

18th Edition May 2024

AAversaries!

10 Years Faraji H. Thursday By The Book Iowa City

18 Years Mike K. North Liberty Tuesday Night

19 Years Tom F. Flimsy Reed Iowa City

36 Years Pat G. Monday Night Tiffin Group

CONGRATULATIONS To All Those With May Sobriety Anniversary Dates!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION If you want your sobriety birthday featured in our future newsletter, there are simple rules: Years only, 1st name, last initial, home group. To iadistrict13newsletter@gmail.com by 15th of the month. If you want to receive this newsletter, send an email to iadistrict13newsletter@gmail.com.

WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT.

What do you call an AA meeting that's running out of coffee? Decaf-seated.

What do you get when you cross a DUI offender with a computer? A "hard drive" under the influence!

How do you organize a fantastic AA picnic? You "barbecue" the past and "grill" the future.



Iowa City Intergroup Spring Picnic Saturday, May 18th at Willow Creek Park. See Flyer.

AREA 24 AA

DISTRICT 13

iadistrict13.org

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Tradition Five Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers. *Long Form.*
An Article by Bill W.

"SHOEMAKER, stick to thy last". . .better do one thing supremely well than many badly. That is the central theme of this tradition. Around it our society gathers in unity. The very life of our fellowship requires the preservation of this principle.

Alcoholics Anonymous can be likened to a group of physicians who might find a cure for cancer, and upon whose concerted work would depend the answer for sufferers of this disease. True, each physician in such a group might have his own specialty. Every doctor concerned would at times wish he could devote himself to his chosen field rather than work only with the group. But once these men had hit upon a cure, once it became apparent that only by their united effort could this be accomplished, then all of them would feel bound to devote themselves solely to the relief of cancer. In the radiance of such a miraculous discovery, any doctor would set his other ambitions aside, at whatever personal cost.

Just as firmly bound by obligation are the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, who have demonstrated that they can help problem drinkers as others seldom can. The unique ability of each AA to identify himself with and bring recovery to the newcomer in no way depends upon his learning, eloquence, or on any special individual skills. The only thing that matters is that he is an alcoholic who has found a key to sobriety. These legacies of suffering and of recovery are easily passed among alcoholics, one to the other. This is our gift from God, and its bestowal upon others like us is the one aim that today animates AAs all around the globe.

There is another reason for this singleness of purpose. We know that we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away. If a group of doctors possessed a cancer cure they might be conscience-stricken if they failed their mission through self-seeking. Yet such a failure wouldn't jeopardize their personal survival. For us, if we neglect those who are still sick, there is unremitting danger to our own lives and sanity. Under these compulsions of self-preservation, duty, and love, it is not strange that our society has concluded that it has but one high mission. . .to carry the AA message to those who don't know there's a way out.

Highlighting the wisdom of AA's single purpose, a member tells this story: "Restless one day, I felt I'd better do some Twelfth Step work. Maybe I should take out some insurance against a slip. But first I'd have to find a drunk to work on.

"So I hopped the subway to Town's Hospital where I asked Dr. Silkworth if he had a prospect. "Nothing too promising,' the little doc said, 'There's just one chap on the third floor who might be a possibility. But he's an awfully tough Irishman. I never saw a man so obstinate. He shouts that if his partner would treat him better, and his wife would leave him alone, he'd soon solve his alcohol problem. He's had a bad case of d.t.'s, he's pretty foggy, and he's very suspicious of everybody. Doesn't sound too good, does it? But working with him may do something for you, so why don't you have a go at it?'

"I was soon sitting beside a big hulk of a man. Decidedly unfriendly, he stared at me out of eyes which were slits in his red and swollen face. I had to agree with the doctor. . .he certainly didn't look good. But I told him my own story, I explained what a wonderful fellowship we had, how well we understood each other. I bore down hard on the hopelessness of the drunk's dilemma. I insisted that few drunks could ever get well on their own steam, but that in our groups we could do together what we could not do separately. He interrupted to scoff at this and asserted he'd fix his wife, his partner, and his alcoholism by himself. Sarcastically he asked, 'How much does your scheme cost?' I was thankful I could tell him 'Nothing at all.' His next question: 'What are *you* getting out of it?' Of course my answer was, 'My own sobriety and a mighty happy life. Still dubious, he demanded, 'Do you really mean the only reason you are here is to try and help me and to help yourself?' 'Yes,' I said, 'That's absolutely all there is to it. There's no angle.'

"Then, hesitantly, I ventured to talk about the spiritual side of our program. What a freeze that drunk gave me! I'd no sooner got the word 'spiritual' out of my mouth than he pounced. 'Oh!' he said. 'Now I get

it! You're proselyting for some damn religious sect or other. Where do you get that 'no angle' stuff? I belong to a great church that means everything to me. You've got a nerve to come in here talking religion!

"Thank heaven I came up with the right answer for that one. It was based foursquare on the single purpose of AA. 'You have faith,' I said 'Perhaps far deeper faith than mine, No doubt you're better taught in religious matters than I. So I can't tell you anything about religion. I don't even want to try. I'll bet, too, that you could give me a letter-perfect definition of humility. But from what you've told me about yourself and your problems and how you propose to lick them, I think I know what's wrong.' 'Okay,' he said. 'Give me the business.' 'Well," said I. 'I think you're just a conceited Irishman who thinks he can run the whole show.'

"This really rocked him. But as he calmed down he began to listen while I tried to show him that humility was the main key to sobriety. Finally he saw that I wasn't attempting to change his religious views, that I wanted him to find the grace in his own religion that would aid his recovery. From there on we got along fine.

"Now," concludes the old timer, "Suppose I'd been obliged to talk to this man on religious grounds. Suppose my answer had to be that AA needed a lot of money: that AA went in for education, hospitals, and rehabilitation? Suppose I'd suggested that I'd take a hand in his domestic and business affairs? Where would we have wound up? No place, of course."

Years later this tough Irish customer liked to say, "My sponsor sold me one idea, and that was sobriety. At the time, I couldn't have bought anything else."

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The Iowa City Intergroup meets online on the first Saturday of the month at 10 am. Zoom ID 810 0506 4290 Passcode WILSON.

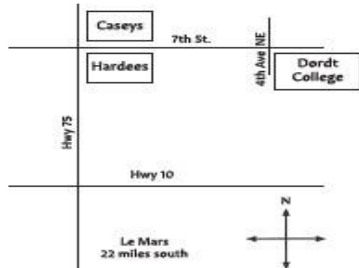
District 13 Meeting will be held **Sunday, May 19th**, 2:30 PM at 704 South Houser, Muscatine. We normally meet on the 4th Sunday of the month alternating between Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Iowa City and 704 S. Houser, Muscatine, but there was a vote to move the meeting due to the Memorial Day weekend. **All are welcome.**

Area 24 2024 Spring Conference June 14 registration begins at 3:00 pm - June 16 @ 12:00 pm. At Dordt University 498 4th Ave NE Sioux Center. See Area 24 Spring Conference (aa-iowa.org) for a copy of the flyer. <https://www.aa-iowa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Area-24-Spring-2024-Conference-Flyer.pdf> .

FYI: Area 24 (the State of Iowa) has a newsletter that comes out 5 times a year. If you would like to receive access to it, contact Area24.Newsletter@aa-iowa.org. It is available to all AA members, and you are an AA member if you say you are.



Motels & Campgrounds



Econo Lodge
86 9th St. Circle NE
Sioux Center, IA 51250
712-722-4000

Fairfield Inn
290 St. Andrews Way
Sioux Center, IA 51250

Holiday Inn Express
100 St. Andrews Way
Sioux Center, IA 51250
712-722-9500

Sandy Hollow & Children's Park Campgrounds
Contact: Zach Weyer
712-551-7925

For questions please contact:
Conference Chair: Roger R. 712-540-6373
Co-Chair: Jane C. 712-578-9555

Spring Conference Pre-Registration

Due by May 30, 2024

Send checks payable to:
Area 24 Spring Conference
PO Box 361
Sioux Center, IA 51250

Three ways to Pre-Register:

• Call Paul W. at 712-470-3307
(Calls only please 8am - 8pm)

• Visit <https://area-24-spring-conference.cheddarup.com>

• Scan the QR code



Dordt Housing Pre-Registration

Due by June 1, 2024

Send housing registration form & checks payable to:
Dordt College
498 4th Ave. NE
Sioux Center, IA 51250
Attn: Sharla Gradert

For housing questions, contact:
Sharla Gradert - 712-722-6303

ANNUAL SPRING Conference



Dordt University, Sioux Center, Iowa

JUNE | 14-16TH | 2024

Area 24 2024 Spring Conference

June 14-16, 2024

Roots of Sobriety

Sioux Center, Iowa

Dordt College Campus • 498 4th Ave. NE • Sioux Center

SPEAKERS:

Saturday Luncheon: Alateen Speaker - TBA

Saturday Night Banquet: A.A. - Kelvin D., W. Fargo, ND

Sunday Morning: A.A. Spiritual Speaker - Paul W., Hull, IA

Sunday Morning: Al-Anon Spiritual Speaker: Barb U., Sioux City, IA

Al-Anon Agenda *~Hybrid

Friday, June 14

7pm GR Registration and Group Contributions
- GRs attending in person must be registered by 9am on Saturday
- GRs attending virtually must be registered by Wednesday, June 12th

at 9pm

8pm *Opening Meeting - Host District 1/15

9:15pm *AWSC meeting

Saturday, June 15

8-9am GR Registration and Group Contributions

9am *Workshop - Conflict Resolution - Christine W.

10:15-11:15 - * Delegate Report - Becky V.

11:30am Luncheon followed by Speakers

Alateen - TBD

AFG - Christine W.,

Panel 58 Past Delegate, Panel 61 Area Chair, Lansing, IL

Immediately following Luncheon - *Delegate's Report (Interactive) - Becky V.

3p.m. *Assembly Business Meeting

6:30pm Banquet followed by AA Speaker

9:00pm Alateen Candlelight Meeting

Sunday, June 16th

9:00am *Workshop: Literature - A Little Time for Myself - Luanne T.

10:15am *Spiritual Speaker: Barb U., Sioux City, IA

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TO ATTEND VIRTUALLY](#) or WWW.IOWA-AL-ANON.ORG

Join us!

Housing Pre-Registration

Due by June 1, 2024

1. Apartments - 19 Units
2 bedrooms (3 beds per bedroom), kitchen, living room, bath
2. West Hall - 36 Units
4 beds per room, private bath
3. Covenant Hall - 110 Units
2 beds per room, community bath

All units are air conditioned. Linen/towels provided.
\$17.50/per person per night for all 3 options.

For reservations contact:

Sharla Gradert - 712-722-6303

April - June 1, 2024 - Monday - Friday, 8am - 4pm

Conference Registration

A.A./Al-Anon/Other \$22 Pre-registration
\$25 At the door

Alateen \$3.00

*Some Alateens must present notarized permission forms and medical forms at the registration table for admission to the conference.

Registration includes all speakers, meetings, workshops and dance.

Meal prices
Saturday & Sunday Breakfast \$8.00
Luncheon \$11.00
Banquet \$20.00

Contact Person:

Paul W. - 712-470-3307

Call to pre-register

(Calls only please 8am - 8pm)

Dordt Housing Pre-Registration

Due by June 1, 2024 • Cost: \$17.50/person

Note: List all names per unit

Full Name (Contact): _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Southview Apartment (up to 6 people)

West Hall (up to 4 people)

Covenant Hall (up to 2 people)

Staying Friday Saturday

Rooming with: _____

Conference Pre-Registration

\$22.00 due by May 30, 2024 or \$25.00 at the door

Full Name (Contact): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

_____ A.A. # _____ Al-Anon # _____ Other x

Alateen: \$3/each x _____ persons = \$ _____

Sat. Breakfast: \$8/each x _____ persons = \$ _____

Luncheon: \$11/each x _____ persons = \$ _____

Sun. Breakfast: \$8/each x _____ persons = \$ _____

Banquet: \$20/each x _____ persons = \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Interpreter Requests due by May 1, 2024

Please check here for ASL Please check here for Spanish



Not all storms come to disrupt your life, some come to clear your path.

--Anonymous



64th ICYPAA Official Conference Flyer B&W (1).pdf

Double click above to access 2024 ICYPAA flyer.