

Intergroup Concerns



Quarterly Newsletter Spring Edition 2022: June, July, August

Peoria Area Intergroup

329 East Lake St., #4
Peoria, IL 61614
Aapeoria.org
peoriaintergroup@sbcglocal.net

24-Hour Hotline

(309)687-1329

Office Hours:

Mon – Fri, 9am to 5pm
Sat – 9am to noon
Sun – 9am to 5pm

Closed Holidays

Holiday Closings:

July 4, Independence Day

During the pandemic, our hours may fluctuate. Please call for updates.

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I Wanted My Hell to End

My name is Molly, and I am an alcoholic and addict. My sobriety date is July 19, 2021. What happened can be summed up pretty quickly. I lost my brother, my dad, my marriage, and to say I spiraled was an understatement. I used alcohol and stimulants to try to “control” whatever I felt I had left.

My spiral was mostly twists and turns until I plummeted to my bottom and couldn’t crawl back out. I ended up in the psych ward. After my psych ward stay, I told my sister that I tried everything I could. I just wanted the nightmare to be over. She simply told me, “You haven’t tried it sober”, so I agreed to give it one more shot.

I went to rehab for a month, rested, and when I returned home, I felt my depression was cured! I was still young, single, and ready to start having fun again. I was quickly reminded that it was not fun anymore, and quite frankly, it never was. I relapsed again.

(Continued on p. 12)

From the desk of Peoria Area Intergroup:

Hello Friends! I hope that you are all enjoying this beautiful weather.

We are trudging right along here at the office. We are in need of some office volunteers. The team we have is terrific!! We couldn't operate without them. Currently we have openings on Wednesday mornings, Friday afternoons, and the 1st Saturday of the month. The pay is terrible but the benefits are amazing!! If you have time and interest in working at the store/office, please contact me. We really need your help!!

Our last fundraiser was a great success and we are so grateful for your support. We are planning a smaller event for this coming fall. If you would like to help with the event, contact the office. A flyer will be coming out soon with details about the planning meeting.

The office/shop is fully stocked. Stop by when you are out and about and take a look at what we have to offer. Or just have a cup of coffee and say hello.

In love and service, Jane P.



Nurse: "He swallowed & digested a big chunk of truth about himself".

Doc: "I have seen this before. AA's 4th & 5th Steps"

AA Intergroup Association Preamble

In solemn affirmation of the letter and spirit of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and placing all our activities under the guidance of a Higher Power, the various groups of Alcoholics Anonymous hereby establish an Intergroup Association.

The purposes of the Association are:

1. To perform those functions which are common to the aims of all groups of Alcoholics Anonymous.
2. To assist in the education of the general public concerning the disease alcoholism and the role of A.A. in combating the disease.
3. To assist alcoholics and their families.
4. To maintain a conveniently located office in which paid workers and volunteers are available to carry the A.A. message.
5. To act as a clearing house for the circulation and exchange of information among all the A.A. groups of the Association.
6. To receive inquiries from those seeking help and refer them to the appropriate group where sponsorship can be arranged, or to other appropriate organizations and agencies.
7. To publish and distribute, at regular intervals, up-to-date list of meetings and other information about local A.A. services.

I Am Responsible

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that:

I Am Responsible

Elected Board Members

Chairman of the Board: Matt B.

Vice Chairman: Susan M.

Treasurer: Dick S.

Secretary: David Hays

Director at Large: Dawne Mc.

Director at Large: Zach F.

Director at Large: Bill C.

Director at Large: Darren D.

Director at Large: Steve R.

Office Manager: Jane P.

Office Volunteers:

Mark R., Rita D., Fred L., Judy L.,
Larry S., Melanie, George Pu.,
and Alex.

Thank you to all those listed above. We also wish to thank all the intergroup representatives for your service to PAIA and tending to the needs of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Service Opportunities in District 6

Archives: Have an interest in AA history and the idea of preserving our history? George P. has plenty of opportunities for volunteers! (309) 643-0092.

Corrections: Do you have a desire to help with corrections? Contact (309)687-1329.

Grapevine: Darren D. is the chairperson. AA's International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous is our connection to the world of AA. Call (309) 360-8186 to find out more.

Hospitals & Institutions Committee: Kevin H. chairs this committee and has been working hard at connecting local AA with treatment centers during the pandemic.

Intergroup is looking for volunteers! Call Jane P. at (309) 687-1329.

Public Outreach: Call intergroup for more information.

Cooperation with the Professional Community: does not have a chairperson. If you are interested in helping connect AA with the professional community, we need you!

Unity & Fellowship needs your help. They are looking for volunteers to put together events in District 6 that would involve members of all AA clubs and meetings.

Workshops Committee: a chairperson is needed to put on informative, fun workshops for the community.

Schedule of Service Meetings 2022

Peoria Area Intergroup at 329 E. Lake Street, #4, Peoria

Board Meeting: June 16, 2022, at 6pm

Steering Committee Meeting: July 21, 2022, at 6pm

Board Meeting: August 18, 2022, at 6pm

Unity & Fellowship: Meeting held the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm at 329 E. Lake Street, #4, Peoria.

District '6' Meetings: Third Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm except when there are Area meetings. Hybrid (In-person & Zoom) meetings. Locations to be announced.

Southern Illinois Area 21: March, June, September, and December. Locations, dates, and times to be announced.

Peoria Area Intergroup After Hours Coverage

The following groups have volunteered to take care of the 24-hour AA hotline when the intergroup office is closed:

- Hilltop May 26 – June 1
- Pioneer June 2 – June 8
- Pekin Celestial..... June 9 – June 15
- New Beginnings June 16 – June 22
- Sunnyland Phoenix June 23 – June 29
- Chillicothe Riverside June 30 – July 6
- Lakers..... July 7 – July 13
- Morton Stone Jug July 14 – July 20
- Wake Up Call July 21 – July 27
- Share Clean Air July 28 – August 3
- Alano Valley August 4 – August 10
- Hilltop August 11 – August 17

After signing up, be sure you have the most recent copy of the 12-step volunteer list and a current AA meeting list.

Thank you for being the “face” of AA when our office is not open. We are so lucky to have volunteers available to answer our phones 24/7. When anyone calls for help, the hand of AA is there to answer the call.

When you see the sign-up sheet at your group, please volunteer. You never know how much it can help the still suffering alcoholic.

It just doesn’t get any better than that!



Last Quarter Intergroup Activity:

March	
Visitors	123
Phone Calls	86
E-Mails	165
12-Step Calls	3
April	
Visitors	88
Phone Calls	71
E-Mails	162
12-Step Calls	10
May	
Visitors	79
Phone Calls	83
E-Mails	153
12-Step Calls	6
TOTAL	
Visitors	290
Phone Calls	240
E-Mails	480
12-Step Calls	19



Sober Anniversaries



March 2022:

Brett 27 yrs
 Kerry O 31 yrs
 Dan E 14 yrs
 Lucky 46 yrs
 Dave R 45 yrs
 Rob C 31 yrs
 Bob N 22 yrs
 Gena A 7 yrs
 Steve R 3 yrs
 Sheila D 10 yrs
 Paul W 6 yrs
 Jess C 3 yrs
 Richard R 7 yrs
 Sallie B 1 yrs

March 2022:

Howard M 53 yrs
 Bob P 29 yrs
 Mike R 2 yrs
 Rob 26 yrs
 Dee V 6 yrs
 Ed Z 9 yrs
 Randy J 6 yrs
 Joe R 21 yrs
 Greg N 2 yrs
 Lauren S 5 yrs
 Rob 26 yrs
 Julie G 2 yrs
 Ed Z 9 yrs
 Bill B 38 yrs

March 2022:

Trish W 13 yrs
 Brian S 2 yrs
 Steve W 23 yrs
 Jake S 9 yrs
 Barbara C 2 yrs
 Rita D 2 yrs
 Marybeth McF .. 3 yrs
 Dennis M 17 yrs
 Tom H 14 yrs
 Dave N 11 yrs
 Sunshine 1 yrs
 Eddie U 22 yrs
 Camille S 5 yrs
 Steven 11 yrs

Just for Fun...

Scrambled AA

1. ERITEYNS _____
2. VYEEROCR _____
3. RGOUAEC _____
4. MODWIS _____
5. MLICOLAHSO _____
6. NREEPCIEXE _____
7. GNRSTETH _____
8. TENOSH _____
9. SSNEINIWLGL _____
10. NENEODPMID _____
11. TEDGRAUTI _____
12. OOJSYU _____



Sober Anniversaries



April 2022:

Dan B.....26 yrs
 Wonny.....2 yrs
 Destinee4 yrs
 Anita K.....7 yrs
 Rich G8 yrs
 Michael R1 yrs
 Marshall D.....21 yrs
 Suzanne M.....34 yrs
 Curt P10 yrs
 Linda E.....37 yrs
 Toni G.....35 yrs
 Larry F? yrs
 Anita K.....7 yrs
 Art Y.....33 yrs
 Scott M.....36 yrs
 Vincent A.....11 yrs
 Pam R24 yrs
 Aaron F.....38 yrs
 Mark K.....4 yrs
 James M4 yrs
 Larry P38 yrs
 Lee S.....32 yrs
 Marjie W6 yrs
 Mike C7 yrs
 Gabbi.....1 yrs

May 2022:

Veronica B.....1 yrs
 Robin N.....6 yrs
 Lonnie S.....41 yrs
 Harold S.....20 yrs
 Ruby K23 yrs
 Jack T.....50 yrs
 Jessica C2 yrs
 Neil35 yrs
 Gary E.....41 yrs
 Dee Dee S.....2 yrs
 Evie B.....13 yrs
 Paulie B1 yrs
 Frankie23 yrs
 Harold S.....20 yrs
 Martin14 yrs
 Mike P2 yrs
 Jason K20 yrs
 Kristen H.....8 yrs
 Lisa P9 yrs
 Natasha1 yrs
 Donnie B.....7 yrs
 Art Y.....33 yrs
 Scott M.....36 yrs

May 2022:

Angel.....33 yrs
 Brian T1 yrs
 Cole C.....1 yrs
 Bret S2 yrs
 Joan R1 yrs
 Ty.....4 yrs
 Amber C.....1 yrs
 Randy J6 yrs
 Bob B29 yrs
 Dave R45 yrs
 Adam M.....5 yrs
 Leonard L.....10 yrs
 Sallie B1 yrs
 Kimm M19 yrs
 Rob C31 yrs
 Tony H11 yrs
 Nate S2 yrs
 Mike C.....32 yrs
 Sherlynn M32 yrs
 Theresa.....1 yrs
 Jessica C.....2 yrs
 Sue H44 yrs
 Johnette15 yrs

Celebrating Years of Sobriety	
March	622
April	426
May	721
TOTAL YEARS	1,769

Congratulations!



Peoria Area Intergroup Association

ASSETS (as of 31 May 2022)

Checking.....	\$8,135
Prudent Reserve	\$8,281
Accounts Receivable	\$499
Inventory.....	\$7,702
Total Assets	\$24,617

LIABILITIES (as of 28 Feb 2022)

Credit Card.....	\$69
Vendors.....	\$584
Total Liabilities	\$653

2022 Total Year to Date (as of 31 May 2022)

INCOME

Group Contributions.....	\$5,579
Walk in & Misc. Contributions.....	\$503
District 6 Rent	\$250
Dividend Income.....	\$0
Spring & Fall Event Revenue.....	\$10,455
Literature / Merchandise Income.....	\$6,235
Total Income	\$23,022

EXPENSES

Advertising.....	(245)
Bank Charges	(0)
Credit Card Fees.....	(195)
Miscellaneous	(0)
Spring & Fall Event Expense	(5,003)
Illinois Sales Tax	(378)
Insurance	(0)
Literature Expense.....	(2,867)
Office Supplies / Newsletter.....	(906)
Contract Labor	(6,300)
Postage	(86)
Rent.....	(1,900)
Phone / Comcast.....	(956)
Tax Prep	(101)
Website.....	(0)
Total Expenses	(\$18,937)
Net Income (Loss)	\$4,085

The Search for Serenity

Francine went to a wise person in search of serenity. The wise person sent her on a journey. "Climb to the top of that mountain in the distance. At the peak, you will find a cabin, and in the cabin you will find a bottle, and in the bottle you will find a duck. Get the duck out of the bottle without harming the duck or the bottle, and in the process, you will find serenity. I will come to visit you in a week!"

Francine set off on her search. Indeed, she made it to the top of the mountain and found a cabin. Inside the cabin was a bottle with a duck inside. But how to get the duck out of the bottle without harming either was puzzling to say the least. Days of worry and confusion began turning into frustration and anger. By the end of one week, Francine was stressed and anxious.

The wise person stopped by, noticed the duck was still in the bottle, and said, "I will give you another week. Then I will come to check on you."

But a week later, poor Francine was full of even more worry, anxiety, stress, and anger. She had even begun to doubt her abilities. A seemingly impossible puzzle was sitting beside her, quacking at her and no answer remotely in sight. The duck was still in the bottle. The wise person stopped by, saw Francine's situation, and asked about serenity. Francine said she still hadn't figured out what to do about the duck and the bottle. The wise person realized that Francine needed more time to figure out the puzzle.

When the wise person returned at the end of the third week, Francine was sitting outside, humming and enjoying the view from the mountain top. She was peaceful and content. The wise person, noticing that the duck was sitting by her side and still inside the bottle, asked Francine, "What have you learned?" Francine replied, "I've learned that this is not my duck, not my bottle, and not my problem!" Ahh, serenity!



Peoria Area Intergroup 2022 Budget

Even though Intergroup has their own fundraiser once a year, they still rely heavily on group donations to balance the budget and serve AA members in the community. Without group contributions, the Intergroup office would experience a shortfall each year.

	Annual
<u>INCOME</u>	
Group Donations.....	\$12,000
District 6 Rent	\$600
Fundraiser Revenue	\$12,000
Gross Literature Income Group	\$9,000
Gross Literature Income Walk-In.....	\$11,000
Miscellaneous	\$2,100
	Total Income \$47,700
<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Literature Expense & Sales Tax.....	\$16,000
Fundraiser Expenses	\$2,500
Fixed Costs	\$21,340
Variable Costs	\$2,250
	Total Expenses \$45,300

“Self-support begins with me because I am part of us—the group. We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks and A.A. literature. We support our central office, our area committee, and our General Service Office. If it were not for those entities, many new people would never discover the miracles of A.A.”

Twelfth Step work is the lifeblood of Alcoholics Anonymous – carrying the message to the next suffering alcoholic. Without it, the Fellowship would wither and die. Yet, even at its simplest level this vital contact between one alcoholic and another involves an investment of time and money.

(From the pamphlet: “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Work



Just for Fun...

OUR GROUPS

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

TREATMENT CENTER
GRANVILLE SOBRENITY
MINIER MASH
GATEWAY TO SERENITY
WE ARE NOT SAINTS
PRIMARY PURPOSE
ALANO VALLEY
THE WAKE UP CALL
NEW BEGINNINGS
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

HOPEDALE HOPE
COMMUNITY HOUSE
MACOMB MIDDAY GROUP
WASHINGTON VALLEY FORGE
ALL THREE SIDES
JOURNEY
PEKIN SERENITY
CHILLICOTHE RIVERSIDE
PIONEER

LEWISTON
MARSHALL PUTNAM
CANTON DOWNTOWNERS
LAKERS
SUNNYLAND PHOENIX
MORTON STONE JUG
PEKIN CELESTIAL
HILLTOP
SHARE CLEAN AIR

Volunteer for the 12 Step Call List!

When our volunteers answer our 24-hour phone line, we may have a need to connect the caller with a member of Alcoholics Anonymous for additional help. If you are looking for some service work, please consider being a volunteer for the 12-step call list. Please call (309)687-1329 for more information.



I Wanted My Hell to End - cont'd

After my third relapse, I shared my failure at a meeting at Share Clean Air. I sobbed and felt sorry for myself, and a fellow alcoholic shared with me that it was never about living or dying for them, it was about getting out of hell. It was the first time someone told me something that made sense. I didn't want my life to end, I wanted my hell to end.

I have not had a drink since that meeting. It has been ten months. I got a taste of serenity and it has me reaching for more. I got into service work and started to put a little more faith and love in others. I was sober and now I am starting to recover.

I now understand the difference between sobriety and recovery. For me, recovery is progress. Progress in the way I treat others and the way I treat myself. Recovery for me is also about gratitude. I am grateful for the fellowship and the people that love me until I learn to love myself. I am grateful for the balance of healthy control I have over my life and trusting my higher power to take care of the rest. And I am grateful I can take it just one day at a time.

Molly F.

Upcoming Events (more information available at aapeoria.org, calendar of events)

Unity & Fellowship FAMILY PICNIC:

June 4, 2022
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
West Park Shelter, 300 Springfield Road
East Peoria, IL 61611

SIA Area 21 Assembly

Head Start Family Building
233 Leadley Avenue, East Peoria IL 61611
Hybrid: in-person or online
Beginning June 5th @ 9:00 AM

Founders Day Celebration

Campout @ Lake Storey

Sponsored by New Beginnings

Thursday June 9 – Sunday June 12, 2022
Lake Storey - Galesburg
1351 S Lake Storey Road, Galesburg, IL 61402

SAVE THE DATE: New Beginnings Hog Roast is coming soon!!

Saturday, September 10, 2022
Headstart Community Center
233 Leadley Avenue, East Peoria, IL 61611
Pulled Pork provided, bring a dish to share
Big Screen TV Raffle – tickets available now!

Potluck Speaker Meetings:

Canton Downtowners – last Monday of Month
New Beginnings Breakfast Mtg – Every Saturday
New Beginnings Potluck – 2nd Sunday of Month
New Beginnings Pizza – 4th Sunday of Month
Marshall Putnam – 3rd Friday of Month
Pekin Celestial – 3rd Friday of Month
Hilltop – will announce - Saturday of Month



12 Traditions Workshop

Share Clean Air is holding a monthly Traditions Workshop. This workshop will cover one tradition per month. There will be open discussion and members are encouraged to bring the Twelve and Twelve book and other material (Grapevine, Bill W articles, etc.) that relate to how each tradition was formed and why. The workshop is being held on the third Saturday of every month from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM.

Share Clean Air
4700 N. University
(behind Joann Fabric)



(Not So) Great Expectations

One of the first memories I have as a child is asking my dad whether he valued my “help” as he worked on various home improvement projects around our house. While reality more likely resembled the time I ended up falling into freshly poured concrete as a 5-year-old, I was always given the validation that I was seeking. While I don’t believe this sort of behavior is necessarily uncommon or concerning, recent self-reflection leads me to believe that even as a child I struggled with the sort of thinking that would turn out to be a liability later in life.

I was blessed as a child, raised in a middle-class family with daily love and support. I excelled in schoolwork but failed miserably on a social level when it came to my peers. I vividly recall walking the halls of various middle schools wondering why I felt so out of place and alone. I became convinced I had nothing to offer my fellow schoolmates and went forward into high school a loner, hating the inward and awkward person that I had become. When I reached the age of sixteen, I finally found a way to fit in, drinking and drugging. I also took to the art of lying with the same effort as I had to pushing the limits of drugs and alcohol. Experimentation with altering my mind was the new measure of success, and I would spend the first decades of my adult life succeeding mostly at achieving chemical dependence and little more. Disappointment became normal and expectations my enemy- a cruel measure of success I could never quite achieve. Then there was a point when the dependence took away my ability to choose how I would spend my time and resources – eventually jeopardizing my life and my freedom.

It was the gift of desperation along with a great deal of providence that I found my way into Alcoholics Anonymous. It was there that I found hope and people that gave so much with no expectation of anything in return. There was also laughter, camaraderie, and a sense of belonging – all while staying sober - that kept me coming through the doors. Eventually I would take to those very important suggestions – stay sober, get a sponsor, and work the steps! It was through that process I could finally begin to see how my self-centered thinking had kept me in spiritual darkness. I came to believe – to understand the power that faith could play in my life. I was recently reminded how easily expectations lead to resentments, and how often I took the expectations of others and made them my own. Today I can go forward knowing that child who sought validation all those years ago *was* helping his dad – just in ways he will never know.

Matt T

Spotlight on Books

As Bill Sees It: Selected writings from the cofounder of AA touch nearly every aspect of AA's way of life. An aid to individual meditation and a stimulant to group discussion, *As Bill Sees It* contains 332 short writings with topics indexed for quick access. A source of comfort and inspiration, this collection of Bill W's writings addresses themes such as acceptance, gratitude and spirituality. Excerpted from the Big Book, the "Twelve and Twelve", Grapevine and other AA literature.



Twenty Four Hours a Day: Since 1954, *Twenty Four Hours a Day* has become a stable force in the recovery of many alcoholics throughout the world. This book offers daily thoughts, meditations, and prayers for living a clean and sober life. A spiritual resource with practical applications to fit our daily lives.

"For yesterday is but a dream, and tomorrow is only a vision" is part of the Sanskrit proverb quoted at the beginning of the book which has become one of the basic building blocks for a life of sobriety."

Members Share: *What action have you taken in your recovery today?*

"I showed up for a meeting and I didn't drink. I asked God to make me an instrument of his peace. I contemplated the ideas of the prayer of St. Francis, asking that I seek not to be consoled, but to console, that I seek to understand rather than be understood. I reminded myself that the relief of a drink is an illusion, and that to grow I have to go through the tough things and rely on God, not the bottle. *Abigail L.*

"I have had a hard time getting to meetings lately. I talk to friends in the program and try not to isolate, but it is hard. Today I called a friend and made a plan to attend a meeting this week."
Anonymous

"I called my sponsor, chaired a meeting and attended a few meetings. I signed up to answer phones for the hotline. I like to keep busy with meetings."
Anonymous

"I picked up books at the Intergroup for my group. I help others with their sobriety by sponsoring and sharing experience strength and hope. Help others!" *Robin S.*



Contributions Needed!

Our newsletter would love your AA related:

- Cover Stories
- Writings, poems
- Jokes, AA Quips
- History/Trivia
- Experience Strength & Hope
- Events, Updates

Please send your contributions to

peoriaintergroup@sbcglobal.net



"And then I said "you read that preamble or I will rip your face off".

Possible Meeting Topics?

The following quotes are from the book *The Language of the Heart*.

"Making this plainer, let's look for a moment at a single AA member. Faith alone does not save him. He has to act, do something. He must carry his message to others, practice AA principles in all his affairs. Else he slips, he withers, and he dies. Look now at the AA group. Can pure faith, mere belief in right principle and sound tradition make the group a going concern? Not in the least. Each AA group, as such, must also function, do something. It must serve its appointed purpose or it, too, withers and falls apart." Page 129

"It is always worthwhile to consider how grossly that good word acceptance can be misused. It can be warped to justify nearly every brand of weakness, nonsense, and folly. For instance, we can "accept" failure as a chronic condition, forever without profit or remedy. We can "Accept" worldly success pridefully, as something wholly of our own making. We can "Accept" illness and death as certain evidence of a hostile and godless universe. With these twistings of acceptance, we AAs have had vast experience. Hence, we constantly try to remind ourselves that these perversions of acceptance are just gimmicks for excuse making: a losing game at which we are, or at least have been, the world's champions." Page 270

"Our traditions are set down on paper. But they were written first in our hearts. For each of us knows, instinctively I think, that AA is not ours to do with as we please. We are but caretakers to preserve the spiritual quality of our Fellowship; Keep it whole for those who will come after us and have need of what has so generously been given to us." Page 124