

District 22 Newsletter

2020
JANUARY



LORD
LOVE A
DUCK



CONCEPT
ONE BY
BRIAN H.

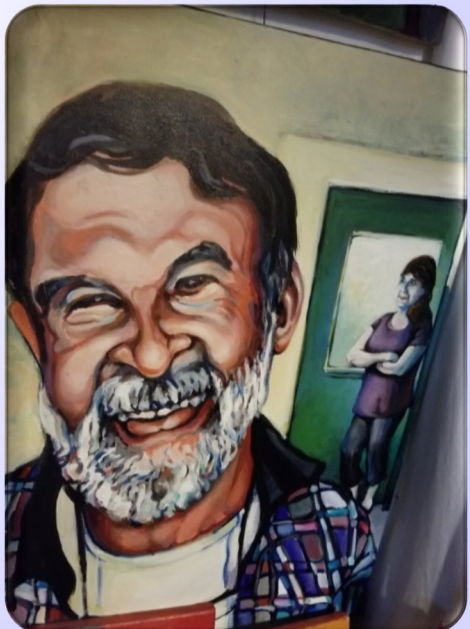
CALENDAR
OF
EVENTS

THE CORNERSTONE

Lord Love a Duck

*Lord love a duck, I'm flat out of luck, My troubles seem many and strange
And though I am willing, Change can be chilling, And sometimes out of my range
Try as I might, Not to argue and fight, I find myself doing the same
Though it brings no relief, Only frustration and grief, And sometime incredible shame
So I've nothing to lose, Only drugs, guilt and booze, For trying to be honest and straight
When my anger's no good, I'll try chopping wood, And myself I will try not to hate
From my father and mother, To my sisters and brother, Of this disease they are not yet free
To my children and spouse, Who still live in my house, I can change only, that is me
Lord love a duck, What incredible luck, This thing I think I can do
One day at time, Recovery is mine, Through the love I've received from you.*

By Dave M.



HOMEBOUND?

Are you or some you know stuck at home and unable to get to meetings?

We can provide transportation to and from meetings **OR** bring a meeting into your home.

For more information, contact the District 22 Accessibility volunteer at 650-339-0438 or email to tspanat@gmail.com

KEEP THESE HANDY

District meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7 PM, on Myrtle St

District 22 Website: NOPAA.com;

District 22 AA Hotline: (360) 452-4212

AA General Service Office: aa.org

Western Washington Area 72 website: area72aa.org

Well, Who's Supposed To Be In Charge Around Here? Or, Concept One, Considered

(Opinions expressed here are the contributing member's own and are not intended to represent any official position of Alcoholic Anonymous)

"Who was in charge?" That's always a pertinent question for any group working to achieve a goal, whether they're trying to run a restaurant, impeach a president, or offer a program of recovery for alcoholism. But it's an even better question when there are thousands of "offices" or centers of operation which cut across many of the world's languages and cultures. And then, to add a few thorns to the problem, each of those centers of operation enjoys their own autonomy. That means throughout AA you'd have a dizzying variety of colorful, at times unique, interpretations of the Steps and Traditions... a surefire formula for confusion and disunity. And ineffectiveness.

When AA got started, Bill and Bob could field these questions personally, and did. They were in charge. Let's say your group at the time was divided about what to do with the street drunk who drifts in and out of the meeting, apparently more interested in a free cup of warm coffee than in recovery. He won't get a sponsor; he complains-at length- at every meeting about what's wrong with this country today and smells awful besides. At that early time, a member could call on Bill or Bob and find out what their thoughts were on how to apply the principles of AA to his group's concerns.

That works when you've got a handful of local groups. But at some point, before there are thousands of them spread all over the map, it's impractical. Then too, it became apparent that AA was not just the current "thing", a flash in the pan whose lifespan was looking to be no longer than that of the founders. Bill and Bob weren't going to be able to answer the phone forever- so the groups' need for some kind of leadership or authority would outlive them if the vigorous, early growth of AA was any indication.

When Dr. Bob died, the writing was on the wall for Bill. As the poet said "Things fall apart. The center cannot hold. Anarchy is loosed upon the world" Rather than have the multitudes of (autonomous) AA groups spin off, each in their own unguided directions. (until a member from Sioux Falls wouldn't even recognize the Omaha version of AA) Bill had an idea. Let the members in their groups be the Authority. It was Concept 1.

It provides for the groups to get together, choose a representative delegate to an annual conference. Those delegates by their conference actions are the guardians of the AA Traditions in world service. The "long" form of the Concept is just a single sentence. It's a remarkable expression of faith and of focused intent. You don't often see so many absolutes in so few words: The groups' delegates carrying the collective conscience of those groups have the final responsibility and ultimate authority for AA world services (which) should always reside in the collective conscience of the whole fellowship.

Now, are there any questions about that?

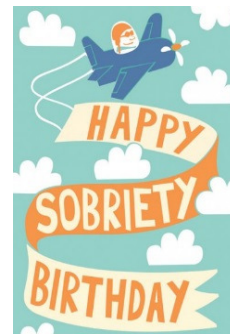
Did you like Brian's write up about Concept One? You knew there are 12 Concepts, right? Just like the 12 Steps and 12 Tradition?

Each month I will be asking past DCMs for their take on a specific Concept. Maybe we will both learn something more about AA and our Concepts, how they are used to guide those doing service work. Enjoy!

Brian H., Past DCM

The 2020 Inter'l Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2-5, 2020 in Detroit, MI with the theme "Love and Tolerance is our Code." A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate AA's 85th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Sat. night and Sun. morning in the Ford Field Stadium.

"Worrying about a situation won't change it. I do all that I can and then give the rest to God."



Missi
1/5/17

Victoria
1/19/14

To share your AA birthday is not bragging. It's telling the newcomer that there is hope for them.



Hey!! Happy New Year from me, the Activity Chair Person.

I really want to say thank you to all who showed up. Christmas was a smash. I had a newcomer Paul, (I believe is his name), Ken E. and his wife Millie, and Harvey. They set up. The lights were done by Paul. Well done. The others put the finishing touches on the table. Big ole burly Harvey was funny, I asked him if he was able to put the finishing touches on the table while Ken supervised his wife. We laughed. Had to be there.

We had a great turn out. Lots of food. Brook was found in the kitchen doing dishes. I think he likes dish pan hands. LOL

I cannot remember all the people who helped clean up. Richard and Merry, Richard and another dude vacuumed, so very glad for that. There was a slew of people who helped clean up and take care of food, load up my car and empty garbage. I am so very sorry about not having or knowing names. I am ever so grateful for all the help. You all rock.

For New Year's Eve, Susan H., Merry and Richard set up St Andrews. Again, another awesome job of people stepping up to help. Members brought in a ton of food. Chicken, lots of cheese and crackers, water, juice. Chips and dip, more cheese and crackers, candy and nuts, salmon and jerky. We had lots of cookies, course, lots of coffee.

Grace group let us borrow big books and 12x12's for all the meetings. Lots of great topics were discussed. Lots. Also, another great turn out. Grace group help clean up and put the church back the way we found it. They were awesome. It took 45 minutes to be out, and they started their meeting. Jay loaded up my car and Georgeann took care of the trash. She sorted trash from recyclables.

Another year has come and gone. I hope we helped someone.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND THANKS TO ALL!!

LINDA WEED
YOUR ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSON, DIST 22

Just read something about replacing "I'm sorry" with "Thank You". So instead of saying "sorry I was late", say "thank you for waiting for me". Replacing negativity with positivity and gratitude and breaks the "I'm sorry" cycle.
Powerful!!

DISTRICT MEETING TIDBITS

For a December meeting, participation was very good; 9 GSRs, 15 Trusted Servants and 4 guests. Lorie kicked off the meeting with a quick review of the Budget Meeting. alternate DCM, Becky S., acknowledged the great job everyone was doing.

According to Maria, Treasurer, the tentative budget for 2020 was handed out; bring comments back in January for further action. Thanks to those who helped.

Accessibilities: Diana and her crew have gone to all Senior living facilities; no need expressed there. Next project will be to homebound or taking meetings to people.

Activities: In Linda's absence, Scott filled in. Please sign up for the Alcathon. May be music at the New Years Alcathon. "Linda needs help", explained Scott, "She really wants to put on more activities."

Corrections: Scott indicated they had a good meeting. Tami brought the financial report. People are on board. Working on Bridging the Gap with teens. Jason has volunteer applications for Forks.

Hotline: Calls from last month: 17 Port Angeles local calls, 18 in state not local, 7 out of state for 42 total. There will be a training session Saturday 12/21/19 at Bethaney from 10 AM to 12 Noon. Another scheduled for later for those who can't attend.

Literature: Stewart has put in a big book order. Need orders.

Newsletter: Clair indicated she will start asking past DCMs to write their definition of the Concepts. Brian volunteered for January. All's well.

Schedules: Hala reported no new changes.

Public Information/CPC: Molley contacted Lorie with her report. Looking to check with other group in Area 72 for tips on how they set up for fair booth. Will discuss at January meeting.

Treatment: Danny says things going well; all spots filled. He has sign up sheets. Quarterly coming up.

Website: Doing good says Jason. Send flyers to him to put on website.

It was GSR sharing this month; nothing new or out of the unusual. Just preparing for the Alcathons.

MEETINGS

January 2020

- 3-4 Business Quarterly, Everett
- 11 Treatment Quarterly, Lynwood
- 12 Activities Committee
- 18 Accessibility Quarterly, Maple Valley
- 25 Young People Standing Comm Qtrly, Seattle
- 22 District 22 meeting, Unity Church, Port Angeles, 7 PM

February

- 8 PI/CPC Quarterly, 9 - 2pm, Puyallup
- 15 GRAD SCHOOL for GSRs- 8-12 Noon, First Presbyterian Church of Puyallup
- 19 District 22 meeting, Unity Church, Myrtle St, Port Angeles 7 PM