

SOBER TIMES September 2020



News from around District 26

Web site: <http://dist26aa.org>

AA Information: 866-227-0015

“The purpose of the District 26 Unity Council is to educate AA groups and the public on AA principles and to promote harmony among AA groups through the practice of the AA 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. We are a fellowship of alcoholics from different groups within the District that encourages participation and service”

The District 26 Unity Council Meeting will be September 19. Starts at 10:00 am but come early for fellow -ship coffee and doughnuts. Clare Congregational Church 110 W Fifth Street

Come to Clare Sept 19 and share how your Group and it's members are holding up during this most difficult time. Are we providing a safe and healthy environment for Alcoholics to recover from alcoholism. Are we providing this most valuable service? Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

Speaking of service. Have I taken a look to see if my service to Alcoholics Anonymous is in proportion with the needs of my family, my recovering community, my community as a whole, and maintenance of my own spiritual condition.

Looking at the coin in my pocket, I read: Recovery, Unity, Service. All three add up to a balanced recovering person. Page 29, 30 in the pamphlet has a Group Inventory. I took the test regarding me instead of the Group. There is room to improve, I am sure, for all of us.

In service *A. E. Newman*

Step Nine: Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

There may be some wrongs we can never fully right. We don't worry about them if we can honestly say to ourselves that we would right them if we could. Some people cannot be seen--we sent them an honest letter. And there may be a valid reason for postponement in some cases. But we don't delay if it can be avoided. We should be sensible, tactful, considerate and humble without being servile or scraping. As God's people we stand on our feet; we don't crawl before anyone.

Tradition Nine: A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve. The words, "Keep it Simple" were the last words Bill W. heard from his fellow founder of A.A. shortly before Dr. Bob's death in 1950. Aware that "it" meant our recovery program, Bill later wrote, "we need to distinguish sharply between spiritual simplicity and functional simplicity,,,,, when we get into questions of actions by groups, by Areas and by AA as a whole, we find the we must to some extent organize to carry the message - or else face chaos, and chaos is not simplicity.

Concept Nine: Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

Good point. Many of us have a service sponsor, only because the Service part of the Recovery, Unity, and Service triangle can get skewed and out of balance at times. Recovery it's self is primary in early days and the unity we experience with other recovering friends is paramount. But the service can get out of balance, either over stressed or abandoned at times. A service sponsor can help keep us in check.