



The Voice Within



DEMONSTRATING



Gratitude

DISTRICT 12 CHRISTMAS ALCATHON 2010

TWENTY FOURS HOURS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS, PLUS FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN! 6 PM CHRISTMAS EVE. TO 6 PM CHRISTMAS DAY.

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE. 500 COMMERCIAL ST., MANCHESTER.

HOST GROUP	START TIME	END TIME	AA GROUP
MANCHESTER ORIGINAL (two meetings)	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	MANCHESTER ORIGINAL
	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	PASS IT ON/HARD HAT
	8:00 PM	9:00 PM	SUNDAY SERENITY
	9:00 PM	10:00 PM	SUNDAY ROUND ROBIN
WE STOPPED IN TIME	10:00 PM	11:00 PM	WE STOPPED IN TIME
	11:00 PM	12:00 AM	KEEP IT SIMPLE
	12:00 AM	1:00 AM	RAINBOW BIG BOOK
	1:00 AM	2:00 AM	HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE
FIRST LIGHT OF DAY	2:00 AM	3:00 AM	FIRST LIGHT OF DAY
	3:00 AM	4:00 AM	NEW BOSTON TUESDAY
	4:00 AM	5:00 AM	QUEEN CITY
	5:00 AM	6:00 AM	CLEAN AND SERENE
NORTH END GROUP	6:00 AM	7:00 AM	NORTH END GROUP
	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	PATHWAY TO SOBRIETY
	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	MEN'S 12 AND 12
	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	COURAGE TO CHANGE
HAPPY HOUR WEST	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	HAPPY HOUR WEST
	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	LIVING SOBER
	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	HAPPY HOUR EAST
	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	BEECH ST. BIG BOOK
LAKE MASSABESIC	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	LAKE MASSABESIC
	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	FREE AT LAST
JOY OF LIVING	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	JOY OF LIVING
	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	PRECISE METHOD
<i>(Function Clean-Up)</i>	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	<i>(Volunteers are appreciated)</i>

CURIOUS ABOUT GETTING INVOLVED IN SERVICE?

WONDERING WHAT IT'S LIKE, OR IF IT TRULY IS ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE BACK, TO CARRY THE MESSAGE?

THE SEARCH COMMITTEE, A COMMITTEE WITHIN DISTRICT TWELVE HAS COMPILED SOME SURVEYS FROM AA MEMBERS TO SEE WHAT IT'S REALLY LIKE. (ALL SURVEY RESPONDERS TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.) WE'LL OCCASSIONALLY PRINT SOME OF THESE SURVEYS HERE IN THE *VOICE WITHIN*, AND ALSO ON THE WEBSITE AT WWW.AADISTRICT12.ORG.

1. What is your number one reason for getting involved in service?
 - a. *To be an active part of the AA community and contribute in some small way to the recovery of others.*
2. Do you consider service to be an integral part of your recovery?
 - a. If yes, please explain:
 - a. *Absolutely. Service provides me with an opportunity to not only help others who need help, but it gives me an opportunity to learn and grow.*
 - b. If no please explain:
3. Do you believe that the service legacy of AA is crucial for the survival of AA?
 - a. *Without the service legacy there would be no AA because it is through service that we are bound together.*
4. How has service played a role in your recovery?
 - a. *It has taught me how to work with others that I may not agree with.*
 - b. *Provides me with another way to be helpful*
 - c. *Extends my circle of community beyond my home group.*
5. Would you recommend that someone you sponsor or a friend of yours become active in service?
 - a. *Of course.*

A Slap In The Face

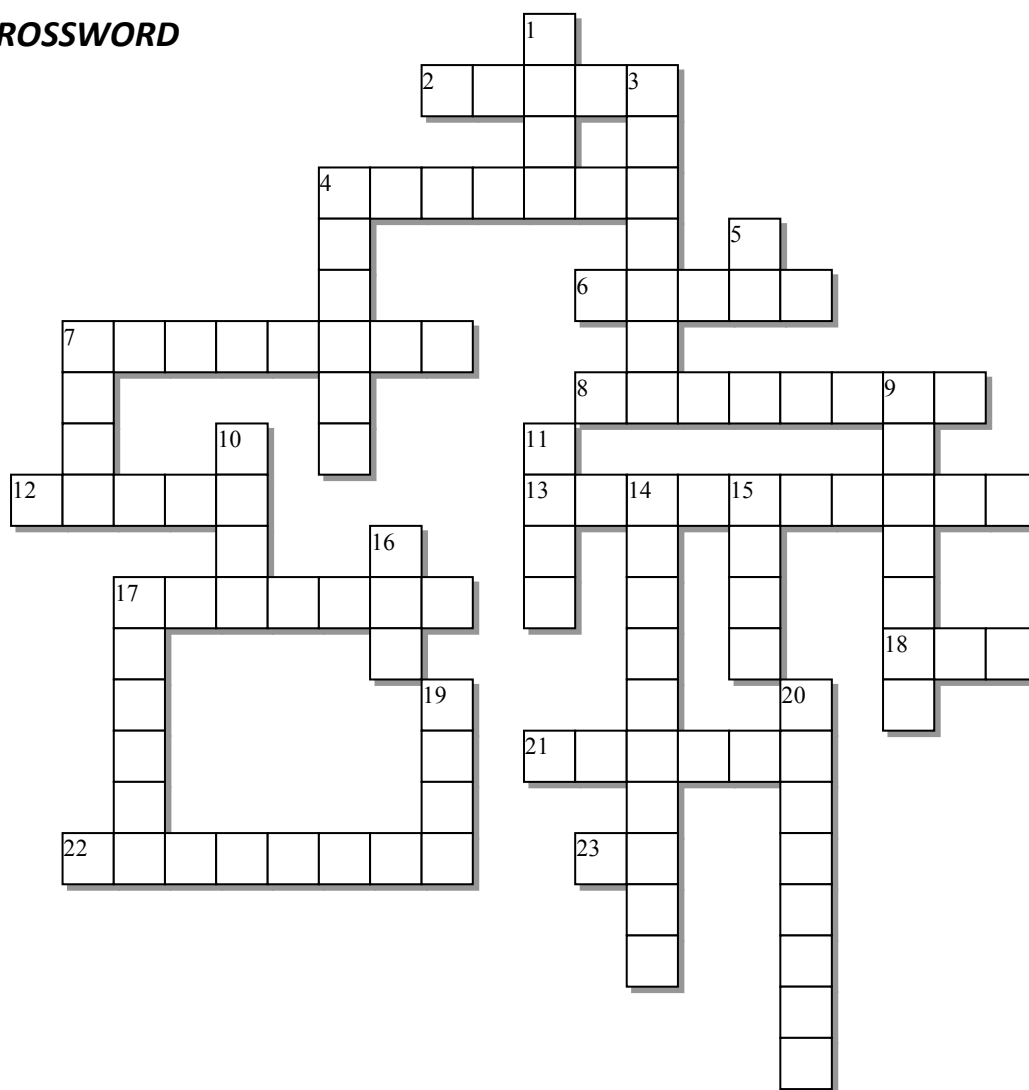
Too often I hear the misguided perception that service work is too "political". When I go to a District meeting or an Area Assembly, I hear people passionate about service engaging in debate. Once in awhile it may get a little heated but that's the passion.

However everyone on every floor I have every sat on has one thing in common. They have the passion and RESPONSIBILITY to do the best they can for AA. When a person "bad mouths" service it is because they have never served on the floor or didn't serve long enough. I often have disagreements with people in the assembly, but in the end most people trust that the Higher Power as expressed through the group conscience is the ultimate authority.

Behind every meeting are hours of service work from the District to New York. While often underappreciated these people seek no recognition or compensation. I have often been asked why I do the service I do; my answer is **I hope and pray that AA will be here for your grandchildren's children.** This cannot be accomplished through prayer; (although prayer guides my decisions) it must be done through countless hours of uncompensated work. **Imagine no meeting list, no functions or Alcathon, no hotlines, no literature.** I could continue this list forever. *If you are not going to help in service don't hurt it with counterproductive statements.*

Yours in Service Still Dan

RECOVERY CROSSWORD



Across:

- 2 - "Faith without _____ is dead."
 4 - One of the Four Horsemen
 6 - _____ things first
 7 - Committee within the District that organizes events
 8 - The Third Concept seeks to endow the Right of _____
 12 - It heads the procession
 13 - "Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other _____"
 17 - The Fifth Tradition of AA concerns its primary _____
 18 - "So, our troubles, we think are basically of _____ own making"
 21 - Term used to describe becoming part of AA, "Getting _____"
 22 - Text that describes what AA is, and what AA is not.
 23 - First word of the Program.

Down:

- 1 - Geographical name for the state level of AA
 3 - The three legacies of AA are Unity, Recovery, and _____
 4 - The Twelve Steps are a _____ for living that really works.
 5 - Who the people are that "run" AA
 7 - Number of editions of the Big Book
 9 - A description of alcoholism can be found in the Doctor's _____
 10 - "The greatest enemies of us alcoholics are resentment, jealousy, envy, frustration, and _____"
 11 - Term used to describe a meeting with no representation or involvement in AA
 14 - Term used to describe a group bringing their message to another group
 15 - Term used to describe a group that takes care of a four hour piece of the Alcathon
 16 - Your home groups representative at the District, abv.
 17 - There is a direct linkage among self-examination, meditation and this.
 19 - Number of Towns in District Twelve NHAA
 20 - Prayer that asks for the help to either accept or change conditions.

Demonstrating Gratitude? *Voice Within*. It seemed because the published on the front page. run by volunteers. What those volunteers are us! So helping us to put on Demonstrating your charged time of year. positively charged; for charged. How many someone say that the their negatively time? So, thank you to believer in Karma, in do the right thing, the proposition that “Like sow”...well you get the that used to say “Show words, if you’re grateful, Don’t just talk about it. Demonstrate your piece there was a few ways I

Gratitude

I am very grateful that my Higher Power has given me a second chance to live a worthwhile life.
Through AA, I have been restored to sanity.
The promises are being fulfilled in my life.
I am grateful to be free from the slavery of alcohol.
I am grateful for peace of mind and the opportunity to grow. . .
I need to put my gratitude into action today.
- Daily Reflections, p. 154

I am grateful for this minute. My eternitv mav be in it.

Let’s see: #1, A bleeding more people in AA to help out at District or Area level, OR #2, A pulpit same help, OR #3, A guilt excavating composition designed to render the victim semi-conscious in self-reproach, thereby getting them involved. None are good choices. Most alcoholics, I’ve found, have a unique physical anomaly – they have these special invisible earflaps that close when they get scolded, or lectured, or told. Defiance is a common characteristic, you know. So, I decided instead on the Truth. What a concept. The Truth is, you might never know the impact that being involved in Service may render. You might never be around to see how, in a hundred years, because of your involvement in Service, a seemingly hopeless alcoholic comes to a meeting and feels that first inkling of hope. But you can be assured, at some point it will happen. Seventy five years ago two alcoholics had no idea what this organization would ultimately mean to the world, to recovering alcoholics, AND to all those people we affect. I like to think that someday, when my son or his daughter or grandson need a meeting, need some hope, it will be here for them because of people that are involved in its future – today. The Truth is that the people that “run” AA at the service level are us, you and me. And the truth is that when you get such an immeasurable gift back by such a small investment, there are no thanks necessary, because any would pale in comparison to the true thanks. I have the deep certainty that if we could actually see the true ramifications of the benefits of what we do for others, (hence for ourselves), the line would be out the door for people wanting to get involved. So, thank the people that volunteer, but remember that they get the ultimate thanks already. And, if you’re not involved, at your group, or sponsorship, or Service level, it’s not “shame on you”, it’s “sorry, you don’t know what you’re missing”. Lance

That’s the theme of this edition of the like a perfect fit for this edition Alcathon”lottery” results are And of course, the Alcathon is volunteers? Oh that’s right, thank you, volunteers, for another year’s Alcathon. For Gratitude. It’s a powerfully For some, it will be some it will be negatively times have I heard Alcathon helped to turn charged time to a positive all involved. I’m a the proposition that if you right thing happens; in the Begets Like”, that “as you idea. I had a sponsor me, don’t tell me”. In other do something about it. That’s what he meant. gratitude. So, in writing this could’ve gone.

THE BILL WILSON HOUSE EXCURSION HOSTED BY DISTRICT TWELVE!
SUNDAY JUNE 5TH, 2011 TO CELEBRATE FOUNDER’S DAY.
WE’RE CHARTERING A PRIVATE BUS, MAX OF 55 SEATS! TICKETS ARE JUST 29.00!
LOOK FOR FLYERS FOR MORE INFO, OR CALL 603 235 5706. IT’LL BE A BLAST!