

AA District 18 Newsletter

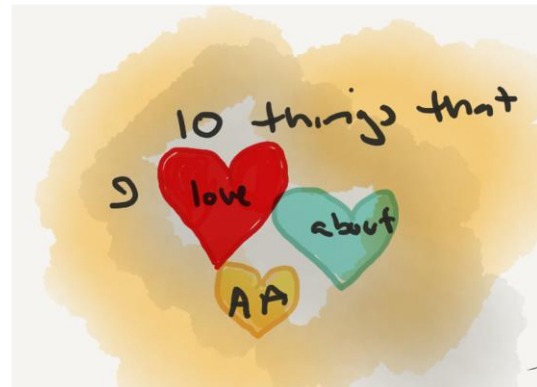
Volume 1, Issue 5

February 2021

A message from the current D18 webmaster

One of the things that I get asked about, is why the meetings sometimes pop-up on the website and then sometimes they don't. The AA Technology people make plug-ins for many AA websites, including our site, which are free of charge. The entire idea of the AA meeting guide plug-in is to organize the meetings, give options for submitting meetings or modifying meetings online, and to link it to the meeting guide app. COVID, has resulted in a lot of work for them since they had to add more options. One feature that you might be familiar with, is the zoom button on meeting pages that magically transports you to the meeting if we have the link to your meeting. Yup, they did that!

They are still doing a lot of work with the plug-in and sometimes it crashes or needs updated. I check on the website regularly, but am not usually aware of issues in the middle of the day. If you ever find any problems with the website, please email: info@aa-district18.org. Your email will be forwarded to my inbox and I will get to it as soon as I can. I would also ask to please forward me any meeting changes. Many meetings are opening up. It helps for everyone to know what options they have available. Thank you for helping me make the D18 website amazing!



1. The fellowship. We're an eclectic bunch, but there is always a shoulder to lean on when things get rough.
2. Embracing new concepts and ideas.
3. Going through the steps and traditions.
4. Getting to meet and know other people on Zoom that I probably wouldn't have met otherwise
5. Being able to have fun together sober whether doing karaoke over zoom or just chatting.
6. Learning to use the tools of the program to stay sober. Not to say it's always easy, but having them helps!
7. Getting to spend time with God.
8. Feeling joy and getting periods of peace and serenity.
9. Being able to be useful and getting to have fun doing so.
10. Meditating in a group setting.

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Upcoming Events

NEWSLETTER/WEB COMMITTEE MEETING

- PLEASE JOIN US IF INTERESTED
- DATE: FEBRUARY 11TH 2021
- TIME: 6P
- PLACE:
 - ON ZOOM
 - MEETING ID: 860 4525 2243
 - PASSCODE: 508512

SPONSORSHIP AND NEWCOMERS THROUGH VIRTUAL MEETINGS WORKSHOP

- DATE: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13TH 2021
- TIME: 2-4P
- PLACE:
 - ON ZOOM
 - MEETING ID: 884 9233 5990
 - PASSCODE: 617493
- DIRECT LINK IS ON DISTRICT 18 WEBSITE

GSR MEETING

- DATE: FEBRUARY 21ST 2021
- TIME: 2P
- PLACE: ON ZOOM
 - MEETING ID: 847 7367 1591
 - PASSCODE: 987449

DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT OR A BIRTHDAY IN MARCH? PLEASE EMAIL AND/OR SUBMIT THE INFORMATION TO INFO@AA-DISTRICT18.ORG

IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY AA HISTORY

FEB 1938 - ROCKEFELLER GIVES \$5,000 TO AA. SAVES AA FROM PROFESSIONALISM.

FEB 1939 - DR HOWARD OF MONTCLAIR, N.J., SUGGESTS SWAPPING "YOU MUSTS" FOR "WE OUGHT" IN THE BIG BOOK.

FEB 1951 - FORTUNE MAGAZINE ARTICLE ABOUT AA. NEW YORK REPRINTS IN PAMPHLET FOR MANY YEARS.

FEB 1963 - GRAPEVINE ARTICLE "ALCOHOLISM--A MEDICAL BOMBSHELL", BY DR. DONALD 'DOC' B.

FEB 1981 - 1ST ISSUE OF "MARKINGS" AA ARCHIVES NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED.

FEB 2, 1954 - BILL W DECLINED AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS DEGREE FROM YALE U.

FEB 8, 1940 - HOUSTON PRESS RAN FIRST OF 6 ANONYMOUS ARTICLES ON AA BY LARRY J.

FEB 14, 1971 - AA GROUPS WORLDWIDE HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR BILL W.

FEB 18, 1943 - DURING GAS RATIONING IN WWII, AA'S ARE GRANTED THE RIGHT TO USE CARS FOR 12TH STEP WORK IN EMERGENCY CASES.

FEB 19, 1967 - FATHER "JOHN DOE" (RALPH P), 1ST CATHOLIC PRIEST IN AA DIES.

FEB 23, 1959 - AA GRANTED "RECORDING FOR THE BLIND" PERMISSION TO TAPE THE BIG BOOK.

FEB 28, 1940 - FIRST ORGANIZATION MEETING OF PHILADELPHIA AA WAS HELD AT MCCREADY H.'S ROOM AT 2209 DELANCY STREET.



I told someone on a Saturday I was going to contact them during the following week about doing some work. Well, I put off contacting them until the Friday before the work was to be done, which was Saturday. I waited until the 11th hour. So, I sent a text message asking if they wanted to do the work because I hadn't planned on doing it. The response I received went something like this, paraphrasing "Well I have other business to attend to". That was it. I focused on the first word and said it sarcastically in my head, "Wellllll... NOW what are you going to do, mister smarty pants"?

So, I wrestled with this thought all weekend long. When I talked to them on Tuesday, I found out the thoughts in my mind were the farthest from the truth. They really had something to do other than help me. They had none of the intentions towards me that I had thought up. My first thought is mostly wrong because I am usually the guilty party. I said I was going to do something and I procrastinated. Then I expected to be rescued, and wasn't. And my first thought was wrong because I knew I hadn't followed through with my commitment,

Story continued to the right

First Thought Wrong-continued

my obligation to the other party. I knew what I hadn't done and I was in the wrong.

My first thought is mostly wrong because I am usually the guilty party. I said I was going And my first thought was wrong because I knew I hadn't followed through with my commitment, my obligation to the other party. I knew what I hadn't done and I was in the wrong.

I found the following posted by Comedian Mark Lundholm. "First thought Wrong" was a phrase I heard early and often in early recovery. Addicts and alcoholics tend to speak impulsively and act compulsively. Mark says "Recovery has taught me that first thought wrong properly filtered becomes next right thing" Recovery is not the absence of bad thinking, it's the ability to navigate through it with grace by using the tools we have learned in our recovery program. "First thought wrong is my disease, it's not my future"

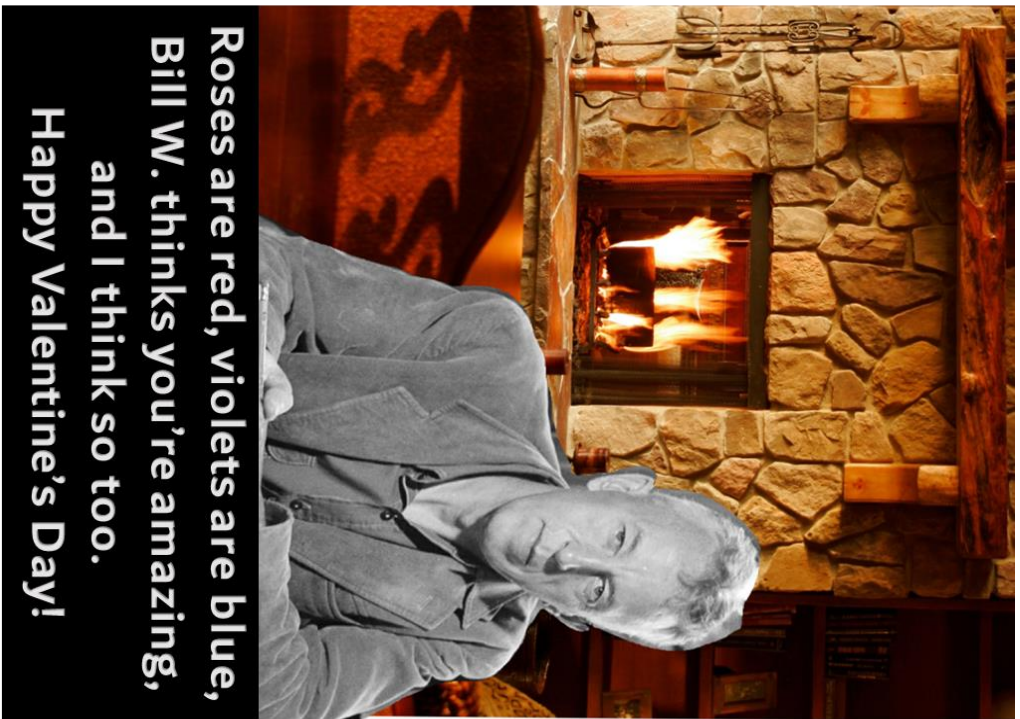
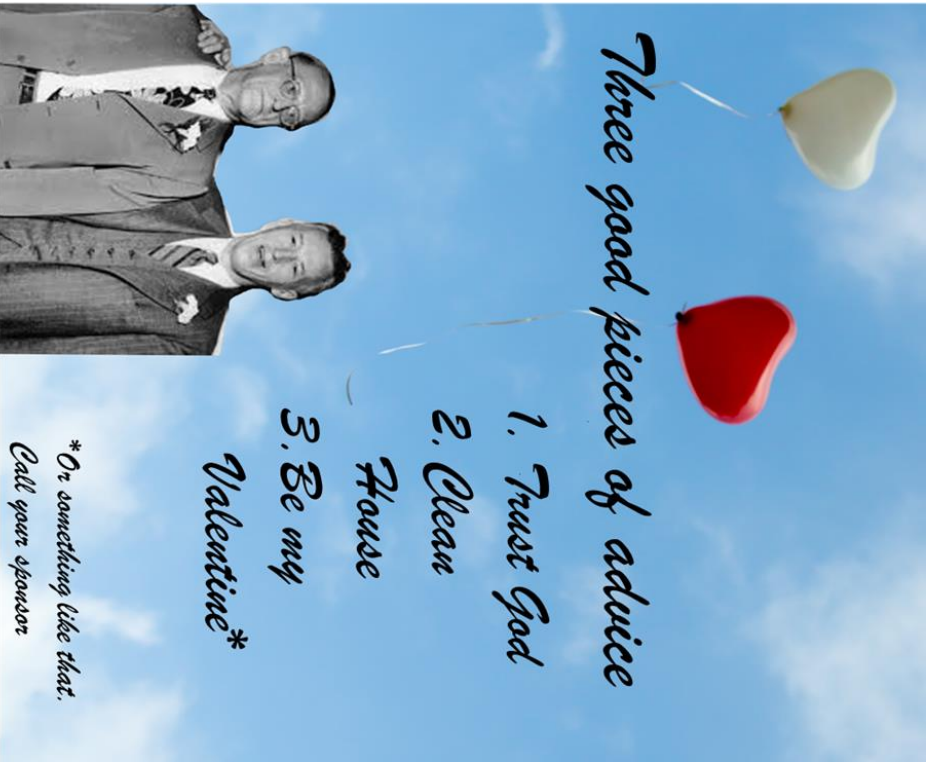
First Thought Wrong doesn't happen often, but when I fail to do the next right thing or follow through on my commitments, my mind can race into who knows where. And I'd prefer to not be in that thought process, the process of first thought wrong. -**John G.**

AA February Word Puzzle

Y E C N A T P E C C A G J K V B
R T T P V Y L R Y F E G E Z L R
E L I T I N R T O O E L R M L L
S H Q L M H S E G G B A S Q J Q
E E U T A E S R V M R P R J J N
N D W M N U A W A O O A D T D N
T U S O I P T E O N C E M R J R
M T H E H L R I S L T E L B M L
E I Z I H P I O R O L A R L N Y
N T C O V C R T X I I E W G J B
T A N G E R I D Y N P M F L E S
L R G E T X P L E D G S Z D B L
M G P N B Q Z D C T M Y R L Y L

- acceptance
- fear
- resentment
- honesty
- self
- recovery
- sponsor
- spirituality
- gratitude
- humility
- anger
- Program
- ego
- cliches
- denial
- detox
- fellowship
- geographical
- preamble

Are you interested in contributing to the newsletter? Please send any comments, suggestions, stories, or contributions to info@aa-district18.org being mindful of our steps and traditions



DISTRICT 18 WORKSHOP

Rarely Have We Seen...

**A.A. Under Quarantine: Connecting Virtually to
Meetings and Finding Sponsorship**

**4 Sponsors & 4 Newcomers Share Their Experience,
Strength, and Hope with Q&A to follow**

FEBRUARY 18, 2021 ■ 2 PM TO 4 PM CST



**ZOOM MEETING ID: 884 9233 5990
PASSCODE: 617943**



REVIVE

Open AA Meeting
Wednesday Nights
At Thrive Church
7pm to 8pm



2101 Cleveland Blvd.
Granite City, IL 62040



Open AA Meeting
Saturday Nights
At Thrive Church
7pm to 8pm

2101 Cleveland Blvd.
Granite City, IL 62040

