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# THE LINK



## DISTRICT 52 & YOU

Volume 8, Issue 10

October 2008

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Dear District 52

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Marcia, Julia, Vonnie, Spike and Sherry very much for the participation in our workshop here at KMSU. We found the information that was given to be very lucrative in our everyday lives. We had not been to a 12-step workshop before and we are very grateful to you all for taking the time to come out to share your experiences, strengths, and hopes with us.

We look forward to you all continuing to come out and share more information with the ladies that did not get the chance to participate in the first workshop. Again we thank you and may God continue to bless.

From the ladies at KMSU

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### 2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous

The 2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 1-4 in San Antonio, Texas with the theme "A Vision for You." A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 75th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Alamodome. Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the San Antonio Convention Center and local hotels. As the time gets closer, additional information about the Convention and San Antonio, our host city, will be provided. Convention registration and housing reservations will open in fall 2009. All necessary information will be included in the registration packet which will be available in September 2009. This packet will list numbers to call for answers to specific questions about housing, the program, tours, etc. The information will be mailed to A.A. groups, offices and contacts around the world and posted on the Web site. This information was reprinted from the Alcoholics Anonymous website at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

#### **The Link needs You!!**

*Share your experience, strength and hope with the newcomer and/or still suffering alcoholic. Write about a Step, Tradition, Spiritual experience, or how you came into AA. 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](http://www.aa-kankakee.org)

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

E-mail the Editor Kelly: [d52\\_thelink@aa-kankakee.org](mailto:d52_thelink@aa-kankakee.org)

## Sobriety kept her Promise

To all the alcoholics still suffering from alcoholism  
I stood trembling, watching my tattered sails whip around, seeking to grab hold of the ferocious blasting winds. My sails could not grasp her blazing breath, for the tethers had broken and torn from her cracked masts. In the distance I saw sunshine, but the storms rage held me firm, her grip too strong to loose. I looked around, but I was abandoned and alone. The waves spewed harsh salt water over my bow, until my ship began to sink. I trembled with the fear of losing my battle to this unforgiving storm. Her powerful winds knocked me to my knees. I grabbed for the nearest railing to steady myself, yet it broke, giving way to my last bit of hope and strength. I searched for something more powerful, much stronger to carry me through this storm. I shielded myself from the torment of rain ravaging my weary face. I was desperate for a higher power, which I prayed could save my sinking, battered ship. I cried out, "Take me from this storm, or let me die! I beg of you, no more pain! I have suffered from your wrath too long to bare anymore!" The winds ceased, and the darkened sky opened. I raised my brow to find my sails calmed by an unfamiliar stillness. A soft touch caressed my shoulder. It was my crew, the captain and the savior to my plight. It was **Sobriety**, clutching me tightly. "Do not be afraid, I am here whenever you need me, and I am here when the storm is fierce. So *never*, return to the same ship with torn sails, for she will not take you out of the storm, but only allow you to suffer through her brutality. Therefore, be not afraid. I am here. I will calm you. I will never give up on you. So, today, I am calmed. I am free of my storms of fury. Now, I see only small waves, which I can overcome. For **Sobriety** kept her promise, because I am still here, sailing on the great oceans with a gentle wind, in my new sails.

John Madison S.

**Thank You to all the groups** that gave money to District 52 in September and October.

**Thank You to all the individuals** that help to hand out The Link to the various groups. We are sorry if some groups did not receive The Link for September.

## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

Bill C - 22 years    Sara R - 7 years    J.T. 16 years    Fred B. 34 years  
Jimmie K, 5 years    Dan P. 4 years    Bill Z. 20 years    Mary Kay 26 years  
Rich C. 3 years    Margo Z. 22 years (Aug.)    Jackie H. 5 years (Aug.)  
Cindy O.    Dan C.    Marilyn B.    Brian L.

### Today

Today I no longer have to exist  
I refuse to let my life be the  
One that satan continues to sift.

Today I will give my mind  
Body and soul to God for Him  
To uplift.

Today I know that this is a Gift.

Today I will not be afraid of  
All the things I've done. God  
Has forgiven it all and no longer  
Can the devil keep me on the run.

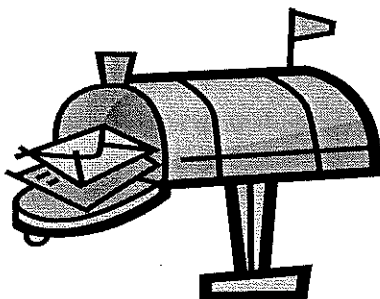
Today I know that God loves me  
And that is more than enough  
I no longer have to run to other  
Things when times get rough.

I'll run to Him in Him I will  
Put all my trust.

Today I can count my blessings  
And name them one by one I don't  
Have to be afraid for I know that  
He is not done.

Today I will remember to ask  
God be in all I do and  
Say I will live my life  
And ask Him to show me  
The way. I may be wrong  
But, all I have is just this day.

Signed Constantly being delivered



We could use some help with distributing the newsletter to the groups. If you would like to do this please contact Kelly W. at 815-935-5743 or email Kelly at [d52\\_thelink@aa-kankakee.org](mailto:d52_thelink@aa-kankakee.org)

### Not a Glum Lot

"Some blackouts are better left forgotten." . . .

"I didn't think I was really an alcoholic until I suddenly realized that I never fell off the stool at any soda fountain."

#### NOTICE TO ALL EMPLOYEES

It has come to the attention of management that more and more martinis are being consumed at lunch time. It has also come to the attention of management that vodka is being ordered because of less alcoholic odor. From this date forward it will be a firm rule of this company that gin must be used in martinis. We would rather have our afternoon customers know that our employees are drunk than to have them think they are just stupid.

One time a certain member had a slip in AA. He called his sponsor and, crying on his shoulder and full of self-pity, he moaned, "And to think, I have lost all my pride!"

"Swell", his sponsor bluntly remarked, "Now we can begin"

A DRUNK IN DAKOTA DECIDES to go ice-fishing, skids out onto large expanse of ice, proceeds to cut a hole in it with an ax. Huge voice booms from the sky: "No fish under that ice, pal!" Drunk looks around. Nobody there. Resumes hacking ice. Again, The Voice: "Didn't I tell you? There's no fish under that ice!" This time the drunk stands up and yells back: "Shut up! Who you think you are, God?" "No," comes the reply, "just the manager of this hockey rink."

#### SEEN ON A BUMPER STICKER:

"Don't think of it as having a bad day.  
Think of it as Second Step work."

from the Grapevine Digital Archives

## Announcements

**Saturday Euchre Club** at the Alano Club be there before 3:30 pm \$6.00 per person.

**Oct 3-5 Midwest Woman to Woman Seminar** St. Louis MO. Contact Kim C. 1-314-322-7749 or go to: [www.midwest-woman-to-woman.com](http://www.midwest-woman-to-woman.com)

**Oct 12 Big Book Committee planning meeting** at 1pm at the Manteno Church of the Nazarene, 698 N. Locust (Rte. 50), Manteno IL.

**Oct 16 District 52 GSR and Trustee Meeting** at Riverside Board Room A @ 6:30. Call Fred B. for more details @ 815-295-2386.

**Oct 18 NIA Fall Committee Meeting**, Lord of Life Church, SE corner Rte. 38 & La Fox Rd, La Fox, IL, Hosted by Dist. 41

**Oct 18 Chicago Area 19 Corrections Workshop**, 10:00-4:00, The Lake Edge Alano Klub, 10105 S Ewing Ave, Chicago, IL, Contact Mike 773-848-5783

**Oct 24-26 IL State Al-Anon Convention** with AA participation at Morton IL. Contact Ruthanne A. 309-674-7887 for information.

**Oct 25 Halloween Party at the Kankakee Alano Club** from 6pm til?? Games for kids, wear a costume and dance to follow.

**Oct 26 Big Book Committee planning meeting** at 1pm at the Manteno Church of the Nazarene, 698 N. Locust (Rte. 50), Manteno IL.

**Oct 29 St. Anne Promises Open Speaker Meeting** Speaker is Mary Kay from the 1<sup>st</sup> Things 1<sup>st</sup> group. Call Mike H @ 815-427-6027 or Tim C @ 708-946-6619 to get your name on the cake and/or directions.

**Nov 1 NIA 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Book Conference Hosted by District 52** Keynote Speaker Dr. Burns B. from Louisville, KY from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Manteno Church of the Nazarene, 698 N. Locust (Rte. 50), Manteno IL. Contact Brian L. 815-685-5283 or Russ K. 815-401-2244.

**The First Things First Group** has their business meeting the last Friday of the month.

## Upcoming Events

For more information go to [www.aa-nia.org/events.html](http://www.aa-nia.org/events.html)

**Nov 18 Annual Jackson Creek DOA Dinner Dance & Workshop**, \$25, 3:00 pm to?, Harwood American Legion Post #5, 705 S Larkin Ave, Joliet, IL 60431, Contact John 219-381-8708

**Nov 21-23 McHenry's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Soberfest** Lake Geneva WI. Contact Dale 815-648-2817.

**Dec 6 NIA Winter Assembly**, TBA, Hosted by Dist. 51, Jim 815-478-4389

## Meetings that need you:

- Sunday night Big Book Study in Ashkum at United Methodist Church, 105 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., at 7pm
- Sunday at Kankakee Terrace 6:30 pm. Call Spike for details @815-939-9718.
- Monday & Friday at the Salvation Army at 6:30pm.
- Tuesday morning Joe and Charlie Big Book Study at the Kankakee Alano Club at 6:30 am.
- Thursday morning Phoenix Group at the Kankakee Alano Club at 6:30am.
- Thursday night at the Alano Club at 8:00pm Big Book meeting needs support.
- Thursday night Women's book study at 7:30pm at St. John's Church, 1045 W River St., Kankakee
- Friday night 6:00pm Big Book Study at Momence Good Shepherd Church needs support.

*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: Kelly W. - Heather - Spike - Marc B. - Mike R.