops	MiniWorkshop@d23ne.org	
Mike B.	CPC/PI	CPCPI@d23ne.org	
Vic R.	Central Office	CentralOffice@d23ne.org	
Jack C.	Archives	Archives@d23ne.org	
Vacant	Bridging the Gap	BridgeTheGap@d23ne.org	
Warren W.	Grapevine	Grapevine@d23ne.org	
Erin S.	Hotline	Hotline@d23ne.org	
Mark F.	Website/Technology	WebSupport@d23ne.org	

*******MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE COMMITTEE MEETINGS*******

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>INTERGROUP</u> MONTHLY – 1ST MONDAY 7:00 PM Hanscom Park Church at 4444 Frances Street, Omaha, NE 68106</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>DISTRICT 23</u> MONTHLY – 1ST THURSDAY May 2, 2024 June 6, 2024 Trinity Methodist Church & Community Center 8009 Q St Ralston ZOOM Meeting ID: 842 1325 0124 Password: District</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>EVENTS PLANNING COMMITTEE</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MINI WORKSHOP</u> May 19, 2024 1PM-3:00 PM Matt L. will speak on the Doctor's Opinion Hillcrest Landing 7559 Main St. Room 304 Ralston See attached flyer</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>HOTLINE ROTATION DISTRICT 23</u> May 20-26, 2024 July 22-28, 2024 September 23-29, 2024 November 25, December 1, 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Area 41 2024 Meetings</u> April 6-7, 2024 Grand Island July 13-14, 2024 Grand Island October 12-13, 2024 Grand Island All of these meetings are at the Quality Inn and Conference 7838 S. Hwy 281 Building A Grand Island, NE 68803 308-210-2124</p>
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District 23 Meeting

April 4, 2024

In attendance:

Craig J.	Cliff V.	Janine J.	Mike L.
Bob F.	Johnnie N.	Mike H.	Mike B.
Warren W.	Jack C.	Marcy R.	Vic R.
Traci R.	Tim J.	Erin S.	Terry G.
Marilyn C.			

DCM (Craig J.)

Greetings and welcome to our April, 2024 District 23 meeting.

I will be attending the Area 41 business meeting assembly in Grand Island this weekend on April 6 & 7 at the Quality Inn.

As mentioned last month, the only voting item that currently open is selecting an Area 41 Grapevine/La Vina Committee Chair, due to a resignation.

Area 41 Old Business: Agenda Item 2024-04-06 003 Agenda: Select Host District for the 2025 Area 41 Reunion

Area 41 New Business: Agenda 2024-04-06 002 Technology & Communications with consultation of Report & Charter: Dissolve the taper position and create a "tech gopher" position.

Agenda Item 2024-04-06 004 Agenda: Consider submitting an agenda item for consideration at the 75th General Service Conference. The Area would vote to either support it, or not support it. This vote would need to occur no later than the July Assembly as the deadline for submission is September 2024. If supported, the Delegate is responsible for submitting the item on Area 41's behalf by the deadline, September 15, 2024. Revise the Reserve Fund to insist that the General Service Board not allow the Fellowship's financial obligations to go unmet because of an unwillingness to draw from the reserve.

Agenda Item 2024-04-06 005 Agenda: Consider submitting an agenda item for consideration at the 75th General Service Conference. The Area would vote to either support it, or not support it. This vote would need to occur no later than the July Assembly as the deadline for submission is September 2024. If supported, the Delegate is responsible for submitting the item on Area 41's behalf by the deadline, September 15, 2024. Provide all Conference Members at least a quarterly update on projects underway at the General Service Office that includes the project timeline and budget status.

In addition to the regular committee and business meetings, there is a planned "Founders Writings Sharing Session" on Saturday from 8:30 to 9:15 PM for all members. I plan to attend and report accordingly with information.

As refresher, attached are the Founders Writing Questions with input I received note in bold from or D-23 members:

1. Do you think that A.A. Founders would object to or embrace revisions to their writings? If yes, why? If not, why? Yes, They meant what they said and the controversies were settled at that time.
2. Do you think the Founders' writings are effective in reaching new members? If not, what measures do you think can be taken to resolve this issue? Yes. Explanations - If needed are what sponsors and group discussions are for. A possible solution would be to publish an annotated version if required.
3. What reasons would you consider for changing our Founders' writings? None.
4. How do you feel about changing A.A. Founders' writings to replace outdated references? Do not change. Annotate or footnote if required.
5. What suggestions do you have for preserving the Founders' writings, along with keeping pace with our current A.A. Society and its future? Do not touch the writings. When required issued annotated versions.
6. Should there be a special Conference process for approval of changes to our Founders' writings? (e.g., super, or qualified majority – 75%, and/or 2-year consideration process.) No. Annotations and footnoted could be approved as a part of the regular approval process.
7. What additional ideas, thoughts or suggestions can you share about changing or not changing the Founders' writings? Publish original text with annotations or footnotes where explanations are required.

One of our District positions, "Bridging the Gap-Institutions", is open. Please circulate this information at your meetings seeking someone looking for a service position. Additional information can be found on our D23ne.org web site.

Finally, I trust we all are looking forward to our Spring Service and Sponsorship workshop on April 20th. More to follow from our Committee Chair, Lisa on it.

Thank you and In Service,
Craig J. DCM D-23.

Alt DCM (Bob F.)

Present, no report.

Treasurer's Report (Rae Lynn J.) See report below. Donations can be remitted to District 23 Treasurer, PO Box 27783, Ralston, NE 68127-0783. Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted, motion seconded and carried.

Secretary (Traci R.)

The March meeting minutes were distributed to the group electronically on 3/8. The March meeting minutes are also available in the April D23 Newsletter. Please continue to submit any monthly meeting reports to me at contactus@d23ne.org by noon Thursday, the day of our meeting, to be put into the meeting agenda. Any reports that come in after that time will be added to the meeting minutes. Thank you for letting me serve. Motion was made to accept March Meeting Minutes as submitted, motion was seconded and carried.

Newsletter (Marilyn C.)

I had 20 copies of the April newsletter (12 pages) printed for a cost of \$16.26. Deadline for submissions for the May newsletter will be April 24. This would include flyers, articles, committee meeting dates and times. I gave the March and April invoices to Janine to give to Katrina Saturday to give to Rae Lynn so she can pay the vendor. Mark will have the website newsletter copy up on the site tomorrow. Within a couple days of the District meeting I will email the newsletter to those on my list who wanted it emailed directly to them. Thank you for letting me serve.

Website/Technology Chair (Mark F.)

I focused on creating the events subscribe page, the comprehensive District 23 email directory page and a donations page, all of which are now live on the website.

I sent out the first email notification for the Spring workshop on 3/29/2024. It was sent to 98 email addresses. 95 emails (97%) were verified as delivered. (3 emails did not deliver and were deleted) 60 emails (63%) were opened and 3 emails (5%) followed the link back to the website. 1 recipient unsubscribed.

I attended the Omaha Intergroup Technology meeting in person on 3/28/2024. Central office. The full report should be in the Intergroup minutes. I was assigned a group of Area websites to review, pick a top 5 and report on at the next meeting.

Analytics for the month of February

Traffic: total visits: - 458 (34% increase from the previous month).

Unique Visitors: 236 (33% increase from the previous month)

Page Views – 3K (69% increase from previous month).

Bounce Rate – 33.56% (21% decrease from the previous month)

Mobile visitors – 39%, Desktop visitors – 61%,

I encourage everyone to actively view and share with others about the website as we continue to develop and enrich the content. If you have any ideas or concerns, please share them with me.

Grateful to be of service.

Mark F.

Events Coordinator (Lisa T.)

We will have a planning meeting for the Spring Sponsorship and Service Workshop on Sunday, 7 April at 11:30 AM at Chapter 6. All are welcome to attend!

Central Office (Vic R.)

The last meeting was March 24, 2024. Nineteen people were in attendance. Brenda T., Central Office Treasurer reported income in February 2024, \$11,824.85, total expense \$18,414.60, deficit of \$6,589.75. Central Office is at 81.04% of the Prudent Reserve.

2024 Budgets were approved for the following:

Alcathon \$7090.00; Archives \$4,850.00; Christmas Party \$13,349.00; CPC/PI \$500.00; Grapevine \$1,000.00; Hotline \$50.00; Institutions/BTG \$1,000.00; Intergroup Budget \$800.00; Technology and Website \$750.00. Old Business and New Business have nothing to report.

The April Central Office Committee meeting will be held on April 29th, 2024, at 7:00 pm. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Vic R.

Institutions/BTG (Open)

Mini Workshop (Tim J.)

Good evening all. I have a date set for the next mini workshop. It will be on May 5th. More to come later. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Tim J.

Grapevine (Warren W.)

Will have Grapevine display set up at Sponsorship and Service workshop.

Archives (Jack C.)

Present, no report.

Hotline (Erin S.)

Updating willing list in the next few months. Next D23 hotline rotation is May 20-26.

CPC/PI (Mike B.)

Went to Area CPC/PI meeting last month; will be visiting different districts to see if they have CPC reps and working to make it a more active role in AA; will be visit two locations this month to distribute information

GSR Reports

Mike L, Amazing Grace Zoom, present, no report; Johnnie N, Papillion, present, Dick Harriman is in the hospital recovering from pneumonia, please keep him in your prayers; Marcy R, Free to Be, present no report; Janine J, Positive Notes, meeting is strong, financial obligations to Chapter VI have been met; Mike H, Saturday Wake Up Call, present, Cliff V, Wednesday Noon Break, present, no report; Jack C, present, no report.

Old Business

A motion was made to set the budget for the spring Service and Sponsorship workshop for \$1,000; motion was seconded and passed.

It was discussed whether we should post outside events on the D23 website and it was agreed that they be posted on the events page.

Tom L, incoming corrections chair; Sarpy's policy has changed since they moved into their new facility; need additional volunteers to take meetings into the jails once a month, goal is 16 volunteers; men's meetings are Fridays at 7; women's meetings are Mondays at 6:30. Requirements: minimum 3 years sobriety, background checks; 3 years off probation. If anyone is interested please contact Tom Lynd for an application at 402.990.6186, urtoadshipp@hotmail.com

Founders Writings Sharings: it was discussed that many AA members are against the proposed changes. Concerns expressed that changes could dilute the message and destroy AA from the inside out; should the literature/language be made more current? Please take the 7 questions back to your groups to discuss and send Craig an email regarding your group's decisions so he can be representative of the district at Area.

A motion was made to subscribe to the proposed "Email Campaigns Annual Core" level for one year; motion seconded and passed.

New Business

Please consider for next month closing with the Responsibility Statement instead of the Lord's Prayer since this is a business meeting.

Announcements

Spring Sponsorship and Service Workshop Saturday, April 20, 11am

Next Hotline Rotation D23: May 20-26

Area 41 meetings 2024:

April 6-7

July 13-14

October 12-13

*All Area 41 meetings are at the Quality Inn Conference Center in Grand Island, NE

District 23 Treasurers Report						
Mar-24						
	Check #	Date	Credit(+)	Debit (-)	Balance	check recipient
Opening balance					\$5,628.16	
Expenses						
Square Space		3/4/24		\$252.00		
Square Space		3/7/24		\$96.00		
Subtotal Expenses					\$348.00	
Donations						
Interest		3/29/24	\$2.32			
Subtotal Donations					\$2.32	
Total					\$5,282.48	

NEWSLETTER SPECIAL DELIVERY NOW AVAILABLE

HEY EVERYBODY! BY SPECIAL REQUEST, IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE NEWSLETTER DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR EMAIL INBOX, JUST SEND AN EMAIL TO THE DISTRICT AT: newsletter@d23ne.org

IT WILL BE EMAILED DIRECTLY TO YOU WITHIN A WEEK AFTER THE DISTRICT MEETING.

TIMELINE OF AA (CONTINUED)

1944 (March) – The NY Intergroup is established

1944 (June) – First issue of the AA Grapevine is published

1944 (September) – “The Empty Jug” an early AA newsletter) starts in Chattanooga TN

1944 (October) – The Nat'l. Committee for Education on Alcoholism, later known as NCA, opens its NYC office

1944 (December) – Australia was the 1st country outside of North America to have AA

Omaha Area Archive report

We will have the Display and Handouts at the District 23 Sponsorship and Service Workshop on April 20 at the church on 80th and Q. Our next meeting is on April 20th at 11 AM at the Central Office. Attached is a great historical article from the May 2016, Akron news covering the December, 1934 leading up to the vital events of May, 1935. Dr. Bob and Bill's meeting which I hope to cover next month. Terry G.

SEVEN VITAL DAYS IN DECEMBER OF 1934 (Akron AA Archives)

Bob S., Richmond, IN

On a bleak day in November, 1934, Ebby T, sat at Bill's kitchen table, explaining how his shocking new found sobriety was derived from a spiritual experience. Bill was dismayed because he had hoped Ebby would share his pineapple juice and gin while recalling old times. At any rate Bill knew his gin would outlast Ebby's presumed preaching. But Ebby did not preach; rather, he told of a simple religious idea (a vital spiritual experience) and a practical program of action (Oxford Group tenets). Bill was very impressed by Ebby's sobriety, however, the pineapple cocktail held precedence during this jubilant occasion. Ebby visited again along with his Oxford Group friend, Shep C. but Bill was not impressed; however his waxing curiosity inspired him to check out what the Calvary Mission was all about. So the next day, Friday, December 7th, found Bill in a drunken state "testifying" from the podium of Calvary Mission.

Amazingly, Bill lost all desire to drink on the way home; but then, he spent Saturday and Sunday, December 8th and 9th "in his bedroom *tapering off*." However, he came home roaring drunk on Monday December 10th, which provoked an argument with Lois. Lois angrily lamented: "You don't even have the decency to die! **You're crazy! You're crazy!**" Bill angrily picked up her sewing machine and threw it into the wall. Lois was terrified! Bill rode the subways that night and panhandled funds for a bottle of booze. He came back home on Tuesday morning, December 11th, 1934 (A date to remember). When he noticed the damaged wall caused by his sewing machine episode, he delved deeply into remorse. Recalling Ebby's success, he left a note for Lois explaining he was headed back to Town's Hospital for yet another treatment. He had only six cents in his pocket, but the trip was only a nickel. As he walked toward the subway Bill arrived at Town's hospital with a beer in one hand and two philosophy books in the other. He announced to his loyal physician Dr. William Duncan Silkworth, that he had found an answer. This was Bill's fourth and, final treatment at Town's Hospital. **He never drank again!** Page 13 of the Big Book explains how, after Ebby's visit, Bill ingested the basic ingredients of what constitutes our Twelve Steps. This was December 13, 1934, seven days after his first trip to Calvary Mission. Bill, on that day had a sudden and profound spiritual experience (P 14). If not for these Seven Days in December, 1934, AA would not be here today.

www.164andmore.com Locate passages in the Big Book and 12 and 12 easily and with complete accuracy. Try it. Seriously.

ATTENTION GRAPEVINE PRICE INCREASE (worth every penny)

Effective April 15, the cost of a single issue will increase to \$3.00. A one year subscription will be \$36.00. ***It's our first increase of the print magazine in 12 years.*** For details, visit aagrapevine.org/announcement.

From the Grapevine (delivered to my email)

April 2, 2024

"The phrase 'God as we understand him' is perhaps the most important expression to be found in our whole AA vocabulary. Within the compass of these five significant words there can be included every kind and degree of faith, together with the positive assurance that each of us may choose his own."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., April 1961, "God As We Understand Him: The Dilemma of No Faith", The Language of the Heart.

April 23, 2024

"I was attracted to AA because it excluded no one, and I am grateful for the lessons I've learned over the years: that we stop fighting anyone or anything; that it is the details of what I do that make me who I am; that my perception of life is ever-changing and evolving; that the basic 'suggestions' I heard when I entered the Fellowship have been a continuous part of my life; that as long as I stay an active member of AA, more will be revealed."

"More Will Be Revealed," Portland, Oregon, October 1998, Voices of Long-Term Sobriety

April 22, 2024

"I need to constantly inch forward in AA, closer to the center, to avoid being thrown from the spinning wheel that is my life."

"Centrifugal Force," New York, New York, April 2004, AA Grapevine

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"Sign up to receive GV's Daily Quote"

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE AUTHORS FROM THE BIG BOOK STORIES

Me an Alcoholic? -- Author unknown. p. 419 in 2nd edition, p. 432 in 3rd edition, p. 232 4th edition.

Barleycorn's wringer squeezed this author - but he escaped quite whole.

This author's date of sobriety is believed to be November 1947.

He reveals little of his childhood years or his origin, just the hint when discussing his seven years in psychotherapy that someone had coddled him and built him up, and then turned and beat him savagely.

He was a father, husband, homeowner, athlete, artist, musician, author, editor, aircraft pilot, and world traveler.

He was listed in "Who's Who in America." He had been successful in the publishing business, and his opinions were quoted in "Time" and "Newsweek" with pictures, and he addressed the public by radio and television.

He drank heavily as was common in the literary circles in which he traveled. "Evening cocktails were as standard as morning coffee," and his average daily consumption ran a little more or less than a pint. This did not seem to affect his work. He was never drunk on the job, never missed a day's work, was seldom rendered totally ineffective by a hangover and kept his liquor expenses well within his adequate budget. How could he possibly be an alcoholic?

But he occasionally went on binges, usually one-night stands. In twenty-five years of drinking there were only a few occasions when he took a morning drink. He usually had excuses for the binges and tried several methods of controlling his drinking. These plans seemed to work for short periods.

Inwardly unhappy he turned to psychoanalysis. He spent seven years and ten thousand dollars on psychiatric care and emerged in worse condition than ever, although he learned a lot about himself, which

would be useful later. His binges got closer and closer together and with more and more disastrous results.

Soon he was in suicidal despair.

After his last binge, during which he did considerable damage to his home, he crawled back to his analyst and told him he thought he was an alcoholic.

His doctor agreed. He said he hadn't told him because he hadn't been sure until recently. The line between a heavy drinker and an alcoholic is not always clear, and that he wouldn't have believed him had he told him. The doctor admitted that there was nothing he could do for him, and that there was nothing medicine could do for him. But he suggested A.A.

Many times in the years that followed the author thanked God for that doctor, a man who had the courage to admit failure and the humility to confess that all the hard-won learning of his profession could not turn up the answer.

In A.A. he found the power he needed. In the seven years since he had come to A.A. he had not had a drink. He still had some hell to go through. His tower of worldly success collapsed, his alcoholic associates fired him, took control, and ran the enterprise into bankruptcy. His alcoholic wife took up with someone else and divorced him, taking with her all his remaining property.

But the most terrible blow was when his sixteen-year-old son was tragically killed. "The Higher Power was on deck to see me through, sober. I think He's on hand to see my son through, too. I think He's on hand to see all of us through whatever may come to us.

Some wonderful things had happened, too. His new wife and he didn't own any property to speak of and the flashy successes of another day were gone. But they had a baby "who, if you'll pardon a little post-alcoholic sentimentality, is right out of Heaven." His work was on a much deeper and more significant level than it ever was before, and he was, at the time he wrote his story, a fairly creative, relatively sane human being. "And should I have more bad times," he wrote, "I know that I'll never again have to go through these alone.

History of the Big Book

Middle of October 1937

Our cofounder Bill W. travels to Akron, where the group meets and approves raising funds for paid missionaries, a chain of national hospitals and the writing of a book. The Ohio members do not, however, intend to contribute any money themselves, and they send Bill back to New York City to raise the money there.

May 20, 1938

Having collected just one contribution in the past seven months, Bill begins writing "Bill's Story" and "There Is a Solution"—primarily as promotion pieces that he and Hank P. hope will open the wallets of the rich.

June 17, 1938

The first copies of these two chapters are sent out in an effort to raise money from a New York banker. Many copies of the two chapters are sent out in similar fashion over the next several months. No money is raised.

July 27, 1938

Bill spends the month of July collecting favorable testimonials about AA's success, one of which is written by Dr. William Silkworth of Towns Hospital in New York City (where Bill had his "white light" experience). It later appears as the first letter in "The Doctor's Opinion."

August 7, 1938

Bill sends Dr. Bob advice on how the Akron people should write their stories for the book. "I would say that everyone should write at whatever length they want to; the more, the better ..." he writes. "The idea is that a chance word or phrase or experience may be the most telling point of the story, which would be missed entirely if people were trying to restrict themselves to a given number of words."

Sept. 28, 1938

Bill sends Dr. Bob the first drafts of "More About Alcoholism" and "We Agnostics." "Two more chapters of the book are close to completion," he writes. "I am enclosing the original dictation on two of them so you can get a rough idea. You will understand that what I am sending you is just the rough, uncorrected outline. Will let you have the polished product when ready."

Nov. 3, 1938

Three more chapters are sent to Dr. Bob: "I am turning this stuff out as fast as I can, being only once-corrected dictation," Bill writes. "You can't call it serious writing. After I get all through with these general chapters on the present basis, I will edit them as carefully as I can, bearing in mind the criticisms and suggestions from anyone who wants to make them ... Everybody who has seen the personal stories from Akron thinks they are great."

Nov. 15, 1938

Hank P. has had a hard time selling stock in Works Publishing to AA members who just can't afford the price of \$25 a share. So he comes up with a creative time-payment plan of \$5 a month starting on this day. Many members subscribe and provide much of the money needed to fund the writing of the book.

Early Dec., 1938

Bill writes the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. He is in the midst of one of his "imaginary ulcer attacks" (which plague him in times of stress—and what could be more stressful than having to lay down "the rules" for sobriety?), but nonetheless he is able to come up with the first draft of his famous formulation in under 30 minutes.

Dec. 13, 1938

Bill tells Dr. Bob that "on the book, we are going hell bent for election. It is practically complete, and I will send you the rest of the chapters within two or three days. Next step is to make, after one editing, photo lithic copies of the whole works."

Jan. 5, 1939

Tom Uzzell agrees to edit the manuscript of the Big Book. According to Bill, his most significant suggestion was to move "Bill's Story" to the front of the book (it had previously been the first story in the back).

Mid-Feb., 1939

The multi-lith printing of what is now called "the original manuscript" is printed and circulated for comments and criticism. All the suggestions for changes are put into one master copy of the book; some of these are finally incorporated into the text and some are not.

Early April, 1939

Bill W., Hank P., Ruth Hock & Dorothy Snyder travel to Cornwall, N.Y. to make the final edits to the Big Book. Hank has many suggestions for last minute changes, but Bill makes all the final decisions on what goes in and what does not.

April 10, 1939

4,650 copies of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, are printed. One hundred copies are delivered to Bill and Hank with several more copies going to Willard Richardson and Frank Amos (the Rockefeller associates that Bill and Hank have been working with for more than a year). More copies of the book will be released, but only after some payment has been made on the still outstanding bill with the printer.

Carrying the message since 1935

There have been four different editions of the Big Book.

A Fifth Edition is now in the works.

The excerpts from "I'm Turning This Stuff Out as Fast as I Can", pages 28-31 Grapevine April 2024 are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Heard at a meeting.

When we were drinking, we were probably drinking and driving. And all our garbage and junk and character defects all got thrown in the backseat of our car. And then all of the sudden we slammed on the brakes and sobered up. All that crap and trash and garbage and defects from the backseat come flying to the front and all of the sudden we are forced to deal with them. Kathy S.

Sobriety has given me everything alcohol promised. Someone at the SMWUC

Do the next right thing that I'm avoiding.

The power within me is greater than the fear in front of me. Mary E.

I have a deep and abiding faith that comes and goes.

Hotline information received recently about the DAYTIME Hotline List

Daytime Hotline List

The daytime call list is different from the evenings and weekends call list. Daytime call list people do not have to be available like the evenings and weekends at specific times. Daytime persons can take the call if they are available. If the central office people are busy with customers and cannot take a call it will go to the hotline service and will be referred to one of the people on the daytime call list. If that person does not answer it will go to the next person on the list. We still need females on this list. If you were retired or work from home or have the ability to take daytime phone calls, please let Erin A. know at 402-659-9544.

Please ensure you have these 2 numbers in your phone so that you can tell when the hotline is calling you:

HOTLINE #1--402-436-4822

HOTLINE #2--402-474-3434

Regular Hotline Procedure

1. Caller calls Omaha AA hotline which is the Central Office phone # 402-556-1880
2. After hours an answering service takes Central Office calls (sometimes during the daytime as well)
3. Answering service ascertains what the caller needs. If they need a volunteer to talk to the answering service will pull the correct Committed List for the current date
4. Using the Committed List, they will locate the correct day and list of people on call for that day and time period
5. The answering service will contact the Committed list folks and "patch" through the call after a brief discussion on what the caller needs.

Expectations of Committed List volunteers:

Be available to the answering service on the days you are committed on the list

Take any calls that come through from the hotline numbers above (male or female)

Allow the answering service to patch you through to the caller and get more information such as name, home number, and zip code.

Use the Willing List to match a female to a female and male to a male by their zip code

Contact the Willing List member and ask if they can take a hotline call.

Willing List volunteers are not required to take the call, if they cannot, move onto the next

Willing List member in same zip code.

We are not a ride service, but sometimes we can match up a Willing List member that might be willing to take them to a meeting

The overall goal for both the Committed List and Willing List members are to introduce AA to the caller and direct them to an AA meeting

Typical call examples/scenarios:

Most likely the caller is drinking or drunk, expect that. Possibly get a name and number to talk the next day
Listen to what they want, introduce and direct them to AA meetings

Again, we are not a ride service, but a way to introduce them to AA meetings.

If you can and are willing to give a ride, please take another AA member with you on the 12 step call

Many times, the caller just wants to be listened to, allow so much and keep redirecting to AA and meetings.

Provide them with the meeting list on Omahaaa.org

Sometimes they want direction on how to get into a treatment facility, use your discretion and direct them to look on the internet for treatment facilities.

A Unique Bit of AA History (from the archives report a few years ago)

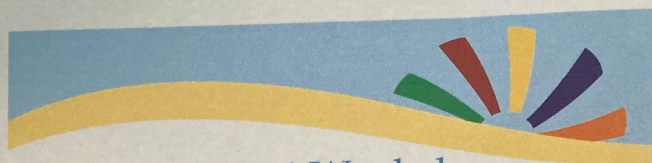
It has been known for some time that Dr. Bob's claimed sober date is not accurate. In his Big Book story he briefly describes his 3-day binge at an AMA convention in Atlantic City, NJ. Upon returning to Akron, Bill W. helped him through a 3-day sobering up period to prepare for a scheduled surgery. Dr. Bob had his last drink (and a barbiturate) on the day of the surgery and gives the date as June 10, 1935 in his story. AA also marks this date as the beginning of the AA Fellowship. The Big Book, "AA Comes of Age" "Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers" and "Pass It On" all erroneously state, or imply, that the AMA Convention began the first week of June 1935. The AMA Archives has long ago confirmed that the convention began in the 2nd week of June 1935 on June 10. Allowing for 3+ days of binging and blacking out followed by 3 days of sobering up, Dr. Bob's sober date appears to actually be June 17th not June 10th.

Bottom line:

In his Big Book story Dr. Bob says he had his last drink on June 10, 1935. In AA Comes of Age, Bill W. also says Dr. Bob had his last drink on June 10, 1935. Because of this, right or wrong, Dr. Bob's sober date, and the date of the founding of AA, will remain enshrined in the Conference-approved history literature of the AA Fellowship as June 10, 1935.

Arthur (sic ?)—AA History Lovers

Application of the 4 Absolutes				
4 Absolutes	AA BB	Definition	Question	Application
God's will	Self-will			
Honesty	Dishonesty	Not deceiving others or ourselves in word, deed and thoughts	Is it true or false?	Am I being honest?
Purity/ Forgiveness or Compassion	Resentment	Freedom from being controlled by our desires or our fears and insecurities.	Is it right or wrong?	Are my motives pure/compassionate? Do I have ulterior motives?
Unselfishness	Selfishness	A commitment to fairness and justice and a willingness to share.	How will this action affect others?	Is this self-serving or to serve others?
Love (Faith)	Fear	The feeling of affection, benevolence or devotion created through acts of selfless unconditional giving to another person according to one's highest spiritual values.	Is it ugly (fear-based) or beautiful (faith-based)?	Does this action create peace, harmony and balance?



District 23 Mini Workshop

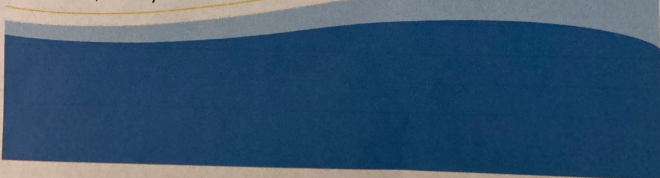
@ Chapter VI Hillcrest Landing
7559 Main Street, Suite #304
Ralston, NE

Topic: Presentation on; " The Doctor's Opinion "

Speaker: Matt L.

Date: May 19th 2024 1:00- 3:00 PM

Free Lunch, Pop & Coffee. Bring dessert if you wish
(Not Required)



You probably noticed that the front page of this newsletter has a new look! There now is an easier way to reach committee members if you need to email them directly as opposed to sending it to the main district email at contactus@d23ne.org. Of course there's always a phone number if you want to

talk to a real person and maybe get more immediate action. *Please pay special attention to the email address for the newsletter.* This is where you will submit all your articles you have been wanting to write. Now is your chance! Why not talk to your sponsees and to your sponsor and submit articles for the next newsletter? It can be about how you worked a particular step, how the traditions have affected your life and your sobriety, how are you have a quiet moment with your higher power, or sponsorship, or service work. Anything to do with your sobriety would be a wonderful article for the newsletter. Come on, you know you want to.

Set Aside Prayer

"The Set Aside Prayer" as used in workshops has several useful variations.

"God please enable me to set aside everything I think I know about myself, recovery, You and the Twelve Steps; that I might have an open mind and a new experience"

The set aside prayer can be expanded or tailored to suit a daily life that enlarges, enriches and fosters a spiritual way of living.

"God please help me set aside everything I think I know about myself, my job, You and my daily life; that I might have an open mind and a new experience"

or

"God please enable me to set aside everything I think I know about myself, my partner, my family, You and our life together; that I might have an open mind and a new experience"

Responsibility Statement

I am responsible, when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,
I want the hand of AA always to be there, and for that
I am responsible