

KENTUCKIANA NEWSLETTER

THE VOICE OF AREA 26

MENDING FENCES

Alcoholics' experience with making Amends

When asked to share my experience on making Amends one stands out to me. This amends was to my father, who is deceased. He too was a friend of Bill W. I made this amends because I did not allow him to be a part of my life after he became sober. It was hard for me to

forgive him for not being around for my childhood. Back then, I didn't understand the disease. As I got older and came to find out I too

had the disease of alcoholism and was doing the same things to my children. It was a must I make amends to him. By the time I got sober he had passed away. I didn't even know because we never had any contact. Found out he had passed from trying to find him on google. I was looking forward to telling him he had a grandson, but it was too late. My Higher Power seems to know

exactly what I need because I had started making other amends at the time of my search. When I found out my father had died I called my sponsor for direction. He suggested I write a letter to my father making my amends to him. He came over later that day

8. MADE A LIST OF ALL PEOPLE WE HAD HARMED, AND BECAME WILLO9NG TO MAKE AMENDS TO THEM ALL
9. MADE DIRECT AMENDS TO SUCH PEOPLE WHEREVER POSSIBLE, EXPECT WHEN TO DO SO WOULD INJURE THEM OR OTHERS

and we read the letter together and burned it in my firepit. My sponsor suggested that a living amends to

my father could be that I stay sober, one day at a time and be a more active part of my children's lives. Today, I am an active member of my home group and I've spent every free moment with my son since that day.

I'm truly grateful for that experience

Louis T. District 5

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EVENTS

**Election Procedures for The Area
26 Fall Assembly?**

- The October Assembly in odd years is reserved for the election of the Delegate and Area Officers, i.e.: Alternate Delegate, Treasurer and Alternate, Secretary and their Alternate, with minimal additional business being addressed. The 2017 election will include voting on Area Chair and Co- Chair.
- The Third Legacy Procedure as spelled out in the AA Service Manual shall be distributed to DCM's with the October agenda and shall be available for all voting members present at the October Assembly.
- Voting members at all October assemblies include GSR's.

**THIRD LEGACY
PROCEDURE**

1st Ballot If one candidate has 2/3 majority of total vote, they are elected. If not ↓
 2nd Ballot If one candidate has 2/3 majority of total vote, they are elected. If not, Candidates with less than 1/5 of total vote are withdrawn (except that the top 2 candidates remain) ↓
 3rd Ballot If one candidate has 2/3 majority of total vote, they are elected. If not, Candidates with less than 1/3 of total vote are withdrawn (except that the top 2 candidates remain) ↓
 4th Ballot If one candidate has 2/3

majority of total vote, they are elected. If not, Candidate with the least votes is withdrawn (except that the top 2 candidates remain). Chair asks for a Motion to Conduct a Fifth Ballot. If Motion is defeated, it goes to the hat. If motion is passed ↓
 5th Ballot If one candidate has 2/3 majority of total vote, they are elected. If not, it goes to the hat.

another was involved we think long and hard why we are doing it. We make restitution where we can. This is a process, so bring an agreement that will your budget will allow.
 Finally, we go in with an open heart and an open mind to see what God has in store for us.

**What people do I start
making amends to first?
"easy or hard"**

- I've been taught to do the ones closest to you, which means to do family first.
 WILLINGNESS IS THE KEY

**How do I go about
making amends and
how am I not to do it?**

- "Now we need more action, without which we found that "faith without works is dead." (Page 76 Alcoholics Anonymous) Let's look at steps 8 &9 We have the list that we wrote in our four steps so we have the list of people. We just must figure out whether we are willing to make these amends. Pages 76- 83 have clear cut directions on how we do amends and what we never do. Basically, we go at it after speaking with God and our sponsor. We never criticize or argue. This is for us... not them. To clean up OUR side of the street. We do not mean to harm anyone else in this step so if



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Steps 8 & 9

The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous tells me that after I work Step 7, "Humbly ask God to remove our shortcomings", I need to put more action in. The phrase "Faith without works is dead" has always stuck out to me. It wasn't the first part of Step 8 ("Made a list of all persons I had harmed"), that I had trouble with, I could write down all day long who I had harmed. It was the second part of that 8th step that paralyzed me in fear and that was "became willing to make amend to them all". I was never that person who openly admitted I was wrong. The willingness eventually came after a lot of prayer and support. It came time for me to do my 9th step, "Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others". Immediately, I dissected that step and my willingness I thought I had went away, I justified in my head why cannot make these amends,

because it would harm everyone. Thank God for people in this program and a great sponsor who told me, "No, you're going to walk through this fear and I will be there with you every step of the way". That is when I experienced firsthand what this program was all about and I was not in this alone, no matter what I had done or said. Fortunately, I was in a treatment center my very first time on this step so the support and the push I needed was there. It was around the same time, my son, his father and girlfriend whom had been taking care of my son the 8 years I did not was coming to see me. I was excited and nervous at the same time, I had not seen him in a year prior going to treatment. I had already made amends to my son and his dad but it was the direct amends I made to the girlfriend that was made that has stuck out to me as my most memorable amends yet. We went out to eat, she and I went outside to smoke and it hit me, all the things I'd done to her in active alcoholism. Prior to this moment, I had not thought of it once, all the inventory, the sharing with my sponsor, making a list, she never popped up. On this day, my higher power showed me what to do. I made my amends to her, it was spontaneous, there were no expectations, tears were flooding from her and I and all she said to me was "Keep doing what you're doing". That was the first time in my life, that I felt free after it was

said and done. I didn't feel like a ton of weights was holding me down, I could breathe. The amends I have made since have not all went that way and that is okay today. However, that is the one that I keep in the back of my mind and the freeing feeling overwhelms me every time and keeps me pushing when I get fearful of any step in this program.

Jimmie H.
Richmond, KY

STEP 9 REFLECTIONS

One of the most important things my sponsor taught me was to run my amends by her first to see if an amends is even appropriate under the circumstances. There was a big ugly drama in my life where I had always thought I had been in the wrong and for years I carried around guilt and shame about this situation. When I was considering how to make an amends, my sponsor listened and corrected me that I had not played a conscious part in what happened and that I had been a non-consenting participant in this situation. This was a great relief to me and my shame melted away. Sometimes seeing where we were not at fault is just as important as seeing where we were at fault.

Laura W.
DCM District 12

MEET THE AREA 26 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Hi! My name is Shanni and I'm an alcoholic. ... Even at Area business meetings when I address the group I always introduce myself that way so I can hear everyone say "Hi," because, despite years of therapy and step work, feelings of inferiority still come up when I am in a position of trust in our fellowship. But once everyone says, "Hi Shanni!" my right-sizedness and feeling of acceptance returns.

My service history? Well . . . I did not have a home group for several years in AA. And once I did, I purposefully chose one that had neither an IGR nor a GSR. We didn't even have a treasurer; we just left the money in the basket and used it to pay rent and buy stuff when needed. The church was open by default during our meeting time, so

no one had a key, and the first person there who wanted coffee made the coffee. I wanted pure, uncomplicated AA, just a few drunks helping each other. Really, I didn't want to attend long home group meetings (this group had none) and I didn't want any chance that I may be called upon to be responsible for anything.

I knew I was the kind of person who took leadership positions to feel a part of stuff but ALWAYS dropped the ball and ALWAYS had (sometimes plausible) excuses for doing so that were definitely not my fault. It's like as soon as someone would vote me into a position at school or at a youth group, I would know right away that I was not capable of REALLY carrying it out. And that became a self-fulfilling prophecy. For example, I was voted the Vice President of our chapter of Students Against Drunk Drivers . . . you can probably imagine how that turned out. Yeah. Stole my stepmother's car and wrapped it around a tree,

drunk. But it wasn't my fault, of course. I wasn't really someone who drove drunk...

So, for the first few years the only service I did in AA was show up to meetings and attempt to stay sober. So how did I get here from there? Through working the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous and seeking outside help as needed.

I had a few years sober, working with a sponsor, and knew that this was usually the point at which my sponsor would suggest getting sponsees of one's own. But not to me. To me, she suggested getting a cat. No kidding. I had never owned a cat but I liked the idea of them. I argued that I don't even feed myself regularly or clean my own bathroom, how could I possibly look after a cat? So, I prayed and told the Higher Power that if it was for me to have a cat, it would have to be a long-haired cat that I wasn't allergic to, who was very affectionate, came when I called, and walked on a leash. Be careful what you pray for.

This is Aslan, my first cat:



My sponsor kept tabs on me and pointed out that my cat depends on me and I took care of him because I loved him; likewise, I love my sobriety and my program so I can trust myself to take care of AA. By this time, I had switched home groups and so I volunteered to do something in service for the home group. They appointed me Coffee Maker. I didn't want to reject their offer, so I keep it to myself that I do not drink coffee and had never made coffee and didn't know how to make coffee. After all, how hard could it be? I noticed that the filter fit neatly into the basket and knew the coffee went in the filter, so I filled the filter up with coffee and leveled it off.

The home group members really liked the coffee, but informed me that it would be too expensive to keep me as

Coffee Maker, so I was demoted to chair putter upper. That was the first position of trust that I actually carried out on a regular basis and made only a few excuses when I didn't do it. Once I even announced in the meeting that "it was wrong of me to show up late for no good reason and cause other people to have to set up the chairs." They didn't really care, but I was dramatic like that.

I kept working the steps and got healthier. I became IGR and did as good a job as most, not perfect but I did OK. I didn't fulfill my entire 2 year term, but then, I had never done ANYTHING for 2 years straight, like live in the same apartment, have the same job, same home group, etc. At 6 years sober I got my first sponsee (and had to return to Al anon so that I could keep good boundaries in that relationship.) I served as group secretary and found that my familiarity with computers, email groups, spreadsheets etc. was an asset to AA because it was easy for me to do stuff that

other people found difficult. I did not know anything about General Service; I guess just figured big books, literature and AA.org just appeared by magic or something.

My introduction to General Service came in my current home group (which I have been a part of for the past 5 years). It was announced in a home group meeting that we needed a GSR and I volunteered, knowing nothing about what I was getting into. Bill Carey was our district's DCM at the time and he introduced me to General Service and helped me to understand our service structure and my role in it. I took my role very seriously and endeavored to be informed as possible so that my home group would have the opportunity to be a part of running our fellowship. They didn't always appreciate the details I brought to home group meetings, but oh well.

I started going to Area meetings and spent time in the Treatment and Bridge the Gap committees before becoming a regular at Literature Committee

meetings. Literature played a big role in my early sobriety, from the Big Book I stole from a resource center at school (since made amends 😊), to the pamphlets I read drunk every night in the months before I got sober, to the literature I continue to read today. Language skills, understanding information explaining it different ways, have always been a strength of mine, so I felt very at home in the Literature committee and had something to offer.

As a GSR I felt frustrated that I could not get up at the mike and take part in voting so I was appointed DCM by my district (formally we had a vote, but no one else was nominated and no one else ran . . .) There were times during my term where I felt I 'dropped the ball' and didn't maintain communication, but in all, I fulfilled my service position with integrity.

During my term as DCM, I had asked Jennifer S., the Literature Chair at that time, to be my service sponsor. She took me through the

service manual and connected me to her service sponsor so that once my mentor, Bill C. was gone, I continued to have good guidance in service work. Two years ago, I was asked by the Area 26 Chair to serve as Literature Committee and have served to the best of my ability. Have I dropped the ball on things? A few times, but the members of the committee step in and we share responsibility.

When I go home to my 10 cats (if one is good, ten is better) after each Area meeting, I am continuously awed that an irresponsible alcoholic like me can be transformed into a trusted servant through the miracle of this program.

Shanni F.

Literature Chair

FROM THE DESK OF THE ARCHIVES CHAIR

Prepared by: Beth F.

Date First Submitted to
Intergroup: February 2015,

Updated June 2017

Group Name: Spiritual Actions
District: 12

Location (town, state): Louisville, KY

A.A.W.S. Group identification number (if
known):
654748

The estimated date Group started meeting:
12/1/2001

The Place, Day, and Time of first (or earliest)
Meetings, and the number of members:
St. Paul United Methodist Church,
Saturday at 10 am with 6 original members.

Did your Group separate from another
Group, and why?

Spiritual Actions was started by several members of Foxhall because they hoped to start a new meeting. At the onset, the founding members added to the meeting format readings that the purpose of the meeting was "to prepare alcoholics for active service in Alcoholics Anonymous."

The type of meeting--Speaker-led, Closed Discussion, Open, Big Book Study, Step Meeting, Traditions Meeting, etc. Has the format changed over the years? Please describe:

The meeting is open and the format is "focused topic discussion" based on the Steps, Traditions and Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous. Each week, the readings included the Steps, Traditions and the abridged version of the Concepts.

The original format was: 12 weeks on each of the Steps using the Big Book, then for the next 12 weeks,

the topic would be Traditions and Concepts. The vision for the second twelve weeks was that the meeting would begin with the usual readings, then divide into two subgroups: one subgroup would study each of the Traditions from the Twelve and Twelve, while the second subgroup would study each of the Concepts using the Service Manual.

The meeting grew from a start of six attendees to regular attendance of about 10 to 15 people during the first year. The meeting was well attended for the Steps, but somewhat less so for the Traditions. When it came time for the meeting topic to be Traditions and Concepts, and the planned splitting into two subgroups, most everyone chooses to discuss the Traditions.

The meeting founders from Foxhall did not want to change their home group, so initially, Spiritual Actions was a meeting but not a home group. By the end of 2002, several regular attendees of Spiritual Actions including Kasey B., Jeffrey E., Glenna A. and Beth F. wanted to make it their home group and approached the founders with this idea. The founders followed the route of "Elder Statesmen" and fully supported the meeting becoming a home group.

On January 4, 2003, a formal business meeting marked the formation of Spiritual Actions as a home group, chaired by Kasey B. Mike B., Jeffrey E., Beth F., Glenna A, Mike C., Eddie B., and Tony H. were also in attendance. Elections were held and Jeffrey E. assumed the combined role of Secretary/Treasurer, Glenna A. became G.S.R., and Beth F. the I.G.R. G.S.R. Home group meetings were to be held monthly on the first Saturday of the month following the meeting.

Glenna A. stepped down shortly thereafter with Kasey B. becoming G.S.R. and submitting the "New Group Form" to the General Service Office in New York on March 17, 2003, with the Group Service Number assigned on March 25, 2003.

The newly formed home group wanted to continue the format of a "focused topic discussion" based on the Steps, Traditions and Concepts and noted there had not been much interest to date in the Concepts. The group conscience confirmed the importance of the Concepts and noted with the initial format structure, no study of the Concepts occurred. The group decided to change to a rotating format as follows: 12 Steps over 12 weeks, 12 Traditions over 12 weeks, 12 Steps over 12 weeks, 12 Traditions over 12 weeks, 12 Concepts over 12 weeks. So, in effect, the rotation to meetings on the Concepts would occur roughly once a year, rather than the option of every 12 weeks.

Over the years, the format has continued to evolve as informed by the group conscience. The current format includes study of the 12 steps over 16 weeks using the Big Book except for steps 6, 7 & 8 from the 12 and 12; 12 traditions over 12 weeks using the 12 and 12; and lastly, there is a six-week segment on service. The service segment includes: one meeting on the history of AA using the pamphlet *Inside AA*, one meeting using the pamphlet *The AA Home Group* and then four weeks on the studying the concepts from the pamphlet *12 Concepts for World Service*. Segments rotate as follows: steps, traditions, steps, traditions and service segment.

Has the Group held any public Open Meetings?

All meetings are open.

The Place, Day, and Time of your Group meetings today, and the number of members:

The place, day and time are unchanged. There are about 41 current home group members and about 35 to 45 weekly attendees.

How many times has the Group moved? To what different sites, and under what circumstances?

The group has never moved.

Early member, "founder," trusted servants--- their recollections, or your Groups, recollections of them:

The group was founded by Foxhall members, including Mike C., Tony H., Eddie B., and Mike B. Initially Tony H. acted as G.S.R. and Secretary and Mike C. acted as I.G.R. and Treasurer.

Have any Group members rotated forward to District service? To Area Service? Did/does your group assist with any general service committee work?

Laura W. has served as Alt DCM and DCM; Laura W. and Beth F. have both served as District 12 Secretary.

What kinds of growing pains, problems, or any "feuds" happened, and what were the solutions? Did any particular member lead the Group out of difficulties toward any resolutions?

Over the years, there have been repeated group conscience meetings about including the segment of the meeting format pertaining to the study of the Service, including the 12 Concepts. Concern has been expressed repeatedly that during this segment, attendance decreases and concern expressed regarding the newcomer's experience. Whenever we have this conversation, the group expresses similar concerns and similarly, the group conscience decides to continue including service topics in the rotating format because "no other group does this and some group ought to include it," noting there is even another meeting very close by ours at the same time (Roadrunner), if someone does not want to attend Spiritual Actions.

By about 2008 or so, the group began to grow very rapidly from 15 or 20 attendees to its current size. More people wanted to join the home group. We had always met in the kitchen and the kitchen "suddenly" felt too small. The format of our then monthly meetings gradually changed from relatively informal to using a more formal structure. We decided to do a group inventory using the 12 Traditions checklist during this time, doing one tradition's questions each

month. The meetings took longer and we "suddenly" realized we needed to move out of the kitchen to a table so we could all sit down.

In addition to the 12 traditions checklist inventory mentioned above, the group has completed at least two other formal group inventories using questions from the AA Home Group pamphlet. At the time of this writing, we have just changed our discussion structure to give the chairperson the authority to conduct the discussion by taking names or "round robin" to promote participation.

How did/does your Group cooperate with outside agencies --- Treatment Centers, Courts, Probation and Parole Boards, for example --- has this changed over the years?

We cooperate chiefly through the Intergroup and District. The IGR and GSR bring service opportunities back to the group. We have not cooperated at the individual group level.

Did/Do you ever assign sponsors? Temporary contacts (from a volunteer list or Bridge the Gap list)? How did/do you welcome first-timers?

We have never assigned sponsors. We do ask if anyone is willing to sponsor during the meeting. We have recently added to the home group list notation of members "willing to sponsor." About 5 years ago, we created the service position of "Greeter," which rotates monthly. The group conscience guidance for this role is to welcome everyone and especially newcomers to AA and first-timers to the meeting; making sure the new people know where the coffee, literature, home group phone list and meeting directories are.

Could any Group members maintain contact with each other in between meetings? Did/do you have a list of member's phone numbers available? Is/was there any linkage to your District's answering services?

Yes, the secretary maintains the home group list with current phone numbers and includes notation for members who receive texts. The

meeting is listed in the meeting directory print and web edition.

How did/does your Group celebrate anniversaries, for both individuals and also the Group? Any annual dinners, picnics, or special events over the years?

Individuals are invited to celebrate on the Saturday of their choice after their anniversary date. There is not a designated Saturday; it is up to the member. Usually a token is presented to the member at the end of the meeting by their sponsor or other person of the member's choosing. Members often ask family or their support group to attend as well.

For about the first 10 years of the meeting, the birthday tradition was for the member celebrating the anniversary to bring food to share with the group if desired. We have rarely had cake, usually some kind of breakfast "treat" or cookies. Over the last 5 years or so, we have been honored and enjoyed having a home group member, volunteer as baker. Curtis T. was our original birthday baker. Over the last few years, Jeffery E. has generously provided birthday goodies as requested by members.

We had special celebrations for our 5th and 10th year anniversaries. We had a breakfast followed by a speaker meeting to mark these dates.

Did/do you count off to break for discussion tables? How did/do you change the jobs for set-up (making coffee, setting out literature) and cleanup? How did/do you change who chair the meeting? Did/do you have "greeters" at the doors? Treats or snacks at the meeting?

We do not have discussion tables; the entire group participates in discussions. For set up and clean up, we pass a sign-up sheet for members and attendees to sign up for a month at a time. Chairpersons sign up for a weekly rotation. We have greeters and coffee weekly with treats for birthdays.

Do you take a smoke break? No.

Your Group's Seventh Tradition practices: have the 'passed basket' contributions change over the years? Do you give away any books? Any fundraisers or special collections (events like holiday parties, picnics, weekend Conferences, AA Forums)? Describe the amounts of contributions... What amount of rent did/do you pay? Did/does your Group support the expenses of your GSR and other trusted servants?

Initially, the group's Seventh Tradition basket was passed in during the beginning readings, prior to the topic introduction. During a home group meeting within the first few years, several noticed that due to late arrivals, the basket was not being passed to all the attendees. The Group Conscience dictated the basket be passed later in the meeting; today it is still passed during the discussion portion of the meeting.

Spiritual Actions charges cost for books, pamphlets are free. Every November, we participate in Gratitude Month, with the basket passed a second time and the proceeds sent to the World Service Office. After the Seventh Tradition is passed, we pass the "Send a Book to Jail Pink Can" to send contributions to provide literature to incarcerated people.

Currently, group weekly contributions are roughly \$50. Rent is \$40 per month. The group pays expenses for the GSR to attend the Area Assemblies.

On our Seventh Traditions of sharing funds -- how did /do you contribute to District, Intergroup (if your location has one), Area 20, and GSO (AAWS)? 60-30-10%

The group keeps a prudent reserve of \$150. Quarterly, after all group expenses are paid (rent, literature, coffee supplies); historically the Treasurer split the remainder 50% to Intergroup, 30% to GSO, 10% to District 12 and 10% to Area 26. Group conscience as of Fall 2016 was to change this to 10% to Intergroup, 50% to GSO, 30% to District 12 and 10% to Area 26.

Did/do you contribute literature to any libraries, hospitals, jails, or treatment

centers? What percentage of literature purchases is in your Group's spending? What items and pamphlets are in your Group's packets for newcomers?

The group has provided a Grapevine subscription to the Women's prison in LaGrange. We do not, as a group, donate other literature regularly. We do pass the "Send a book to jail Pink Can" during the meeting and contribute these funds. The group has a Grapevine subscription for the group and attendees can borrow and return copies. We buy literature to assure we have sufficient books and pamphlets for participants to have a copy during the meeting as well as keeping books and pamphlets in stock to provide a broad cross-section of conference approved literature.

Your business meetings --- how were/are your trusted servants elected or selected (your GSR, Treasurer, Secretary, Greeters, and so on) and how often? Outside of the regular finance discussion and votes, are current District, Area, and General Service Conference agenda items discussed for Group consensus at your business meetings?

Our trusted servant roles currently include GSR, IGR, Treasurer, Secretary, Literature, Grapevine Representative, and Pink Can (Corrections) Collections. Elections occur every 2 years to coincide with the District and Area rotations. Greeters, bakers, chairpersons and set-up/clean-up are by sign up. All trusted servants provide a report at each meeting, including the GSR for District, Area and GSO agenda items and the IGR for Intergroup items when a Group Conscience is needed from the group. We currently conduct business meetings on a quarterly basis.

Generally, what has been your Group's linkage to A.A. as a whole (with District, Intergroup, Area, and AAWS)?

We have had members filling the GSR and IGR roles since becoming a home group.

The Louisville Intergroup Archives thanks you for your effort. Your response to this

Group History Project will make a difference to the still suffering alcoholic who finds recovery and fellowship with an A.A. Group, who might also find this record years from now.

This history record is considered confidential and "for A.A. use only."

A LETTER TO THE NEWSLETTER

Regarding the lawsuit over the manuscript:

The recent occurrence of the General Service Board deciding to initiate a law suit over and archive document is of concern to me. Upon working the steps on this I have decided that my part is to write about it, let my voice be heard.

Many issues are involved in this decision, and several of the traditions have been broken. The decision to pursue ownership of this printer's copy and to file suit, was made without input from the fellowship of AA, although there was opportunity for this to occur. The 12 Traditions of AA have kept AA going so far. The GSO is aware of this and proceeded to initiate a law suit nevertheless.

The issues that came up in my mind are related to my experience with my family of origin. So, for me, this is not just about money, it is about respect.

For the Board to initiate a law suit without the input of the fellowship, even though there were opportunities to do so, reminded me of when my parents would make major decisions without me and my life would change in major ways with no input.

There are several

tradition breaks that have occurred as a result of this decision. We cannot pick and choose which traditions we follow. Now that it has been turned over to attorneys, all correspondence about this will be public information, breaking anonymity and limiting what the GSO staff can say or not say to us about it. The long-appreciated ability to communicate with GSO staff has stopped.

Not only has it broken anonymity in that all communication regarding this issue will be public information, including peoples' first and last names, but being a law suit forces the GSO to limit, almost eliminate, communication with the fellowship about this expensive and important issue. How can GSO staff get input from the home groups if their communication is censored by the advice of attorneys.

This reminds me of the "no talk rule" in my family when something important was about to happen, usually something of great concern.

The GSO has been communicating concerns about financial difficulties for quite some time now, reminding me of extreme financial difficulties due to poor decision making.

The money we put in

the basket is to help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic, to keep AA going for those who need it, not to pay attorneys and court fees, already amounting to unknown amounts of money that are rising as I write this letter.

In summary, this action affects many members of AA more deeply than it may appear. A lot of us have come from difficult family backgrounds. My experience with my family of origin is that, having an alcoholic parent who did not get help with his problems, my life was unpredictable, hurtful and unsettling. I am grateful that I could find that AA could help turn my life around for the better. This law suit brings up issues such as broken promises, the "no talk rule", rules constantly being changed or being broken, extreme financial difficulties due to poor decision making, being excluded from major life changing decisions.

When I first came to AA, I felt it was a safe place to be. The traditions have a lot to do with this, and I would like for the GSO to acknowledge and respect that.

This letter was not easy to write, but I hope that others will join me in communicating with the GSO and we may regain their respect. Alice C.

The address for AA
World Services is:

The General Service
Office
Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

EVENTS

NOVEMBER 10, 2017
SSAASSA 2017
HOLIDAY INN & SUITES
ATLANTA AIRPORT NORTH

FEBRUARY 16-18, 2018
KENTUCKY STATE
CONVENTION
THE GALT HOUSE
LOUISVILLE, KY

Happy 3 years sober to Sarah H. in
Hopkinsville. Just look at the road
traveled thus far with all its
miracles and imagine 50 more
years like these. Welcome to
service Sarah.

Cindy T.

WHEN WE STARTED THIS
JOURNEY, THEY THOUGHT
WE WERE JUST ANOTHER
CRAZY "NEW COMER"
COUPLE. WELL LOOK AT US
NOW. **HAPPY 19TH YEAR
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
BRIAN S...10/17/98**

STILL COMMITTED
TO NOT DRINKING
AND NOT RUNNING!
LOVE YOU, ANGIE

SPEAKEASY GROUP
FROM DISTRICT 24
CHILI SUPPER
OCTOBER 27TH. 2017
EAT @ 6PM
MEETING 7:30PM

The Winter Issue that
comes out in January
2018 will include Steps
10-12. The Topic is
**ARE THE LEAVES THE
ONLY THINGS
CHANGING....
CARRYING THE AA
MESSAGE.**

**If you would like to
submit an article,
group history,
question for Stump
the Chump or 12 step
experiences please
send to
Kentuckiana@area26.
net**

The Kentuckiana
Newsletter is in pdf form that
can be printed directly from
Area 26.net

October Word Search Puzzle

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

ALLERGY	ANONYMITY	DISEASE
FAITH	FORGIVE	GRATITUDE
OBSESSION	SANITY	SHARE
SURRENDER	TOLERANCE	UNITY