

Responsibility

September

2024

A.A. Newsletter

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

Volume 128

## Responsibility

*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.* When I think about **responsibility** in AA, helping another woman through the 12 steps is our primary purpose. When I asked my sponsor to sponsor, she told me two things A) Are you willing to go to any lengths to stay sober and B) Are you willing to sponsor another woman once I feel you are ready to do so? By God's Grace, I got sober on 12/17/16 and that's the day I began living. I was taught never to say no when asked to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Being of service is what has kept me sober for a few twenty-fours. I learned through my journey that sometimes I am **responsible** for our well-being. Sometimes implementing good self-care is being a good member of AA because I can't help someone else if my cup isn't full. I have had to be selfish and work on myself so that I could be present for someone else. Today, I can set a good example for my nieces and nephews and show up for them when I say I will. I can be of service to my friends and my fellows. I can be helpful to my parents and sisters, nieces, nephews, children, etc. I am only accountable for my actions if they affect another person. By staying accountable and not making excuses sobriety can be an amazing journey filled with ups and downs.

I heard someone say the other day that the miracle isn't that I am sober, the miracle is that I want to be. This profound statement hits home on all levels. I am **responsible** for showing empathy but not getting tangled up in worrying myself sick over others. That doesn't mean that I don't care about what that person is experiencing. This means that I can have a healthy boundary between that person to still love them but not allow it to suck me dry. I got sober for myself and no one else and by getting sober for me that allows me to be present for others. It has a **ripple effect** on everyone I meet in life.

> Molly R.

## Archives

### Anniversaries

**Keep It Simple Group** - 42 years

Meets at 7:30 p.m. St Benedicts 909 Lily Cache Lane, Bolingbrook, IL.

**Sisters in Sobriety** - 22 years

Meets Saturday 8:30AM. WSFC, 710 East Ogden Ave., Naperville, IL.

**Southside Sobriety Seekers** - 22 years

Meets Friday 6 p.m.: Community Christian Church located on 1635 Emerson, Naperville, IL.

**11th Step Meditation Meeting Group**

- 17 years

Meets Tuesday 7:30am DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church at 1828 Old Naperville Rd, Naperville, IL.

A.A. members in District 43 of Northern Illinois publish this newsletter. Admissions are to keep members informed of local events, service activities and to share experiences and strength in recovery from alcoholism, and its impact on our families. Ideas are those of the authors and not necessarily those of A.A. **PLEASE SEND US any articles, ideas, or questions to [groupvineeditor@gmail.com](mailto:groupvineeditor@gmail.com).** Comments are most welcomed and encouraged!



# Principle 9: RESPONSIBILITY

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## NINTH STEP PRAYER

GOD, give me the strength and direction to do the right thing no matter what the consequences may be. Help me to consider others and not harm them in any way. Help me to consult with others before I take any actions that would cause me to be sorry. Help me to not repeat such behaviors. Show me the way of Patience, Tolerance, Kindness, and Love and help me live the spiritual life. AMEN (Page 78-80 BB)

**Responsibility** to me is doing what I am supposed to do, even when I don't want to do it. It helps me to remember the **Responsibility** Statement, which we recite at the end of my home group. It is a regular reminder of what I am supposed to do, to pass on this message as it was freely passed to me. This can take many forms, whether it be cleaning up after a meeting (at one point that included ashtrays, but I will stop dating myself, and continue), talking to a newcomer or anyone who is noticeably struggling, or even taking on a new sponsee, and all the work that comes with it. When I am doing the **responsible** thing, I am much less likely to be thinking about myself. When I first got sober, I just wanted my life to get better, because I couldn't keep going on as I was. But as I stayed sober, I learned enough about myself to decide the type of person I want to be, and that is someone who is dependable, and is a man of his word. Learning to be **responsible** has done that for me, and I learned that in AA.

The essence of all growth is a *willingness* to make a change for the *better* and then an unremitting willingness to shoulder whatever *responsibility* this entails.

— AS BILL SEES IT, p. 115



# Save the Dates!



September 18th  
District 43 Monthly  
Business meeting

7-8 p.m.

(Third Wednesday of  
each month)

ZOOM MEETING ID:  
96566590236

P.W: 932879

**All are welcome to attend!**

Saturday - September  
22nd

District 43  
Annual PICNIC

12-3 p.m.

BBQ and Food

Games and Activities

Seager Park Pavilion

1163 Plank Road

Naperville

**for more info call/text**  
**Julie S. (708) 363-0209**

**or Laura V.**

**(630)-740-0621**

**All are welcome to attend**

I AM NOT  
IN RECOVERY  
TO ADD  
DAYS TO  
MY LIFE  
I AM IN  
RECOVERY  
TO ADD  
LIFE TO  
MY DAYS