

GROUP VINE

Green Faith

March 2024

A.A. Newsletter

<http://aa-nia-dist43.org>

Volume 122

THERE ARE MANY FORMS OF FAITH, BUT HER FAITH STARTED WITH ZOOM

I was christened Ann, and I am an alcoholic. I started drinking in college and continued for many years. When I was older, I had gastric bypass surgery and lost over 100 lbs. My tolerance for alcohol went way down and it seemed like two drinks would put me under the table.

Our youngest was still living at home and would frequently call her brothers to let them know about more incidents. One Sunday, my husband and I were watching TV when our older son came over. This was towards the end of April, 2020. I was surprised that they both ended up coming over as we were in COVID lock-down, and my other son would be having his first child very soon. Our two sons came over separately within 5 minutes of each other. The oldest read me the riot act. I sat and listened, since I could not argue with anything that he was saying, until he told me that if I didn't quit drinking, I would never see our grandchildren again. He had two and we had watched the younger one, one day a week for 3 years.

He left and his younger brother came over not even five minutes later. He was expecting their first baby very soon. Had they rehearsed what they were going to say? This was not an ad-lib intervention. It was a promise that I could not live with. I got on my computer and started calling around to find an AA meeting in my area.

Our 3rd grandchild, a boy, was born on April 28. I attended my first AA meeting on May 1, 2020. Some of you may remember that this was when COVID was in full swing. All of my meetings were on Zoom. Many people have asked me how I could become sober and stay sober on Zoom as many people started drinking during the COVID lock-down. It was the only way I knew how to get and stay sober. The threat of losing my grandchildren was something I was not willing to do. Many things have happened as a result of this intervention. They are all positive and direct results of Alcoholics Anonymous.

- I no longer feel like I have to have a drink.
- I have frequently credited my sons with saving my life.
- We get to watch our third grandchild one day a week for the past 3 years; He has never seen me take a drink.
- We are now watching our fourth grandchild 1 day a week.
- I attend 3 meetings weekly.
- I am not as angry as I used to be.
- I can let things roll off of my back.
- I can share with others that I am working on the kinder and gentler Ann.
- I do my best to not find fault with others.
- People have told me that I have calmed down a lot.
- I chair meetings.
- I volunteer.
- Our family gets together more frequently.
- We laugh when we are together.
- Our older son invites us to our grandchildren's swim meets and band performances.
- Our second son invites us to the games he coaches.
- We celebrate Easter, and Christmas together. The other two holidays are for our children to go to their in-laws. Our 2nd daughter-in-law hosts her family for Thanksgiving and my husband and I are included. We even spend some of our vacations together.

I am very grateful for the intervention that my sons did. Our family is now very happy and loving. - Ann K.

If anyone is interested in a front page article, a saying that is your "go to", or have any ideas for future Groupvine articles; please send an email to: groupvineeditor@gmail.com. Thank you for letting me be of service.



Principle 3:

FAITH

Volume 122
2024

Faith is more than our greatest gift; its sharing with others is our greatest responsibility. May we of A.A. continually seek the wisdom and the willingness by which we may fulfill that immense trust which the Giver of all perfect gifts has placed in our hands.

~ W, Bill. *As Bill Sees It*. New York: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, 1967, p. 13.

Third Step Prayer:
God, I offer myself to Thee; to build with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of myself, that I may better do Thy will.

Faith in A.A. :

Q: What does Bill N. do to stay sober?

When I came into A.A., my sponsor said to me; I want you to stay in the "middle of the herd." I was not sure what that meant; I later found out. I keep in contact with my sponsor, go to a number of weekly A.A. meetings, I also have service commitments. For example, I am currently Correction Chair for our District. This requires frequent volunteer visits to DuPage County Jail.

Another area of A.A. commitment is my spiritual connection with my higher power whom I choose to call God. On my knees every morning, I pray to him to stay sober. Before I go to bed, I thank God for keeping me sober.

Last but not least, I do a daily "Gratitude" list to God. I thank him for all of the good things in my life and everyday the list can be different. Gratitude is such an important in keeping my sobriety.

- Bill N. SD: 08/1/2014

A message from our District Technology Chair:

hello! My name is Brad T. & one of my responsibilities is to create hybrid (zoom) meetings. I have a list of equipment that needs to be purchased and procedures for the installation to support our zoom meeting. If you are interested or have any questions please reach out to me at bmtrygar@gmail.com. I look forward to assisting you in setting up your first zoom meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,
Brad T.



"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." Martin Luther King, Jr.



Save the Dates!

March 1 – 3

**2024 Spring Conference
Assembly**
Hyatt Regency
Schaumburg, IL
niaspringconference.com

March 20th

**District 43 Business
Meeting**
7-8 pm

**Service Positions are
still available.**

All are welcome!

Zoom ID: 965 6659 0236

Password: 932879

March 29-31

**Illinois State Conference of
Young People**

In Alcoholics Anonymous
ISCYPAA 41

Further information at
www.iscypaa.com

April 13

Bingo Night

6-9 p.m.

20 N. Center St.
Naperville

Every Tuesday

New Women's Meeting !

Serenity Sisters

A.A. Women's Discussion Group
Community U.M.C. 20 Center

Street, Floor 3
Naperville, IL

8 to 9 p.m.

For more information please
contact:

Lisa M. 630-210-6678

Kat W. 779-279-7389