

JANUARY 2021 DISTRICT 52 NEWSLETTER

District 52 Website: www.kankakee-aa.org ~ Alcoholics Anonymous: www.aa.org ~ NIA 20: www.aa-nia.

GOODBYE 2020! HELLO 2021! My Covid Cloud Has a Silver Lining!

Is there anyone who isn't happy to see 2020 end? Covid? Unemployment? Civil strife? What a relief that the vaccine is here, and by the end of this year everyone that wants the vaccine should be able to get it. It has been stressful and a difficult time to get sober-with all the virtual meetings, and isolation-that word every one of us understand all too well. For me, it marked a turning point.

In mid March I was at a meeting at the Club. People were saying we would might be shutting our doors soon. My house is about a mile from the Club, and near Beckman Park. I realized that there was no reason we couldn't have a meeting outside in the open air Pavilion daily, and give our money back to the Club to help make ends meet. I had also recently retired, and had never done 90 meetings in 90 days. Bob G and I were kind of the original guys at the meeting. We both like the outdoors, and his smoked fish is the best! The first meeting was Monday March 23rd. Bob had work obligations and couldn't make it There was about 2-3 inches of snow on the ground. No one showed up, but I called my AA sister in Ireland, and Christine and I had our little meeting by phone. The next day Bob came, and we were underway.

It was later that week I got a call through the answering service, and we added our 3rd guy. As he was new, and nervous about indoor meetings, we called him the Covid Kid! Soon after another new guy showed up, and is still going. Once it warmed up a little, we were getting a decent turnout, as most of the indoor meetings were shut down still. Once indoor meetings started opening up again, which was after doing my 90 in 90, we scaled back our meeting days. We are still meeting Saturday and Sunday at 11 AM. This has been such a great experience for me. It led me to re-do the Steps (thoroughly), and I can honestly say I have never felt more peaceful and happy. The kind of peace the world can not take away. There are usually four of us there so we are The Fantastic Four! Life handed me lemons, so I made lemonade!

YA WANT FUNNY?? I'LL GIVE YOU FUNNY!!!

One of our members said that the newsletter should have more humor...be a bit less dry. So here you are!

A man and his wife were awoken at 3:00 am by a loud pounding on the door. The man gets up and goes to the door where a drunk standing in the rain, is asking for a push. "Not a chance," says the husband, "it is 3:00 in the morning!" He slams the door and returns to bed. "Who was that?" asked his wife. "Just some drunk asking for a push," he answers. "Did you help him?" she asks. "No, I did not, it is 3:00 in the morning and it is raining out!" "Well, you have a short memory," says his wife. "Can't you remember about three months ago when we broke down, and those two guys helped us? I think you should help him!" The man gets dressed, and goes out in the rain. He calls out into the dark, "Hello, are you still there?" "Yes," comes back the answer. "Do you still need a push?" calls out the husband. "Yes!" comes the reply from the dark. "Where are you?" asks the husband. "Over here on the swing," said the drunk.

A guy wants a divorce. He tells the judge "I cant take it anymore she's out going from bar to bar every night way past midnight" The judge responds "what's she doing" The guy says "looking for me"

AND OUR AA TIMELINE CONTINUES.....

1975 *Living Sober* is published

A.A. published *Living Sober*, a book of member experiences that describes methods of living without drinking. The material for the book was gathered in the early 1970s from group and individual correspondence of shared experience, then writers compiled it into a book. The book becomes a popular addition to A.A. literature.

1984 The Spanish Services Desk

A full-time Spanish Services staff position at G.S.O. New York is created in 1984. The assigned staff member helps handle all correspondence in Spanish, translates pamphlets and bulletins, develops new service materials, and performs other services as needed.

JANUARY 2021 DISTRICT 52 NEWSLETTER

1986 First paperback Big Book

In November 1986, for the first time, the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, is published as a paperback. The softcover book makes it easier for A.A. members to carry the message into correctional facilities, where hardcover books are often not permitted.

IN PERSON MEETINGS Meetings will be designated with CDC next to them that follow CDC guidelines (wearing masks, socially distancing, disinfecting), so that those concerned with this have the best information possible. Let's be unified in our singleness of purpose so that anyone that wants to attend AA may attend! Unity is one of our legacies!

- Sunday: New Hope Speaker Meeting (CDC), Alano Club, Sunday Night Action Group
- Monday: Alano Club, 911 at Our Savior Lutheran Church (CDC)
- Tuesday: Alano Club 7 PM, Lost Sheep Noon, SOS (CDC), Women's Meeting (CDC), Manteno HELP (CDC)
- Wednesday: 911 at Our Savior Lutheran (CDC), Alano Club, Manteno New Hope, Anonymous Anonymous (CDC/ part zoom, part in person), Now What Are You Going To Do About It? (CDC)
- Thursday: Alano Club, Lost Sheep Noon (CDC), As Bill Sees It Gilman (CDC), SOS, Men's Step Study Bradley, Living Sober Essex, Manteno Sober Sisters (CDC)
- Friday: Alano Club, 911 Group at Our Savior Lutheran (CDC) Lost Sheep 6 PM (CDC), Peotone Pathfinders, 7 PM 1st and Crawford (CDC)
- Saturday: Alano Club, Primary Purpose (CDC), Saturday Night Open

OUTDOOR MEETINGS (CDC)

- Beckman Park Open Air Kankakee Sat, Sun 11 AM contact Steve 815.214.7063

ZOOM MEETINGS (CDC)

- Tue Manteno 8 PM 409016 8057, Women's Meeting 7 PM 391 487 0536 contact Mary T 815.735.0052
- Wednesday 8 PM Anonymous Anonymous Meeting ID 801 900 091 contact Mike B 815.614.8606
- Saturday Primary Purpose 904 598 156 Password 149 645 Contact Ann Lane 815.922.1770

Upcoming Events in District 52

Look! Something is actually happening!

District 52 GSR Service Meeting Riverside Hospital Board Room A. Thursday January 21 at 6:30 PM. Masks required

Join us for an Open Meeting provided by the NIA 20 Grapevine Committee! Topic: Navigating the AA Grapevine Website Time: Jan 7, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time. For those who want to know about: • Grapevine Website updates • What's New in Grapevine • Grapevine Archives • How to Submit Content Northern Illinois Area (NIA) 20 Meeting Room is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2814025007?pwd=Y2tGZCtHK2d1OUYzcXRjREJqNmkvZz09> Meeting ID: 281 402 5007
Passcode: freedom By Smart Phone +13126266799,,2814025007#,,, *4500651# Meeting ID: 281 402 5007 Passcode: 4500651

AA & Al-Anon Still Carrying the Message 2021 Virtual Convention January 16, 2021. 12pm-6pm CST Registration not required Convention Location Online via Zoom Meeting ID: 89170517078 Password: WANS2021

Happy Birthday! ! ! Dennis L 1/6/85