

AA District 18 Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 10

July 2021

Breaking News

District 18 news

From the website committee, we have great news! The 12 Step Meeting Guide recently updated their plug-in and is functional again. Upcoming meetings are now showing up again on the website.

Within District 18, meeting changes continue to develop. Some meetings have switched locations, some have gone onto zoom, while others have gone off of zoom. We highly encourage you to visit the District 18 website, located at www.aa-district18.org, to keep up with the number of changes. Meeting changes are listed under Important Announcements on the homepage of the website. Here are some of the recent meeting

D18 News is continued on page 3

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Reasons I am grateful to be free from the grips of alcohol

1. The person in the mirror, is no longer someone I hate.
2. The shame is gone.
3. I can be of maximum service to God and my fellows.
4. I can enjoy long weekends.
5. I can experience joy and sadness.
6. Going to an event without alcohol is no longer boring or to be feared.
7. I no longer am trapped by staying at home as soon as I start drinking. I can go wherever I want, whenever I want.
8. I am finally comfortable in my own skin.
9. The amount of stress drinking caused in my life, is gone.
- 10 I don't have to worry about saying or doing something I regret the next day.
- 11 I no longer awaken at 2a in the morning with my heart pounding.
- 12 I can cope with unforeseen and/ or good events without alcohol

Upcoming Events for July

RALPH M's 44th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

- DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 6TH 2021
- TUESDAY NIGHT NEWCOMERS MEETING
- TIME: 7P
- PLACE: CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE

NEWSLETTER/WEB COMMITTEE MEETING

- DATE: THURSDAY, JULY 8TH 2021
- TIME: 6P
- PLACE: ON ZOOM
 - MEETING ID: 860 4525 2243
 - PASSCODE: 508512

AA UNITY AND SERVICE CONFERENCE

- DATE: JULY 9TH - JULY 11TH 2021
- WHERE: ON ZOOM
- COST: FREE TO REGISTER
- WEBSITE:
 - WWW.UNITYANDSERVICECONFERENCE.ORG/

GSR MEETING-HYBRID

- DATE: SUNDAY, JULY 18TH 2021
- TIME: 2P
- PLACE: AT CSO AND ON ZOOM
 - MEETING ID: 847 7367 1591
 - PASSCODE: 987449

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

THE ILLINOIS STATE AA CONFERENCE

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN JULY AA HISTORY

JULY 1944 - BOB WRITES ARTICLE FOR GRAPEVINE "ON CULTIVATING TOLERANCE".

JULY 2-3, 1955 - 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION AT **St. Louis, MO. THE THREE LEGACIES, OF RECOVERY, UNITY, AND SERVICE, TURNED OVER TO THE MOVEMENT BY THE OLD TIMERS. AA COMES OF AGE.**

JULY 2, 1965 - "BEST OF BILL" AND POCKET-SIZED "12 AND 12" 1ST SOLD.

JULY 2-4, 1965 - ADOPTED "I AM RESPONSIBLE."

JULY 3-5, 1970 - 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF AA IN MIAMI. "DECLARATION OF UNITY". BILL'S LAST PUBLIC APPEARANCE.

JULY 11, 1960 - TIME PUBLISHED ARTICLE CALLED "PASSIONATELY ANONYMOUS" ON THE 25TH CONVENTION.

JULY 15 1938 - 1ST DOCUMENTED USE NAME ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, A.A. ARCHIVES LETTER BILL TO WILLARD RICHARDSON.

JULY 18 1938 - IN LETTER TO DR. RICHARDS AT JOHNS HOPKINS, BILL USED ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AS WORKING TITLE FOR BIG BOOK & NAME FOR THE FELLOWSHIP.

JULY 22, 1877 - WILLIAM DUNCAN SILKWORTH BORN IN BROOKLYN, NY.

JULY 28-30, 1950 - FIRST AA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HELD IN CLEVELAND, OHIO. TWELVE TRADITIONS ADOPTED. DR. BOB MADE LAST APPEARANCE AT LARGE AA GATHERING.



Freedom to me today is very different from what I thought it was two years ago, when I walked through the doors of AA. Freedom used to be when, how, and how much alcohol I was going to consume to run from my problems or emotions, and how much alcohol was going to consume me. The freedom to get drunk on every holiday with the freedom from regret of denying the people that love me, the lives they deserve. This self-centered version of freedom almost cost me everything; including my freedom. Freedom to skip work and Church because I was too hungover; what a false sense of freedom and a waste of a life.

Today, freedom is to be a vessel for God; to do His will through me. To be able to go to meetings, and learn openly and willingly; to be able to honestly share. The freedom to have sobriety, is the most important aspect of my life besides my relationship with my higher power.

God has given me back my freedom today to join my fellow AA's on the broad highway and everyday, to look within for my higher power and embrace him. I choose to use my freedom to be part of AA, and to do His will as He sees fit. I don't know about most AAers, but for me PTSD and anxiety also play a part in my life. To be totally free of the bondage of self and alcohol is such a blessing. I am eternally grateful to God, my Sponsor, AA, and my family for allowing me true freedom to be a part of this life again. **-Shell**

changes that you need to be aware of, within our district.

New in-person meeting!

- The Grateful Rabbit Group meets on Wednesday in Hillsboro, IL at 6p at the Black Rabbit Coffee Shop.

Recent meeting changes

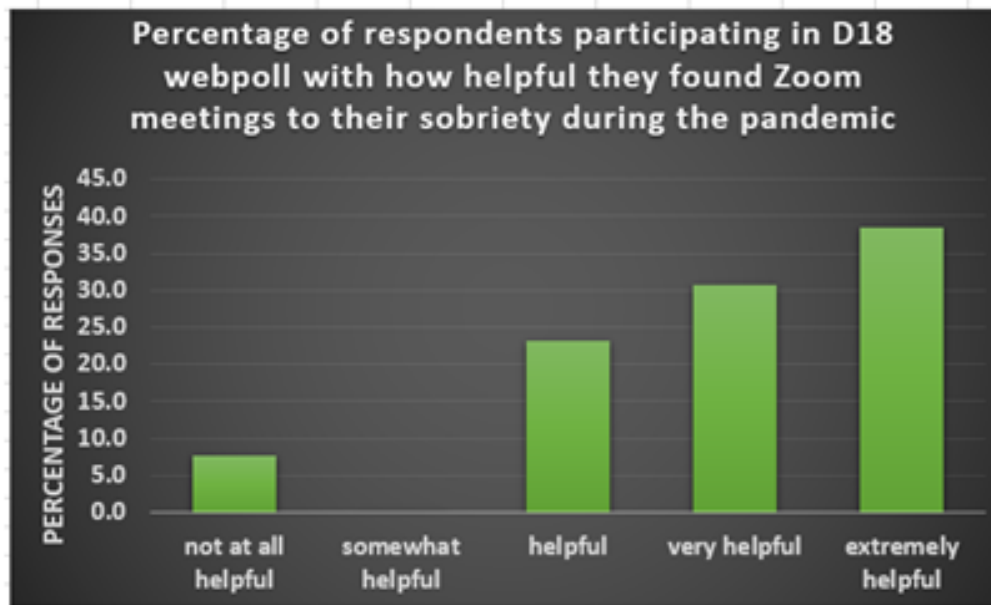
- The Ladies in Recovery Big Book Study, which meets on Tuesday at 6p in Glen Carbon, has their last in-person meeting July 6th. They **will only be meeting on zoom after July 7th the remainder of July.**
- The AA Meeting 12 Step Study in Collinsville, which meets on Saturday at 9a, will be moving to St. John's evangelical Church until mid/late September due to remodeling.
- The Tuesday Night Group that used to meet at Trinity Church in Edwardsville at 8p is moving and is now hybrid! Their new location is Main Street Community Center in Edwardsville. They request parking and entering in the back of the building.
- Monday and Wednesday Morning Miracles in Glen Carbon are now in person meetings only
- Alton Wednesday Night has moved back to First Presbyterian Church at 4th and Alby
- Friday Night Back to Basics in Edwardsville at 7p is now an in-person meeting.
- The Early Bird Group that meets on Tuesday in Edwardsville is now an open meeting.
- The Tuesday Night Serenity Group which meets in Maryville at 7p, is now a hybrid meeting.

Results of June 2021 web poll

In June, we asked our website and newsletter readers to participate in a webpoll regarding how helpful the Zoom meetings were to their sobriety. Participants of this poll went to the D18 website and could participate in the poll from 6/8/21-7/3/21.

Out of 13 total responses, one person (7.7%) found Zoom meetings not helpful. Zero people (0%) found Zoom meetings somewhat helpful. Three people (23.1%) found Zoom meetings helpful. Four people found Zoom meetings very helpful (30.8%), while five people found Zoom meetings extremely helpful (38.5%).

The results of this poll suggest that the majority of people participating found Zoom meetings were helpful to their sobriety during the pandemic. Thank you to all those that participated!



Where in the Big Book is... quiz? On which pages in the Big Book are the following located? Answers are located below and are upside-down.

1. How it works
2. The promises
3. The 12 Traditions
4. Step 3 prayer
5. Acceptance is the key
6. The Jumping Off Place
7. On awakening, what we do
8. Why not to rest on your laurels
9. Selfishness, Self-centeredness is the root...

Answers: 1. Starts on page 58, 2. Page 83-84, 3. Page 562, 4. Page 63, 5. Page 417, 6. Page 152, 7. Page 86, 8. Page 85, 9. Page 62

DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT OR A BIRTHDAY IN AUGUST? PLEASE EMAIL AND/OR SUBMIT INFORMATION TO 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

**THE 2021 ILLINOIS STATE
CONFERENCE PRESENTS:**

Somewhat Talented

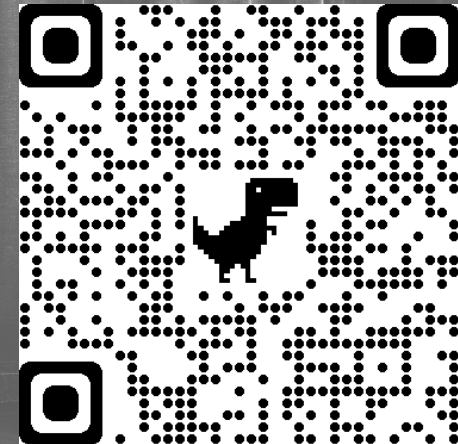
**PRE-RECORD YOUR HIDDEN TALENT & WE
WILL DEBUT IT AT THE ILLINOIS STATE
CONFERENCE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH**

Deadline to submit is July, 31st

**SCAN OR CLICK QR CODE
FOR RECORDING DIRECTIONS
& TO UPLOAD YOUR VIDEO**



**NEED FURTHER INFORMATION? EMAIL US:
AAFAMILYAFTERWARD@GMAIL.COM**



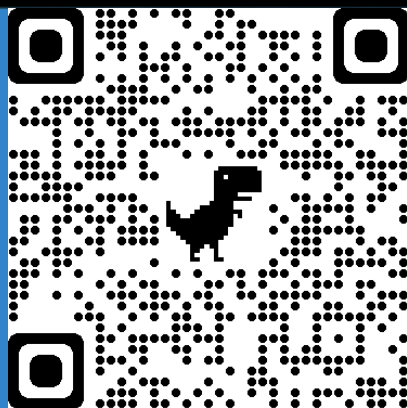
We are looking for Home Groups that would like to perform an "AA Sitcom" skit!



Your Home Group's pre-recorded Sitcoms will debut on Friday, August 27th



THE 2021 ILLINOIS STATE CONFERENCE



Deadline to submit videos is July 31st

SCAN OR CLICK QR CODE ABOVE FOR RECORDING DIRECTIONS & HOW TO SUBMIT



NEED FURTHER INFORMATION?
EMAIL US:
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