



DISTRICT 48 NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2013

Dedicated to Bill "Billy" K. b.7/8/1944 d. 11/22/2013, 33 yrs sober. Often heard said by Billy, "Embrace the Uncertainty" & "Let's assume the best."

Growing up in AA

I once rejected the notion of growing up. I believed that in growing up I would lose what I cherished so much—my spirit. I negatively stunted the growth process by closing my eyes to the beauty of growth. I couldn't do this alone. I had to drown my brain with alcohol in the process, and *that* killed my spirit. Iron-ic!! Today I embrace the fact that I am 33 years old and I am

growing up. I am always changing and that helps my spirit to grow, which brings me happiness from within. Life is funny, beautiful, sad,

**"Life is funny,
beautiful, sad,
overwhelming and
confusing!"**

overwhelming, and confusing! If I don't grow up, I can't laugh at the funny, enjoy the beautiful, cry at the sadness,

endure the overwhelming, and learn from the confusing! Why did I reject growing up?... Fear! Why do I embrace it now? ...Faith!

About the Author

Michelle M. celebrates June 17, 2010 as her sobriety date. Her A.A. home group is The Friday Night Group in Williamsport.

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District 48 AA Hotline News

The Hotline Committee—David B., Sue M., & Kirby S.—is looking at our current contract with our answering service with an eye toward saving the district some expense while continuing to provide reliable service for those who need it. They are canvassing other answering services, contacting other districts who use dedicated cell phones and

comparing plans. Our current service is costing us an average of \$1800 per year for an average of 15 to 20 calls monthly.

The original plan was to have finished research, discussion and have a proposal ready for the December meeting; but, due to the busy holiday season that proposal may be delayed until

January. Anyone wishing to enter the discussion with comments, questions, or suggestions is encouraged to send them to dbailey2@comcast.net with the subject line, "Hotline Discussion."

About the Author

Submitted by David B., Hotline Committee 2013-2015 panel, he celebrates March 1, 2006, and his home group is the Friday Night Big Book.

Contact AA Online:

www.district48.org

www.aa.org

www.area59aa.org

www.aagrapevine.org

By Phone:

Local: 570-327-2860

By Mail:

**G.S.O.
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163**

**For strength and hope
for friends and families
of problem drinkers:**

Al-Anon Online:

www.al-anon.alateen.org

Check out
www.area59aa.org
for other district
events within Area
59.



Our Primary Purpose

As stated in **Tradition Five**, our primary purpose is to stay sober and help another alcoholic achieve sobriety. How do we fulfill that purpose? First by admitting we are powerless over alcohol—**Step One**. Then by continuing to work the steps in our daily lives with the help of another alcoholic, usually a sponsor. Most often someone who has been sober for long enough to have had a spiritual awakening as a result of working the steps—and continuing them in their daily lives.

Once we have maintained sobriety we can work at the second part of our primary purpose: to help another alcoholic to achieve sobriety. This is **Step Twelve**. By this time we have learned about our disease and the solution to not picking up a drink—one day at a time—and therefore we can help another person, who wants it, to achieve sobriety.

How do we know if someone wants it? "It" being sobriety and a

different way of living? We can't really ever know to what degree someone wants the program. That judgment doesn't have to be our burden. The responsibility statement declares that we are responsible when **anyone anywhere** reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA to always be there.

One way to actualize the responsibility pledge and also A.A.'s primary purpose and **Step Twelve** is to support the meetings that are loaded with newcomers—I can think of several meetings off the top of my head that fits that description, I am sure you can too.

One meeting in particular that could use your support is the **Staying Sober Meeting held Sunday evenings at 7pm at Penn College**. (From the Maynard St. entrance of Penn College, go past the circle fountain in the middle and straight at the stop sign. You will find the entrance to the meeting on the left at the Bush Center - not marked - and the parking is on

the right. Just look for the people standing outside the door.)

In conclusion, the following is from Dr. Bob's final message held in July 1950 at Cleveland, OH during the First International A.A. Convention:

"And one more thing; none of us would be here today if somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or two, to have done numerous little kind and thoughtful acts in our behalf. So let us never get the degree of smug complacency so that we're not willing to extend or attempt to, that help which has been so beneficial to us, to our less fortunate brothers."

About the Author

Written by Cindy B., Newsletter Committee 2013-2015 panel, celebrates 11/22/1997 and her home group is the Thursday Night Woman's meeting.

Anniversaries

Calling all sponsors:

Anniversaries can be emailed to aadistrict48@gmail.com

Elaine Z. 12/1/13 9 months & Happy Birthday!

Jessica 12/2/13 9 months

Bob M. 11/28/13 11 yrs.

Ericka D. 12/13/13 2 yrs

Samuel 11/7/2010 3 years;

Andy 12/2/13 60 days;

