
THE LINK



DISTRICT 52 & YOU

Volume 11, Issue 1

January, 2011



MEET YOUR NEW DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS for 2011-12

District Committee Memb. (DCM): *Brian L.* **Alternate DCM:** *Michelle L.*
Treasurer: *Heather S.* **Alt. Treasurer:** *Suzi H.*
Secretary: *Debbie G.* **Alternate Secretary:** (vacant)

Answering Service Chair: *Paula J.* **Alt. Ans. Service Chair:** (vacant)
Archives Chair: *Dan P.* **Alternate Archives:** *Joe R.*
Communications w/Prof. Community (CPC) Chair: *Lisa M.* **Alt.CPC:** *Teri G.*
Corrections Chair: *Andrea M.* **Alternate Corrections Chair:** (vacant)
Grapevine Chair: *Chuck R.* **Alternate Grapevine Chair:** (vacant)
Literature Chair: *John B.* **Alternate Literature Chair:** *John M.*
Public Information (PI) Chair: *Kelly W.* **Alternate P.I. Chair:** *Carl G.*
Special Needs Chair: *Renee P.* **Alternate Special Needs:** *Steve K.*
Treatment Chair: *Gilbert M.* **Alternate Treatment:** (vacant)

NOTE: There are still a few Alternate Committee Chairperson positions that are vacant and we need some willing volunteers. Please see your GSR for information or come to the District Trustee Meeting on Thursday, January 20th.

The Link needs YOU!!
Share your experience, strength and hope with the newcomer and/or still suffering alcoholic. Give it to one of the newsletter committee members listed on the back, or mail it to:
District 52, PO Box 265, Bradley IL 60915
Answering Service: 1-815-939-4996 District 52 AA Website: www.aa-kankakee.org
NIA AA Website: www.aa-nia.org E-mail the Editor Dawn M: d52-thelink@aa-kankakee.org



January Sobriety Anniversaries

Pally F.—23 years

Barb S.—19 years

Phillip S.—16 years

Joe P.—15 years

Lerman—14 years

Carl G.—13 years

Barry—12 years

Randy R.—6 years

Wayne J.—3 years

Terry K.—8 years

Lisa M.—3 years

Renee P.—2 years



Not a Glum Lot



Two little boys, ages 8 and 10, are excessively mischievous. They are always getting into trouble and their parents know if any mischief occurs in their town, the two boys are probably involved.

The boys' mother heard that a preacher in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The preacher agreed, but he asked to see them individually.

The mother sent the 8 year old in the morning, with the older boy to see the preacher in the afternoon. The preacher, a huge man with a deep booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly, "Do you know where God is, son?"

The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there wide-eyed with his mouth hanging open. So the preacher repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God?!"

Again, the boy made no attempt to answer. The preacher raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed, "WHERE IS GOD?!"

The boy screamed & bolted from the room, ran directly home & dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him. When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked, "What happened?"

The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time!" "GOD is missing, and they think WE did it!"

First Step Prayer: *Dear Lord, I admit that I am powerless over my addiction. I admit that my life is unmanageable when I try to control it. Help me this day to understand the true meaning of powerlessness. Remove from me all denial of my addiction.*



Heard in and Around the Rooms....

Seldom are we willing to weigh our neighbor in the same balance with ourselves.

One reason I don't drink is because I want to know when I am having a good time.

There is no elevator—you have to take the steps.

Archives: What is the purpose?



When Bill first introduced the Twelve Traditions to the Fellowship in 1946 he stated: “But A.A. unity cannot automatically preserve itself. Like personal recovery, we shall always have to work to maintain it. Here, too, we surely need honesty, humility, open-mindedness, unselfishness, and above all—vigilance.”

At the General Service Office Archives we are actively capturing this historic evidence—our valuable treasure—preserving it for the future and for our use. Our archival service also extends to the area and district level and our unified effort can help prevent erosion of our values: our values are the embodiment of what we stand for. Many thousands of letters and administrative records are being preserved, scanned and secured. Those letters contain facts, humorous anecdotes and tragic tales that firmly remind us why our Fellowship exists. Bill often said that “it’s the stories

that make the early experiences live.”

The repository is also a habitat for thousands of voices captured on audio and hundreds of films, which includes rare footage of Bill and Dr. Bob. The diversity of the voices in this collected memory, a social phenomenon, offers an alternative path to the past for scholars of A.A. history. It may be one way to augment and contextualize the records, and fill in undocumented mysteries. The acts of organizing, preserving and scanning culminate to a single purpose: to facilitate access to everyone.

Our access policies, established since our opening, are in place to ensure that the physical integrity of the A.A. records is maintained, and that the confidentiality and anonymity of members are safeguarded. We make the history available through the thousands of research questions that we respond to yearly, through resources published on the Archives portal of the A.A. website, through *Markings*, the Archives electronic newsletter and through outreach efforts such as our onsite exhibits and the newly created Archives Digital Exhibit. The original purpose of A.A. Archives has not changed since the early travails undertaken by Bill and Nell. Together, through our combined efforts, we can continue to pursue our objective in chronicling A.A.’s history, to sustain our unity.

~ Excerpts taken from the presentation of Michelle Mirza, Archives Director, at the 60th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous.

District 52 7th Tradition

Thank you for your support!

District Finances as of December 2010:

Account Balance	\$2828
Prudent Reserve	\$2000
ABOVE Prudent Reserve	\$ 828
Average Monthly 7 th Tradition	
From Groups	\$437
Average 2010 Monthly Expenses	\$434
Average 2010 Cash flow/month	\$ 3

District 52 carries the message to the suffering alcoholic and to our local AA groups.

WE NEED MORE GROUPS PARTICIPATING IN DISTRICT SUPPORT....IS YOURS?

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEETINGS: Tuesday, 4:15 p.m. (Note time change) “Back on Track”, Mount Olive MB Church, 650 Fairview, Bradley (behind Bill’s Diner). Open Speaker, discussion/study on the 12 Steps & 12 Traditions.

Friday, 7:30 p.m. Sober Living Group, Watseka United Methodist Church, South Entrance, 301 S. 4th. Call Bill 815-432-0147 for more info.

CORRECTION: In the meeting list, the Tuesday Gilman Meeting “Hear Here Stay Here” is held at 7:00 p.m. (not 8:00 p.m.)

EVENTS

Saturday Euchre Club at the Alano Club, be there before 3:30 p.m., \$6.00 per person.

Dec. 31st New Year’s Eve Dance, Alano Club. More info at Club.

Jan 14-16th 19th Annual We Are Not Saints Convention, Holiday Inn Chicago North, 5300 W. Touhy, Skokie, IL. More info email: wearenotsaints@wearenotsaints.com or call Eric 312-523-3477.

Jan. 20th District 52 GSR & Trustee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Riverside, Johnson Lecture Hall,

Jan. 29th NIA Winter Committee Meeting, Lord of Life Church, La Fox, IL

Feb 4-6th “The Usual Suspects” Men’s Retreat, Inspiration Ctr, Walworth, WI. Call Joe 815-728-1281.

Feb. 11-13th Heart to Heart Women’s Retreat, Inspiration Center, Walworth, WI. Call Debbie 815-728-1281.

Feb. 19th CPC Workshop, Riverside Johnson Lecture Hall. Registration & lunch at 11 a.m. workshop to follow: 12-3:00 p.m. Sponsored by NIA and Primary Purpose groups.

Feb. 20th Mini Conference Planning Meeting, 3 p.m. at the Alano Club for the purpose of choosing chair people for the various committees. (This is also Fred’s 63rd Bday!)

Mar. 5th Corrections Conference, District 51 Aurora host.

Apr. 1-3rd NIA Spring Conference, Wheeling. Online registration www.NIASpringconference.com

Apr. 2nd Spring Assembly, 9-12:00, Wheeling.

For more information go to www.aa-nia.org/events.html

The Kankakee AA Website has events, meetings and other information listed at:

<http://aa-kankakee.org/calendar.html>

Meetings that need you:

- **Monday** Hopkins Park Senior Center Community Room, 5-6p.m.
- **Monday** Freedom to Live at the Salvation Army at 6:30p.m.
- **Tuesday** Lost Sheep Group 12 noon at Church of Good Shepherd, 2nd and Locust, Momence.
- **Thursday** Lost Sheep Group 12 noon at Church of Good Shepherd, 2nd and Locust, Momence.
- **Friday** Sober Living Group 7:30 p.m., 1st United Methodist Church, 301 S. 4th, Watseka.

*Disclaimer: The newsletter committee apologizes for any past and present mistakes in the newsletter. The articles in the newsletter are the opinions of the authors and not the newsletter committee, District 52, Area 20, or Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Office.
The newsletter committee: Dawn M. -- Kelly W., Heather S.*