

SOBER TIMES NEWSLETTER

News from around District 26, Area 32

February 2019

INFO-LINE 866-227-0015

Website: www.dist26aa.org



"The purpose of District 26 Unity Council is to educate AA Groups and the public on AA Principles and promote harmony among AA Groups thru the practice of A.A.'s 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. We are a fellowship of alcoholics from different Groups within the District that encourage participation and service."

District 26 Unity Council will next meet Saturday
February 16 at 10:00 am at Faith Lutheran
5315 Henderson Lake Rd, Skidway, MI

Bill Wilson's Conference Talk,
Panel 16, 1966
Personality in a Framework of Principles

There are very few absolutes in the A.A. program. We shoot for absolute sobriety; for absolute anonymity at the top level; for an absolute membership (the guy's a member if he says so). The rest are open to interpretation. So, let us not put an interpretation upon this valued slogan "principles before personalities" that would make us for one moment suppose that personality as such is always to be eliminated, and that the more we can resemble meek ciphers, the greater the virtue, the greater the comfort, the greater the stability. Because you see, really, from beginning to end, all of our relationships — all of the fruitful ones — are very personal. When you or I call on a new Twelfth Step job, it's a very personal business. And you're entitled to use all of your powers of example and persuasion with the prospect — you cannot do less. It is a highly personal business.

STEP TWO: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Therefore, Step Two is a rallying point for all of us. Whether agnostic, atheist, or former believer, we can stand together on this step. True humility and an open mind can lead us to faith, and every AA meeting is an assurance that God will restore us to sanity if we rightly relate ourselves to Him. *12&12 pg. 33*

TRADITION TWO: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Where does AA get its direction? Who runs it? This too is a puzzler for every friend and new member. These practical folk then read Tradition Two and learn that the sole authority is a loving God as He may express Himself in the group conscience. they commence to watch us with speculative eyes, pick up a fragment of AA history, and soon have the solid facts. *12&12 pg. 132*

Concept TWO: The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in world affairs.

But if the groups were to carry on their primary purpose, they would have to delegate their leadership role to a General Service Conference. They do this by electing a General Service Representative for each group. These GSRs meet regularly in area assemblies and every two years elect a delegate from among their number. Every April, the delegates from the 91 areas in the US and Canada meet for six days with the trustees of the General Service Board, the staffs of the General service Office and the A.A. Grapevine and other service workers. Thus, this General Service Conference of A.A. is "the actual voice and effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs."

The 12 Concepts for World service illustrated