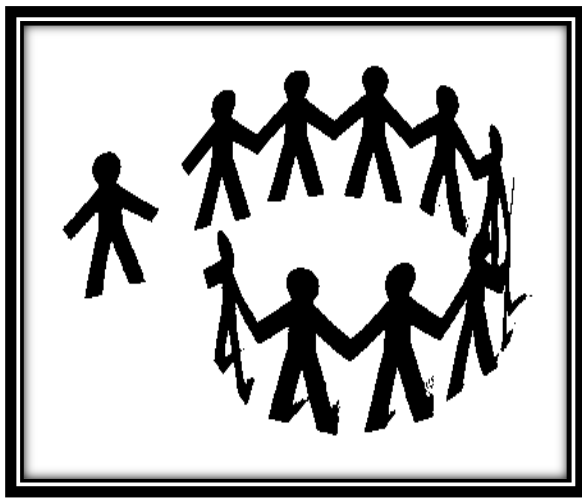


## KENTUCKIANA NEWS LETTER

WINTER EDITION 2019

HOPE IN THE  
DARK MONTHS**TRADITION 10**

Tradition Ten: "No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues - particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters, they can *express no views* whatever."

The people who eventually formed Alcoholics Anonymous formulated their ideas from studies with the Oxford Groups, among others. Commonly accepted lore indicates early A. A. meetings (e.g., before 1950) were often closed with "The Lord's Prayer." However, Tradition Ten, along with the other eleven traditions for A.A. unity, was adopted by A.A. and confirmed at the first International Conference in Cleveland in 1950. Today, 45 years later, many local groups continue to close meetings with the words Jesus spoke to his disciples, as recorded in

**NEW TO THE  
KENTUCKIANA NEWS**

ARTICLES ON

TRADITION 10

TRADITION 11

TRADITION 12

THE COFFEE CORNER

THE GSR REPORT

STUMP THE CHUMP

WE ARE NOT A GLUM  
LOT

WHAT'S UP IGR?

ANGIE S - AREA 26  
ALT CHAIRMAN - AN  
OFFICERS WORD

EVENTS

the books of Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4 of the New Testament, which is the second part of the Christian Bible and records the teachings of Jesus and his followers.

Many people, from all levels of A.A., explain that closing with “The Lord’s Prayer” is traditional, in the sense that it is customary. But was it not also customary for us all to drink, until we didn’t drink anymore? No one in A.A. has successfully argued that the choosing of this prayer does not violate the Tenth Tradition, it absolutely does, but instead I’ve heard arguments that each group is free to make its own choices. But are they really? Groups are free to make choices *in matters that do not affect A.A. as a whole*.

Choosing a Christian prayer for the closing clearly expresses an opinion on religion: It expresses a choice of the Christian religion. So, when an “A.A. group” endorses Christianity by closing with a sectarian prayer, it implicates A.A. as a whole, representing A.A. as affiliated with a sectarian religion. The group also defies the Traditions that would unify Alcoholics Anonymous. The proliferation of groups closing with sectarian prayer has led to splintering off of so-called “Secular A.A.” groups in areas where the main A.A. community endorses/affiliates itself with Christianity.

Some groups have become even more divisive in their endorsement of sectarian religion, concluding a meeting by calling out “Who brought us here?” and having the only acceptable response be: “Our Father, who art in heaven....” This practice makes clear to those who differ in their conception of a higher power that they are not part of “us.” The GSO pamphlet *The AA Group.... Where it all begins* stipulates “Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.” (p 16). Groups closing with the question “Who brought us here?” communicate that the affiliation of the groups’ members’ is around the shared sectarian prayer, not around the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. No wonder the newcomers move quickly to the exit and do not return!

Some members argue that if a person “really” wants to recover, s/he will “get over it,” but how do we know? Perhaps they will just die. And aren’t steps 4-9 designed for “getting over it?” How can we ask suffering alcoholics to “get over it” if they can’t even stay sober? In Pennsylvania alone, we have recently learned of more than a thousand well-documented victims of clergy sexual abuse. There are thousands more undocumented victims of clergy sexual abuse in other states. Shall we tell them all to “get over it” while we ask the alcoholics among them to recite the prayer that often was used to groom them for sexual assault victimhood? That is the problem with using an outside concern’s words of wisdom, or prayer. Alcoholics Anonymous does not have control or responsibility for the experiences and associations people have with outside prayers. In particular, any sectarian prayer does not

serve well those who would recover according to the A.A. principle of allowing each individual to find his or her understanding of a power greater than themselves, which doctors since Carl Jung have recognized was an important part of our program. I have personal experience with alcoholic victims of clergy sexual abuse being so repelled by groups defying the Tenth Tradition that they have given up hope of ever having access to the A.A. program of recovery.

As members of Alcoholics Anonymous, our primary purpose is to help alcoholics (whether they be atheists, agnostics, Buddhists, Muslims, Jews, Hindi, Christians, or “other”) stay sober and help other alcoholics (whether they be atheists, agnostics, Buddhists, Muslims, Jews, Hindi, Christians, or “other”) achieve sobriety. It is not our primary purpose to recite a familiar prayer along with others of the same faith. This is not a matter of “political correctness,” this is about keeping our A.A. separate from our sectarian religion. If even one alcoholic is driven off by a sectarian prayer, that group has failed to achieve A.A.’s primary purpose, and has represented to the world of suffering alcoholics that A.A. is a sectarian organization, and therefore not available to them.

- Anonymous

### **Tradition 10 – *Another view***

One of the things I clearly remember from my early A.A. meetings was how well everyone got along. I had attended other spiritual groups. I had visited numerous churches. I had belonged to a fraternity in college. I had belonged to organizations like the Rotary Club and Toastmasters. However, I have never walked into a group and felt so connected by a common mission, bond, and comradery. A.A.’s Twelve Traditions, especially the Tenth Tradition, are major contributors to this connection.

I love the sinking ship analogy. If a group of people on a sinking ship had to work together to avoid certain death, their differences would disappear. Job titles, opinions on political matters, and wealth would mean nothing, as long as they had to work together to survive. With alcoholics, our need to work together typically stays with us for the rest of our lives. Without each other, most of us would succumb to a miserable existence and much shorter lifespan.

Recently, I’ve attended a regular men’s meeting where we read various A.A. literature, such as Drop the Rock and Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers. It’s fascinating to learn about the history of A.A. In early sobriety, I remember chuckling at the antiquated language contained in the Big Book and The Twelve and Twelve. Over time, I developed the notion that these

“gospels” were poured onto the page in a single divinely inspired purge by Bill Wilson. Reading a few of these historical accounts paints a much different picture.

While arguably divinely inspired, the Big Book did not flow magically onto the page. Likewise, the Twelve Traditions were not handed down on magical tablets of stone. Bill Wilson wrote much of the original text; however, he sent the pages of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, to groups in New York and Akron for painstaking critiques and edits, resulting in the book we use today. A similar “group conscience” process eventually was used to develop the Twelve Traditions.

Why were the Twelve Traditions created? They were developed to keep *Alcoholics Anonymous* from exploding. In the early days, opinions on how to run the organization were incredibly diverse. For example, the individual groups had so many viewpoints on who to allow to join the organization, if not for the Twelve Traditions, very few people would ever have made it into “the club.” If A.A. had such a difficult time with views on its own internal operations, imagine if we allowed ourselves to express judgements on the plethora of world matters.

Tradition Ten (long form) reads “No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues – particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The *Alcoholics Anonymous* groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters, they can express no views whatever.” This simple tradition keeps us out of the business of others and squarely on the business of keeping ourselves sober.

In our modern society, the degree to which opinions are divided is probably more extreme than ever. In fact, the high-tech mechanisms for delivering news and ideas has accelerated the divide. News and social media platforms begin to assess your interests as you search for subjects and “like” various articles and websites. Then they deliver information to you that moves more and more toward an extreme. At the same time, global connections and reporting allow us to hear about the MOST intense events throughout the globe.

It has been said that topics like politics and religion should never be discussed at family events. Often, these types of topics do cause epic family blow-ups. In fact, in my own family, my twin brother and I are complete opposites in our political views. Luckily, most of the time, we choose not to discuss politics, and we get along great. However, when we do, it can be very aggravating.

Rarely with my A.A. friends, inside or outside of meetings, have we discussed politics or religion. Certainly, we discuss issues in our lives. We discuss relationships. We discuss interests and hobbies. We discuss our ups and downs. However, typically, we don’t discuss

extremely divisive topics. By avoiding these controversial issues, it always feels like we're working together to help each other.

As Tradition Ten states, opinions on these "outside controversial issues" should never publicly be expressed by A.A. members as a representative of the organization. Clearly, if an A.A. member has a passion for political or religious issues, he or she is free to pursue that passion to any degree. However, the individual should never discuss these matters with any tie whatsoever to Alcoholics Anonymous.

The early members of A.A. wisely studied previous organizations, such as the Washingtonians and The Oxford Group. Both of these organizations helped alcoholics find sobriety. Both of these organizations greatly influenced the current teachings of Alcoholics Anonymous. And, both of these organizations collapsed under their lack of singleness of purpose and fragmentation due to outside issues such as prohibition, politics, and religion.

To the outside world, there should be no question. The organization of Alcoholics Anonymous must convey one common message: we're here to help the alcoholic who still suffers – period. By maintaining this singleness of purpose, alcoholics of any race, religion, political ideologies, and any other beliefs may find a safe haven and common bond. We all can work together to accomplish one goal – freedom from the miserable life of alcohol addiction.

- Alan G

## TRADITION 11

*Our relations with the general public should be characterized by **PERSONAL** anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not to be broadcast, filmed or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.*

Have I ever violated this tradition? YES. I truly love Alcoholics Anonymous and when I was new, I wanted the whole world to know about my new-found life and what I was doing. When I posted on Facebook about how excited I was about this spiritual way of life and posted pictures of me and my sponsor and others out at a retreat it was "suggested" by my sponsor that I remove the post. I did not understand and when it was explained to me about this tradition, I have not done it since. It was suggested to read the Internet Guidelines published on aa.org. I have learned a lot since then and continue to grow each day.

Currently I serve as the GSR for my home group and the District 17 secretary. Part of my responsibility of service is to be responsible in studying and practicing all 12 steps, traditions and concepts. There are constantly questions that I get about why AA has

commercials on the TV/Radio and lots of confusion about this tradition. I highlight the word **PERSONAL** and explain to folks that ask why A.A. is breaking its anonymity that my home group or that Alcoholics Anonymous is not anonymous just me personally cannot promote that I am a member publicly. I would rather people find out that I am in A.A. after they have known me for a long time and see the demonstration of the principles before finding out that I am a member. I no longer find it necessary to promote my A.A. membership and feed my ego rather help carry the message to others through sponsorship and general service work.

Enthusiasm for A.A. is certainly something I strive for when appropriate. In a meeting, talking to a newcomer, writing an article for the Kentuckiana Newsletter, talking with professionals in our community about A.A. and doing general service. My sponsor also had me look up a lot of words and enthusiasm was one of them. One of the definitions from its Greek origin is having a God within. I want my enthusiasm for this way of life to be genuine and not building up my ego and looking for credit from others about the work I am doing. I want it to be true humility which is what the whole program is about and it's not always easy for me but through good sponsorship and following the clear-cut directions in the Big Book it gets easier.

If anyone is unsure if posting on social media your sobriety chip, or any other, implies of your membership of Alcoholics Anonymous? IT DOES. Since I have been studying and trying to practice all 36 principles of Alcoholics Anonymous this tradition keeps coming up on a daily basis where I see people who either do not understand the principle of anonymity or do not care and break it anyways. I see this done mostly on social media. I have attended tradition and concept workshops, read the Big Book, AA Comes of Age, Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers, As Bill Sees It, Pass It On, Language of the Heart, Twelve and Twelve as well as many pamphlets. The literature states over and over again why it is so important that we guard our **PERSONAL** anonymity in the public. If someone lets people know about their A.A. membership to the public and then acts inappropriately it makes A.A. look bad. Or if they get drunk it looks like A.A. does not work. When people see others post publicly on social media it opens for many others to follow. If I have worked all 12 steps and trying to practice to practice these principles in all of my affairs then I should not be violating this tradition *even if my motives are good*.

Bill W. identifies himself as someone who was one of the worst A.A.'s on this tradition in the beginning but learned from his mistakes and created the 12 traditions and 12 concepts for the rest of us to follow and not repeat this behavior. In his book Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age he writes on page 130- "Only a very few A.A. members are left who deliberately break their anonymity at the public level" written in 1957 I wonder what Bill W. would say about the violations rampant throughout the internet today? He continues to write on page 131- "It is better to let our friends recommend us". "It is more than a denial of self-seeking. Tradition Eleven is certainly a constant reminder that personal ambition has no place in A.A.,

but it also implies that each member ought to become an active guardian of our fellowship in its relation with the general public". Bill W.

What I am trying to do now instead of focusing efforts on my personal accomplishments in sobriety I am serving the district and my home group to get the Alcoholics Anonymous name out there to our community. There are lots of opportunities to get involved in CPC/PI work. I could distribute literature to doctors, judges, treatment centers, counselors and others who work with alcoholics. I would like to sum all this up from a quote from *The Language of the Heart* page 16. "With very rare exceptions it ought to be a national Tradition that no member of Alcoholics Anonymous shall ever feel free to publish his name or picture (in connection with his Alcoholics Anonymous activities) in any medium of public circulation, or by radio". – Bill W.

Thanks for letting me serve!

Kristen G.- Owensboro, KY

## TRADITION 12

"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."  
-Alcoholics Anonymous, pg. 562

I was sitting across from this lady angrily denouncing the actions of another, explaining with venom how utterly wrong they were, and preparing to unleash my 10 point plan to destroy their evilness when she raised her hand and suggested we take a look inside the book that laid between us. I had no interest in looking inside any book- I had a way to fix the situation, it may result in my being hauled off to jail but I was fine with that. Yet, I stopped my rant at the raise of her hand and leaned my head over the open book.

"The steps," she started "are how we deal with ourselves. The Traditions are how we deal with others."

I took a cursory glance at the page she had turned to and my eyes widen at the realization that there was more work to be done. I had gone through hell and back just doing the few steps I had done! Now she's throwing more work my way!? Sponsors are sneaky son of a guns. I gritted my teeth as she ran her finger down the page to the last one listed. She had me read it out loud.

"Number 12: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.", I read hesitantly.

"What do you think that means?" she asked.

I thought hard before answering- I wanted to get it right. In the end all I could come up with was, "It means I have to keep my big mouth shut."

She laughed heartily while I wondered if I was funny or just dazzlingly dumb until she quieted down and turned back to the book and asked,

"What do you think the principles are?"

The only thing that come to mind was my elementary school principal who was real nice to me when I got sent to her office each day but I was pretty sure that wasn't it so I kept my mouth shut and gave an "I don't know" shrug.

"The principles are the steps, Traditions, and Concepts" she said calmly.

"Oh.", I replied again having no earthly idea what that meant. She went on to explain that when we work the steps we gain what they have to offer, the principles being one of those things, and that "working" the Traditions and the Concepts also make us principled people.

She explained all of it 15 times that day and the only thing I managed to get out of it is that my plan of World domination was off the table.

Fast forward a bit to the latest Area meeting.

I'm sitting at my Districts table as a visitor, watching with eagerness the business of AA- in particular the microphone discussions.

GSRs and Delegates are presenting their proposals about their group or districts idea.

As it is discussed others are coming to the mic and pointing out things they see as concerns.

I'm sitting at my table madly searching through literature to see if whatever is being debated is already addressed in it.

Everyone was showing passion toward their viewpoint and not one single person made a scene.

They all put the security of Alcoholics Anonymous before their passion. They set themselves aside and allowed the structure and fellowship lead the way.

It was beautiful to watch. I highly recommend attending an Area meeting so you yourself can experience Tradition 12 in action.

In love & service,  
Kris G  
District 16





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## THE COFFEE CORNER



I attended my AA Home Group meeting last night and, not surprisingly, came out of there feeling peaceful, safe and grateful. Four newcomers attended last night - barely sober and looking for help through the Holidays. Each poured out their heart to the rest of us, and one-by-one, the women with long term sobriety shared the wisdom of the program; how they have stayed sober while working through family crises and emotional and financial setbacks:

“No matter how humiliating it might be for me, I must always be honest with my children. AA has taught me how to be honest and it is so important that my words and actions around my children are consistent and honest.”

“When I’m somewhere where other people are drinking, I pour myself a non-alcoholic beverage and carry it around with me, so no one offers to get me a drink. I must have a way to leave when I need to leave. If I find myself having squirrely thoughts, it’s time for me to go.”

“If I live with someone who still drinks and I’m feeling vulnerable, I need to ask that person to keep the alcohol in the Frig down in the basement. I attend extra meetings, call my sponsor and share what I’m feeling at the meetings. I attended Al-anon meetings and sought outside counseling when I first got sober.”

These are just a few of the suggestions shared with these newly sober individuals last night. Of course, after the meeting, they were surrounded by the rest of us, who were eager to share more AA information and our phone numbers. We urged them to “keep coming back.”

Thinking back on that experience, I am overwhelmed with joy and gratitude that I have somehow made it into the rooms of AA and I’m a part of a fellowship that is generous, helpful and wise.

# STUMP THE CHUMP

Q- Is it right for my sponsor to tell me to go to more meetings?

A- Is it "right", maybe? I know when I first got sober, I needed to go to AA meetings the way I drank! I was in a bar or an establishment that involved alcohol every day/night. I had lost everything and didn't have much. Today, I attend my homegroup weekly and additional meetings though the week.

Q- How many meetings should I attend a week?

A- How ever many meetings it takes! In early days one may be trying to "Just not Drink". Today, I'm not only learning to live without the drink, I'm wanting peace, serenity and calm which is about a foreign language for many. I go to as many meetings as able and suit up anytime asked as long as I'm not already committed.

Q- How long do I have to go to AA?

A- How ever long you need to till you want to! I still attend AA meetings because it helps me be a better person and allows me to be of service to my family, friends and most importantly I get to give back what was given to me to be a part of seeing people get their families, jobs and lives back! Biggest gift I will ever receive is when I see someone else make it one more day just like myself!

## AA WANTS YOU! THE GSR REPORT

When I first got sober, the man that twelve-stepped me and ultimately became my first sponsor was adamant about the importance of service work. He stressed this little piece of knowledge to me every Sunday afternoon. "The only way we keep the gift of sobriety is to give it away." I can assure you that it was every Sunday afternoon from about noon to three. That was our time. I was living in a homeless shelter and he would drive down to see me. About a forty-minute drive each way for him. His form of service work. Carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffered.

As the weeks passed and we would share our time together on Sunday afternoons I started asking how I could give back. This made him laugh. He told me that service work was there to do long before I ever thought about getting sober and God willing service work would be there long after I was dead and gone. After all, I was still in my first year of sobriety and that I should focus on learning how to just not drink one day at a time.

That was a great lesson for this alcoholic. I was going to meetings, had found a home group and had a sponsor but wasn't thoroughly grounded in the steps and traditions yet. He told me the steps keep me from committing suicide and the traditions keep me from committing homicide. That's what allows us, sober alcoholics, to carry the message and not

our mess into service work. A lot of truth for this guy. Focusing on learning how to carry the message into service work.

Time passed, and after I got my token, he turned me loose. When asked to give a lead at a meeting I could. Jails, Institutions, Penitentiaries, Treatment centers. Still nervous as hell, but confident that my God would take over and this drunk would have a message to carry. These were all fantastic opportunities to, "give away" the gift of sobriety. As my commitment to my home group continued to be a priority in my sobriety other opportunities started to present them self to me. My home group members saw fit to nominate me for positions in my home group. Serving as coffee maker and hand shaker have helped me just as much as any formal position within the group. (Maybe more.)

The only constant in life is change (Except Sobriety Dates). Sponsors change. Home Groups change. Service positions change. Which brings me to my current service position and the reason for all this babbling and rambling we're on. Currently I'm the GSR for my home group and was the GSR of my last home group. A service position that I thoroughly enjoy.

Another commitment. True. We commit to make our home groups once a week. As a GSR we commit to make district once a month. This commitment is the opportunity for this alcoholic to listen to experiences from other GSR's and servicer members for the district and share those experiences with the members of my home group. Just as important as relaying any motions or news from area or GSO that has been relayed to the DCM. Being a conduit for information to flow my home group to district and vice versus.

Valuable service work. Not more valuable then working with the men I sponsor, chairing my home group, or shaking a hand of a newcomer but valuable none the less. District needs to hear from my home group just as area needs to hear from my district and so on. Having the opportunity to serve AA in this capacity has truly been a blessing in my sobriety. Not to mention the fun that comes along with participating in district. Formulating work shop topics, cookouts, and being asked to give away the gift of sobriety in all sorts of different ways. Being GSR for my home group has afforded me the opportunity to meet alcoholics from all over the area, and in the end, I think that is ultimately the best part about serving AA in this capacity.

Yours in Service,  
Brandon B.

# WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT

## Lighten the Mind

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

WILLINGNESS  
SERVICE  
SERENITY  
UNITY  
FREEDOM  
PRINCIPLE  
LITERATURE  
MEETINGS  
SMILE  
GREETER  
HOPE  
FORGIVENESS  
SHARING  
FAITH  
SUPPORTGROUP  
SPIRITUAL  
PEACE  
LOVE  
SPEAKER  
FRIEND

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/499074/>

### Ten Signs of a Hangover

1. You get it into your head that chirping birds are the Devil's pets.
2. Trying to gain control of the situation, you continue to tell your room to "Stay still."
3. Looking at yourself in the mirror induces the same reaction as drinking a glass of fresh paint.
4. The bathroom reminds you of the fairground cry, "Step right up and give it whirl!"
5. You'd rather chew tacks than be exposed to sunlight.
6. You set aside an entire afternoon to spend some quality time with your toilet.
7. You replace the traditional praying on your knees with the more feasible praying in a fetal position.
8. Your catch phrase is, "Never again."
9. You could purchase a new fridge on the proceeds from recycling the bottles around your bed.
10. Your new response to "Good morning," is "Be quiet!"

## **“What’s Up IGR”**

Hello my name is LeeAnn and I am the IGR for Lampton in Louisville, KY and have been for the last fifteen months. My job as the IGR is to be the voice for my homegroup on decisions that are made during our monthly IGR meetings. Being an IGR has helped me to get more involved in the inner working of Alcoholics Anonymous, I have been able to learn more about how things run in the program and how things should be in my homegroup. I have been able to witness Alcoholics Anonymous on many levels over the years and I have seen increases in meetings and I have also seen decreases. I feel right now that there is so many Homegroups in Louisville that are not following the Traditions that the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is suffering. I feel like there needs to be something done to try and bring some unity back into the city. This is a we program and together we can make not as individual groups but as one group as a whole.

## **An Officers Word**

I am Responsible.

I remember being a newcomer and feeling different because what I perceived I was seeing around me were very hard for me to process. I was an 18-year-old still living with my parents and attending high school. I walked into A.A. and saw a bunch of old guys sitting around smoking cigarettes and drinking coffee. The things I heard them say were very confusing. Things like “get in the car”, “sit down, shut up, take the cotton out of your ears and put it in your mouth”. “Forget everything you think you know”. “Just keep coming back, we need you”! Their lives looked so different than mine but these were the people that walked me from despair into the sunlight of the spirit.

They told me to get a sponsor, a home group and a service commitment.

As a newcomer I was taught that meetings mattered because it was a way for people to get to know me and I them, plus it was my way to start giving back and share with the newer alcoholics what I was learning. These were the connections that would help show me how to be sober and live a happy, joyous and free life.

After working the steps, studying the Traditions and Concepts. 30years later it seems the lessons that we are all united through our unique ability to understand each other’s struggles. Even though we are people that usually would not mix has completely changed. We now have turned our attention to the differences between us. It seems that we are so

afraid to lose people or hurt someone's feelings that we have forgot the "main thing" of what Alcoholics Anonymous is all about, helping the still suffering alcoholics to recover from alcoholism. Treatment Centers and the courts have made it almost impossible to know for sure if the people in the meetings are alcoholics or not. I have been taught that I have a responsibility to ask the hard questions and help people find recovery in the best program for them. Much of the time this hasn't been the most popular thing. This issue of alcoholic/addict and where our fellowship is heading is continuously on the agenda at the General Service Conference however nothing seems to be solved. It becomes very discouraging and frustrating sometimes to see the direction AA is heading in. I just pray that we wake up and realize that when "anything goes, pretty soon everything will"

Yours in Service, Angie S. Alt Chair Area 26

**EVENTS** – If you have an upcoming event and would like it published please send to [Kentuckiana@area26.net](mailto:Kentuckiana@area26.net)

SPEAKEASY – ANNIVERSERY DINNER - Speaker Erik B – Literature Committee Chair Area 26

When: January 18, 2019

Time: 6:00pm eating/ 7:30 meetings

Where: Ascension Lutheran

13725 Shelbyville RD Louisville, KY 40245

Cost free – bring a side dish, dessert or soda to share

KCYPAA Elections

WHEN: January 20, 2019 @ 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm America/Chicago Timezone

WHERE: Center Point Church

1000 Roselawn Way Bowling Green, KY 42104

PANCAKES & PANEL MEETING

WHEN: January 26, 2019 @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm America/Kentucky/Louisville Timezone

WHERE: St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1015 E. Main St. New Albany, IN

CONTACT: East End Group

2019 KENTUCKY STATE AA CONVENTION

WHEN: February 8, 2019 @ 6:00 pm – February 10, 2019 @ 12:30 pm

WHERE: Griffin Gate Mariott  
1800 Newtown Pike  
Lexington, KY 40511  
COST: See Flyer  
CONTACT: Alice D. - OR - Chris R.

AREA 26 SPRING MEETING

WHEN: April 6, 2019 @ 9:00 am – April 7, 2019 @ 1:00 pm America/Kentucky/Louisville Timezone

WHERE: Immaculate Conception Church

502 North 5th Ave

Lagrange

KY 40031

COST: Free

CONTACT:

Alice C

James C.

5TH SOUTHERN STATES ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SERVICE ASSEMBLY

WHEN: November 8, 2019 @ 3:00 pm – November 10, 2019 @ 1:00 pm America/Kentucky/Louisville Timezone

WHERE: Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center

91 N Lakeshore Dr Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

COST: See Flyer

CONTACT: Elizabeth P or Kenneth C

**SERVICE MEETINGS IN THE AREA**

**-LOUYPAA**

EVERY SUNDAY 1PM BEACON HOUSE 963 S. 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET

**-SERCYPAA**

2<sup>ND</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAY EVERY MONTH 8PM IMMANUEL UCC 2300 TAYLORSVILLE RD

**-LOUISVILLE IGR**

IGR Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, 7pm at:

St. Paul United Methodist Church

2000 Douglass Blvd, Louisville (Corner of Douglas Blvd & Bardstown Rd in the Highlands)

New IGR orientation is at 6pm.

For questions contact Louisville AA Central Office: 502-582-1849

### **-Intergroup Meeting for District 3**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month

13th Street Clubhouse

1013 E 13th Ave

Bowling Green, KY 42101

**The next quarter will feature Steps 1, 2 and 3 We are always looking for folks that want to be a part of!! We want you!!**

**The Kentuckiana News Committee meetings are held during Area 26 quarterly business meeting weekends. All AA members are welcome to participate.**

**If you would like to write an article or would like us to know about an event coming up in your district.**

**Kentuckiana Newsletter please submit them to [Kentuckiana@area26.net](mailto:Kentuckiana@area26.net)**

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Kentuckiana Newsletter Chair Lynn M