

AREA 8, DISTRICT 11

JULY, 2014 NEWSLETTER



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11

Our District meeting has been growing! The meeting on Monday July 28 was filled with 15 representatives from the District. An amazing turn out.

We had a full agenda for this meeting. To start out our Archivist Barbara R passed around a notebook filled with information from past events. She also made a suggestion that we go to our groups and ask for a history of each group in the district. This will be a great way to archive the history of our District. So if you are reading this newsletter and know the history of your group, please get with your groups GSR!

Paul K. from the Area 8 finance committee came to present us with the proposed 2015 budget for the area. At the last ACM meeting it was voted to present the proposed budget to our groups for voting in the November Area 8 Assembly. So be prepared to hear from your GSR at the next business meeting. This is your opportunity to review the proposed budget before acceptance.

July 11-13th was the Pacific Regional Forum. This was an amazing opportunity for me not only as a GSR/Alt. DCM but as a member of AA. We were able to see the structure of the General Service board, meet Trustees (both Class A and Class B), hear presentations from Delegates from the region and hear reports on the status of the General Service Office. I attended two workshops while I was there. One on Corrections Correspondence and another on Service and Recognition. The one thing that resonated with me at this forum was grapevine subscriptions. Does your group subscribe to the Grapevine? As a member do you subscribe to the Grapevine? Have you ever thought of giving a gift of the Grapevine to another member or even a sponsee? Grapevine needs our support. Think about it, I know I have.

I really received a lot of information while I was there, and would be glad to share my report with you if you send a request via email to today1996@yahoo.com.

Overall, I am just grateful to be of service

Wendi H. Alt. DCM District 11

WHAT BEING A GSR MEANS TO ME – ANONYMOUS

During the early days of sobriety so many members of AA reached out to me. I did not have a place to live, clothing or food. I had so many things I was worried about. I was told to keep coming back and be of service to others. So I started making coffee and emptying ashtrays after the meetings. During those meetings I was thinking less of my sad state of affairs and thinking more about how I could do something to help at those meetings that meant so much to my sobriety. Before long things changed, I worked steps, got a job my problems seemed to be straightening out. AA was a foundation for this new life, and I just wanted to give back. I have had outsiders who are not in AA ask me why I do so much for this program even after all these years. My answer is simply I can't imagine not doing it. Everything in my life today that is good comes from AA, It is my responsibility. I always want that hand to be there, it always was for me. Being a GSR for my groups helps me give something back. I feel like I am a part of AA as a whole and I get to bring all that back to the group of AA that saved my life. They appreciate having someone represent their group too.

A JOKE

Watch how you share when asked to be a Speaker at a meeting

A lady first time to AA was listening to a man and wife tell of their former problems with booze. The wife concluded by saying that the year before, thanks to the Man Upstairs, they had become the proud parents of their first child.

The new member, never having heard of God referred to that way, turned to the person next to her and whispered in horror, "Do all the people in AA make such shocking personal confessions?"

CALENDAR OF AUGUST EVENTS

AUGUST 9TH Men Sponsoring Men Workshop 2:30 pm Seaside Center for Spiritual Living 1613 Lake Drive Encinitas, CA 92024

AUGUST 16TH Women Sponsoring Women Workshop 9:00 AM Encinitas Senior Center Encinitas CA 92024

SEPTEMBER 1ST Labor Day Picnics 10-3pm Oak Crest Park Encinitas and 10-4pm Calaveras Park Carlsbad

STEP, TRADITION, AND CONCEPT OF THE MONTH

STEP 8: *“Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all”*

"We have made a list of all persons we have harmed and to whom we are willing to make amends. We made it when we took inventory. We subjected ourselves to a drastic self-appraisal. Now we go out to our fellows and repair the damage done in the past. We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will and run the show ourselves. If we haven't the will to do this, we ask until it comes. Remember it was agreed at the beginning *we would go to any lengths for victory over alcohol.*"

¹ *The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous*

TRADITION 8: *“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”*

“We are beginning to see that our few paid workers are performing only those service tasks that our volunteers cannot consistently handle. Primarily these folks are not doing 12th Step work. They are just making more and better 12th Step work possible. Secretaries at their desks are valuable points of contact, information and public relations. That is what they are paid for, and nothing else. They help carry the good news of A.A. to the outside world and bring our prospects face to face with us. That's not "A.A. therapy"; it's just a lot of very necessary but often thankless work.”
Bill W.

² *The AA Grapevine, July, 1948*

CONCEPT 8: *The trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities. .*

“This Concept deals with the ways the General Service Board “discharges its heavy obligations.” And it’s relationship with its two subsidiary corporations: A.A. World Services, Inc. and the A.A. Grapevine, Inc.”

³ *The Twelve Concepts Illustrated*

A SHORT NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

If you wish to receive a digital copy of this newsletter or wish to send Birthdays please send a message to today1996@yahoo.com.

AUGUST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

And any other ones we have found!

Gary U July 4, 1970
Bobbie C August 11. 1969



Registration for the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta Georgia begins September 3, 2014. The theme for Convention is "80 years-- Happy, Joyous and Free!"
Information @ http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/2015-international-convention-of-alcoholics-anonymous

DAILY REFLECTIONS JULY 6

We become Willing

At the moment we are trying to put our lives in order. But this is not an end in itself
Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 77

How easily I can become misdirected in approaching the Eighth Step! I wish to be free, somehow transformed by my Sixth and Seventh Step work. Now, more than ever, I am vulnerable to my own self-interest and hidden agenda. I am careful to remember that self-satisfaction, which sometimes comes through the spoken forgiveness of those I have harmed, is not my true objective. I become willing to make amends, knowing that through this process I am mended and made fit to move forward, to know and desire God's will for me.

*From the book Daily Reflections
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