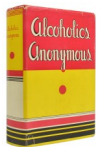


DISTRICT 14 NEWS

April 2021 Volume 4

Name your Newsletter contest



MARCH ROUND-UP 2021 "IN A TIME OF CHANGE"

The first virtual March Roundup was a huge success! Thanks to a wonderfully talented and dedicated committee, we deemed it a huge hit not just by our numbers (over 600 registrants), but also by the wonderful content, delivered seamlessly via Zoom.

Some of the highlights of the Roundup included: Russ R. (our delegate) with a great kickoff panel, our Friday night Michigan speaker, the traditions and relationships workshop, Stepping Stones (The home of Bill W.), and a cool virtual sobriety countdown with a DJ and some live hosts!

A special thanks must go out to Alanon and Alateen, who had some of the most touching moments of the weekend by sharing their stories.

Thank you for letting me be your chairperson and enabling me to have an experience I will never forget!

Nate Pietrzak
2021 MRU Chair

To obtain digital copies of the 2021, please visit: <https://www.bcsobervoices.com/>

P.S. If anyone is looking to be involved with March Round-Up service for 2022 contact district 14 officers or join us at area assembly each month.

What's inside:

Page 2 Camping, DCM & Funnies
Page 3 Steps, Traditions & Recovery
Page 4 Meetings, Recaps & AA History
And a special note from your Registrar

Friday, March 5th

6:30pm - 7:45pm **Area 33 Welcoming Panel**
8:00pm - 9:00pm **Gabriel M., Sterling Heights, MI**

Saturday, March 6th

10:00am - 11:00am **Guided Meditation with Tara L.**
11:00am - 12:00pm **A Longtimer's Perspective on Change**
12:15pm - 1:15pm **A Change in Perspective for All**
1:30pm - 2:30pm **Anthony G. (Vallejo, CA)**
2:45pm - 4:45pm **John E. & Renee E. (Frederick, MD)**
"Traditions & Relationships"
5:00pm - 6:00pm **Michele B., Milford, PA**
6:15pm - 7:30pm **Anthony G. & Lee B. (Vallejo, CA)**
"The Language of the Heart"
7:30pm - 8:00pm **Sobriety Countdown**
8:00pm - 9:00pm **John E. (Frederick, MD)**
9:15pm - 10:30pm **"Not A Glum Lot" - Comedy Show**

Sunday, March 7th

9:30am - 10:45am **Stepping Stones Presentation**
11:00am - 12:00pm **Renee E. (Frederick, MD)**

This is the third volume of the District 14 newsletter. We need a cool name. We are looking for an AA in our district come up with a title. The district will be awarding a first edition Big Book (Reprint) to the winning member with the selected new title.

Include "name contest" in the subject line

Send entries to
1433newsletter@gmail.com

Here are our entries to date:

14's Sober dispatch
Carried Message
Primary Purpose News
1433Newsletter
1433Newslet-
ter@gmail.com
District 14 Herald
District 14 Dispatch
District 14 Centinel
District 14 Free Press

DCM Corner

My name is Paul Kopcak and I am currently District Committee Member for District 14. I believe we can all agree that the last year within our fellowship and around the world has been unprecedented. Meaning none of us signed up for a global pandemic in 2020. Yet here we are today searching for every ounce of acceptance we can muster. My sobriety has been more than five years in the 12-step program. It was suggested by many members to grow in service if you are looking to grow as an individual. Specifically, in the areas of sober maturity and life balance.

Six months into sober recovery my sponsor voluntold me to join him at a meeting. Yes, voluntold not volunteered to go to district business meetings with him. I sat every month listening to the business at hand that so many of us take for granted. How many pamphlets do we have and who is distributing them out in the coming months? What type of events to hold for AA members in the summer, winter, or even holidays.

In time I volunteered for different duties such as filling-in for secretary notes or treasury report announcements. After two years I was voted in as alternate DCM for District 14. I assisted in different ways supporting the new DCM as their assistant at times. Two years later I was voted in as DCM with little idea of what that entailed. Life will test us in ways we never expect. It's during these times to remember, "Always keep moving forward. No Matter What!"

A couple of weeks after the voting I found a wonderful home. So now homeownership became another responsibility. Three months later a global pandemic occurred with a lockdown on all meetings being closed. Throw in excessive call-ins in the middle of the night for work issues. Trying to figure out how to come up with ideas to get meetings online. No instructions or manual on handling this epidemic within AA's history.

Seeing people slip and go back out. Some even died because they could not get back to meeting in person. Others who did have slips were able to make back to online meetings and start anew. We lost March Round Up and no area assemblies as of yet. So much has changed in the last year.

The one thing that has not changed is to always practice these principles in All Our Affairs. No Matter What...

Greetings Camping Euthenists

The 10th Annual District 14

Campout is coming!



Is anybody ready to get outdoors? Some of us who have cabin fever are starting to make plans for the summer. And of course, we are talking about going up North! What could be better than camping, canoeing and fire-side meetings? All this and much more await us in Mio, Mi. Oscoda County campgrounds. We are talking about the 10th annual camping and canoe weekend extravaganza, July 16-18. Come as early as Wednesday and get the best choice of spots. This annual event was started back in 2011 by A.A.s with a vision of a yearly event. It holds a special place in their hearts, and mine. One founder Eric C. shared with me this heart felt statement. "The fellowship of working with others in the 12-step program and the spiritual connection is invaluable. We get sober, but I alone, don't." So come join us for sober fellowship and spiritual rejuvenation! Have a Saturday night dinner courtesy of District 14, Drop the Rock and much more!

Bring the whole family!

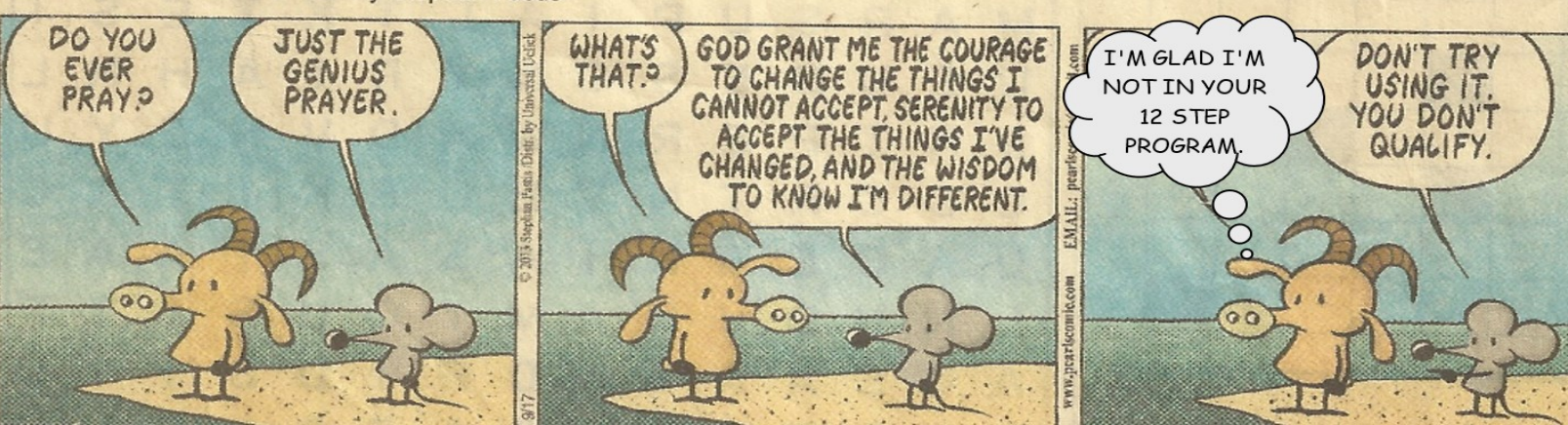
For more details contact: Mitch P. (734)634-4657,

Tim P. (313)801-6635 or Eric C. (734)756-5261.

Warmest regards, Mitch P. Campout Chairman



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE By Stephan Pastis



Walking through the Steps and Traditions

Editorial by Andy R. GSR, Just Three Pages

Step four

Made a searching and fearless
inventory of ourselves.

Step four was the beginning of my true freedom from the bondage of self. On an early rotation through AA at a young age I took an inventory. It was a requirement of my sponsor to have one completed by my first year of sobriety. I was full of fear and anxiety. "What would he think of me when I shared it? How would I admit to these things to another person? If I write it down, I will need to own it in step nine?" all these thoughts ran through my head and I ended up not truly being fearless. Flash forward twenty-five years and hopefully on my last insertion into the program I was given the 'Gift Of Desperation' and knew I needed to be honest or die a drunken alcoholic. My sponsor coached me to only think of this step. The upcoming steps should not be considered. All I needed to do was write a list. I could have tossed it out or burned it with no one ever seeing it. That focus and lots of reading from the Big Book, 12 & 12 and table discussion helped me to continue to write it out. As this list grew an interesting thing happened. Some of the items did fall off. They were moments of embarrassment, anger and regret that I addressed with my support system. Mostly I was excited for the opportunity to address some of the moments of my life that tormented me. Ultimately, this step was the door opening to letting go of so much ruin and regret. For me, this step was beginning to so many promises fulfilled by AA.

R. H. SMITH, M. D.	
2ND NATIONAL BLDG. AKRON, OHIO	
TELEPHONE: WE-8523	REC. NO.
R	FOR: alcoholics
ADDRESS:	DATE: Feb 1937
always remember it	
1. Trust God	
2. Clean house	
3. Help others	
NR	1 2 3 INF.



Tradition four

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole."

Since my reentry into Alcoholics Anonymous I have had the pleasure of enjoying meetings of many styles and presentations. Groups vary wildly with focus, cadence, and people in attendance. Additionally, with the sudden and rapid growth of online meetings from communication sites like Zoom, email, chat and phone I have been able to "attend" meetings literally around the world. One of my favorite online video meetings welcomes men, both from the United States and Scotland. In this meeting we are all men, alcoholic and have a desire to stop drinking. We see meetings involving specialized focus from alcoholics that are divorced, gay, meditative, imprisoned, living in rural areas and everything under the sun. In my opinion Tradition Four reminds us that every group is free to be both right and wrong. The only requirement for membership is for someone to stop drinking and any human on Earth has the potential to fit this indicator. Each individual group is free to gather as they see fit if they follow all Twelve Traditions and approach recovery and the public from the perspective of solely their group. No meeting is to dictate to another group or attempt to represent them. This reminds me of a common statement of "this is my recovery". What sober is to one Alcoholic could be the same or different from another and both are correct. In the Twelve and Twelve we read that "Any two or three gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group proved that as a group they have no other" Twelve and Twelve (146-147)

We Must Not Judge Others

When people come into AA, we are raw and in so much pain. We are beat down, hurting and in pure misery.

We walk in from rehab, a stint in detox, jail or on advice from our lawyers saying "go to AA" right after another drunk driving arrest. Some arrive due to an urging family member or spouse, our employers, our health has gotten bad from drinking and drugging and some of us walk in simply on our own ready for a new way of life.

Some of us are mad and hate ourselves and others. Some are working and some just lost their job, so they are deeply sad or mad. And don't forget some of us are on depression and anti-anxiety medications of which some take meds as directed and some don't, and some still must be adjusted. We have given up our drinking and partying buddies that we thought were our friends. We can feel really alone. We may have no one because we pushed them away or just left them all together. During this pandemic, we may have lost loved ones and not been able to see our families. And don't forget some may have just walked a couple days before you, or they been here for years, we must show everyone respect and understanding. We all have different levels of emotion, maturity, spirituality, economic capability, recovery, financial responsibility, sobriety, fear. We are all in different places, but we are all alcoholics.

So, we all must open and compassionate. We cannot and must not judge them or each other. That's easy to say but we really must try not to judge. So, look at yourself when you walk through these doors. Are you doing the next right thing? Are you being the nicest and loving person you can be? Remember we are all in this together and we have to help and love each other and give of ourselves every day!

And when you come in and see some people, laughing and carrying on and having a good time don't forget we were all there at one time, we all been thru what you have been thru, and guess what, we are living the promises. When I see a newcomer or someone that I don't know, I have to always remember when I walked thru the doors of AA how I felt and what pain I was in!

Yours In Sobriety

Sober Gregg H...

It is possible for us to grow or not to grow, as we elect. If we fight shy of entangling alliances, if we avoid getting messed up with controversial issues (religious or political or wet-dry), if we maintain unity through our central offices, if we preserve the simplicity of our program, if we remember that our job is to get sober and to stay sober and to help our less fortunate brother to do the same thing, then we shall continue to grow and thrive and prosper. From the last major talk of

ROBERT HOLBROOK SMITH, M.D. (Dr. Bob) in Detroit, December 1948.

Happening around the district

April in AA History

April 1, 1939 - Alcoholics Anonymous AA's Big Book was published.

April 7, 1941 - Ruth Hock reported there were 1,500 letters asking for help, as a result of the Saturday Evening Post Article by Jack Alexander.

April 16, 1973 - Dr Jack Norris Chairman of the AA General Service Board, presented President Richard Nixon with the one-millionth copy of the Big Book at the White House.

April 23, 1940 - Dr. Bob wrote the Trustees to refuse Big Book royalties, but Bill Wilson insisted on them for Dr. Bob and Anne Smith.

April 25, 1951 - AA's first General Service Conference was held.

April 30, 1989 - The film "My Name is Bill W.," a Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation, was broadcast at 9 p.m. on ABC TV.



Online Meeting of
the month

Joe & Charlie BB Study / 12 & 12

Monday 6:00 P.M.

Meeting ID: 885 4879 4016

Password: 938919

In person Meeting of
the month



WOMAN'S DIVA MEETING

Northwest Alano Club

2903 S. Wayne Rd. Westland

Thursday's, 7:30-8:30pm Ends Promptly

A Woman's Way Through The 12 Steps

District 14 Business Meeting

Second Saturday of the month @ 3pm

On Zoom until further notice

Zoom ID 230983647 PW582686

Please join us for any district business and to take part in service for AA. For further information please contact the Secretary

Tracy M 1433secretary@gmail.com

Area 33 Business Meeting

Second Sunday of the month @ Noon

On Zoom until further notice

Please check out the Area 33 web site for more info aa-semi.org

All are welcome to join our monthly business meeting. There is a GSR 101 training at 11am the same days.

District 14 and Area 33 Business Updates

March district business had a discussion concerning literature and equipment inventory. Seeing what we have available for those meetings in need. How to get more members involved with service work in AA. Will we have a district picnic in 2021 and who would run the event.

April area assembly held a pre-conference for panel 71. This year the panel conference will be held online with breakout rooms. We were asked about policy item J on the agenda. This concerned online meetings being acknowledged as approved AA groups with their own group ID and how they qualify. Come join us with district business and area assembly to find out more details on service opportunities in your neighborhood.

Our District 14 Officers

Paul K dcm14@aa-semi.org

Tracy M 1433secretary@gmail.com

Marty B 1433treasurer@gmail.com

Helen P 1433registrar@gmail.com

What is a Registrar you ask

Here is the definition from the AA Service Manual

Duties: In many areas, registrars now develop and maintain records of all groups in the area, including group name, meeting location, time and G.S.R. or group contact. The Area 33 Registrar felt our District 14 needed its own Registrar as we have over 120 meetings weekly.

Helen Pratt is our elected Registrar and can be reached at: 1433registrar@gmail.com or 248-277-0468. Helen will assist with new groups, group change forms or any other needs of your G.S.R. Currently she is working to update all group contacts to ensure they match with the General Service Office in New York. Please reach out with your meeting updates and any other questions or issues.

Our newsletter will be published online at the Area 33 web site and printed and is created by volunteers that need your help. What would you like in your newsletter? We need members to submit stories, quips, comics and any other points of focus you would like to see. What would help? Questions, comments, suggestions and article submissions should be sent to

1433newsletter@gmail.com