

AA District 18 Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 9

June 2021

BREAKING NEWS

District 18 news

Within District 18, there have been a number of meeting changes that have occurred. We wanted to share these recent developments with you. Many meetings are beginning to resume in-person meetings, and becoming hybrid meetings.

In case you've never heard of a hybrid meeting, a hybrid meeting is where it allows for people to attend virtually or in person.

- The Continuing Recovery Center (CRC) meetings in Irving are now open to outside attendees.
- The Happy Hour Group, which meets on Saturday at 5:30p is back in person. They have moved back to their original location at St. John's Church of Christ located at 6th and Penning in Wood River.

D18 News is continued on page 3



When I was new to AA and quite a few months into working the program, I began to notice a pattern. I noticed members sharing the same stories over and over again. I often found myself bored, not paying attention, though I tried. I needed to hear something new and different, so I went to a lot of different meetings. In many cases, those who told the same stories were at those meetings. As my patience grew, I began to replace boredom with listening, listening for something new in the story. I noticed their stories changed a bit over time, with either new disclosures or additional details that were relevant to their story. But I became conscientious of telling my own story over time, especially when there were no newcomers to the meetings. I thought I might be boring those in attendance at the meeting, so I began to share my story sparingly, unless the topic of discussion

Story continued on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1	District 18 news, Sharing
2	Upcoming events, Dates in June AA history, June D18 website poll
3	D18 news and Sharing continued
4	D18 June Wordsearch

Upcoming Events for June

NEWSLETTER/WEB COMMITTEE MEETING

- DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 10TH 2021
- TIME: 6P
- PLACE: ON ZOOM
 - MEETING ID: 860 4525 2243
 - PASSCODE: 508512

GSR MEETING

- DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 27TH 2021
- TIME: 2P
- PLACE: ON ZOOM
 - MEETING ID: 847 7367 1591
 - PASSCODE: 987449

COMING UP...

AA UNITY AND SERVICE CONFERENCE

- DATE: JULY 9TH-JUL 11TH 2021
- WHERE: ON ZOOM
- COST: FREE TO REGISTER

THE ILLINOIS STATE AA CONFERENCE

- DATES: SUNDAY, AUGUST 27TH-28TH 2021
- PLACE: ON ZOOM

June D18 Web poll

The consequences of the pandemic lock-downs hit all of us in A.A. hard. When the in-person meetings we regularly attended were cancelled, **how helpful were Zoom meetings to your sobriety?**

- () Not At All
- () Some What Helpful
- () Helpful
- () Very Helpful
- () Extremely Helpful

To participate in this poll and to have your vote counted, go to www.district18.org and go under important announcements to access the link to the poll. Polling will run from 6/6/21-6/30/21. Results will be posed in next month's newsletter.

IMPORTANT DATES IN JUNE AA HISTORY

JUNE 1947 - "AA PREAMBLE" FIRST PRINTED IN GRAPEVINE.

JUNE 1953 - "TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS" PUBLISHED.

JUNE 1, 1949 - ANNE RIPLEY SMITH, BOB'S WIFE, DIED.

JUNE 5, 1939 - NEW YORK TIMES FAVORABLY REVIEWED THE BIG BOOK.

JUNE 10, 1935 - DR. BOB HAS LAST DRINK (SOME SAY IT MAY HAVE BEEN ON

JUNE 17 BASED ON DATE OF MEDICAL CONVENTION HE ATTENDED.).

JUNE 11, 1935 - DR. BOB SUGGESTS HE AND BILL START WORKING WITH OTHER ALCOHOLICS.

JUNE 16, 1938 - DATE OF JIM B'S, "VICIOUS CYCLE" FROM BIG BOOK, LAST DRINK.

JUNE 21, 1944 - THE A.A. GRAPEVINE ESTABLISHED.

JUNE 26, 1935 - BILL D, AA#3, HAD LAST DRINK BEFORE BEING ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.

JUNE 28, 1935 - BILL AND DR. BOB VISIT BILL D, FIRST "MAN ON THE BED." HE BECOMES AA#3.

JUNE 30, 1939 - DR. HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK FAVORABLY REVIEWED THE BIG BOOK.

JUNE 30, 1941 - JACK C & RUTH HOCK BROUGHT THE 'SERENITY PRAYER' TO BILL'S ATTENTION.

related to my story. Then over time, I began to keep my story reserved to telling it only when newcomers came to meetings.

As time went on, I continued to attend meetings, including zoom meetings around the country. I found myself at meetings with plenty of newcomers. When the time was right, I would share my story, thinking my story might help someone struggling in the program. Because I almost died from my addiction to alcohol, I hoped that my story might show them if it could happen to me, that maybe it could happen to them. But as time continued on, I realized that if I had listened to someone else's story similar to mine and had just come into AA, I probably wouldn't have listened. I would have thought that cannot happen to me. I'm not that bad. That's my nature as an alcoholic.

Then a few weeks ago at a meeting, someone talked about the reason we hear the same old stories over and over again. They said the stories are to remind that person of where they were and where they are now. If I forget my story and don't share it at meetings, I cannot help a newcomer, or someone struggling, and I won't be helping myself recall where alcohol took me and where it will take me again. Remembering my story and sharing it is very powerful, because when I forget where it took me, alcohol will prove once again that it is cunning, baffling and powerful. Without the help from God, working the steps, and telling my story, I will be vulnerable to alcohol. I can never forget my story, so I will continue to share it at meetings, because this is the easiest way to remember it. - **JG**

- The Troy Welcome Home Group, which meets at St. Jerome's Church on Monday Night at 7p, is now a hybrid meeting.
- The Saturday Night Library Group, which meets at 7:30p in Edwardsville at St. Mary's Catholic Church, is now a hybrid meeting. They are meeting live in the cafeteria.
- The Market Group in Alton is currently meeting at First Presbyterian Church of Alton at Alby St & E 4th St. They will be moving back to St. Paul's in Alton June 21st.
- The St. Jacob Wednesday Night meeting, which meets at 7p, is now a hybrid meeting.
- The Staunton Sunday night AA group is now the Mount Olive Sunday Night Group. They meet on Sunday at 7:30p at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 111 E. Main Street in Mount Olive.

An Inspirational Quote for June



The willingness to grow is the essence of all spiritual development
-Bill W.

June D18 Wordsearch Puzzle

Find all the words hidden in the across, down, and diagonally, with backwards.

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

AFFAIRS
AGNOSTIC
ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS
AWAKENING

CARRY
CONSCIOUS
DEFECTS
DESTRUCTION
GREATER

HONEST
HUMBLY
LENGTH
MESSAGE
MUST

POSSIBLE
POWER
PRACTICE
PRINCIPLES
RESENTMENTS

RESTORE
SANITY
SERVICE
SPIRITUALITY
STEPS

DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT OR A BIRTHDAY IN JULY? PLEASE EMAIL AND/OR SUBMIT INFORMATION TO [INFO@AA-DISTRICT18.ORG](mailto:info@aa-district18.org)

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