

# District 48 Newsletter

August 2013

*"Through failure, success, I'll understand when you done your best. I am the Lord, thy God, and I'll be with thee. I'll be with thee." from Jerry Garcia's Song "I'll Be With Thee"*

Dedicated to Stephanie M., 23 yrs old, B. 5/27/1990 D. 8/4/2013  
and

Corey F., 23 yrs old, B. 9/13/1989 D. 8/8/13

## What Does Surrender Mean?

Reprinted with permission from the Akron IG Newsletter July 2013

*The following is an excerpt from a speech given by Dr. Harry M. Tiebout early in the timeline of A.A.'s history. Tiebout was a psychiatrist and pioneer in coupling the principles and philosophy of AA.*

No A.A.'s, regardless of their veteran status, can ever relax their guard against a reviving ego. The function of surrender in AA is now clear. It produces that stopping by causing the individual to say, "I quit. I give up on my headstrong ways. I've learned my lesson." Very often for the first time in that individual's adult career, he/she has encountered the necessary discipline that halts him in his headlong pace. Actually, he/she is lucky to have within him the capacity to

surrender. It is that which differentiates him/her from the wild animals. And this happens because we can sur-



**It's common knowledge that a return of the full-fledged ego can happen at any time. Years of sobriety are no insurance against its' resurgence.**

render and truly feel, "Thy will, not mine, be done."

Unfortunately, that ego will return unless the individual

learns to accept a disciplined way of life which means the tendency toward ego comeback, is permanently checked.

This is not news to AA members. They have learned that single surrender is not enough. Under the wise leadership of the AA founding fathers the need for continued endeavor to maintain that miracle has been steadily stressed. The Twelve Steps urge repeated inventories, not just one, and the Twelfth Step is in itself a routine reminder that one must work at preserving sobriety. Moreover, it is referred to as Twelfth Step work—which is exactly what it is. By that time, the miracle is for the other person.

**Contact AA Online:**

[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

[www.area59aa.org](http://www.area59aa.org)

[www.aagrapevine.org](http://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](http://www.al-anon.alateen.org)

## The Declaration Of Unity

**This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.**



## ANNIVERSARIES

Anniversaries can be emailed to [aadistrict48@gmail.com](mailto:aadistrict48@gmail.com)

Al—1 year 7/10/13; Elaine 60 days; Chuck 30 days; Chris S. 7/4/2013 60 days; Brian 9 months 7/1/13; John 90 days; Mary S. 8/1/13 20 years! Carl G. 8/1/13 1 year! Kathy Y. 8/2/13 12 years; Sue G 8/11/13 3 years! Steve S. 8/3/13 4 years! Jenn R. 8/11/13 6 months; Lindsey E. 8/13/13 9 months! Stacey 8/11/13 90 days; Tammy 8/10/13 90 days; Jessica D. 8/4/13 90 days; Harry M. 6 years 8/21/13; Roger G. 9 months 8/12/13 Paula Rae 8/25/13 8 years!

## Unity and The Twelve Traditions

Excerpt from *Language of The Heart*, pg 96 (*Grapevine*, November 1949)

The Twelve Traditions are a distillate of our experience of living and working together. They apply the spirit of the Twelve recovery Steps to our group life and security. They deal with our relations with the world outside and with each other; they state our attitudes toward power and prestige, toward property and money. They would save us from tempting alliances and major controversies; they would elevate principles far above personal ambitions. And, as a token of the last, they request that we maintain personal anonymity before the open public as a protection to AA and as proof of the

fact that our Society intends to practice true humility.

For the information of the general public and for the instruction of new AA members, the Twelve Traditions have just been released (*Grapevine*, November 1949) in a much condensed "short form" which we hope will be as widely read and understood as the Twelve Steps of recovery.

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**"The Traditions apply the spirit of our Twelve Steps to our group life and security."**

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Should this happen, our current growing pains will be lessened and we shall commence to lay up a great store of insurance for the years ahead.

We could thus reinforce our faith in the future by these prudent works; we could show that we deserve to go on receiving that priceless gift of oneness which God in His wisdom has so freely given to us of Alcoholics Anonymous in the precious years of our infancy.

## LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE



Articles, group events, questions or comments for the newsletter are welcome.  
Please email: [aadistrict48@gmail.com](mailto:aadistrict48@gmail.com)