

District 48 Newsletter

July 2013

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The Dilemma of No Faith

The following excerpt is taken from *The Language of The Heart*, a compilation of AA's cofounder, Bill W's, *Grapevine* writings. This particular article was published in the *Grapevine* in April 1961. The *Grapevine* is AA's international magazine, published monthly and thought of as the meeting in print.

The phrase, "God as we understand him" is perhaps the most important expression to be found in our whole AA vocabulary. Within the compass of these five significant words there can be included every kind and degree of faith, together with the positive assurance that each of us may choose their own. Scarcely less valuable

to us are the other expressions—"a higher power" and "a power greater than ourselves". For



all those who deny or seriously doubt a deity, these frame an open door over whose threshold the unbeliever can take his first easy step into a reality hitherto unknown to him—the realm of faith.

We much regret that these facts of AA are not understood by the legion of alcoholics in the world around us. Any number of them are bedeviled by the dire conviction that if ever they go near AA they will be pressured to conform to some particular brand of faith or theology. They don't realize that faith is never a necessity for AA membership; that sobriety can be achieved with an easily acceptable minimum of it; and that our concepts of a higher power and God as we understand him afford everyone a nearly unlimited choice of spiritual belief and action.

Coming in July

for additional information about upcoming

PENNSCYPAA Harrisburg, PA 7/19/13
Contact: to
www.pennscypaa-xxv.org 7/21/13

District 63 & 64 Workshop 7/27/13
"AA's Three Legacies:
Recovery, Unity & Service"
Location: Grace Evangelical
Congressional Church, 131
Terrace Avenue, Ephrata, PA
17522 10:30am—3 pm

District 56 Picnic & Workshop 7/28/13
"Newcomer Picnic and
Workshop" (not just for
newcomers) Location: Anson B.
Nixon Park, 201 N. Walnut
Road, Kennett Square, PA. 12 N
— 4:30pm

Contact AA Online:

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

A NOTE FROM THE DISTRICT ARCHIVIST

If you would like to see your home group's current group history, feel free to make a request through your GSR. Janine will be going to meetings throughout the summer and fall to obtain updated group information such as, how it began, who started it, what was the original location, etc. for the archives of District 48.

Janine B. District 48, Archivist

Anniversaries can be emailed to AADistrict48@gmail.com

Daniel 5 years 7/3/13; Christine W. 29 yrs 6/9/13; Shirley C. 7/8/13 21/ years; Chris M. 6/13 19 yrs; Marilyn W. 7/28/13 15 yrs;
Travis D. 7/2/13 4 yrs; Barry 29 yrs; Mike B 6 yrs; Taryn M. 7/18/13 60 days!

SOME SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF INNER PEACE

By Saskia Davis

Be on the lookout for symptoms of inner peace. The hearts of a great many already have been exposed; and it is possible that people, everywhere, could come down with it in epidemic proportions. This could pose a serious threat to what, up to now, has been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world.

A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.

An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.

A loss of interest in judging other people.

A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.

A loss of interest in conflict.

A loss of ability to worry.

Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.

Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.

Frequent attacks of smiling.

An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

Can you name the Tradition?

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The following is a sentence contained in the traditions section of the book, "Twelve Steps and Traditions". Can you name the Tradition?

1. "It is the great paradox of A.A. that we know we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away."
Answer: _____

That was easy you say? Okay...try this one:

2. "When Opportunities to be helpful came along, he found he could talk easily about A.A. to almost anyone."
Answer: _____

No Peaking! For the answers turn the page upside down:

1. Tradition 5-pg 151 lines 8-10.
2. Tradition 12-Pg. 186 lines 4-6

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